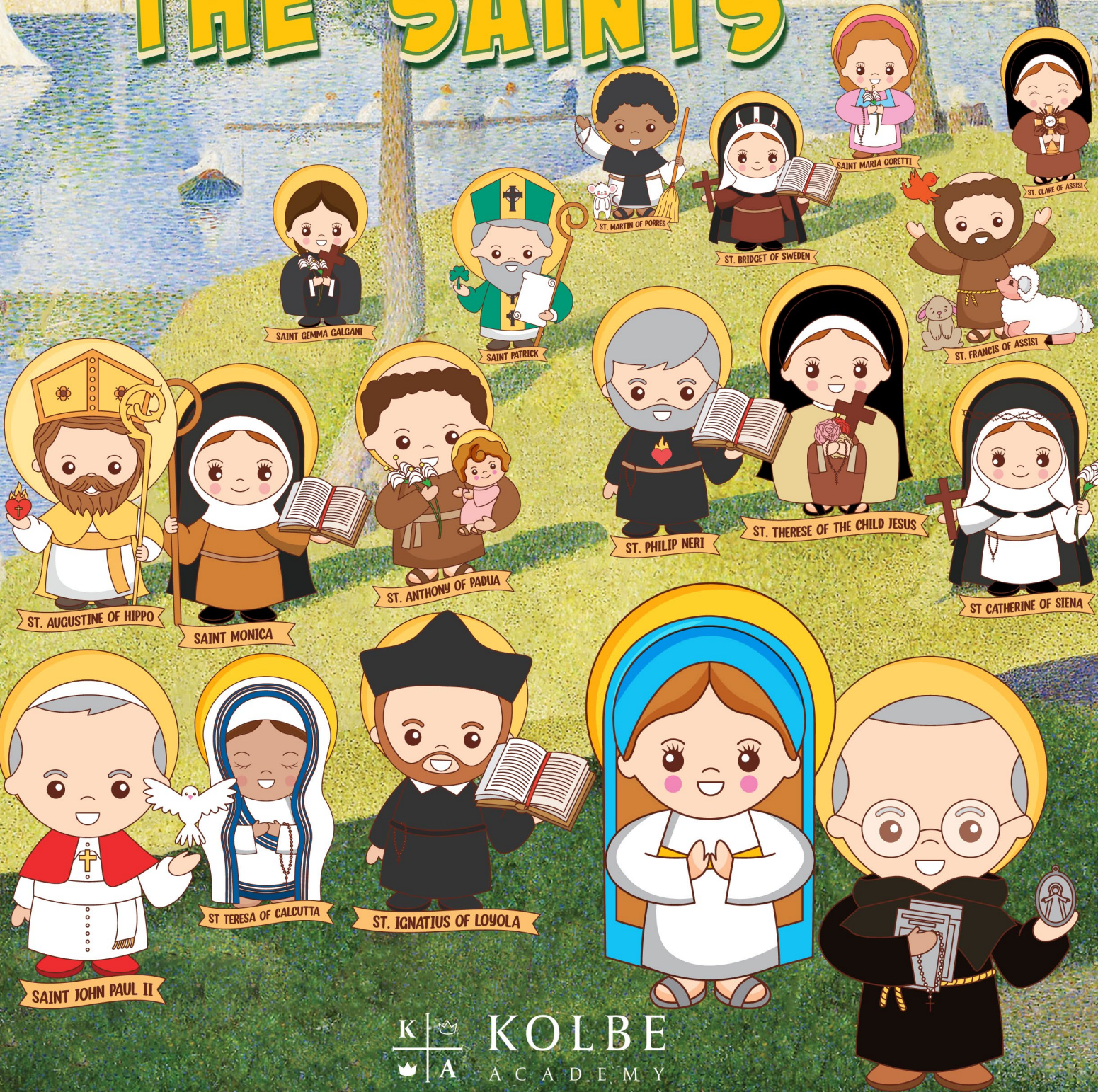


SUMMER WITH THE SAINTS



 KOLBE
ACADEMY

2025 Summer Reading Program

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Tel: (707) 255-6499 Fax: (707) 255-1581
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“Let us become saints so that after having been together on earth, we may be together in Heaven.”

– St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

STUDYING THE SAINTS

When I was young, I became acquainted with the story of St. Tarcisius. He was bringing the Eucharist to some Christians awaiting death in Roman prisons. Unlike some other saints of early Rome, he wasn’t killed by the Roman emperor for his faith, but rather by a group of bullies who wanted him to show them what he was carrying. The story struck me because Tarcisius was willing to die for the Eucharist. Unlike many of the other saints I read about in the same book, Tarcisius didn’t have a great moment where he defied an emperor, or converted hundreds, or worked a miracle. Tarcisius had an ordinary bad encounter with bullies, but he resisted because he was holding Jesus next to his heart. His glorious moment was a quiet one, and yet so powerful to read about. To this day, almost forty years later, I still think the Eucharist is the most important thing and I still remember that first profound lesson I was taught on the importance of the Eucharist. Tarcisius shows that we should always put God first.

The study of saints’ lives can inspire children and provide a call to action. The saints can lead us to see and desire goodness, truth, and beauty. In his *Summa Theologica*, St. Thomas Aquinas tells us that “Virtue consists in the following, or imitation, of God.” The saints show us how to imitate Christ and grow in virtue.

In addition to the lives of the saints, good literature that provides stories of virtue—and I think of Percy Wynne in the

Father Finn books when I say this—help children see that whether they are saints or saint-like, heroes are worth emulating. A good story also provides insight into the blessings that come from some hard, but right choices. For example, in Tolstoy’s *Forged Coupon*, a single small unselfish act leads to the conversion of a hardened criminal.

When Ignatius’ Jesuits first opened their schools for children, they focused on an education that was steeped in the humanities and in virtues. To fill the students minds with lessons of virtue and to inspire emulation of the great saints was a chief goal. St. Philip Neri, who was a great friend of St. Ignatius of Loyola, would often tell people, “Be often reading the lives of the saints for inspiration and instruction.” The life of virtue is necessary for fully embracing a classical education. A mind ordered well to God is the best mind one can have.

A final thought about reading the lives of saints: children need good friends. The saints are the friends who walk with us all on our way to Christ. To read stories of the lives of saints, where their struggles and times come to life, provides a connection with that saint. That relationship is the beginning of a friendship, one that will last more than a lifetime.

Maggie Hayden
Curriculum Director



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STORYTIME

Kindergarten to Second Grade



Storytime: Introduce your little ones to God's friends. Their world has been shaped and enriched by holy heroes of the past. Teach them the stories when they are young so that they will be ordered to a life of virtuous living.



LOVE, PAMELA

A Miracle in the Kitchen: A Legend about Saint Zita

Twelve-year-old Zita strived to work hard as a housemaid, be a loyal friend, and help those in need. But when her boss demanded even more, she turned to God for a miracle—and brought the entire household to its knees.

Pauline Books and Media

PHAM, ELIZABETH HANNA

A Storybook of Saints

Written as a collection of stories rather than pure facts about the saints, this storybook is meant to inspire a deep affection for the saints.

Sophia Institute Press

BOGNER, KATHERINE

All about Advent & Christmas: Sharing the Seasons of Hope & Wonder with Children

Explore the rich traditions of our faith surrounding Christ's birth and discover the meaning behind many Advent and Christmas celebrations.

Emmaus Road Publishing

SENIOR, SUZY

Anyone but Bear

This cute book retells the story of the good samaritan in a way that little children can relate too. The animals learn an important lesson in kindness.

Ascension Press

CARLSON, MELODY

Benjamin's Box: The Story of the Resurrection Eggs

A perfect picture book to walk your children through Holy Week, Benjamin's Box follows Benjamin as he follows Jesus. Benjamin witnesses Jesus as teacher and king, collects special treasures, and learns the good news.

Zonderkidz

ROTHER BOND, SUSAN

Blessed Stanley Rother: An Extraordinary Ordinary Life

Written and illustrated by Blessed Stanley Rother's cousin, this book introduces children to the heroic life and example of an ordinary farm boy who became a missionary priest.

Bonds Between Us Publishing

LOVE, PAMELA

Brigid and the Butter: A Legend about Saint Brigid of Ireland

Brigid wanted to feed the hungry, but she was frequently hungry herself. When all she had to offer was a dish of butter, God used her generosity to perform a miracle.

Pauline Books and Media

PATERSON, KATHERINE

Brother Sun, Sister Moon

With words from St. Francis' hymn of praise and illustrations by a cut-paper artist, this picture book is a tribute to nature.

Chronicle Books

GALLERY, PHILIP D.

Can You Find Saints?: Introducing Your Child to Holy Men and Women

In this seek-and-find book, you will find beautifully illustrated pictures of the saints as you learn about their lives.

Franciscan Media

MASON, KAITLYN C.

Faustina: A Saint's Story for Children

A rhyming picture book detailing the life of St. Faustina. From her life growing up in a one-room farmhouse to her pursuit of becoming a nun to her visions of Jesus, this book will introduce children to the beloved saint and the message of Divine Mercy.

TAN Books

NOBISSO, JOSEPHINE

Francis Woke Up Early

A fictionalized account of the boyhood of St. Francis as he wakes early and gathers fresh eggs and goat milk for breakfast and encounters the she-wolf that threatens the town. Illustrated with beautiful pictures of Assisi.

Gingerbread House

Glory Stories: Saint Bernadette Soubirous (Audio Dramas)

Meticulously researched, this story recounts the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Bernadette and the way they prayed the Holy Rosary together.

Holy Heroes

Glory Stories: Saint Joan of Arc (Audio Drama)

The story of St. Joan of Arc, her bravery, and her surrender to God's will.

Holy Heroes

Glory Stories: Saint Peter (Audio Dramas)

The story of the first pope and his close relationship with Jesus, which will teach kids about Jesus' apostles, Jesus as Messiah, Peter's role, and Jesus' miracles.

Holy Heroes

“Ask the beasts and they will teach you the beauty of this earth.”

—St. Francis of Assisi



Glory Stories: Saint Rose of Lima (Audio Dramas)

The true story of St. Rose of Lima, told especially for kids and fun for the whole family.

Holy Heroes

Glory Stories: Saint Therese of Lisieux (Audio Dramas)

The story of the Little Flower, whose "Little Way" is a perfect example for kids and adults alike.

Holy Heroes

VARIOUS AUTHORS

I Am Little, Too

In this board book, young readers will discover the heart of St. Therese of Lisieux's "Little Way" and recognize that littleness is something to be embraced.

Tiny Saints

VARIOUS AUTHORS

I'm Joyful in the Mountains

Little Readers will discover Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and how he found joy in the mountains, encouraging them to find joy in simple wonders.

Tiny Saints

BRAGA-HENEUBRY, ANA

Jerome Lejeune: Sainly Geneticist

A Catholic pediatrician, Jerome Lejeune was a scientific pioneer who made a discovery about Down syndrome and fiercely advocated for each child's right to life.

Word on Fire

VARIOUS AUTHORS

Jesus Answers Every Prayer

Japanese nobleman and samurai warrior, Justo Takayama Ukon listened to those he led and followed. Through his example, this board book teaches children the importance of listening in prayer.

Tiny Saints

YOFFIE, BARBARA

Joachim and Anne: Love for Generations

Mary's parents and Jesus' grandparents, Joachim and Anne, were a devout couple who taught the generations below them to honor and love God.

