

2016 Christmas Gift Guide

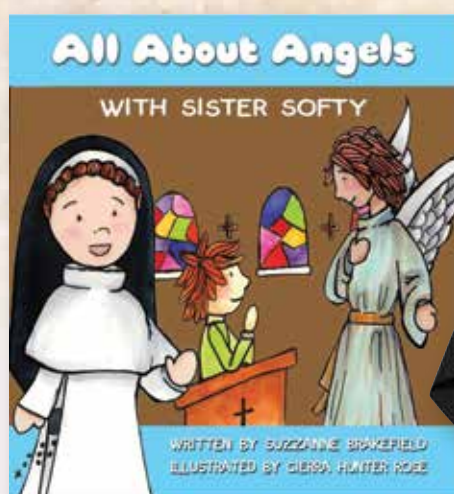
‘O Come, O Come, Emmanuel’

In anticipation of welcoming Christ at Christmas, we offer our readers a selection of Christmas gifts to give to family and friends in honor of Jesus, the best Christmas gift.

Prices subject to change. To order: EWTNRC.com or (800) 854-6316 (unless otherwise noted).

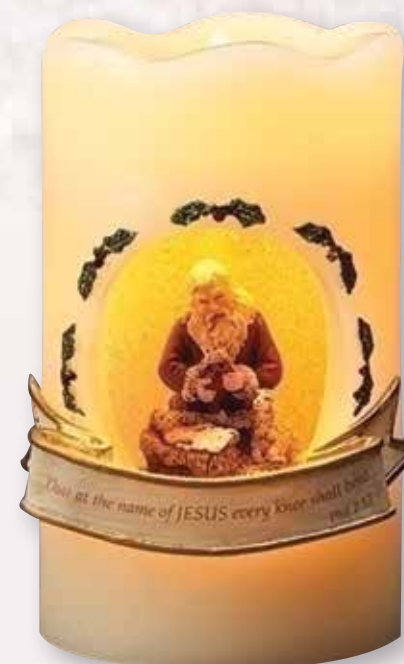
SISTER SOFTY STUFFED DOLL AND BOOK

Sister Softy is a lovely and adorable doll. She's soft to the touch, and her bright eyes and rosy cheeks are sure to bring a smile to any little girl's face. Sister Softy stands 14 inches tall, and her habit is lovingly hand-crafted just for her. When paired with the book, *All About Angels With Sister Softy*, she becomes an excellent teaching tool to help young girls and boys learn about the faith and foster a healthy reverence for women religious who wear the habit in God's holy Church. The beautifully illustrated board book about angels is a wonderful way to introduce children to the reality of their own guardian angel. Sister Softy explains all about angels and what they do and teaches the very special "Angel of God, My Guardian Dear" prayer. Hardcover board book. 12 pages. For children 6 months to 4 years. Doll, Item: SS446, \$36. Book, Item: 44697, \$10.



KNEELING SANTA CANDLE

This real-wax candle is a festive reminder that Jesus is truly the reason for the season. It is hollowed out with a small resin figurine of Santa kneeling down in adoration of the Christ Child. The banner beneath the window reads: "That at the name of JESUS every knee shall bow — Phil. 2:12." The candle is lit by a battery-operated LED bulb that flickers like a real flame and casts a gentle glow upon the little statue. Measures 5 inches x 3 inches. Requires 2 AA batteries (not included). Item: 30299, \$19.50.



CHILD'S FELT NATIVITY
Young children will remember the story of Jesus' birthday with this delightful Nativity set, which includes the Holy Family, barnyard animals and a carrying case. Item: 20967, \$23.



FONTANINI MUSICAL GLITTER DOME

This pretty Christmas glitter globe features a 2-inch Fontanini Holy Family set surrounded by a 4-inch glass globe on top of a dark brown base draped with festive garland and wreath. Inside the wreath is written: "PEACE ON EARTH." The music box plays *The First Noel*. Measures 6 inches x 4 1/2 inches. Item: 59010, \$39.50.



BLOWN-GLASS ORNAMENTS
Each beautifully decorated hand-blown glass ornament measures 4 inches in diameter and is imported from Poland. Each \$33.

DIVINE MERCY features an image of Jesus, the Divine Mercy, and St. Faustina with the words: "Holy God! Holy, Mighty One! Holy Immortal One!" and "Have Mercy on Us and on the Whole World." Item: 1176.

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL features an image of St. Michael on the front. The other sides of the ornament feature the initials IHS, the words "St. Michael the Archangel, Defend Us in the Day of Battle" and the prayer "St. Michael the Archangel, Pray for Us." Item: 12231.



SET OF TWO OVAL GLASS ORNAMENTS
This set of two oval glass ornaments has the appearance of stained-glass windows with glitter accents. One features an angel with a lute reminiscent of the Celestial Choir of Angels, and the other features the Holy Family with shepherd onlookers. Each ornament measures 4 1/2 inches x 3 1/2 inches x 1 inch. Item: 30920X, \$12.



HOLY FAMILY ARCHED FIGURINE
With its clean lines and gentle coloration, this beautiful Nativity scene features Joseph and Mary gazing with so much love and adoration upon their sleeping Child, who is also their Lord and King! It is made of a resin mix and measures 13 inches high. Across the base is boldly inscribed, "Peace on Earth." Item: 66038, \$40.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PANEL PLAQUE
This remarkably beautiful image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is printed on a three-panel plaque. It is made of medium-density fiberboard with the appearance of wood and measures 17 inches x 13 inches x 3/4 inch. On the back are two key-hole hooks for hanging. Item: 66421, \$42.



MADONNA AND CHILD PANEL PLAQUE
This beautiful and tender image of Our Lady and Baby Jesus is printed on a three-panel plaque and made of medium-density fiberboard with the appearance of wood. It measures 13 inches x 13 inches x 3/4 inch. On the back are key-hole hooks for hanging. Item: 66490, \$37.



