



“Broken Mary: The Kevin Matthews Story” Media Tip Sheet

Synopsis

It’s Chicago in the 1980s and ’90s, and Kevin Matthews has it all as one of the nation’s most recognized radio personalities. He’s partying with celebrities, rubbing shoulders with famous athletes and the world is at his fingertips. Then everything changes: he’s diagnosed with a debilitating illness, and the spotlight gradually slips away. At the height of his anguish, he stumbles upon a broken statue of the Virgin Mary, and his life takes an unexpected turn. In this moment of spiritual awakening, Kevin finds his true purpose and calling, discovering what matters most. Calling himself “Mary’s Roadie,” he offers his fans something deeper: inspiration and hope.

News Angles

A Radio Legend’s Rise, Fall and Redemption

Kevin Matthews was once one of America’s most recognizable and outrageous radio voices — a ratings giant in Chicago who partied with celebrities and pushed the boundaries of comedy. “Broken Mary” revisits that larger-than-life career and reveals what happens when the fame fades — and how an encounter with a seemingly random statue can have an unexpected (and profound) impact on a broken man.

Modern Marian Miracle: A Broken Statue Becomes the Means of Conversion and a Ministry of Mercy

Most Marian stories are rooted in ancient apparitions or centuries-old devotions — “**Broken Mary: The Kevin Matthews Story**” shows how the Blessed Mother still reaches out to people today, even in a city alley next to a dumpster. Kevin Matthews’ unexpected encounter with a broken statue reveals the timeless power of Mary’s maternal care for the forgotten and spiritually wounded. This resonates with Catholic and non-Catholic audiences alike, who are hungry for

modern stories of hope.

Hope for the Suffering: A Witness to Redemptive Suffering

Kevin's journey with MS reminds viewers that suffering has purpose when united to Christ's cross through Mary. His testimony is especially moving for those who are struggling with illness, family crosses or spiritual dryness. The film offers a relatable story of how surrendering brokenness can unleash healing and a new mission.

A Beloved Voice Comes Home

Kevin Matthews was once a household name in Chicago — known for edgy humor and prank calls as a radio talk show host. Seeing how this popular secular figure embraced the Church and Mary later in life offers a compelling conversion story that will draw curiosity from audiences inside and outside the Church.

Biographies



Kevin Matthews, Subject of the Film

Kevin Matthews is a legendary American radio personality, comedian and writer best known for his influential work in Chicago and Detroit radio throughout the 1980s, 1990s, and early 2000s. With a sharp wit and a gift for blending satire, character comedy and music, Matthews became a household name, particularly through his popular shows on WLAV-FM in Grand Rapids, WRIF in Detroit, and Chicago stations AM 1000 (WLUP) and WXCD.

Matthews was part of Chicago's vibrant radio scene during its peak, often blending humor with heartfelt storytelling. His show was known for its unpredictability, emotional depth and the loyal community it fostered – garnering 10 million listeners a week at its height.

In addition to his radio work, Kevin has written and spoken publicly about his personal journey. After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and facing a crisis of both identity and purpose, Matthews experienced a life-changing encounter with the Blessed Virgin Mary. His memoir, *Broken Mary: A Journey of Hope*, chronicles his transformation and has inspired audiences across the country.



Eric Groth, Executive Producer and Producer

Eric Groth is the co-founder, with writer/director Andrew Hyatt, of Sacred Arthouse, a film production company created to artfully tell stories that resonate with the human experience by honoring the true, inspiring the good and celebrating the beautiful.

Eric has spent the last 20 years in film production, including founding ODB Films in 2005. As president/executive producer of ODB Films, Eric produced more than 250 short films, two award-winning feature films (*Full of Grace* and *Paul, Apostle of Christ* in partnership with Sony Pictures) and a docuseries (*Restored: Stories of Encounter*).

In September 2020, Eric helped launch Renovo Media Group, an Iowa-based film company. During that time, he served as executive producer of the company's first feature film (*Wildcat*) written, directed, and produced by Ethan Hawke, and starring Maya Hawke, Laura Linney, Philip Ettinger, Rafael Casal, Steve Zahn, Cooper Hoffman, Willa Fitzgerald, Alessandro Nivola, Liam Neeson and Vincent D'Onofrio. *Wildcat* premiered at 2023's *Telluride Film Festival*, *Toronto International Film Festival* and *Zurich Film Festival*. It is distributed domestically by Oscilloscope Laboratories and internationally by Radiant Films.