Liguori Publications

BELLAVANCE, SUSAN JOY

King of the Shattered Glass

A king who fills his home with beautiful glass pieces requires his servants to bring any broken glass pieces to him. While everyone hides their broken pieces to avoid getting in trouble, one housemaid owns up to her mistakes time and time again, despite everyone's warnings. What she finds in return is a gift more merciful than she has ever dreamed.

Marian Press

HEIMANN, CORY

Light of the Saints

An interactive book that literally illuminates the lives of the saints on each page. Shine the light behind the page to reveal the Holy Spirit at work.

Word on Fire

PAWELEK, CASEY

Look and Learn: Words for Catholic Kids

A brightly illustrated look-and-learn to teach children things and people they will find on the church grounds, inside the church, on the altar, in the choir, and more!

Paraclete Press

VARIOUS AUTHORS

Love God, Love Me, Love You

Discover the life of St. Martin de Porres and how he exemplified the "greatest commandment," found in Luke's gospel.

Tiny Saints

HYDE, KATHERINE BOLGER

Lucia: Saint of Light

St. Lucia was a virgin martyr whose legacy shines as a light of hope. With both an account of her life and details of traditional Swedish celebrations, this book is perfect to brighten your home this December.

Conciliar Press

A GUIDE TO CHILDREN'S BOOKS

PICTURE BOOKS

Picture and lapbooks are great books to just hand to your child to look at, as well as read to your child. Children can use the pictures to recall the stories and relive them in their minds.

STORYBOOKS

Storybooks include many timeless stories. These are the classics! Many of these might appeal to the whole family.

READERS

Readers are great books for beginning readers. Does your little one want to spread his wings and start reading on his own? These books are great for the new reader.

BOWMAN, CRYSTAL, AND TERI MCKINLEY

M is for Manger: An ABC Book for Toddlers about Christmas and the Nativity

The story of Jesus' birth told chronologically and alphabetically, walking children through where and how our Savior came to us.

Tyndale Kids

CANGILLA MCADAM, CLAUDIA

Mother Cabrini: A Heart for the World

The first American citizen to be canonized, Mother Cabrini came to America to rescue sick and orphaned children from the streets of New York City in the 1800s and give them a home and an education. In this book, children will find kids much like themselves actively helping Mother Cabrini establish hospitals, orphanages, and schools across the world.

Sophia Institute

FLETCHER, FR. PEREGRINE

My Name is Philomena: A Saint's Story

Hear the Greek princess' story of heroism and salvation, long hidden in the catacombs of Rome, from Philomena herself!

TAN Books

LOVASIK, S.V.D., FR. LAWRENCE

My Picture Missal

An introduction to the Mass, including full-color illustrations of different parts of the Mass and easy-to-understand explanations.

Catholic Book Publishing

POCHOCKI, ETHEL

Once Upon a Time Saints Series

A series of tales about the saints and the zeal for God that led them into wild escapades.

Ignatius Press

WARNER, KATIE

One Holy Marriage: The Story of Saints Louis and Zélie Martin

The story of the extraordinarily ordinary lives of the first married saints canonized together, Sts. Louis and Zélie Martin.

TAN Books

DESTEFANO, ANTHONY

Our Lady's Wardrobe

Travel through Mary's wardrobe to learn about her numerous titles and apparitions!

Sophia Institute

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

Patron Saint of First Communicants: The Story of Blessed Imelda Lambertini

When Imelda turned five years old, she saw the pile of presents and asked for one more: to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion. When her parents couldn't grant her this request, she went to Our Lord himself, earning her the title of the Patroness of First Communicants.

TAN Books

LOVASIK, S.V.D., FR. LAWRENCE

Picture Book of Saints

This book is an introduction to holy men and women, featuring over one hundred saints, including six from the twenty-first century.

Catholic Book Publishing

NOBISSO, JOSEPHINE

Portrait of the Son: A Tale of Love

In this third book of the virtues trilogy, the richest man in the world owns a treasured art collection and, together with his son, enters into the works with deep appreciation, especially the portraits. When he decides to sell his collection at auction, the new owner is in for the surprise of his life.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

GARZA, FABIOLA

Princesses of Heaven

Written and illustrated by a Disney artist, this beautiful book presents several female saints as princesses in heaven with crowns. Their stories are filled with faith, hope, and love to inspire girls to become saints.

Word on Fire

LOVASIK, S.V.D., FR. LAWRENCE

Receiving Holy Communion

A book teaching children about the significance of receiving Holy Communion.

Catholic Book Publishing

JACKSON, DESSI

Roses in the Snow: A Tale of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

Little Elizabeth loves the roses her grandmother planted the day she was born, and she especially looks forward to the day they take some to the church in honor of her namesake, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. As her grandmother recounts the story of this great saint, Little Elizabeth and her grandmother appreciate her holiness and charity.

Quis Ut Deus Press

MCGREW, MICHAEL

Saint Brendan and the Voyage Before Columbus

The story about the incredible journey St. Brendan made in the sixth century, encountering a whale, an iceberg, several islands, a volcano, and Native Americans before returning home.

Paulist Press

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BETZ, EVA K.

Saint Brigid and the Cows

St. Brigid, a young Irish maiden, performed acts of charity that touched everyone, including the animals she tended to.

TAN books

JACKSON, DESSI

Saint Clare and Her Cat

As they travel to San Damiano, Nonna shares with Antonio the story of St. Clare—her Franciscan spirituality and the cat that loved her.

Silver Fire Publishing

BETZ, EVA K.

Saint Colum and the Crane

This Celtic saint founded a church and monastery in Scotland, where his love of God's creation in nature inspired his Abbey to adopt seeking the Holy Spirit in nature as one of their defining characteristics of monasticism.

TAN Books

JACKSON, DESSI

Saint Felix and the Spider

When a spider is cast out from a tidy woman's home, he finds shelter—and loneliness—in a dark cave. But then he meets a friend, St. Felix, and he ends up saving his life.

Seton Books

BETZ, EVA K.

Saint Germaine and the Sheep

Germaine was a French maiden born with a crippled hand and a skin disease. Despite her suffering—or perhaps because of it—she was an enchanting storyteller.

TAN Books

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

Saint Martin de Porres: The Story of the Little Doctor of Lima, Peru

Meet the South American saint known as the "Little Doctor of Lima" who is best known for caring for the sick, speaking to animals, and working miracles.

TAN Books

HODGES, MARGARET

Saint Patrick and the Peddler

After a poor man eats the last of his food and goes to sleep, St. Patrick visits him in a dream. Without the strength to make the journey St. Patrick asks of him and casting it off as just his imagination, he ignores it for several days. When he finally heeds the advice, he discovers a treasure that will care for his family for the rest of their lives.

Orchard Books

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

Saint Rose of Lima: The Story of the First Canonized Saint of the Americas

Born Isabel de Flores, her name became Rose after her face was transformed by a mystical rose as an infant. Denied entry into a convent by her parents, she made herself a hermit in a tiny hut in her backyard and cared for the sick in her parents' home.

TAN Books



PEEK, SUSAN

Saint Rudolph and the Reindeer

When a baby reindeer who longs for a name is captured and taken to a new land, he is desperate to escape. Meanwhile, a saintly bishop and a holy monk plan a surprise for their village, but all seems doomed until their path intertwines with the reindeer's—and a legend is born.

Seven Swords Publications

HUNTER-KILMER, MEG

Saints Around the World Series

Meet over one hundred saints from more than sixty countries, with differing abilities, races, ages, and states of life. There are scared saints and adventurous saints, saints who made big mistakes and saints who made big discoveries, all with stories to remind you that holiness is possible. Each book in the series features the stories of fifteen saints—young, adventurous, ordinary, royal and warrior, talented, and unshakable—and is fully illustrated. Companion piece: [Saints Around the World Map & Sticker Set](#).

Emmaus Road Publishing

VARIOUS AUTHORS

Saints for Boys: A First Book for Little Catholic Boys

Highlighting the stories of Aloysius Gonzaga, Vincent de Paul, Dominic Savio, Francis of Assisi, the Archangel Gabriel, Joseph, Patrick, Benedict, and Michael the Archangel, this illustrated book also includes special prayers.

TAN Books

“It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world.”
—St. Aloysius Gonzaga

VARIOUS AUTHORS

Saints for Girls: A First Book for Little Catholic Girls

A treasury of stories with illustrations about beloved saints such as Genevieve, Elizabeth, Frances Cabrini, Helena, Brigid, Teresa of Avila, Thérèse of the Child Jesus, and Bernadette.

TAN Books

PEEK, SUSAN

Small for the Glory of God: Saint John the Dwarf

St. John, of all people, could tell you how hard it is to be different from everyone else. But rather than complain, he discovered a secret that turned him into a giant of a saint, living all for the glory of God.

Seven Swords Publications

HODGES, MARGARET

St. George and the Dragon

A beautifully illustrated retelling of Edmund Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*, in which George, the Red Cross Knight, is assigned the mission of slaying the terrifying dragon that has been destroying the kingdom for years.

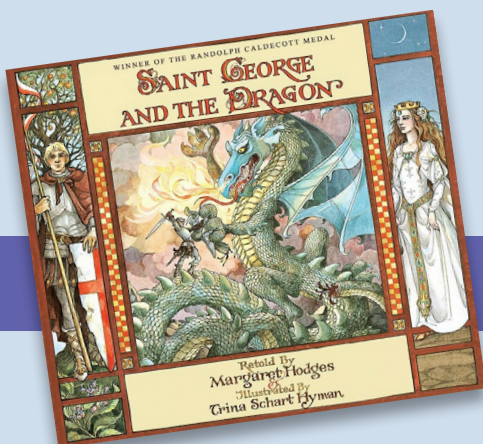
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

NOBISSO, JOSEPHINE

Take It to the Queen: A Tale of Hope

An allegory of Mary's role in our lives, this original fable tells the story of a once-loved village that seeks the help of the queen to regain the king's favor.

Gingerbread House



SHEPARD, AARON

The Baker's Dozen

This Dutch colonial New York legend about a baker's fine St. Nicholas cookies; his insistence on a dozen being twelve, not thirteen; and a subsequent curse explains the origin of the custom of a baker's dozen.

Skyhook Press

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

The Children of Fatima: And Our Lady's Message to the World

Through the examples of the three children at Fatima, discover the message of love and repentance brought by Our Lady in her apparitions.

TAN Books

LEWIS, C.S.

The Chronicles of Narnia

The classic C.S. Lewis fantasy series about the magical land of Narnia.

DE PAOLA, TOMIE

The Clown of God

A once-famous juggler, now an old beggar, performs a final time in front of a statue of Our Lady and the Holy Child.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

LUCADO, MAX

The Crippled Lamb: A Christmas Story about Finding Your Purpose

Joshua, a crippled lamb, feels left out because he can't run and play like the other lambs. But on Christmas Day, his prayers are answered in an incredible way.

Tommy Nelson

ERGER, BARBARA HELEN

The Donkey's Dream

An ordinary donkey carries the Virgin Mary on his back on her way to Bethlehem to give birth to Our Savior. He dreams he is carrying a city, a ship, a fountain, a rose, and a lady full of heaven.

Philomel Books

PEEK, SUSAN

The Forgotten Christmas Saint: Saint Anastasia

When thinking of Christmas saints, St. Anastasia is often forgotten. But as the only saint whose feast day falls on Christmas, she is the perfect saint to lead you to the Crib!

