

## General:

### **Why We're Catholic** (Trent Horn, *Catholic Answers Press*)

One of the best introductory books to the basics of the Catholic faith for skeptics. Easy to read and follow, meant for non-believers and non-Catholic Christians, as well as Catholics looking to grow and start to better understand why the Church teaches what it does. For a more comprehensive case, also see *The Case for Catholicism* (Trent Horn, *Ignatius Press*). This book is the best single volume to address the major Protestant objections to Catholicism.

## Conversion:

### **Rome Sweet Home** (Scott & Kimberly Hahn, *Ignatius Press*)

It gets into the major objections that Protestant Christians have against Catholicism, but more importantly it is raw and addresses the stress that conversion places on an individual, on a marriage, and the reward for following God through it all. For a more general book, also see *Surprised By Joy* (C.S. Lewis, *HarperOne*). Not a Catholic story, but one of a skeptic coming to faith in God and Christianity. Slightly higher reading level.

## Early Church:

### **The Fathers Know Best** (Jimmy Akin, *Catholic Answers Press*)

The early Church is an important witness to Catholic teaching, and this is one of the best books to collect the sections from the early Church fathers organized by topic. This includes topics like God and the Trinity to Mary and the Saints. Great reference book. For some fuller and free access to Church Father writings, also see [newadvent.org/fathers](http://newadvent.org/fathers) for a greater collection of their complete works.

## The Bible:

### **The Bible is a Catholic Book** (Jimmy Akin, *Catholic Answers Press*)

A wonderful and short book that addresses the topic of Divine Revelation and the origins of the Bible. Easy to read but full of information while being an approachable length, it discusses topics like the importance of oral tradition and how to properly understand the Bible in its proper context.

### **Walking with God** (Tim Gray and Jeff Cavins)

Sometimes the Bible can feel like eating an elephant. As you are taken on a journey through the 14 narrative books of the Bible - the ones that tell the story - you begin to see God's glorious plan of salvation. The author's expert commentary dive into the mysteries of scripture, unlocking the richness of how these inspired words are meant for you today. Witness the fascinating story of our faith unfold and see how you, at this moment in your life, fit into God's plan for all humanity.

## Salvation:

**Salvation: What Every Catholic Should Know** (Michael Patrick Barber, *Ignatius Press & Augustine Institute*)

A Catholic Bible scholar addresses the question of how we are saved from what the Scriptures say. Addresses the role of faith and works and shows how the Catholic understanding of salvation is the Biblical understanding of salvation. Short and easy to digest.

## The Eucharist and the Mass:

**Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist** (Brant Pitre, *Image*)

Shows through the Old Testament and Jewish tradition during the time of Jesus the basis for the Catholic teaching on the Eucharist. Written by a Catholic Bible scholar but easy to read, a classic on the topic. For other books on the Mass, see *The Lamb's Supper* (Scott Hahn, *Image*) for a breakdown of the Mass with the Bible, especially the book of Revelation. Also, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass* (Edward Sri, *Ascension Press*) is another book on the Mass that is not as advanced as the *Lamb's Supper*, and can be a better starting point for beginners.

**Lamb's Supper** (Scott Hahn)

The *Lamb's Supper* reveals a long-lost secret of the Church: The early Christians' key to understanding the mysteries of the Mass was the New Testament Book of Revelation. With its bizarre imagery, its mystic visions of heaven, and its end-of-time prophecies, Revelation mirrors the sacrifice and celebration of the Eucharist.

## The Papacy:

**Pope Peter** (Joe Heschmeyer, *Catholic Answers Press*)

One of the most approachable books on the Papacy, written by a former litigator, both easy to approach and well thought out/written. Addresses the major biblical texts relating to the teaching of the Papacy. For a more comprehensive book on the Bible and Early Church on the Papacy, see also *Upon this Rock* (Steve Ray, *Ignatius Press*). This book is the one of the most comprehensive books on the topic, very heavily footnoted and more academic.

## Mary and the Saints:

### **Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary** (Brant Pitre, *Image*)

Shows through the Old Testament and Jewish tradition during the time of Jesus the basis for the Catholic teaching on Mary and the Marian Dogmas. Written by a Catholic Bible scholar but easy to read, one of the best on the topic. For other books on Mary, see also *Hail Holy Queen* (Scott Hahn, *Doubleday*) and *Behold Your Mother* (Tim Staples, *Catholic Answers Press*). Both of these books cover similar ground, and all three are based solidly in Scripture. For another book that also addresses the Communion of the Saints from a Biblical perspective, see *Any Friend of God's is a Friend of Mine* (Patrick Madrid, *Basilica Press*). This book takes its points from the Bible and is very short, a great summary.

### **Saint Mary Magdalene, Prophetess of Eucharistic Love** (Fr. Sean Davidson)

Get the full story about St Mary Magdalene. You can see her example of love of the Eucharist unfold as a beautiful story of how she is the perfect model for those who have experienced Christ's redeeming love and for those who wish to deepen their love and understanding of the Eucharist.