CATHOLICISM: THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS DVD SET
Bishop Robert Barron is on a new journey to unlock the truth behind the Catholic Church's most influential people. Discover the places where St. Thomas Aquinas lived, learned and wrote. Visit the countryside where St. Francis gathered a group of friars and revived the Church. See the places where St. Catherine of Siena ministered and prayed. Trek through England to where Blessed John Henry Newman and G.K. Chesterton left their mark and sparked an English Catholic revival, and marvel at the extraordinary art of Michelangelo. Includes 6 DVDs, one for each of the "Pivotal Players." Each episode runs 50-60 min. Item: 7486D, \$150.



THREE-PIECE WOOD-LOOK NATIVITY
Designed to look like these pieces were actually carved out of wood, this beautiful three-piece Nativity is hand-painted in soft blue and brown hues. Mary and Joseph's garments have an outlined landscape of Bethlehem etched on them with trees, sheep and a dove of peace carrying an olive branch, as if to announce the arrival of the King of Peace in our world. The creative detailing makes for a lovely meditation. Made of a resin and wollastonite powder mix, St. Joseph measures 9 1/2 inches high; Mary measures 6 inches high; and Baby Jesus measures 2 1/2 inches. Item: 66033, \$55.

HOME SWEET HOME IS ANYTHING BUT SWEET

Poor Haitian children must work to help feed and shelter their families

HAITI - The tiny tin shack is suffocating inside, hot as an oven beneath the blazing sun. This is home for Ellen, 12, whose family has been nomads since the 2010 earthquake destroyed their home. Like the children of Israel, they moved constantly, wandering through Haiti while searching for a permanent home. They found refuge on an empty parcel of land in Ca Ira with other families, but the landowner has threatened to evict Ellen's family and others who are squatting on his property.

The dark, stifling interior of Ellen's shanty lacks a sturdy door, which means strangers could easily break inside and harm the young girl.

Ellen sleeps on the ground on a thin rag mat. Rain leaks through the rickety roof and turns the ground into a soggy, muddy mess.

To help her family earn money for food, Ellen nimbly strips apart used rice bags they find in the trash. Her grandmother, Charitable, weaves the strands into ropes. On market day, they will sell the ropes, which local Haitians use to tie up donkeys, making less than \$1.

MATERIALLY POOR BUT RICH IN SPIRIT

Ellen's family and other families in the community barely survive by sharing their meager blessings with each other and sharing a faith that is much more solid than the flimsy hovels sheltering them.



Ellen and her family harbor hope for a better tomorrow. Charitable leads the family in prayer every night. She is a woman of deep faith who trusts in God's goodness and mercy.

"We get on our knees and pray that someone will help us. We wait for God to take us out of our misery," Charitable said.

It is the spirit of sharing and their faith in God that has enabled Ellen and her family to survive in these harsh

conditions. Their faith is their rock and their comfort.

"When we don't have anything we get something from our neighbors. God says to share what you have, so when you have something you share it," said Charitable. "We all live together, and we are all poor together."

"THEY KEEP PRAYING..."

Yvon, a community leader, marvels at the deep faith of the people of Ca Ira. Despite their precarious living situation, the families put all their trust in God.

"LORD, my God, I call out by day; at night I cry aloud in Your presence."

(Psalm 88:2)

"Every day and night they put their knees on the ground and ask the Lord for a place to live.... You can hear them inside their houses, praying to the Lord. They wait on Him to deliver them from this bad situation," Yvon said.

YOU CAN HELP

Your help is desperately needed to build safe homes

Hurricane Matthew tore through Haiti in October, ripping apart the makeshift shacks of vulnerable families living in remote villages just like little Ellen's. Hurricane Matthew's wrath left tens of thousands of Haitian people homeless and ravaged the lives of poor families already struggling to survive.

for vulnerable children like Ellen. They are depending on you for survival in the wake of Hurricane Matthew.

Food For The Poor, one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation, does much more than feed millions of the hungry poor primarily in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. This Christian ministry provides emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicines, educational materials, homes, support for orphans and the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance, with more than 95 percent of all donations going directly to programs that help the poor.

Sadly, Ellen is only one



young girl suffering from the horrible poverty and dangerous living conditions that affect countless children throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. But your gift can ease their pain. You can help build new, sturdy houses that will provide them shade from intense heat and keep them

safe from the rain and fierce wind of catastrophic storms like Hurricane Matthew.

When you give a gift to Food For The Poor to build safe, secure homes, you give poor children and their families peace of mind and hope for a better tomorrow.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to change the lives of children like Ellen with your gift today for housing. May God bless you for your compassion. ♦



Robin Mahfood, Food For The Poor President/CEO, and his wife, Gail, meet with His Holiness Pope Francis.

CHILDREN LIKE ELLEN NEED YOUR HELP!

Your gift today will help restore hope for children like Ellen and their families by building safe, sturdy homes to keep them safe against powerful and life-threatening storms like Hurricane Matthew. Your compassion and generosity will give a brighter future to those who have suffered so much. Please use the Food For The Poor brochure enclosed in this publication to send your gift today.

Food For The Poor, Dept. 111633 • 6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073 • 800-487-1158 • www.FoodForThePoor.org/savinglives



LITTLE DROPS STATUES
These cute little resin statues of Mary and the saints from the Little Drops of Water collection have simple features and smooth edges for smaller hands. \$13 each.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
measures 3 1/4 inches high. Item: 12037.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
measures 3 inches high. Item: 12045.



ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX
measures 3 1/4 inches high. Item: 12053.



PADRE PIO measures 3 1/4 inches high. Item: 12039.



ST. ANTHONY measures 3 1/4 inches high. Item: 12042.



ST. MICHAEL measures 3 1/4 inches high. Item: 12049.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA
measures 4 1/4 inches high. Item: 12034.

Guadalupe Mysteries Showcases Our Lady's Miraculous Image in Fact and Photograph

BY JOSEPH PRONECHEN

Guadalupe *Mysteries: Deciphering the Code* presents the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe in page-turning fashion.