Eric has been married to his wife Becky for 34 years, and they have eight children.



Katie Reidy, Producer and Executive Producer

Katie Reidy is a Chicago-based producer. Her most recent project, the feature-length documentary *Broken Mary: The Kevin Matthews Story*, is set for theatrical release in Fall 2025. She has been working in film for fifteen years in various roles on multiple projects including a six-part docuseries called *RESTORED: Stories of Encounter* and the Sony released feature film *Paul, Apostle of Christ* (2018). Other notable projects include the feature film *Little Boy* (2014) with Metanoia Films, the theatrically released documentary *The Dating Project* (2018), and the Vatican commissioned documentary *The Humanum Series* (2015). She is passionate about bringing stories to the screen that positively impact the culture.



Megan Harrington, Producer and Executive Producer

Megan Harrington is a senior producer at Family Theater Productions. She serves as producer, co-director, and co-writer of the Emmy® and Christopher Award-winning *Playing Like a Girl: The House That Rob Built* and the award-winning *Native Ball: Legacy of a Trailblazer*. She is also the producer and co-writer of the Gabriel and Christopher Award-winning *PRAY: The Story of Patrick Peyton* and *The Dating Project*, and a producer on the upcoming documentary *Broken Mary: The Kevin Matthews Story*. Her passion lies in telling authentic and heroic stories that illuminate what is true, good, and beautiful.



Rev. David L. Guffey, C.S.C., Executive Producer

Rev. David L. Guffey, C.S.C., serves as national director and head of production at Family Theater Productions in Hollywood, California, which was founded in 1947 by Venerable Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. The company creates faith-based and family-friendly programs for film, television and the internet.

He has recently been part of the producing teams that created and distributed several films, including *PRAY: The Story of Patrick Peyton*, *Playing Like a Girl: The House That Rob Built*, *Native Ball: Legacy of a Trailblazer*, *The Dating Project*, and *Next Level*. He is the executive producer of *Catholic Central* and *Lente Católico*, two web series on the Catholic faith for young people. In addition, Rev. Guffey has directed or written award-winning short films such as *Down from the Mountaintop* and *40 Hours*. He is frequently invited to give talks and retreats on faith, film and family culture.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and a Master of Divinity from the University of Notre Dame, as well as a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Television Production from Loyola Marymount University.



Jonathan Cipiti, Director, Editor and Writer

Jonathan Cipiti is an Emmy Award-winning documentary director based out of Denver who believes story has the power to change the world. He seeks to capture the essence of humanity, and remind us that our stories, no matter how ordinary, possess an extraordinary power to unite, uplift, and inspire. Jonathan continues to travel around the world witnessing the true stories that are impacting lives with a desire to share them with others.

Suggested Interview Questions for Kevin Matthews

1. Kevin, take us back to your days as one of Chicago's biggest radio personalities. What was life like at the height of your career?
2. You were known for pushing boundaries and pulling outrageous pranks. Do you miss that chapter of your life?
3. How did your MS diagnosis change you — professionally, personally and spiritually?
4. Tell us the story of the day you found the broken statue of Mary. What were you thinking when you saw it?
5. Some people might see a broken statue as junk. What made you pick it up and take it home?
6. What did that broken statue come to represent for you?
7. How did that moment next to a dumpster grow into a movement that's touched so many others?
8. What has your journey with Mary taught you about hope, especially for people who feel broken?
9. Many people today feel discarded or unseen. What do you say to them through this film?
10. You talk a lot about humor. How has your comedy helped you process suffering and share your story?
11. If someone isn't Catholic, what do you hope they take away from "Broken Mary"?
12. You've met countless fans through your radio career. How do they react when they hear about your Marian devotion?

Suggested Interview Questions for the Filmmakers

1. What do you hope audiences experience when they see “Broken Mary” on the big screen?
2. What was your knowledge of Kevin Matthews’ story before producing the movie?
3. Why were you drawn to the story of Kevin Matthews?
4. How will “Broken Mary” appeal to those who feel broken?
5. What can this movie teach us about humanity in general?
6. What are your personal thoughts on the life of Kevin Matthews?
7. How has making “Broken Mary” affected your personal faith?
8. Why did you decide to release “Broken Mary” on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary?