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Hardcover

24 Pages
Carton Qty: 50
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
JNF026020

8 in H | 8 in W
Status: **ACTIVE**

Journey With Jesus

an Easter Story

Ann Ingalls, Steliyana Doneva

Summary

Walk with Jesus through the special days of Holy Week — from the joy of Palm Sunday to the love and mystery of the Last Supper, from the sorrow of the Garden of Gethsemane to the triumph of the empty Garden Tomb, young readers are invited to journey with Jesus all the way to Easter, and experience His great love for each one of us.

This unique and unforgettable picture book uses rhyming text and colorful illustrations to tell children the story of Holy Week. From Palm Sunday and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to His last Passover Feast with His disciples, washing their feet and praying in the Garden of Gethsemane to Judas' betrayal, the trial in front of Pontius Pilate and Jesus' crucifixion, then celebrating Jesus' resurrection and victory over death, *Journey with Jesus* recounts the entire week in age-appropriate language children will understand and remember. Through the captivating illustrations and powerful words based on Scripture, the Easter story is captivating for early readers as told by "Teacher's Pick" author Ann Ingalls.

Young readers will be intrigued by the colorful artwork that depicts events leading up to resurrection Sunday and the promise of eternal life found that can only be found in God's beloved and only son, Jesus.

A sturdy, 8 inch by 8 inch hardcover, this unique holiday book is perfect for:

- Children ages 4-8
- Sharing the true story of Easter in memorable rhyming text
- Easter gifts, including basket stuffers and church ministry outreach

Inspiring discussion and dialogue with parents, grandparents, friends, and teachers

Learn more about *Journey with Jesus: an Easter Story* and find free resources at journeywithjesusbook.com.

Contributor Bio

Ann Ingalls passes the day exaggerating (writing fiction) or telling the truth (writing nonfiction). She has written over sixty books for young readers. *PENCIL: A STORY WITH A POINT!* made the Banks Street Best Books list of 2020. *J IS FOR JAZZ* won the 2015 Annual American Graphic Design Award and the Ella Fitzgerald Foundation's "A Book Just for Me!" *LITTLE PIANO GIRL* also won the Ella Fitzgerald Foundation's "A Book Just for Me!" She has received a handful of awards from the Highlights Foundation for poetry and short stories.

When given the choice between educating children or entertaining them with her writing, she chooses to do both. Ann lives in Kansas City with her husband, Winston. Please visit her at anningalls.com.

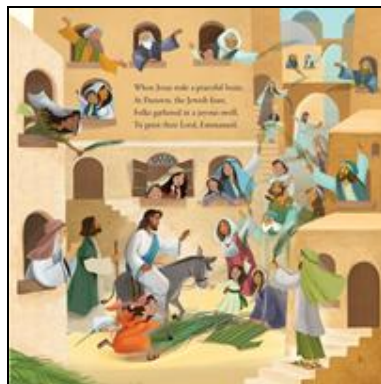
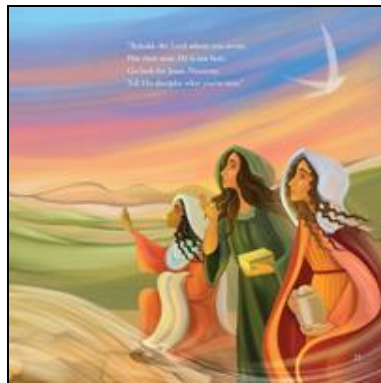
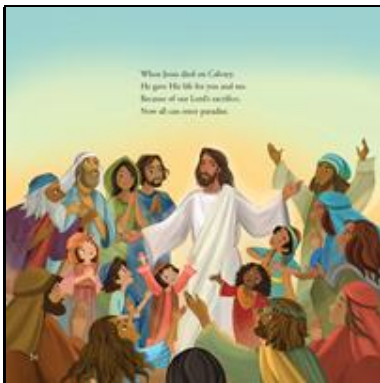
Quotes