Seven Swords Publications

DE PAOLA, TOMIE

The Friendly Beasts: an old English Christmas Carol

With the words from an old English Christmas carol, experience the birth of Our Lord through the eyes of the animals at the Nativity.

Puffin Books

NORRIS, KATHLEEN

The Holy Twins: Benedict and Scholastica

With illustrations by the incomparable Tomie dePaola, this is the tale of twins Benedict and Scholastic as they grew up in northern Italy and grew into the great saints we know them as today.

Putnam Juvenile

DE PAOLA, TOMIE

The Legend of the Poinsettia

A retelling of the Mexican legend of how poinsettias came to be, through the selfless gift of a young girl to baby Jesus.

Puffin Books

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BARRELY, CHRISTINE

The Little Book of Saints

This collection of stories features well-loved as well as obscure saints. With heroic tales, extraordinary legends, and accounts joyful and sorrowful, each page also features beautiful illustrations.

Chronicle Books

JULITA, S.S.N.D., SISTER

The Little Flower of Jesus

The story of St. Theresa of the Little Flower with beautiful illustrations.

TAN Books

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

The Little Flower: The Story of St. Therese of the Child Jesus

This adaptation of St. Therese's Story of a Soul is designed for children, introducing them to the Little Way that led St. Therese to loving God with all her heart.

TAN Books

GAUCH, PATRICIA LEE

The Little Friar Who Flew

A warm, humorous look at St. Joseph of Cupertino, whose joy for life made him literally fly.

Magnificat/Ignatius

PEEK, SUSAN

The Man God Kept Surprising: Saint William of Bourges

St. William was a young French nobleman who gave up riches, fame, and knighthood for God. Though he planned to live a quiet life in a hut in the woods, he was called to travel for the sake of the kingdom, finding surprise after surprise.

Seven Swords Publications

WHELAN, GLORIA

The Miracle of Saint Nicholas

On Christmas Eve in a small Russian village, Alexi's babushka tells him about Christmas in the village when she was a girl—the church crowded and bright and watched over by an icon of St. Nicholas. When Alexi asks to go to St. Nicholas themselves tomorrow, babushka replies it can't be, due to the soldiers. But Alexi figures if miracles exist, why can't one happen tomorrow?

Bethlehem Books

JOHNSON, ELIZABETH CRISPINA

The Miracle of the Red Egg

The story of how the tradition of dyeing eggs red for Easter started back in apostolic times, with Mary Magdalene and a miracle.

Daria Fisher

DE PAOLA, TOMIE

The Night of Las Posadas

On the night of Las Posadas, the procession where Mary and Joseph travel from door to door seeking shelter on Christmas Eve, Sister Angie is sick and Lupe and Roberto, who are to play Mary and Joseph, get caught in a snowstorm. But as Mary and Joseph arrive, people no one recognizes, and disappear before they can be thanked. The mystery turns out to be a miracle when Sister Angie goes to the cathedral to pray before the statue of Mary and Joseph and spots wet footprints leading up to it.

Puffin Books

LOVASIK, S.V.D., FR. LAWRENCE

The Our Father and Hail Mary

With beautiful illustrations, this book teaches young children two powerful prayers.

Catholic Book Publishing

BILINSKY, CORNELIA MARY

The Queen & the Cross: The Story of Saint Helen

In this blend of tale and history, children will be inspired by Helen as she embarks on a quest to find the true cross.

Pauline Books & Media

“An important day in a young person's life is the day on which he becomes convinced that Christ is the only Friend who will not disappoint him, on which he can always count.”

—St. Pope John Paul II



JACKSON, DESSI

The Saint and His Bees

As prophesied by Pope Leo IV when Alfred was only four, Alfred becomes a great king of Wessex, the last Christian kingdom standing against the Danes. He faces many defeats but strives to unite the kingdoms of ninth-century England.

Quis Ut Deus Press

VARIOUS AUTHORS

The Saints Are Watching Over Me

The first Tiny Saints book, featuring eighteen saints to inspire young ones.

Tiny Saints

SHARPE, JEAN ANN

The Saving Name of God the Son

The first title in a set of board books introducing the Holy Trinity, this book focuses on the invocations and titles of Christ.

Bethlehem Books

MORA, PAT

The Song of Francis and the Animals

Inspired by St. Francis' love of animals, this book celebrates the relationship between the beloved saint and the animals he adored.

Erdmans Books

DE PAOLA, TOMIE

The Story of the Three Wise Kings

A beautiful rendition of the story of the three wise kings who follow the star to bring gifts to baby Jesus.

Puffin Books

HUNT, JANGELA ELWELL

The Tale of the Three Trees

In this retelling of an American folktale, three trees on the mountaintop dream of what they want to be when they grow up. A beautiful story to help kids understand the significance of Easter.

David Cook

MCDONALD, CAROLINE

The Treasure of Saint Tarcisus: Hero of the Eucharist

As a boy in ancient Rome, Tarcisus had to hide his Christian faith. When Pope Sixtus needed someone to deliver the Eucharist to Christians in prison, Tarcisus volunteered. But guarding the Blessed Sacrament required great sacrifice—even costing him his life.

OSV Kids

NOBISSO, JOSEPHINE

The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith

When a destitute widow begs for a crust of bread from the baker in exchange for offering the Royal Wedding Mass, the baker refuses—after all, what is a piece of paper worth? But when he weighs it on the scale, he discovers one Mass offering is worth far more than everything in his shop.

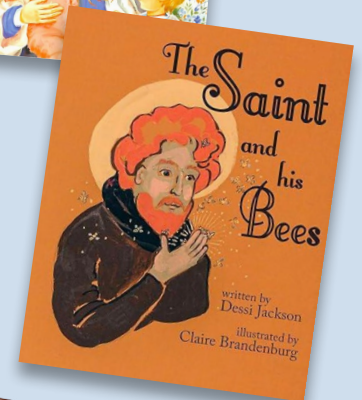
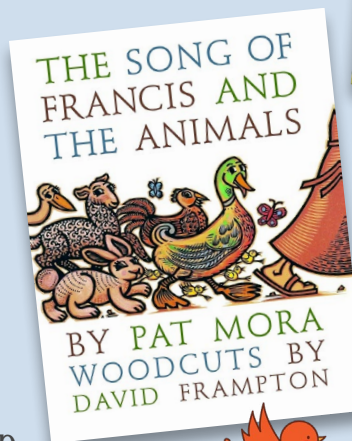
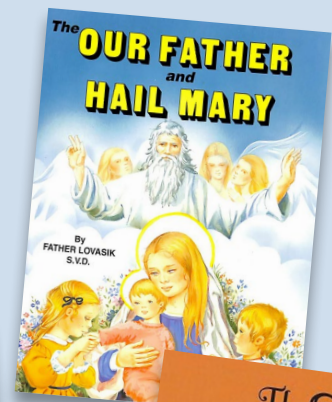
Gingerbread House

VARIOUS AUTHORS

You Do Not Need to Worry

When St. Kateri Tekakwitha left home to live among fellow Christians, she faced an arduous journey full of obstacles. But she trusted in the voice of God to never let her down.

Tiny Saints



“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”

—St. Francis of Assisi



LET'S ADVENTURE

Third Grade to Fifth Grade

There are adventures worth having, but there is only one quest. We must always keep our hearts and minds focused on that quest which is to know, love, and serve God. The lives of the saints help the child see how to know, love, and serve God. Good saint stories help keep the quest in the mind of the child and help him see there is true joy in giving oneself fully to the quest. To read the lives of the saints provides a roadmap to heaven.



WELBORN, AMY

Bambinelli Sunday: A Christmas Blessing

When staying with his grandparents, Alessandro's grandfather encourages him to make a figure of the baby Jesus to occupy him. Two weeks later, on the third Sunday of Advent, they journey to St. Peter's Square to have the figure blessed as part of an Italian tradition, which leaves Alessandro transformed.

Franciscan Media

PAULI, HERTHA

Bernadette: Our Lady's Little Servant

One ordinary morning, Bernadette set out from the abandoned jail she called home in France to gather firewood for her family. But when Our Lady appeared to her, revealing herself as the Immaculate Conception, Bernadette's life proved to be anything but ordinary. Within a few weeks, thousands knelt in the field with her as she alone saw and spoke with Our Lady, and now, hundreds of years later, millions travel each year to Lourdes to visit the Marian Shrine at the same sight.

Ignatius Press

GLAVICH, MARY KATHLEEN

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta: Missionary of Charity

This biography of Mother Teresa shares her life as she was formed by the love of her parents, became a sister, and traveled to India, where she felt called to serve "the poorest of the poor" and start her own order, all the while living with great courage and love.

Pauline Books and Media

WARREN, DAVID MICHAEL

Brilliant: 25 Catholic Scientists, Mathematicians, and Supersmart People

Faith and science are complementary, not contradictory, as is proven in this book, filled with twenty-five great Catholic thinkers and their extraordinary accomplishments.

Pauline Books and Media

SHEEHAN, ARTHUR AND ELIZABETH

Father Damien and the Bells

In 1872, Fr. Damien traveled to Molokai, an island where lepers were exiled. He spent his life caring for the lepers and appealing to the world for help. Even after Damien himself contracted leprosy, he carried on his mission until the end.

Ignatius Press

DERLETH, AUGUST

Father Marquette and the Great Rivers

Fr. Marquette was a missionary who traveled with the explorer Louis Joliet to find where the Mississippi River emptied and win souls for Christ. On their route, they faced ruthless Indian tribes who killed white men on sight, rapids, floods, Indian superstitions, and tribal warfare.

Ignatius Press

WALKER HOMAN, HELEN

Francis and Clare, Saints of Assisi

A biography about St. Francis and St. Clare and the way their lives intertwined as they sought to live the Gospel and founded two religious orders, the Franciscans and the Poor Clares.

Ignatius Press

WILLIAMSON, JOANNE

God King

When young Prince Taharka is unexpectedly named pharaoh of Kush and ancient Egypt, he soon becomes the target of a plot that sends him into exile. In exile he meets Amos, an emissary of King Hezekiah, and is caught up in a war between several nations. A fictional tale based on the Book of Kings and ancient Egyptian civilization.

Bethlehem Books

DATENO, MARIA GRACE

Gospel Time Trekkers (Series of 6 Books)

When three siblings find themselves able to travel back to Gospel times, they walk with Jesus and learn how to apply His truth and wisdom to their ordinary lives.

Pauline Books and Media

MEDEIROS, CARDINAL HUMBERTO S.

Jacinta: The Flower of Fatima

Written from interviews with Lucia and eyewitnesses, this firsthand account details the life of Jacinta, who suffered persecution yet prevailed in surrendering her life to Jesus according to Mary's request.

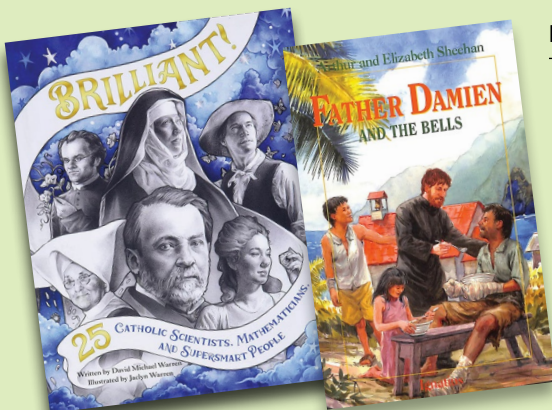
TAN Books

DE MULLENHEIM, SOPHIE

John Mary Vianney: The Holy Curé of Ars

Father John Vianney, Curé of Ars and patron saint of parish priests, was a man who struggled in school but who persevered to become a great priest. People traveled many miles across France to see him and have him hear their confessions, and he sacrificed sleep and food to pour himself out to them.