It comes from the author-photographer team of Grzegorz Górny and Janusz Rosikon, who gave readers the unforgettable *Witness to Mystery: Investigations Into Christ's Relics*.

The oversized book overflows with illustrations in visual varieties of every kind. The gamut runs from Rosikon's eye-catching photography to colorful, painted masterpieces and murals, centuries-old illustrations, scientific close-ups, drawings and more. Visual delights appear page after page.

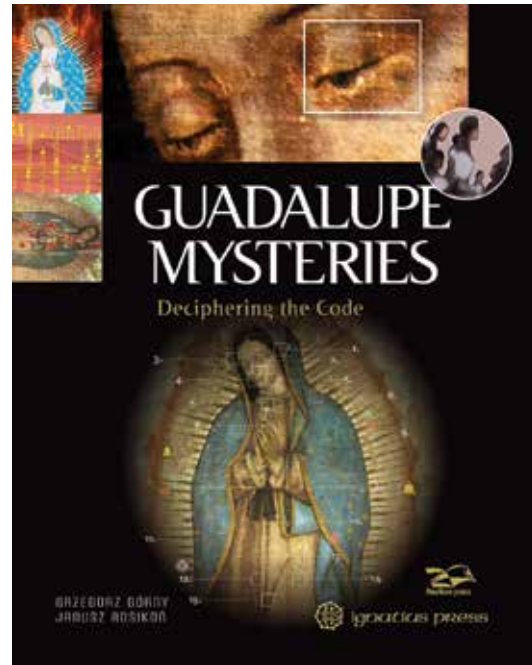
This "armchair pilgrimage" reads easily as it takes readers through the mysteries of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and how her appearance and image converted an entire culture and country — and continues to have an impact through five centuries, in Mexico and around the globe. We're reminded that the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico is the most-visited Marian shrine in the world, welcoming an estimated 20 million people yearly.

The authors present facts with illustrations in a riveting way, helping readers to understand the astounding discoveries expert scientists and doctors have made in examining, for example, the eyes of Our Lady, or how the image on the *tilma* is one of three examples of *acheiropoietos* — "not made by human hands."

One fascinating section brings to light how Father Mario Rojas Sanchez "assumed that as the image was sort of a message, some parts intelligible to the Indians, other parts to the Europeans, then it might well contain certain information that was decipherable scientifically. ... The layout of the mountain flowers on Our Lady's tunic intrigued him; he wondered if the layout matched any patterns in nature."

The book reveals what he found when he placed a map of Mexico on the image: "Our Lady of Guadalupe has become part of the Mexican landscape, an intrinsic part of the land. A new Son has been born of her womb, hence a new era in world history."

The authors also put the miracle in historical context, so that readers can better understand the tremendous amount of swift conversions — on some days, 15,000 were baptized. Not only did they come for baptism by the thousands, but the native people would walk for days to go to confession! What a lesson they teach us today.



son they teach us today.

To further put the appearance of Our Lady into historical perspective, the authors take readers back to Spain and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in the Spanish province of Extramadura, which was even visited by Christopher Columbus. They also weave in background information about the Mayan and Aztec cultures to better understand what this powerful, instantaneous mass conversion would mean.

Another highlight is a short translation of Juan Diego's poetic words in the *Nican Mopohua*, the oldest historical source written by an Indian who knew Juan Diego. Also included: beautiful photographs of the church built over the birthplace of Juan Diego and a two-page panorama that includes the new cathedral and the original church on Tepeyac, all in one wonderful frame.

On his 1999 Mexico trip, St. John Paul II proclaimed Our Lady of Guadalupe "Star of the New Evangelization." Readers will come to fully understand that title, too, after reading *Guadalupe Mysteries*.

Joseph Pronechen is a Register staff writer.

ORDER AT EWTNRC.COM
Item: 1155, \$32.



ADVENT CALENDARS

Each calendar has 24 numbered windows. Count down the 24 days until Christmas while keeping the Birth of Jesus at the center of your festivities. Beginning Dec. 1, open one window each day to reveal a special picture and the Bible text that tells a part of the Nativity story. Choose from:

STAINED-GLASS NATIVITY has a colorful Nativity scene with glitter accents. Measures 14 inches x 11 inches and hangs easily for display. Item: BB732, \$5.

BABY IN A MANGER measures 8 1/4 inches x 12 inches and features a friendly Nativity scene with glitter accents. Item: BB823, \$4.

JESUS IN THE MANGER, with a tender Nativity scene with shepherds and the Magi. 18 inches x 9 inches Item: BB902, \$6.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ROSARY

The rosary of speckled turquoise glass beads and a silver-plated crucifix has a center featuring a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the front and the words "Pray for us" on the back. As the patron of the pro-life movement, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a powerful intercessor for unborn babies. Item: 31265, \$9.50.



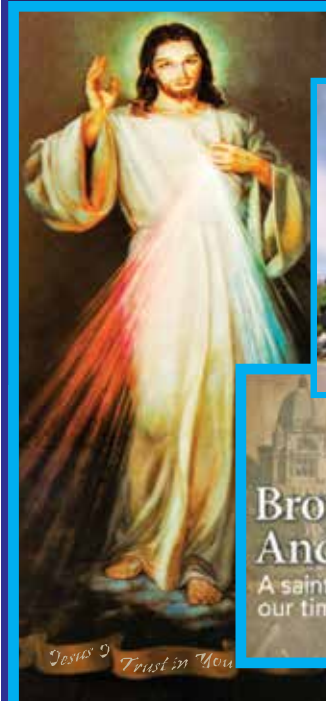
CHILD'S NATIVITY SET

This youthful 11-piece Nativity includes Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus, as well as an angel, the Wise Men, a shepherd, a lamb, a donkey and a stable, which measures 8 inches. Made of resin. For display only. Item: 36144, \$39.50.