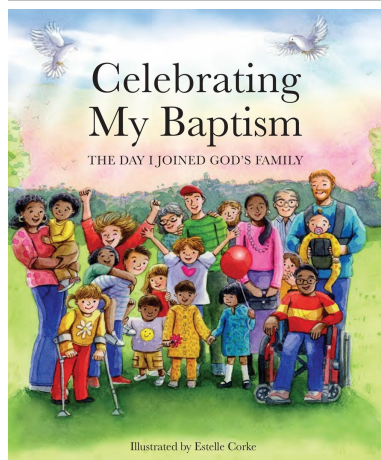
"Ann Ingalls has created a guide for even the youngest believers to walk with Jesus through his Passion and Resurrection, and to experience his great love for each one of us. I highly recommend *Journey with Jesus* to every family and Christian classroom seeking to provide their children with a meaningful Lent and Easter!" — **Father Charles N. Rowe**, Vicar General-Vicar for Clergy, Diocese of Kansas City St. Joseph

"*Journey with Jesus* is a beautifully illustrated book for our youngest students. Once published, I will be sharing it with my preschool through second graders. The rhyming creates a flow to the book that is perfect for this age range and helps when broaching the sensitive topic of Jesus's crucifixion before the joyful news of His resurrection and the lasting impact on us. This story is so important—I guarantee that I won't be able to keep it on my shelves during the Lenten season." —**Amy Lutter**, Library Media Specialist

"From Jesus' triumphal entry on a donkey to His resurrection three days after giving His life on the cross, *Journey with Jesus* takes children through the entire Easter story in rhythmic, rhyming verse. Ann Ingalls captivates the reader's attention – children's and adults' – and tells the rich story of salvation. Beautiful illustrations accompany the words on each page. A must-have for the Easter season and should be read year-round." —**Julie Lavender**, author of *Children's Bible Stories for Bedtime*

Illustrations





Celebrating My Baptism

The Day I Joined God's Family

Paraclete Press, Estelle Corke

Summary

The perfect gift for any child being baptized, with prayers, hymns, scriptures and more to help joyfully welcome them into God's family!

This beautifully illustrated book with ribbon marker and presentation page includes timeless hymns, poems, prayers, Bible verses, and child-friendly explanations about baptism, the Holy Trinity, God the Father, Jesus the Son, the Holy Spirit, and more. As the perfect for any baby or child's special baptism or christening day, the entire family of God can celebrate with a child and their parents by giving this well-written, thoughtful keepsake at the start of any spiritual journey.

This sweet book will be treasured for years as it shares the knowledge of God's love as a starting point to faith and a warm welcome to the community of believers. With biblically sound text, this book does not need to be read straight through, yet every page points to the relevance of being part of a church family and how baptized people can enjoy peace and forgiveness every day.

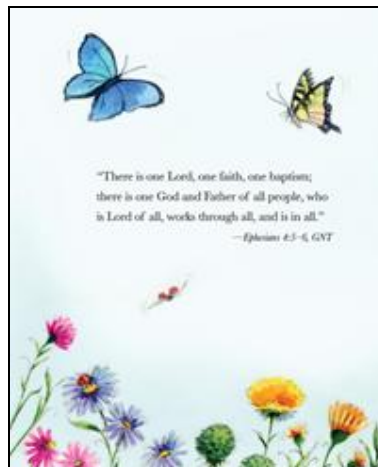
Celebrating My Baptism contains:

- Timeless favorites of the Christian faith including The Lord's Prayer, Psalm 23, Jesus Loves Me, and more
- Child-friendly explanations of church terms such as baptism, the Holy Trinity, communion and more, appropriate for ages 0-8
- Bible verses that encourage faith development and memorization
- Easy-to-understand life application around the significance of baptism, the Bible, and the church family
- Bright and warm illustrations

A presentation page and a ribbon marker, 5.75 by 7 inches

Learn more about *Celebrating My Baptism* and find free resources at celebratingmybaptism.com

Illustrations

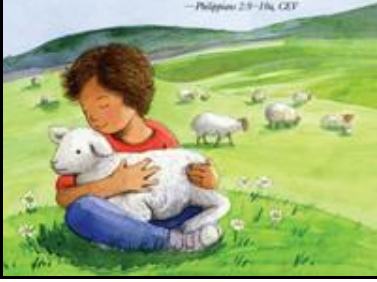


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Hardcover with dust jacket

64 Pages
Ages 0 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049240
7 in H | 5.8 in W
Status: **FORTHCOMING**

Then God gave Christ the highest place and honored his name above all others. So at the name of Jesus everyone will bow down.