Ignatius Press



“Be content to progress in slow steps until you have legs to run and wings with which to fly.”
—St. Pio of Pietrelcina

BROWN, EVELYN

Kateri Tekakwitha: Mohawk Maiden

After her family died from smallpox, Kateri was adopted by an anti-Christian chief. Kateri was never baptized, despite her mother's wishes, but when French missionaries arrived, she converted to Christianity. The tribe ostracized her, leading to her daring escape and total surrender of her life to God.

Ignatius Press

SCHMITT, LAURIE

Lepanto's Lady

Based on real-life events of the Battle of Lepanto, where the title Our Lady of the Rosary was bestowed on Mary, this book follows the story of a girl from Amalfi who wants to save her father but must face slave traders and rely on the power of the Rosary to reach him.

Emmaus Road Publishing

WELBORN, AMY

Loyola Kids Book of Saints

With more than sixty saints, this book explores who each saint is, why they are important, and how we can apply what we learn from them today.

Loyola Press

VIVIER, JEAN-FRANCOIS

Maximilian Kolbe: The Saint of Auschwitz (Graphic Novel)

Told through a fictionalized conversation between Fr. Maximilian Kolbe and another prisoner as they await death at Auschwitz, this graphic novel describes Kolbe's vision of Mary when he was twelve, where she offered him two wreaths—one of purity and one of martyrdom—and he accepted them both. Since that profound moment, his life was forever marked by the mission to make all souls know Christ through Mary.

Sophia Institute

ETS, MARIE HALL AND AURORA LABASTIDA

Nine Days to Christmas: A Story of Mexico

Ceci is overjoyed for her first Las Posadas, nine days of celebration leading up to Christmas, complete with a candlelight procession and her very own piñata.

Dover Publications

WALLACE, SR. M. IMELDA

Outlaws of Ravenhurst

When his uncle comes from Scotland and whisks him away as heir of Ravenhurst, George goes to claim his throne. But little does he know the history of persecution for Catholics in the kingdom nor the future persecution he faces upon his arrival.

Neumann Press

BETZ, EVA K

Priest on Horseback: Father Farmer: 1720-1786

In colonial America during the time the colonists were deciding whether to rebel against England and Catholics weren't appreciated, Father Farmer dressed in plain clothing about the countryside, revealing himself as a priest when needed and encountering many adventures.

Hillside Publishing

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

Saint Catherine of Siena: The Story of the Girl Who Saw Saints in the Sky

In this historical fiction novel, St. Catherine of Siena is brought to life. Though known for arguing with the pope himself to return to Rome, she started out desiring to be a hermit. Readers will see how she learned to love God—by loving those she encountered on her way.

TAN Books

BEEBE, CATHERINE

Saint Dominic and the Rosary

St. Dominic lived an extraordinary life of leading others to conversion through conversation, selling his things to feed the poor, and traveling from town to town preaching the gospel and the power of the Rosary.

Ignatius Press

JENNINGS THOMPSON, BLANCHE

Saint Elizabeth's Three Crowns

Though a wealthy princess who was engaged at the age of four, Elizabeth gave away her jewelry and fancy clothes to the poor, relying on Jesus to clothe her. She was canonized only four years after her death.

Ignatius Press

NEVINS, M.M., ALBERT J.

Saint Francis of the Seven Seas

After a childhood riddled with war, St. Francis Xavier attended the University of Paris intent on having a good time. But when he met Ignatius Loyola, former soldier risking it all to win the world for God, Francis became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus. Francis was sent on a missionary voyage to India, where he faced pirates, storms, and diseases as he fought to win souls for Christ.

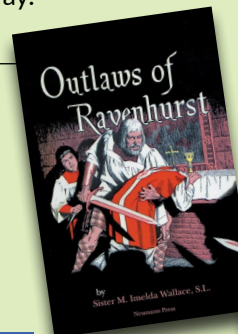
Ignatius Press

WALLACE, SUSAN HELEN

Saint Gianna Beretta Molla: The Gift of Life

An inspiring biography of wife, mother, physician, and devoted Catholic Gianna Molla, who chose life even when it resulted in her own death.

Pauline Books & Media



To register for a Kolbe Summer Reading Club and to learn about our Summer Reading Challenge visit kolbe.org/summer-reading-program

DE WOHL, LOUIS

Saint Helena and the True Cross

This is the exciting story of Constantine's mother, St. Helena, who converted to Christianity, witnessed her son rise to power and legalize Christianity, and made a dangerous journey to the Holy Land, where she found the true cross.

Ignatius Press

DERLETH, AUGUST

Saint Ignatius and the Company of Jesus

When Ignatius was wounded in battle, his hopes of an adventurous life as a soldier were dashed. Confined to bed with only religious books to read, he had a profound conversion to Christianity. He lived his life in service to Christ, founding the Society of Jesus and encountering popes, emperors, and kings.

Ignatius Press

GIAIMO, DONNA, AND PATRICIA EDWARD JABLONSKI

Saint Ignatius of Loyola: For the Greater Glory of God

Brought down by a cannonball, Captain Inigo had a radical conversion. He gave up his career as a soldier, his wealth, and his reputation for Jesus. He founded a new spiritual army, the Jesuits, and became its first general.

Pauline Books & Media

LOMASK, MILTON

Saint Isaac and the Indians

In the seventeenth century, when Frenchmen drew near the St. Lawrence River in search of furs and wealth, Jesuit missionaries also came, but to give, not get. This is the story of one of these missionaries, Isaac Jogues, who lived a dangerous life among the tribes as he taught them about health and truth, became enslaved, escaped, and ultimately was martyred.

Ignatius Press

TEBO, MARY

Saint Isaac Jogues: With Burning Heart

As a Jesuit priest, Isaac was sent to Quebec to bring Jesus to the New World. He was tortured by the Iroquois and killed by the Mohawks, exemplifying courage and faith while revealing the Good News.

Pauline Books & Media

DE WOHL, LOUIS

Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier

Joan, a humble maiden in a small town, received visions from St. Michael, St. Catherine, and St. Margaret to lead the French in battle. As she courageously and lovingly followed God's will, she convinced the French of the validity of her mission but was also betrayed, imprisoned, and ultimately burned at the stake. Through it all, she exemplified heroism and great faith in God.

Ignatius Press

BEEBE, CATHERINE

Saint John Bosco

In this enthralling story of a modern apostle of the youth, discover how John Bosco became a juggler, magician, acrobat, writer, and teacher—all to lead children to God. He built churches and schools, asked for prayers in exchange for admission to his shows, and challenged those who laughed at him to friendly contests. His life touched many, including one of his best pupils, St. Dominic Savio.

Ignatius Press

MCKENZIE, KEVIN

Saint José: Boy Cristero Martyr

José was a young boy when the Cristero War broke out in his hometown of Sahuayo, Mexico. As the violence escalated, he joined the Cristero army to fight for freedom of religion. Captured, he continued to boldly proclaim his faith, shouting "Viva Cristo Rey!" on his way to his execution. Inspired by this account, the author spent ten years researching José's life, drawing on never-before-seen documents from the Vatican and Mexican government.

Ignatius Press

NOBISSO, JOSEPHINE

Saint Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe

Through an Aztec farmer named Juan Diego in the sixteenth century, Mary introduced herself to the world under the name Our Lady of Guadalupe. Juan Diego spent his life praying, performing penance, taking care of his hut, and showing pilgrims the miraculous tilma with Mary's beautiful image.

Pauline Books & Media

HUBBARD, MARGARET ANN

Saint Louis and the Last Crusade

Louis IX of France aimed to be a good king. At twenty-eight, he took the cross of the crusade and went to battle against the Saracens, the enemies of the Holy Land. Imprisoned instead, but eventually released due to his saintly conduct, Louis then took his men and set off on the last crusade.

Ignatius Press

“Dear young people, let yourselves be taken over by the light of Christ, and spread that light wherever you are.”

—St. Pope John Paul II

DE MARIA, FIORELLA

Saint Maximilian Kolbe: A Hero of the Holocaust

A Polish weaver's son, Kolbe became a priest and missionary who spread the gospel through multimedia and traveled as far as Nagasaki to do so. He also created the Marian movement Militia Immaculatae. Ultimately, he sacrificed his life for another Auschwitz prisoner, becoming a martyr.

Ignatius Press

HILL, MARY

Saint Paul: The Thirteenth Apostle

A persecutor of Christians, St. Paul was forever changed when he encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus. He traveled all over the world to spread the gospel and wrote many books of the New Testament, earning him the name the "thirteenth apostle."

Pauline Books & Media

CONNOLLY, FR. FRANCIS X.

Saint Philip of the Joyous Heart

Abandoning a merchant career in Florence near his prosperous uncle to serve God as a lay apostle in Rome, Philip Neri taught youth and helped the sick, then became a priest. His childlike soul and joyous heart helped win friends to Christ. Through his selfless love, he founded a religious congregation, counseled popes, and befriended beggars.

Ignatius Press

BERTANZETTI, EILEEN DUNN

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

A biography of St. Padre Pio, the Italian priest who bore the stigmata and spent his life attending to others in their suffering.

Pauline Books & Media

DIETHELM, O.S.B., FR. WALTER

Saint Pius X: The Farm Boy Who Became Pope

This book recounts the story of Giuseppe Sarto, the "farm boy who became Pope." As a young boy, he worked hard and devoted himself to his prayers, then became an inspiring country priest. He was steadily promoted, eventually making it all the way to the Chair of Peter, where in his great love for youth, he reduced the required age to receive First Holy Communion to as young as seven.

Ignatius Press

WALLACE, SUSAN HELEN

Saint Teresa of Avila: Joyful in the Lord

Known for her wit and reform of the Carmelite Order, St. Teresa of Avila gave her life completely to God as a faith-filled leader.

Pauline Books & Media

WALKER HOMAN, HELEN

Saint Therese and the Roses

The story of St. Therese of Lisieux, her four sisters, and their childhood spent with their father in France, growing in holiness in their own backyard.

Ignatius Press Maritain, Raïssa

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN

Saint Thomas Aquinas

Once called "Dumb Ox" because he was big, strong, and slow to speak, Thomas Aquinas later became known as the "Angelic Doctor" because of his ability to convey complicated philosophical and theological truths with ease and beauty.

Sophia Institute

TARRY, ELLEN

St. Katharine Drexel: Friend of the Oppressed

After the death of her wealthy and generous parents, Katharine Drexel spent her time and fortune serving the poor in America, especially the Indians and African Americans. Inspired by the advice from Pope Leo XIII to become a missionary and the words from a statue of Our Lady, "freely you have received, freely give," Katharine became a religious sister and founded the order of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She established many schools and institutions in the country and was canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2001.

Ignatius Press

HUNT, MARIGOLD

St. Patrick's Summer: A Children's Adventure Catechism

Cecilia and Michael, two young kids, travel back in time with great figures in Christianity, such as Eve, Abraham, St. Patrick and learn lessons about faith.