Pilgrimage to North American Shrines

Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday in Stockbridge, MA. Experience St. Ann de Beaupre and Our Lady of the Cape in Quebec, Canada. Visit St. Joseph Oratory and Notre Dame Cathedral in Montreal, Canada. We will have a spiritual director and daily Mass.

April 22 to April 29, 2017



On Friday evening we will have dinner in the famous revolving dining room at the Skylon Tower where you can view the illuminated falls. We will stay the last two nights on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls! Price includes round trip airfare from all the major US cities, transportation, tours, hotels and two meals daily.

Price: \$2,200.00 per person double occupancy including air fare and all taxes from all major U.S. airports
Price: Land only \$1,800.00 per person double occupancy
Deadline for deposit of \$200 is due by December 10, 2016.
Make check payable to Poland-Medjugorje Pilgrimage and mail to: Poland-Medjugorje Pilgrimage, P.O. Box 281059, East Hartford, CT 06128.
Balance due by January 7, 2017. For more details, see our website www.polandmej.com or call Scott Scaria at 860-289-2606

For other pilgrimages to Europe in 2016, see our website www.polandmej.com
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Elizabeth of the Trinity, Our Newest Saint

BY ANTHONY LILLES

Elizabeth of the Trinity was a Carmelite nun who died at the beginning of the 20th century at the age of 26. Born in an army camp in 1880, the oldest of two sisters, her father was a veteran and POW of the Franco-Prussian War who died while she was still a child. Her mother had a conversion experience before her marriage and was zealous to live a pious life, and she was very loving and extremely devoted to her daughters. She moved the family to Dijon a few blocks from the parish Church of Saint-Michel — and just across the street from the Carmelite monastery Elizabeth would someday join. Josephine Catez raised her children around piano lessons, home schooling and involvement in the parish. It was in this context that Elizabeth discovered her devotion to Christ and learned how to control herself. She, in fact, had a fiery temper, but learned through prayer how to submit this to God with love.

Her devotion to Christ and to mental prayer impressed her friends and the nuns of her community even before she entered. As a teenager, she self-identified with St. Teresa of Avila's descriptions of the prayer of union. She was also among the first to read an early version of St. Thérèse of Lisieux's *Story of a Soul*. After read-



ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY
In our noisy culture, Elizabeth of the Trinity reminds us of God's power to establish in us a profound and peaceful stillness. She reminds us that the Trinity is our home and that God has created us in order to be united to Christ. In this book, Sister Giovanna della Croce presents a brief and readable introduction to the teachings of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, showing us the true path to contemplative prayer. Pope St. John Paul II considered Elizabeth of the Trinity to be one of the most influential mystics in his spiritual life. Paperback. 110 pages. Item: 3772, \$15.

ing this work, she resolved to be a Carmelite nun. She came to see herself as the Bride of Christ, as the beloved of the Canticle of Canticles, who cries out, "Nescivi! I no longer know anything but conformity to Christ crucified."

This devotion to Christ, rather

than causing her to be indifferent to others, moved her to implicate herself in the faith life and everyday struggles of her friends and family. As her death from Addison's disease grew closer, the more lovingly aware she became of their need for a deeper encounter with the Lord.

She promised that it would increase her joy in heaven if her friends asked for her help, and she was convinced that her mission was to help souls grow into a transforming union with God. In particular, she believed that she would be instrumental in leading souls out of self-occupation and into a beautiful silence where they might encounter the Lord and surrender themselves to him completely.

Through confidence in the love of God and complete abandonment to his will, the transformation that she envisioned leads to adoration and praise. She described a simple movement of love in response to the pure excess of divine love that awaits us. This love suffers, but is, in Christ, unvanquished. The victory of love realized in Christ allows us to know the glory of God and the joy of praising him. In her thought, God has predestined us in Christ to be the praise of his glory. She, in fact, believed the name that God gave her from heaven to be *Laudem Gloriarum* ("Unto the Praise of Glory"). At the same time, she made it her mission to make sure that everyone else realized this great vocation, as

well — in the particular way that God himself had called them.

The first step towards this, she proposed, is to occupy oneself with the love of the Holy Trinity: to recognize and to ponder the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as a bosom of eternal love and, at the same time, our true home, the place where we are meant to dwell.

Such an awareness of a personal relationship with the Trinity requires mindfulness of the purpose for which we are made. For her, we are created to welcome the excessive love of God and allow him to satiate his desire to love us.

The reality of heaven is not something that she believed was in the future of Christian existence, but already in this present moment in time. God's love comes to us in ever-new ways through Christ Jesus, the Word of the Father, whom the Father continually sends into our hearts with the fire of the Holy Spirit. With this dynamic view of the Trinity in each moment of life, she believed everything was a sacrament that gave us God and that time itself was "eternity begun and still in progress."

Anthony Lilles is the academic dean for St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California.

He completed his graduate and post-graduate studies in Rome at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, and his dissertation researched St. Elizabeth of the Trinity.



DIVINE MERCY STATUE

This beautifully detailed statue portrays the Divine Mercy of Jesus with the red and pale rays coming from his heart as he appeared to St. Faustina. Jesus explained that the rays represented the blood and water that flowed from his pierced side and taught Sister Faustina the prayer: "O blood and water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in you" (*Diary of St. Maria Faustina*, 84). This hand-painted statue is made of a resin-stone mix and measures 25 inches high x 10 inches wide x 7 1/2 inches deep. This item can only be shipped within the continental U.S. Item: 40471, \$135.



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP STATUE

In this statue, the artist depicts Our Lady of Perpetual Help simply and without the symbols and large sunburst often associated with this image. It is a beautiful statue of Our Lady as Queen holding the King of Kings safely in her gentle embrace. Made of a resin-stone mix, it is hand-painted and measures 12 3/4 inches high. Item: 65959, \$37.50.



ST. THÉRÈSE, THE LITTLE FLOWER, STATUE

When she died, St. Thérèse promised to let a shower of roses fall from heaven. Because of that promise, she is often pictured with roses in her hands. Here, she carries a bouquet of flowers and a crucifix. Made of a resin/stone mix, this statue measures 14 inches tall. Item: 46618, \$47.50.



SONG OF THE ANGELS STONE PLAQUE

This beautiful plaque is designed to look like a stone tile painted with a vibrant rendering of William Bouguereau's popular *Song of the Angels*. Made of resin, it measures 8 inches wide x 8 1/2 inches high x 3/8 inch. It comes with a key-hole hanger on the back as well as a black wire easel so it can be displayed either on a table or by hanging on a wall. Item: YS867, \$35.



A CHILD'S TOUCH STATUE

This beautiful bust of Our Lady and Jesus offers a close-up look at the tender and deep love they shared as Mother and Son. Having this in your home or office is a lovely reminder of how we need to love one another. "Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto thine!" Made of a resin-stone mix, it measures 6 1/2 inches high x 5 inches wide x 4 inches deep. Item: 6504, \$28.50.

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For readers who mention this ad, as seen on EWTN's *Journey Home* and heard on Relevant Radio's Dan Cheely show



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Why do Catholic women wear veils at Mass?

*Exp. 12/31/2016

We veil as a sign of loving submission before God, and we do it anytime we find ourselves inside a Catholic church, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the tabernacle.

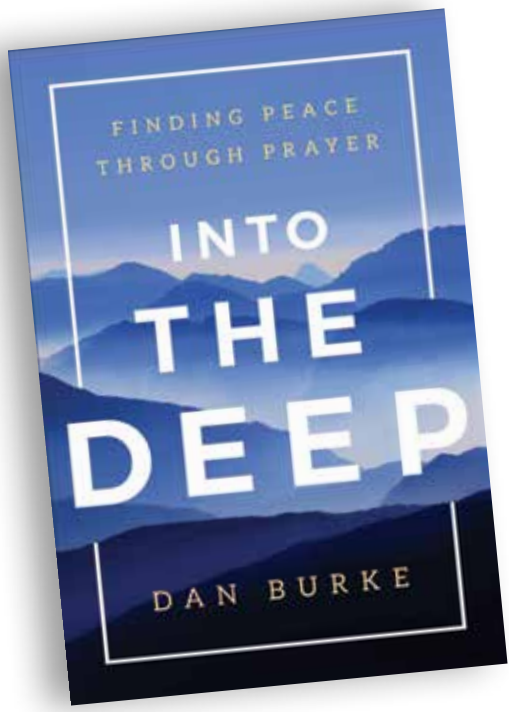
Did Vatican II do away with veils?

Contrary to what many believe, Vatican II never did away with this tradition. Women simply stopped wearing their veils even though the Code of Canon Law still required it.

After 1983, veils were no longer mentioned in canon law, but they remain a beautiful, optional devotion whereby each woman, symbolizing the Bride of Christ, the Church, wears a veil as a visible reminder of the perfect submission of the Church to the loving rule of Christ.

For more frequently asked questions about veiling, please visit:

veilsbylily.com/faq



INTO THE DEEP

Prayer is mysterious, challenging, frustrating ... and life-changing. Discover why growing in prayer, which sometimes can be compared to a battle, is worth every ounce of effort you give it. God is waiting to meet you where you are and to encourage you every step of the way. Dan Burke, the executive director of the Register, explains how to set up your own sacred prayer space, discusses the common obstacles to prayer and provides practical ways to overcome them. Let Jesus transform your heart and mind and give you a life of peace and joy. Hardcover. 112 pages. Item: 11516, \$25.

CLASSIC BOOKS

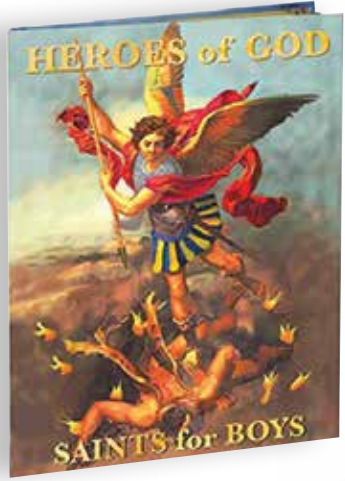
These classic collections of male and female saints, written by Jesuit Daniel A. Lord and illustrated in full glossy color by renowned children's artist Larry Ruppert, were first published in 1946. Each book is \$7 and introduces to children 31 saints in alphabetical order, including:

HEROINES OF GOD CHILDREN'S BOOK features Sts. Agatha, Agnes, Angela, Ann, Barbara, Bernadette, Brigid, Catherine of Siena, Clare, Elizabeth of Hungary, Joan of Arc, Lucy, Margaret Mary, Monica, Rita, Thérèse and Veronica. Hardcover. 64 pages. Ages 4 and up. Item: 2579.

HEROES OF GOD CHILDREN'S BOOK features Sts. Aloysius Gonzaga, Andrew, Anthony, Benedict, Bernard, Christopher, Dominic, Francis of Assisi, Joseph, Jude, Luke the Evangelist, Matthew, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Stephen and Thomas Aquinas. Item: 2578.

EWTN CHRISTMAS BELL ORNAMENT

Made especially for the EWTN family with olive wood from the Holy Land, this Bethlehem bell ornament features a cut-out Nativity scene inside the hollowed-out bell, and on the back it reads: "Merry Christmas 2016" with the EWTN globe and logo. Item: E235, \$10.



Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Beginning on St. Andrew the Apostle's feast day, Nov. 30, the following beautiful prayer is traditionally recited 15 times a day until Christmas. This meditative prayer helps increase awareness of the real focus of Christmas and prepares one spiritually for his coming.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, [here mention your request] through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of his Blessed Mother.

Amen.