Sophia Institute Press

INCE, ELIZABETH

St. Thomas More of London

In London in the late 1400s, the Archbishop of Canterbury recognized Thomas More as a bright student and sent him to Oxford. After More's studies, he became a great lawyer and one of Henry VIII's most trusted advisors. But when King Henry VIII declared himself head of the Church of England and put More in a position requiring him to betray his faith, he instead accepted the charge of treason and became a martyr.

Ignatius Press

To register for a Kolbe Summer Reading Club and to learn about our Summer Reading Challenge visit kolbe.org/summer-reading-program

WALLACE, CAREY

Stories of the Saints: Bold and Inspiring Tales of Adventure, Grace, and Courage

Read the riveting stories of seventy beloved saints and enjoy the dramatic illustrations. Featuring saints such as St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bernadette of Lourdes, and St. Thomas Aquinas, this collection is a rich history of faith and a strong source of courage.

Workman Kids

KIEFFER, JEAN-FRANÇOIS

The Adventures of Loupio

In this bestselling series, an orphaned poet and musician travels through thirteenth century Italy. With St. Francis of Assisi and the wolf he tamed, Loupio embarks on many daring adventures.

Ignatius Press

GARNETT, HENRY

The Blood-Red Crescent

In 1570, a fourteen-year-old son of a wealthy Venetian merchant dreams of adventures at sea. But when the Ottoman Turks threaten Europe, Guido finds himself fighting with Don John of Austria, who will lead the Holy League to save Christian Europe in the legendary Battle of Lepanto.

Sophia Institute

SPEARE, ELIZABETH GEORGE

The Bronze Bow

Daniel bar Jarmin is an Israelite teenager, who is consumed with thoughts of revenge after his father is crucified by the Romans. That is, until he meets a mysterious traveling carpenter who causes Daniel to question everything.

Clarion Books

CALLOWAY, FR. DONALD

The Chaste Heart of St. Joseph: A Graphic Novel

While we know St. Joseph as the father of Jesus and husband of Mary, we often overlook his royal blood and his childhood, when he played like other children. Learn about St. Joseph as protector of the holy family, miracle worker, and chaste heart.

Ignatius Press

LOMASK, MILTON

The Cure of Ars: The Priest Who Out-Talked the Devil

Jean-Marie Vianney, a farm boy born during the French Revolution, wanted to be a priest but had difficulty learning Latin. When he at last became a priest, he led his people to such sanctity that he became a target of the devil and the patron saint of parish priests.

Ignatius Press

HUNT, MARIGOLD

The First Christians: The Acts of the Apostles for Children

The thrilling and true saga of the lives of the first apostles of Jesus, as recorded by St. Luke in the Acts of the Apostles. Focused on Sts. Peter, Paul, Luke, and Barnabas, this account details the imprisonments, miraculous escapes, persecution, preaching, conversions, healings, murder plots, and turbulence of the early days of Christianity.

Sophia Institute Press

WHELAN, GLORIA

The Hedge School

In Ireland in 1735, three Irish friends fight against the English rule in the nation that keeps them from an education and their Catholic faith.

Bethlehem Books

BOUILLOC, JUDITH

The Interior Castle: A Boy's Journey into the Riches of Prayer

Based on the spiritual classic by St. Teresa of Avila, this book is adapted for younger readers to journey into the soul's progress through prayer.

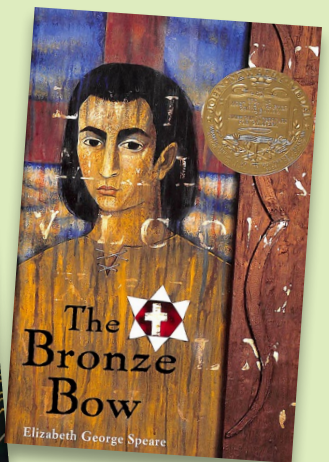
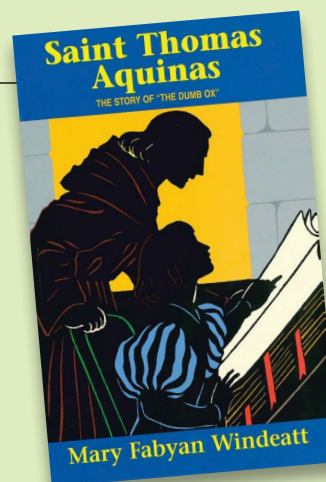
Ignatius Press

VARIOUS AUTHORS

The Saints Chronicles (Books 1-5)

Bringing to life the stories of courageous Christians, this graphic novel series features five bold heroes in each collection, including St. Patrick, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Nicholas, St. Bernadette, St. Rose, and St. Ignatius, among many others.

Sophia Institute



“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
—St. Catherine of Siena

FRENCH, ALLEN

The Story of Rolf and the Viking Bow

When Rolf's father, Hiarandi the Unlucky, goes against Icelandic custom by lighting a fire to guide boats along the rocky shore instead of taking the spoils from the inevitable shipwrecks, his good deed costs him his life. His son, Rolf, is thereby outlawed. But Rolf carries on, bringing the light of Christianity with him.

Bethlehem Books

WILLIAMSON, HUGH ROSS

The Young People's Book of Saints

Featuring both famous and obscure saints, this anthology is written linking the saints together through time to create a picture of the sweep of history. Each saint's individual personality shines and will inspire us all to live out the mission God has uniquely entrusted to us.

Sophia Institute

DUPUY, COLINE

Therese of Lisieux: Loving is Giving Everything Away

In this graphic novel, children learn the story of St. Therese's soul and learn her "Little Way."

Sophia Institute Press

“No one in the world can change Truth. What we can do and should do is to seek truth and to serve it when we have found it.”

—St. Maximilian Kolbe

FINN, FR. FRANCIS

Tom Playfair

This delightful story centers on 10-year-old Tom Playfair, who is quite a handful for his well-meaning but soft-hearted aunt. Mr. Playfair, his widowed father, decides to ship his son off to St. Maure's boarding school—an all-boys' academy run by Jesuits. Tom is less than enthusiastic, but his adventures are just about to begin and he will grow in virtue. This is the first book in a series.

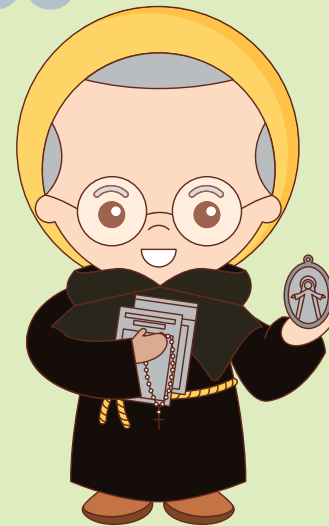
TAN Books

BISHOP, CLAIRE HUCHET

Twenty and Ten

While the Germans occupy France during World War II, twenty French schoolchildren take refuge in the mountains. But when ten Jewish children are brought to them for hiding, the French children must keep the Jewish kids' presence secret to keep everyone safe.

Puffin Books



HUBBARD, MARGARET ANN

Vincent De Paul: Saint of Charity

The inspirational story of St. Vincent de Paul, a shepherd boy who was enslaved in North Africa, escaped to France, served the poor and abandoned children, and founded the Vincentian Order and the Daughters of Charity.

Ignatius Press



The official podcast of Kolbe Academy with lively discussions on home & distance education, Kolbe Academy, and our Catholic community.

Look for the Kolbecast in your favorite podcast app and subscribe for effortless episode delivery.

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[Episode 252 Timelines of Fulton Sheen with Dr. Cheryl Hughes](#)

[Episode 198 The Sign of Our Salvation: Dr. Gilbert Lavoie on the Shroud of Turin](#)

Stories of Virtue by Great Christian Writers

In the Middle Ages, children would learn their faith through watching mystery plays where stories from the Bible primarily were retold to inspire and enrich the learners. There were also morality plays which often used allegory to tell tales of virtue, as well as show the struggle between good and evil. While these are no longer common, it is important to remember that the lives and stories of the saints should also be accompanied by tales of virtue, stories that use mythology and allegory to teach, and exhort through persuasive writing. Some authors whose works are exemplary in teaching this can be found in our previous summer catalogs, here we will spotlight four of them who are great writers from the 20th century.



Stories for Children Grades 1-6

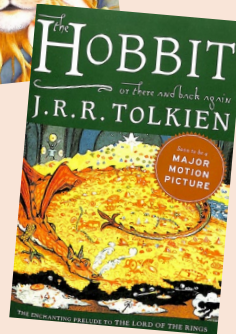
***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis** – An allegorical fantasy novel where four children discover the magical land of Narnia, ruled by the evil White Witch, and join forces with the good and noble lion Aslan to watch him and aid him in bringing to light the goodness of the world. There are many books in the series.



***Till We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis** is based on the of the myth of Psyche and Cupid. It explores the true meaning of love, and the nature of the divine.

***Murder in the Cathedral* by T.S. Eliot** is written in the style of a Greek tragedy. It is a retelling of the life and death of St. Thomas Becket and focuses on the key idea of surrendering one's will to God.

***Hobbit and Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien** – A fantasy tale expertly told which shows a clash between good and evil and how good wins in the end.



***The Waste Land* by T.S. Eliot** is a modernist poem that weaves fragmented voices and symbolism to depict the spiritual and cultural decay of post-World War I society.

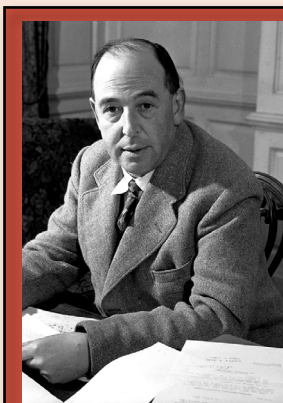
Stories for Children Grades 7-12

***The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis** – A satirical novel in which a senior demon, Screwtape, writes letters to his apprentice, Wormwood, advising him on how to tempt a human soul away from God.

***The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis** – A Christian allegory in which a group of souls take a bus ride from Hell to Heaven, exploring themes of choice, redemption, and the nature of sin.

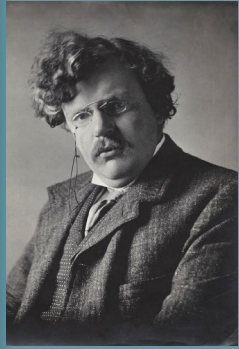
***The Space Trilogy* by C.S. Lewis** is a blend of science fiction, allegory, and theology. It follows the adventures of Ransom as he encounters good and evil across different worlds.

***The Innocence of Father Brown* by G.K. Chesterton** – The first collection of short stories featuring Father Brown, a humble and insightful priest-detective who solves crimes through his deep understanding of human nature rather than forensic evidence.



C.S. Lewis (1898–1963) was an English writer, scholar, and Christian apologist. While not Catholic, his fiction and nonfiction explored themes of faith, morality, and the human condition and his writings support Catholic teaching.

Apologetic Works



G.K. Chesterton (1874–1936) was an English writer, philosopher, and Catholic apologist, known for his wit and sharp critique of modernity. His writings often blended humor, paradox, and theological insight, influencing generations of writers and thinkers. He was devoted to the Eucharist. He once said, “The Eucharist is the great celebration of the marriage of heaven and earth.”

***The Ballad of the White Horse* by G.K. Chesterton** – An epic poem retelling King Alfred the Great’s battle against the Danes, blending historical legend with Christian allegory to explore themes of faith, hope, and divine providence.