— EWTN.com

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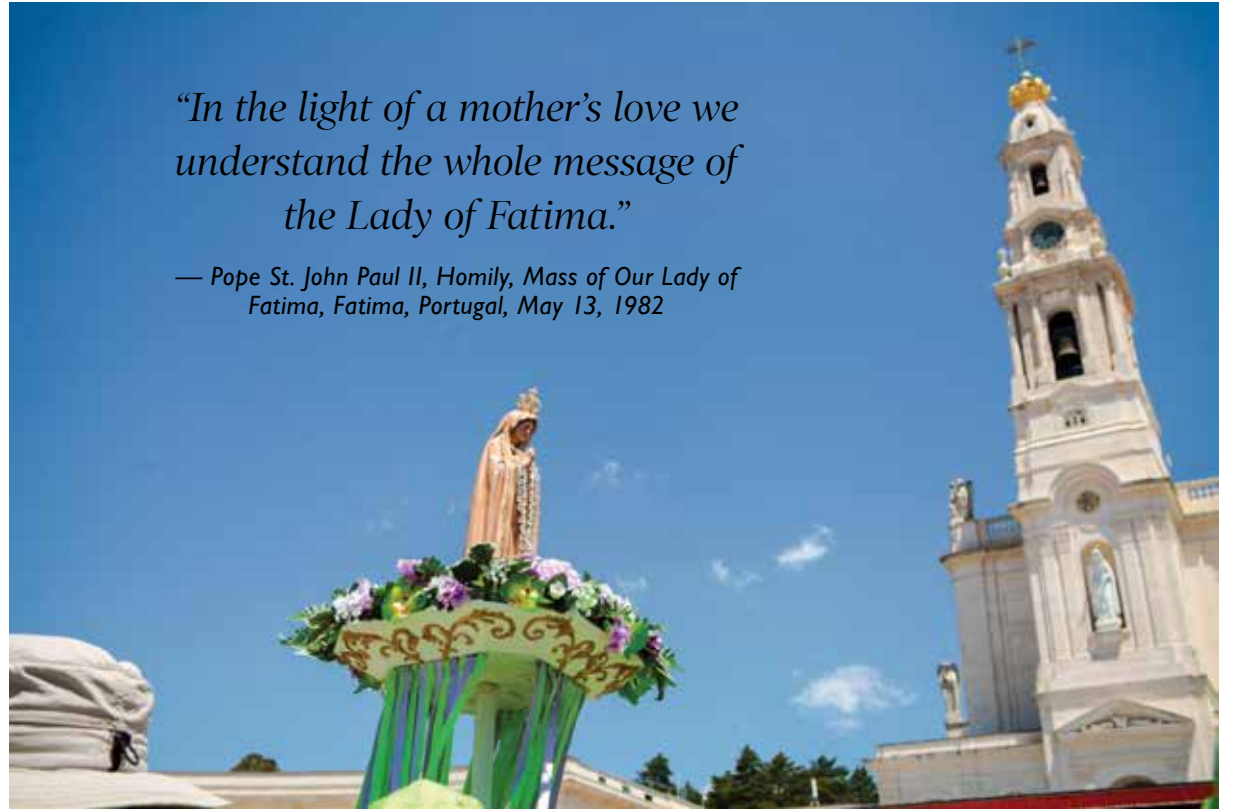
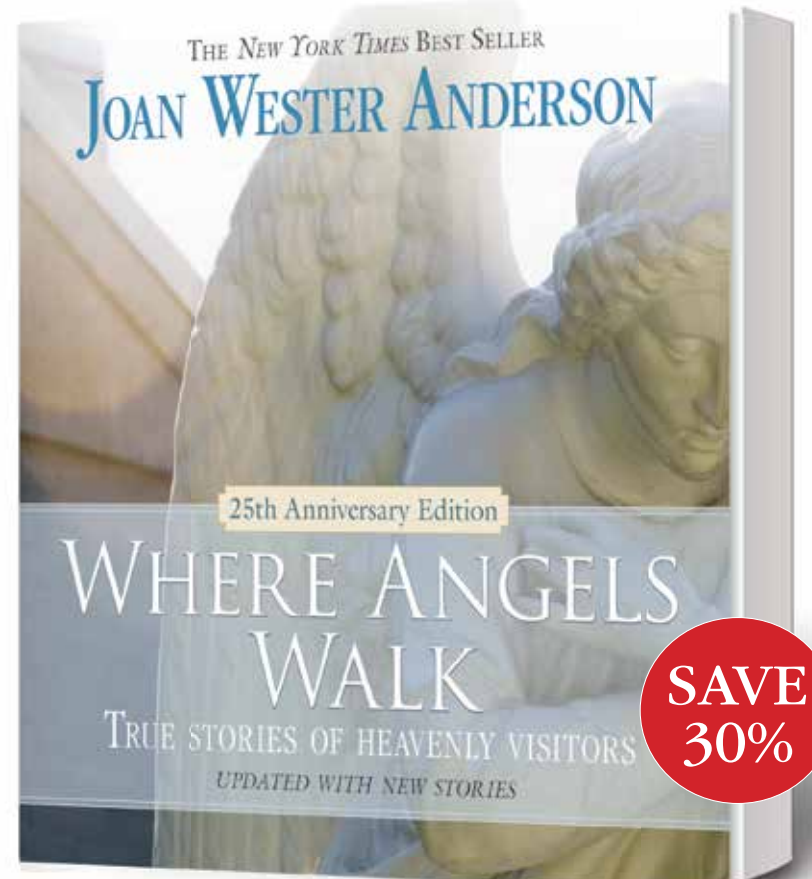
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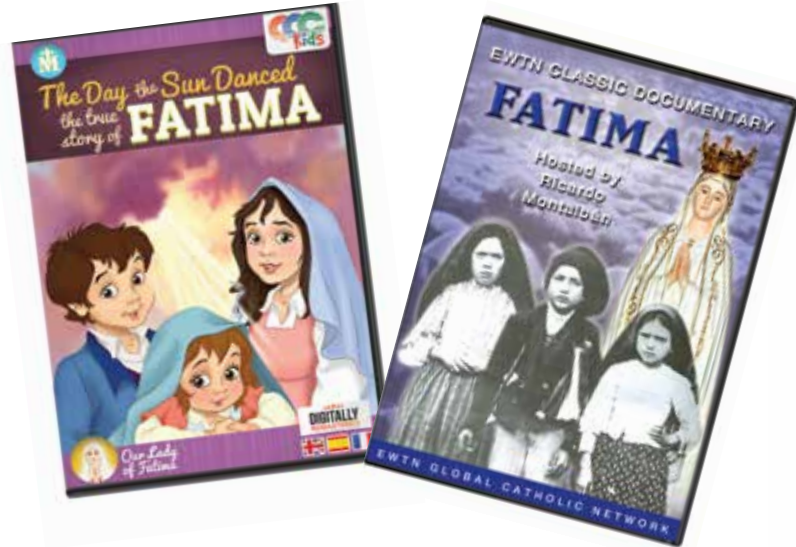
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"In the light of a mother's love we understand the whole message of the Lady of Fatima."