***The Man Who Was Thursday* by G.K. Chesterton** – His most unique and thought-provoking mystery. It follows the protagonist, **Gabriel Syme**, a detective in a world filled with political chaos, who infiltrates a group of anarchists. The story explores the nature of good and evil.

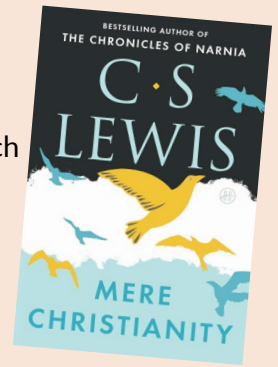
“Leaf by Niggle” is a short story by **J.R.R. Tolkien** that is allegory, helping the reader understand the vice of procrastination and the point of purgatory. The story centers on Niggle, a painter who is consumed by the details of his work, specifically a single leaf he is trying to perfect, while neglecting his true responsibilities.



T.S. Eliot (1888–1965) was an American-born British poet, essayist, and playwright, widely considered one of the most influential literary figures of the 20th century. Like Lewis he was Anglican but his writings show the search of man for God and have a profound Catholic message.

***Orthodoxy* by G.K. Chesterton** is a defense of Christianity, in which Chesterton presents his journey from skepticism to faith.

***Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis** is a compelling exploration of Christian beliefs, presenting a logical and accessible case for Christianity.

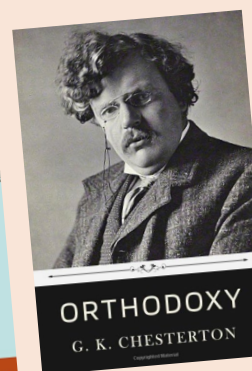
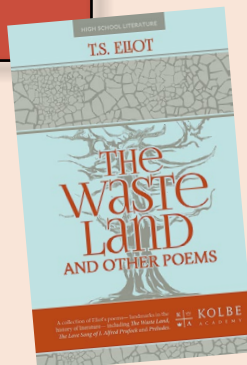
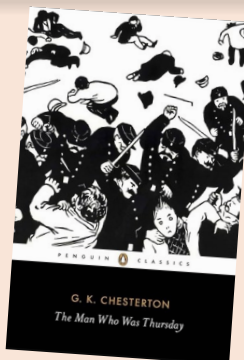
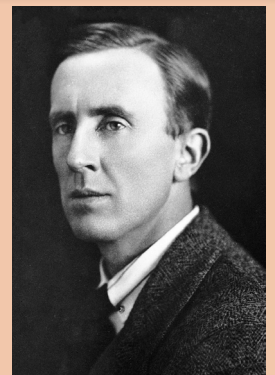


***The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis** addresses why a good and all-powerful God allows pain and suffering in the world. In his response he shows the value of suffering and God’s purpose in allowing it.

***The Four Loves* by C.S. Lewis** is an exploration the nature of love from a Christian perspective. Lewis breaks it down into four distinct types of love: **Storge, Philia, Eros, and Agape**.

***The Everlasting Man* by G.K. Chesterton** is an argument that man was searching for God from the beginning of civilization and that, with the coming of Christ, the world was radically changed. Christ fulfills this desire for the divine.

J.R.R. Tolkien (1892–1973) was an English writer, philologist, and academic. His works established the modern fantasy genre and focus on the battle between good and evil. A devout Catholic, Tolkien’s faith deeply influenced his writings, making them not just epic tales, but also moral tales.



ENGAGED READERS

Sixth Grade to Eighth Grade



Engaged Readers: All men are called to holiness. Those who understood this well taught by word and example. The lives of those who lived out the call to holiness are captured in many wonderful books, as are the gems of wisdom from many writers who told stories rooted in the wisdom of the saints. To be able to surround our children with wise mentors and holy friends is a wonderful thing.



WILLARD, BARBARA

Augustine Came to Kent

In 597, Pope Gregory sends monks to re-evangelize England. Young Wolf accompanies his father, who serves as interpreter and guide. But the new land might prove hostile to the missionaries, and Wolf must navigate the new world while clinging to his faith.

Bethlehem Books

RAY, MARY

Beyond the Desert Gate

Philo is a poor young man in first century Palestine. Philo's father saved a man who was left by the Romans to die in the desert, but the man does not remember who he is or what he was punished for. Together Philo and the man from the desert try to find their identity. (A sequel to *The Ides of April*)

Bethlehem Books

FERRISI, SABRINA ARENA

Blessed Carlos Acutis: The Amazing Discovery of a Teenager in Heaven

During Carlos' life, he created a website sharing Eucharistic miracles and Marian apparitions, living in trust of God's goodness, despite his leukemia diagnosis. When he died at age fifteen, he appeared to his mother in a dream, telling her he would be canonized soon, and has since interceded with miracles. Learn the Catholic Church's process to determine who is in Heaven and read interviews from Carlos' mom about the miracles that have proved he is already there.

Holy Heroes

DE WOHL, LOUIS

Citadel of God: A Novel about Saint Benedict

In this historical novel, de Wohl recounts the story of St. Benedict, father of Western monasticism, and the tempestuous era in which he lived, giving us a profound message for our times.

Ignatius Press

CATHER, WILLA

Death Comes for the Archbishop

French Bishop Jean Marie Latour and American vicar Joseph Vaillant set out to convert the people in New Mexico and build a diocese in the late nineteenth century. But while it is a land American in name, it is Indian and Mexican in custom, and even the clergy who are supposed to be helping prove to be obstacles.

Vintage

DE TREVINO, ELIZABETH BORTON

El Guero: A True Adventure Story

This story tells of a Mexican family during the time of the Mexican Revolution, when El Guero's father, who is a judge, is exiled from their home by the new government. It is based on the boyhood adventures of the author's father-in-law, the real El Guero.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

WISEMAN, NICHOLAS

Fabiola

A story of faith and courage, set during the Christian persecution under the Roman Emperor Diocletian. The story follows a young girl's journey from spoiled Roman aristocrat to a Christian worshipping secretly in the catacombs.

Ravenia Books

POLLAND, MADELEINE

Fingal's Quest

When Irish monks come to Gaul in the mid-500s to restore Christianity, Fingal's master, Brother Columban, is chosen to go with them. Fingal, unwilling to lose his beloved master, follows after him. As he travels the country and comes up short, he leaves a trail of conversions behind that makes him wonder if God might be using his hardship for something greater.

Kolbe Academy Press

DANIEL-ROPS, HENRI

Golden Legend of Young Saints

In this book of well-known saints and often overlooked ones, we are reminded that we need not wait to grow up to be brave or holy. God calls young and old alike to offer our lives as sacrifice.

Sophia Institute

WILLIAMSON, JOANNE

Hittite Warrior

After Uriah Tarhund's family is killed and his home is destroyed by the Greeks, he travels to Canaan to make a new life for himself. Along the way he meets Jotham, a Hebrew boy, whose friendship changes the course of Uriah's life. Set during the time of the Book of Judges.

Bethlehem Books

WILLARD, BARBARA

If All the Swords in England

Two twins are separated when Edmund serves the king and Simon works for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket. Between the two of them, they witness significant political happenings of the time—including Becket's murder.

Bethlehem Books

GOLDMANN, FR. GEREON

In the Shadow of His Wings

French Bishop Jean Marie Latour and The true story of a young Fr. Gereon, who, as a seminarian, was drafted into Hitler's army. As he serves his time, he secretly finishes his priestly training, is ordained, and ministers to those in need.

Ignatius Press

“Jesus help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be and becoming that person.”
-St. Therese of Lixieux

DE WOHL, LOUIS

Lay Siege to Heaven: A Novel about St. Catherine of Siena

Young Catherine was the daughter of a wealthy dyer when she had a mystical experience that changed her life. To the surprise of her family, she refused a marriage offer in favor of devoting her life to Christ. Among her many earthly accomplishments were convincing the Pope to move back to Rome and pacifying warring city-states of Italy, all while performing miracles and gathering large crowds of devotees.

Ignatius Press

CAMPBELL, PHILLIP

Matron of Paris: The Story of Saint Genevieve

Genevieve lived in the early Middle Ages, where she journeyed from a shepherdess to an abbess and advocate of the Christians of Paris, encountering St. Patrick, St. Clotilde, and King Clovis along the way.

TAN books

TEBO, MARY

Saint Isaac Jogues: With Burning Heart

As a Jesuit priest, Isaac was sent to Quebec to bring Jesus to the New World. He was tortured by the Iroquois and killed by the Mohawks, exemplifying courage and faith while revealing the Good News.

Pauline Books & Media

DE WOHL, LOUIS

Set All Afire: A Novel of St. Francis Xavier

After converting to Catholicism and meeting Ignatius of Loyola, St. Francis Xavier became one of the first Jesuits. He followed orders to "set all afire" as he traveled through Europe to Goa, India, Malaysia, Japan, and finally, to an island off the coast of China, where he was exiled and died alone.

Ignatius Press

MILLS, LOIS

So Young a Queen: Jadwiga of Poland

Hungarian Princess Jadwiga had been engaged to Prince William of Austria since she was five. But when she was unexpectedly crowned queen in Poland due to a shift in the balance of power, she found herself expected to marry Prince Jagiello of Lithuania, a heathen. As she gave up her personal hopes in exchange for peace between nations, her life proved to have an eternal impact.

Bethlehem Books

RAY, MARY

Spring Tide

Set in Britain during the Roman Empire, two young friends meet a Christian priest who is later captured and imprisoned by the Romans. The friends devise a plan to rescue the priest, even though it may cost them their lives.

Bethlehem Books

POAGE, FR. GODFREY

St. Maria Goretti: In Garments All Red

At age twelve, in July of 1902, Maria Goretti fought to preserve her purity from the attacks of Alessandro Serenelli. Yet even in her trial, her concern was for the soul of Alessandro, as she implored him to stop to avoid sinning. He stabbed her fourteen times, leaving her a martyr. Years later, Maria's own mercy led to Alessandro's conversion.

TAN Books

LANG, ANDREW & LENORA

The Book of Saints & Heroes

In this book of marvelous legends and exciting true stories, you will discover the saint who spent seven Easters on a whale's back, the friendly lion who befriended St. Jerome, the savage wolf St. Francis of Assisi tamed, and the dragon St. George defeated, as well as accounts of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Elizabeth of Hungary.

Sophia Institute

CHESTERTON, G.K.

The Complete Father Brown Stories

Find all of detective Father Brown's stories in one collection and follow along as he uses wit and compassion to solve mysteries.

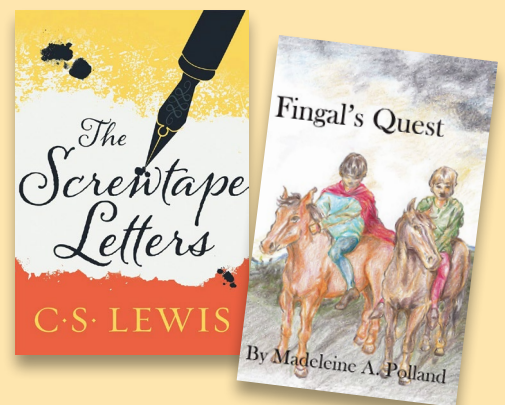
Wordsworth Editions Ltd.

NEALE, JOHN MASON

The Daughters of Pola

A series of letters between family members tells the story of the Christian persecution under the Emperor Diocletian.

Arx Publishing



“Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen.”
-St. Thomas Aquinas

DE WOHL, LOUIS

The Golden Thread: A Novel about St. Ignatius Loyola

Uli von der Flue, Swiss mercenary, was responsible for the canon shot that dashed St. Ignatius' dreams of living a valiant life as a knight. With his friend Juanita, Uli followed Loyola on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and became involved in his life. Through Uli's eyes, explore Spanish and Italian history in the time Ignatius lived, witnessing the events that led Ignatius to become a great saint.

Ignatius Press

TEN BOOM, CORRIE

The Hiding Place

In World War II Corrie Ten Boom and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis. In 1944 their lives were forever altered when they were betrayed, arrested, and thrown into the infamous Nazi death camps. A true story that shows the blessings that come from doing what is right in hard situations.

Chosen Books

DE WOHL, LOUIS

The Joyful Beggar: A Novel about Saint Francis of Assisi

The story of the beloved saint that nearly became the righthand man to a king. Featuring characters such as St. Clare, Frederick, the King of Sicily, and Pope Innocent III, Francis' journey from the pleasure-loving officer to the poverty-vowing monk is brimming with action.

Ignatius Press

DE WOHL, LOUIS

The Living Wood: A Novel about Saint Helena and the Emperor Constantine

In the early Christian era, Helena, saintly mother of Constantine, embarked on a quest for the True Cross.

Ignatius Press

POLLAND, MADELEINE

The Queen's Blessing

After King Malcolm of Scotland sweeps through Northumbria, wielding destruction, Queen Margaret seeks to make amends for his damages and takes in two orphans, Merca and Dag. But Merca wants revenge on the king who ripped her from her old life. Through her queen's example, she must learn forgiveness.

Hillside Publishing

DE WOHL, LOUIS

The Quiet Light: A Novel about Saint Thomas Aquinas

A historical novel about the life of St. Thomas Aquinas, who defied his family's hopes of rising to a powerful position in the church by becoming a Dominican and taking a vow of poverty. As the Crusades carried on in the thirteenth century, Thomas studied under St. Albert the Great, living a life of intense study, prayer, writing, and contemplation that led to his later being called "The Angelic Doctor."

Ignatius Press

LEWIS, C.S.

The Screwtape Letters

In this satirical novel, a senior demon named Screwtape writes a series of letters to his nephew Wormwood, a junior tempter, advising him how to ensnare souls and lead them astray. Lewis' unconventional approach provides a thought-provoking exploration of human nature.

VON LE FORT, GERTRUD

The Song at the Scaffold

Based on the true story of the Carmelite nuns who offered their lives to preserve the Church of France during the French Revolution, this novella follows the fictional Blanche as she joins the order to seek refuge from the war but finds herself called to be courageous instead.

Ignatius Press

POLLAND, MADELEINE

To Kill a King

In this sequel to *The Queen's Blessing*, Merca has prevented the king's murder but continues to face suffering from her childhood trauma. She seeks safety in her decision to become a nun, but Queen Margaret sees other plans for her. Merca is sent to London, where she meets new friends wrapped up in a Saxon rebellion intent on killing the king. To save her friends and the boy she has come to love from regret, she must find a way to change their hearts.

Hillside Publishing

HYMAN, FREIDA CLARK

Victory on the Walls

A young boy named Bani has an unexpected role to play in his Uncle Nehemiah's scheme to leave the court of the Persian king and return to his home in Jerusalem. Will this be seen as a treasonous plot or will it be part of God's plan for the Promised Land?

Bethlehem Books

“It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards a one's progress, nor the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken.”
- St. Francis Xavier

To register for a Kolbe Summer Reading Club and to learn about our Summer Reading Challenge visit kolbe.org/summer-reading-program

UNPLUGGED

Ninth Grade to Twelfth Grade



We are busy - all the time! We all feel that way, and so do our high school students. Without the silence to pray and detach from the cares of this world, life just makes demands on our high schooler's time and attention. If there is time set aside to read about the saints without distractions, then the

burdens of this world will be lifted for a little while. Encourage your high schooler to set aside time to read about the saints!



MILLER, WALTER

A Canticle for Leibowitz

A Catholic monastery is dedicated to preserving knowledge after a nuclear war devastates civilization. Spanning centuries, the novel explores humanity's cyclical nature of destruction and rebirth, as monks safeguard the writings of Saint Leibowitz, a relic of lost technological wisdom. Ultimately, as history repeats itself with another nuclear catastrophe, the novel questions whether mankind is doomed to self-destruction or if faith and knowledge can break the cycle.

Penguin Random House

PEEK, SUSAN

A Soldier Surrenders: The Conversion of Saint Camillus de Lellis

A biography of St. Camillus de Lellis, who was born in the 1500s, lost his mother at a young age, and followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a soldier. His temper, pride, and many vices enslaved him as he faced challenging moral issues—until he finally discovered the truth.

Seven Swords Publications

WALLACE, LEW

Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ

When Judah, a Jewish prince, is wrongfully convicted, he becomes a slave in the Roman empire. He plans to exact revenge, but as his life intersects with Jesus Christ, he discovers a new way of forgiveness and love.

THURSTON, S.J., HERBERT J., AND DONALD ATTWATER, ED.

Butler's Lives of the Saints

Carefully edited by Herbert J. Thurston, S.J., and Donald Attwater to retain the charms of Butler's style, this four-volume set contains 2,565 saints and exemplifies the theme of Christian love.

Christian Classics

NEWMAN, JOHN HENRY CARDINAL

Callista

Callista is a young Greek girl who carves statues of pagan gods in third century Rome, and she's unhappy with her life. But then she meets Agellius, a Christian who is willing to suffer persecution for his beliefs. When Callista is supposed to offer incense to the pagan gods, she must make a choice as to who she wants to follow, and the result will have eternal consequences.

Aeterna Press

ROYAL, ROBERT

Catholic Martyrs of the 20th Century

From the Catholic martyrs at Auschwitz to the recent murders of Christians in India, more than one million Christians are estimated to have been killed for their faith in the twentieth century. Robert Royal studies each incident, the political system, and the reason for confrontation as he explores the deaths of Miguel Pro, Edith Stein, and many more.

Publish Drive

AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

City of God

Augustine examines the inefficacy of the Roman gods and of human civilization in general. Blending Platonism with Christianity, he created the first Christian theology of history, planning a city based not on the Roman pantheon but on Christian love.

Penguin Classics

O'CONNOR, FLANNERY

Complete Stories

Flannery O'Connor is one of the most significant Catholic writers in modern times. Her stories are poignant with clear moments of grace shining through. Recommended for mature readers.

Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

Confessions

The Confessions of Saint Augustine is considered one of the greatest Christian classics of all time. It is an extended poetic, passionate, intimate prayer that Augustine wrote as an autobiography sometime after his conversion, to confess his sins and proclaim God's goodness. Just as his first hearers were captivated by his powerful conversion story, so also have many millions been over the following sixteen centuries. His experience of God speaks to us across time with little need of transpositions.

Penguin Classics

PEEK, SUSAN

Crusader King: A Novel of Baldwin IV and the Crusades

A historical novel about Baldwin IV, a leper who became king at thirteen, performed heroic deeds, and died at age twenty-four.

TAN Books

CALDWELL, TAYLOR

Dear and Glorious Physician

Today, we know St. Luke as the author of one of the synoptic Gospels, but before that, he was a Greek physician well-known for his medicinal healing. As he learned about Jesus Christ, he traveled far and wide to gather as many stories as he could, including those from Jesus' own mother, and when he had finished, he wrote it all down in the Gospel of Luke. This novel tells the story of St. Luke.

Ignatius Press

WAUGH, EVELYN

Edmund Campion: A Life

From the author of *Brideshead Revisited* comes a biography of Edmund Campion, Elizabethan poet, Oxford scholar, and gentleman who became the haunted, trapped, and martyred priest.

Ignatius Press

To register for a Kolbe Summer Reading Club and to learn about our Summer Reading Challenge visit kolbe.org/summer-reading-program

VARIOUS AUTHORS

Early Christian Writings

These letters and short theological treatises provide a rich guide to the emerging traditions and organization of the infant Church.

Penguin Classics

O'BRIEN, MICHAEL

Father Elijah

Michael O'Brien presents a thrilling apocalyptic novel about the end of time. The central character is Father Elijah Schäfer, a Carmelite priest who is on a secret mission for the Vatican which embroils him in a series of crises and subterfuges affecting the ultimate destiny of the Church.

Ignatius Press

FROSSARD, ANDRÉ

Forget Not Love: The Passion of Maximilian Kolbe

The famous French author chronicles the life of the great martyr and mystic St. Maximilian Kolbe, who had a strong Marian devotion, exemplified generosity and love in daily deeds, produced numerous publications, founded a monastery, and ultimately volunteered to die in place of a fellow Auschwitz prisoner.

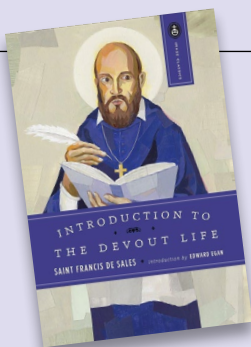
Ignatius Press

GONZALEZ, JOSEPH & MONIQUE

Guadalupe and the Flower World Prophecy

Using recent discoveries about American prehistory, the Gonzalezes explore the way the "Flower World Paradise" known by the indigenous people of Mexico prepared their hearts for Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance to them, contributing to the largest single Christian conversion event in history.

Sophia Institute



EUSEBIUS

History of the Church

The only surviving record of the Church during its crucial first three hundred years, this edition recounts the martyrdoms, heresies, schisms, and proceedings that led to Nicaea and other great Church councils.

Penguin Classics

O'REILLY, MARGARET

Humble Servant of Truth: A Novel Based on the Life of Thomas Aquinas

Thomas Aquinas had a thirst for truth and knowledge and significantly influenced Western thought. As a Catholic priest and Doctor of the Church, his legacy continues to be felt today.

Barbera Foundation

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Introduction to the Devout Life

A practical guide for laypeople on living a devout Christian life in daily activities. It encourages holiness in everyday circumstances.

TAN Books

POPE BENEDICT XVI

Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives

Pope Benedict explores the early life of Jesus as presented in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, affirming the historical and theological truth of the Nativity. He highlights Mary's faith, Joseph's role, and the significance of events like the Annunciation, the journey of the Magi, and Jesus' presentation in the Temple, showing how they fulfill Old Testament prophecies. Through a blend of Scriptural exegesis, historical context, and theological reflection, he emphasizes that Jesus' birth was not just a beautiful story but a real, world-changing event that reveals God's love and plan for salvation.

Ignatius Press

PARSONS, WILFRID

Mexican Martyrdom

A series of true stories of the anti-Catholic persecution in Mexico in the early 1900s. With accounts of heroes of the revolution such as Miguel Pro, Fr. Wilfrid Parsons describes cases he has personally seen or has heard by people who underwent the atrocities.

TAN Books

ELIOT, T.S.

Murder in the Cathedral

A verse dramatization of the murder of Thomas Becket that masterfully handles the issues of faith, politics, and the common good.

Dover

CHESTERTON, G.K.

Orthodoxy

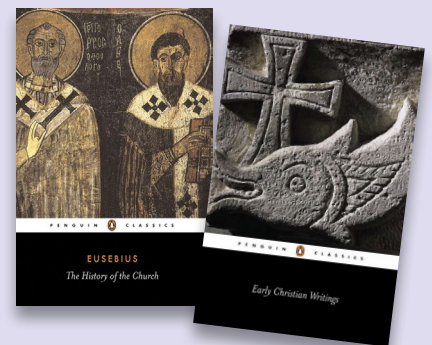
Chesterton presents a case for orthodoxy as the only true form of Christianity, challenging modern conceptions of Christianity as "cold" or "unrealistic."