— Pope St. John Paul II, Homily, Mass of Our Lady of Fatima, Fatima, Portugal, May 13, 1982



OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE

A reminder of 2017's 100th anniversary of our Blessed Mother's appearances at Fatima, this beautiful statue is imported from Fatima, Portugal. It features three doves at Mary's feet. Made of resin and standing on a brown base, it measures 15 inches high. Item: 28015, \$55.

FATIMA ROSARIES

These special 100-year commemorative rosaries are a perfect reminder of what our Blessed Mother asked us to do every day during each of her appearances at Fatima. Each rosary features a pewter center with an image of Our Lady of Fatima appearing to the three children at the *Cova da Iria*. At the top of the medal, it reads: "1917-2017"; and at the bottom, it reads: "100 YEARS." The rosaries measure 20 1/2 inches when laid flat and come packaged with a prayer to Our Lady. The blue Fatima Rosary has facet-cut speckled blue and silver beads; the black rosary has round beads. Blue Fatima Rosary, Item: 286FT; Black Fatima Rosary, Item: PB7FT. Each \$13.

CREAM FATIMA MEDAL ROSARY

This pretty Fatima rosary consists of pearlized Hail Mary beads and little silver-tone medal beads with Our Lady of Fatima on them for the Our Father beads; the crucifix is from Fatima, and on the back of the centerpiece is a bit of dirt from Fatima (*Terra de Fatima*). Rosary measures 18 1/2 inches and is packaged with a prayer to Our Lady. Item: 37C, \$10.

THE DAY THE SUN DANCED DVD

This animated children's movie tells the story of Fatima. In 1917, three children named Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta experienced a great miracle. While herding a flock of sheep outside of the tiny village of Fatima, Portugal, the Blessed Mother visited them, telling the children great and wondrous secrets that would affect all of creation. Running time is 30 min. Item: A01D, \$15.

CLASSIC DOCUMENTARY: FATIMA DVD

This "EWTN Classic Documentary," narrated by Ricardo Montalban, gives true global perspective to our Blessed Mother's dramatic appearance to three Portuguese children in 1917. Actual news clips and historical footage are interwoven with interviews from eyewitnesses and excerpts from a timeless Warner Bros. film. 1 disc. 1 hr. Item: HDF, \$15.



YOU: New Project Helps Teens Learn God's Plan for Love

Ascension Press DVD Series Offers Timeless Wisdom From St. John Paul II, as Explained by Popular Youth Speakers

BY PATTI ARMSTRONG

How can we get teenagers to care about the important things like chastity and love — especially love?

Is there a key to reaching them on the deepest level so that they will guard their hearts and souls and live out God's plan for love?

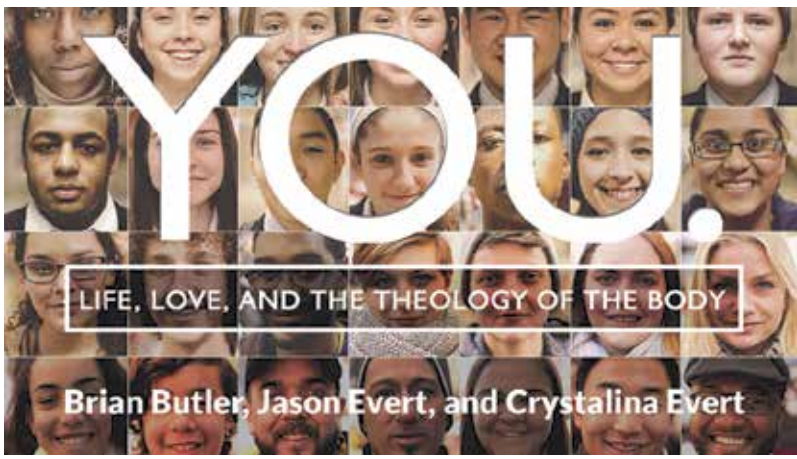
The beauty of divine truth might just grab their attention if they understood that it is the very key to their happiness.

YOU: Life, Love and Theology of the Body does that — and does it exceptionally well. It is a 10-week DVD series with a cast of some of the most popular speakers for young people. They talk about what it means to be a man or woman, confess some very personal mistakes (honestly yet tastefully), and impart what it means to protect the beauty and dignity of the human person.

The series is grounded in St. John Paul II's talks on theology of the body and his book *Love and Responsibility*. It opens with Ennie Hickman, president of Adore Ministries, asking, "Why do we care so much what people think about us? Why do we work so hard to fit in?" He explains that, regardless of what others think, we were created good in the eyes of God, and we cannot lose his love — no matter what we wear or what we do.

Brian Butler, co-founder of Dumb Ox Ministries, talks about pursuing love and admits he once cared more about the body than the person. "God made us for love," he said. "Pope John Paul II said that man cannot live without love; his life is senseless without it."

"It was God who gave us the desires that lead to relationships," Butler stated. If we are going to build good relationships based on



COURTESY OF ASCENSION PRESS

love, Butler said, we need discernment to make good choices and to pursue the good of another person.