SIENKIEWICZ, HENRYK

Quo Vadis

The world of pagan Rome and early Christianity collide in this classic novel about Rome in the time of Nero. The early martyrs come to life!

Hippocrene Books



“Learning to think rigorously, so as to act rightly and to serve humanity better.”
-St. Teresa of Calcutta

MALE, BLANDINE, AND HELENE FABE-HENRIET

Saint Clothilde: The First Christian Queen of France Tells Her Story

Daughter of the King of Burgundy and a Christian due to her mother's influence, Clothilde married the barbarian King of the Franks, leading to his conversion. The couple spread the Catholic faith, founded churches and monasteries, and forever changed the destiny of France.

Ignatius Press

PEEK, SUSAN

Saint Cloud of Gaul: The Prince Who Traded Kingdoms

When Prince Cloud, grandson of King Clovis, was summoned to his uncle's castle, he was hurled into a life of danger where he had to hide his royal identity. On his journey, he discovered the only Kingdom worth fighting for.

Seven Swords Publications

PEEK, SUSAN

Saint Magnus, The Last Viking

Nine hundred years ago in the Northern lands, Magnus Erlendson, a young prince burning with the love of God, battled with his outlawed cousin Hakon. Hakon blamed Magnus for banishing him from their kingdom, resulting in betrayal, revenge, bravery, and forgiveness as Magnus sought to restore his father's kingdom to its rightful owner.

Seven Swords Publications

DAVIDSON, FR. SEAN

Saint Mary Magdalene: Prophetess of Eucharistic Love

A fascinating look at the life of Mary Magdalene. Her background, conversion, and love for Our Lord is carefully laid out and based upon biblical texts. This work is a meditation on the life of Saint Mary Magdalene, known as the "Apostle to the Apostles" because the Risen Christ appeared to her first and then sent her to announce the Resurrection to the apostles.

Ignatius Press

PRADEL, FR. ANDREW

Saint Vincent Ferrer

St. Vincent Ferrer was a great Aragonese preacher, miracle worker, and confessor. Not only Catholics, but also Muslims and Jews were converted by his influence.

TAN Books

GALLAGHER, J.P.

Scarlet Pimpernel at the Vatican

The true story of Msgr. Hugh O'Flaherty who saved countless Jews and POWs during the Nazi invasion of Italy. Despite numerous attempts to assassinate him, O'Flaherty persisted. Each day his familiar figure would stand on the steps of St. Peter's—neutral ground that even the Nazis wouldn't violate—to welcome any fugitives who might be sent his way.

Coward McCann

LA VOIE, GILBERT

Shroud of Turin: And the Sign John Ingeniously Concealed

A fascinating examination of the Shroud of Turin. Dr. Lavoie juxtaposes his scientific findings with John's Gospel account of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This story of the life and death of Jesus comes alive through relatable, real-world scientific witnesses who explore the authenticity of the Shroud.

Sophia Institute Press

O'REILLY, MARGARET

Sinner, Servant, Saint: A Novel Based on the Life of St. Francis of Assisi

Young Francis was an embarrassment to his family, hosting extravagant parties for his band of friends at his father's expense. Seeking glory through battle, he joined the fight for Assisi's independence, which ended with a year spent captured in a medieval dungeon. Once free, he instead sought the glory of God, founding the Friars Minor (now the Franciscans) and taking on a life of humility and poverty that inspired a large brotherhood to grow around him.

Barbera Foundation

“Read some chapter of a devout book . . . It is very easy and most necessary, for just as you speak to God when at prayer, God speaks to you when you read.”

—St. Vincent dePaul



UNKNOWN

Song of Roland

The story of Charlemagne's nephew, who valiantly leads his men into battle against the Saracens, but dies in the massacre. In majestic verses, the battle becomes a symbolic struggle between Christianity and paganism, while Roland's last stand is the ultimate expression of honor and feudal values of 12th century France.

Penguin Classics

CHESTERTON, G.K.

St. Thomas Aquinas

Acclaimed as the best book written about Aquinas by outstanding Thomists, this biography reveals a fresh view of St. Thomas Aquinas.

ST. TERESE OF LISIEUX

Story of a Soul

An autobiography describing her "Little Way," a simple path to holiness through small acts of love and trust in God. It has inspired many with its childlike spirituality.

TAN Books

CHESTERTON, G.K.

The Ballad of the White Horse

One of the last great epic poems in the English language, *The Ballad of the White Horse* describes King Alfred's battle against the Danes in 878 while also providing an allegorical account of the battle between Christianity and heathenism.

Ignatius Press

BOETHIUS

The Consolation of Philosophy

Written in the sixth century, *The Consolation of Philosophy* was one of the most popular and influential works of the Middle Ages. Boethius composed the masterpiece while imprisoned and awaiting the death sentence for treason. The Christian author had served as a high-ranking government official before falling out of favor with Roman Emperor Theodoric, an Arian. In the *Consolation*, Boethius explores the true end of life—knowledge of God—through a conversation with Lady Philosophy. Part prose, part poetry, the work combines Greek philosophy and Christian faith to formulate answers to some of life's most difficult and enduring questions.

Penguin Classics

TROCHU, ABBE FRANCIS

The Cure D'Ars

A well done biography of the great priest who spent sixteen or more hours a day in the confessional. The chief labour of the Curé d'Ars was the direction of souls. He was sought out by bishops, priests, and lay people. By 1855, the number of pilgrims to his confessional had reached twenty thousand a year.

Baronius Press

DANTE

The Divine Comedy: Hell

Dante Alighieri's poetic masterpiece is a moving human drama, an unforgettable visionary journey through the infinite torment of Hell, up the arduous slopes of Purgatory, and on to the glorious realm of Paradise—the sphere of universal harmony and eternal salvation.

Penguin Classics

CHESTERTON, G.K.

The Everlasting Man

A classic work of Christian apologetics that argues that Christianity is the only religion that can explain the evolution of human thought and culture and the nature of the universe.

LEWIS, C.S.

The Great Divorce

When the writer finds himself in Hell boarding a bus to Heaven, he discovers anyone who wants to stay in Heaven can. This meditation on good and evil is based on the revolutionary idea that the gates of Hell are locked from the inside.

ST. TERESA OF AVILA

The Interior Castle

A mystical work describing the soul's journey toward union with God through prayer, using the metaphor of a castle with seven stages of spiritual growth.

TAN Books

PEEK, SUSAN

The King's Prey: Saint Dymphna of Ireland

Dymphna and her estranged brothers risked everything as they darted across Ireland to escape the deranged king—their father.

Seven Swords Publications

“To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement.”
—St. Augustine



ROPER, WILLIAM

The Life of Sir Thomas More

Written by his son-in-law, this biography tells of the life of the sixteenth century saint best known for his seminal work Utopia.

Penguin Classics

ST. BENEDICT

The Rule of St. Benedict

For fifteen centuries Benedictine monasticism has been governed by a Rule that is at once strong enough to instill order and yet flexible enough to have relevance 1,500 years later.

Penguin Classics

WERFEL, FRANZ

The Song of Bernadette

Written by a Jewish author based on a promise he made to God, this book tells of the story of Bernadette Soubirous and her visions of Mary in Lourdes. As a Jewish refugee, Werfel hid in Lourdes from the Nazis and made a promise to God to write of St. Bernadette's story if he escaped death. What resulted is a classic piece with profound Catholic understanding.

Ignatius Press

LEWIS, C.S.

The Space Trilogy

Dr. Ransom, a Cambridge academic, fights demonic forces with the help of heavenly messengers.

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

The Spiritual Exercises

A guide to deepening one's spiritual life through prayer, meditation, and discernment. It is the foundation of Ignatian spirituality and is widely used for retreats.

Loyola Press

PRUDLO, DONALD

Thomas Aquinas: A Historical, Theological, and Environmental Portrait

Incorporating new understanding of the thirteenth century, the Dominican order, and sainthood, this biography aims to look at the life of St. Thomas as a man, not chiefly his intellectual accomplishments. While his brilliance will be evident, the upheaval caused by his mendicancy and his adherence to Aristotle at his medieval university will surprise those who think they know him and intrigue those who know little of him.

Paulist Press

LEWIS, C.S.

Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold

Orual was born ugly even though she is a princess. She faces many trials, but she has always seen her half-sister, nicknamed Psyche, as a light in her life. When the priest says Psyche must be sacrificed because her beauty offends the goddess, Orual's jealous love interferes. A twist on the myth of Cupid and Psyche, this tale explores envy, grief, betrayal, guilt, and conversion.

HAWTHORNE, NATHANIEL

Young Goodman Brown

Young Goodman Brown follows a Puritan man who leaves his wife, Faith, for a journey into the dark forest, where he witnesses a devilish gathering that suggests the people he once saw as righteous are evil. After this nightmarish experience, Goodman Brown becomes disillusioned, losing trust in everyone and living a life of gloom and despair. The story explores themes of sin, hypocrisy, and how faith can be destroyed.

Wilder Publications



“When you wonder about the mystery of yourself, look to Christ, who gives you the meaning of life. When you wonder what it means to be a mature person, look to Christ, who is the fulfillment of humanity. And when you wonder about your role in the future of the world look to Christ.”
 -St. Pope John Paul II





KOLBE SUMMER CAMPS

For a more interactive experience, our Summer Reading Clubs provide opportunities to connect with other readers and discuss books in a virtual setting. Enroll for these courses and clubs through the [Kolbe Portal](#) and see our extensive course listing at courses.kolbe.org (to view summer courses, select "2025-SU" from the Academic Term filter).

Summer 2025 Camps, Clubs, and Classes

- Faith & Playdough PK-1
- Pre-Reader Bootcamp PK-1
- Faith & Legos K-2
- Emerging Reader Bootcamp K-2
- Book Club Camp K-2: Fairy Tales
- Book Club Camp K-2: Saint Story Read Alouds
- Math Fact Bootcamp 1-2
- Reading Fluency Bootcamp 2-4
- Spelling Bootcamp 2-4
- Baking Class 3-8
- Cooking Class 3-9
- Faith and Legos 3-5
- Grammar Bootcamp 3-5
- Composition Bootcamp 3-5
- Book Club Camp 3-5: [Book of Three](#)
- Book Club Camp 3-5: [Magician's Nephew](#)
- Book Club Camp 3-5: Trumpet of the Swan
- Math Fact Bootcamp 3-4
- Study Skills 3-5: Summarizing and Paraphrasing
- Lego Stop Motion 5-8
- Book Club Camp 6-8: [Father Brown](#)
- Math 5/6 Readiness
- Creative Writing Camp 6-8
- Composition Bootcamp 6-8
- Book Club Camp 6-8: Screwtape Letters
- STEAM Camp
- Study Skills: Note Taking 6-8
- Study Skills: Microsoft 365 Outlook
- Study Skills: Microsoft 365 Word
- Introduction to Coding
- Grammar Bootcamp 6-8
- Math 7/8 Readiness
- Study Skills: Microsoft 365 Powerpoint
- Algebra 1 Readiness
- Study Skills 9-10: How to Read a Book
- Composition Bootcamp 9-12
- Algebra 2 Readiness
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