Jason and Crystalina Evert, founders of the Chastity Project, speak about their own past and invite kids to join them in a beautiful future. Jason explained that John Paul II was called the "Eternal Teenager" because he loved to hike with groups of young people. They often asked him questions about such things as love and relationships. "Of those 60 teens that used to hike with him, none of them ever got a divorce," Jason said. "If we discover what he was telling them, it's obvious why."

"God is obsessed with the human heart," according to Jason, "because whoever wins the heart wins everything. ... Purity isn't being numb to God's creation of masculinity and femininity, but lust will cover up the absence of love."

He explains that St. John Paul taught that chastity is the sure way to happiness.

Crystalina shared her experience in high school of confusing love with using people. She explained that when she met her husband, Jason, the difference was like night and day: "Our purity was our super-glue." The type of love they had was safe and genuine, Crystalina said. "I

knew he wanted what was best for me. He was taking me closer to God, not away from God."

Rapper-priest Father Josh Johnson talks about building virtues to overcome vices and warns young people to pay attention to media choices. "Listening to sexually inappropriate music: It's going to get us to think about lust rather than Baby Jesus," he said. "We were created to abide with Jesus Christ in our hearts. Music can communicate truth, but it can also communicate lies through relativism."

Homosexuality, marriage, natural family planning, the priesthood and consecrated life are all discussed in this program to help form teenagers in Catholic truth.

As Father Johnson explains, "Truth and freedom either go hand and hand together or they perish in misery. Sin cannot satisfy us in the depths of our hearts. ... We were created for virtue and freedom from our vices. ... God gives us the strength, and all things are possible through his grace."

Patti Armstrong writes from North Dakota.

To order: <https://shop.ascensionpress.com/t/category/study-programs/teen-chastity/you;> (800) 376-0520.



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The Great Plan and the Perpetual Rose
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4-PIECE NESTING DOLL NATIVITY SET

This unique Nativity set has the appearance of an Old World wood-carved nesting doll. Each individual piece fits nicely into the next to form a single nested piece — or spread them out to make a beautiful three-dimensional Christmas scene. Made of polyresin, the largest piece measures 10 1/2 inches high x 4 1/2 inches wide x 3 inches deep. Item: 31712, \$45.



JOY TO THE WORLD HOLY FAMILY WITH DONKEY

This simple statue of the Holy Family subtly draws attention to the Newborn Jesus in the manger. All eyes, even the donkey's, are focused on Jesus. It is a nice reminder during the busy Advent and Christmas seasons of what is truly important: We can imitate our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph by keeping our hearts prayerful and our eyes on Jesus! Made of resin and hand-painted to look like wood, it measures 10 1/2 inches high. Item: 31321, \$36.

This gift guide was compiled by Register staff writer Joseph Pronechen and associate editor Amy Smith.

'CHRISTMAS IS AN EVENT THAT IS RENEWED IN EVERY FAMILY, PARISH AND COMMUNITY, WHICH RECEIVES THE LOVE OF GOD MADE INCARNATE IN JESUS CHRIST.'

— POPE FRANCIS, CHRISTMAS DAY 2015

ALEXEY GOTOVSKY/CNA

Does St. Bozo's Parish No Longer Amuse You?

The Catholic religion is the perfect marriage of faith and reason. Faith without reason, Pope St. John Paul II once said, leads to superstition, while reason without faith leads to nihilism. But at the parish level, it often seems that reason — philosophy, inquiry, engagement with ideas — has been abandoned in favor of soft thinking and easy answers. One need only gaze at the felt banners bearing bland, greeting-card sentiments, and listen to homily after homily about Jesus wanting be our best buddy, to get this impression.

Is there room for *intelligent* discourse in the Church anymore? Yes, there is!

We at the **NEW OXFORD REVIEW**, an orthodox Catholic monthly magazine founded in 1977, have been helping to cultivate the relationship between faith and reason for nearly 40 years. You won't hear from us about how all religions are essentially the same and it doesn't matter whom or what you believe in or how you behave, so long as you're "sincere" and "nice." That's not the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and you *know* it!

You've heard, time after time, that Jesus is the Lamb of God. "Sweet Jesus, meek and mild." The Lamb metaphor has its place, but in this day and age, it very much needs to be augmented by the metaphor of Christ the Lion. After all, Jesus was a burly carpenter, and He cast out demons and ran roughshod over moneychangers in His public ministry.

When we see Christ again, He will come, not as a lamb, but as a powerful lion, manifest-

ing His glory and judging the world. Revelation 5:5 says: "Weep not; lo, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered." And Christ will triumph — yea, not least in His Church.

At the **NEW OXFORD REVIEW**, we don't shy away from the "hard" teachings of Christ and His Church. Nor do we turn a blind eye to scandals that inevitably arise inside the House of the Lord. We discuss the *full range* of ideas found at the intersection of faith and culture, and we address *all* the challenges facing the Church today.

Among those who've graced our pages in recent issues are Bishop Robert Barron, Fr. James V. Schall, Thomas Storck, John Medaille, Kenneth Colston, Monica Migliorino Miller, Tom Bethell, David Mills, Anne Barbeau Gardiner, and Chene Richard Heady.

Can *intelligent* Catholic journalism make a difference? The *Los Angeles Times* says we're "influential." According to *Newsweek*, we're "thoughtful and often cheeky." Robert Moynihan, editor-in-chief of *Inside the Vatican*, has called us "provocative." And Karl Keating, founder of Catholic Answers, has dubbed us "Catholicism's intellectual prizefighter."

If you're frustrated by the wishy-washiness, lack of clarity, subtle syncretism, and downright dissent that can often plague parish life, if you're searching for a "face" of Catholicism that's spiritually vibrant, socially concerned, unapologetically pro-life, and doctrinally sound, subscribe today!



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HOW I STAYED CATHOLIC AT HARVARD

Aurora Griffin



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