—Philippians 2:9–10a, CEV



Let God be the King of your heart. Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and be forgiven. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

—based on Acts 2:38





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\$17.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Full color illustrations
Ages 3 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033280

11 in H | 8.5 in W
Status: **FORTHCOMING**

Song of the Seasons

Glenys Nellist, C.B. Canga

Summary

From bestselling author Glenys Nellist comes a rhyming, whimsical, faith-building journey through the four seasons — for early readers who love nature and wonder and the beginnings of all things.

For spiritual parents, grandparents, teachers, and educators who are looking for a spectacular creation book, Glenys Nellist offers *Song of the Seasons*, a book that celebrates the magnificent and complex way God created Spring, Summer, Winter, and Fall, highlighting the intricacies of nature and earth. Illustrator C.B. Canga brings the natural world to vibrant life with rich colors and poignant detail certain to engage young minds and imaginations.

Based on Psalm 98 and written in flowing rhyme, *Song of the Seasons* explores the idea that all nature sings praise to an Almighty Creator. As children wonder about creation, *Song of the Seasons* reveals the beauty found in every season: Summer, Spring, Autumn, and Winter. The reason for each season is to bring joy and reflect the many beautiful ways God has created the heavens and the earth. *Song of the Seasons* is the perfect book for discussing transition seasons, exploring how seasons are different, and learning how each season flows from one to another.

From budding leaves to blooming flowers, falling leaves to ice and snow, children see how every changing season points to a marvelous and mighty Creator. This joyous book filled with biblical truth celebrates all four seasons and is ideal for children ages 3-8. The easy-to-read text makes it a perfect addition to any bedtime routine. Whether you buy this for your family or gift it to another growing family, it is sure to delight all the little ones in your life as an excellent gift for any holiday, birthday, or baptism. This is a beautiful 8.5X11 hardcover.

Learn more about *Song of the Seasons* and find free resources at songoftheseasonsbook.com

Contributor Bio

Glenys Nellist was born and raised in a little village in northern England. The author of multiple children's books, including the bestselling *'Twas the Evening of Christmas*, *The Wonder That Is You*, and four popular series: *Love Letters from God*, *Snuggle Time*, *Good News* and *Little Mole*, her writing reflects a deep passion for helping children discover joy and hope in the world. Glenys lives in Michigan with her husband, David.

Quotes

"Another gorgeous story from Glenys Nellist. This time, Glenys masterfully draws us into the rhythm and rhymes of the seasons and how they speak (and sing!) of God's goodness and presence in this world." –**Caryn Rivadeneira**, author of the newly released *Frankinschool: The Cupsnake Escape* and *Grit and Grace: Heroic Women of the Bible*

"For many generations the Psalms have shaped our spiritual imaginations, immersing us in a world where trees clap their hands and stones shout in praise of their Maker. Inspired by Psalm 98, *Song of the Seasons* calls young readers to explore just such a world—one where every season has its own music and way of witnessing to the presence of God in the midst of change. Friendship and exploration are also woven into the vibrant illustrations of this gentle and reassuring hymn of praise." –**Laura Alary**, award-winning author of *Here: The Dot We Call Home* and many other books

"Psalm 98 begins by encouraging us to sing a new song to God. Through delightful rhymes and wonderful imagery, in word and picture, *Song of the Seasons* encourages us to listen deeply to the songs of God all around us in creation. Listening deeply, children and adults alike may also hear the song of God in their own hearts." —**Bishop David Alan Bard**, Michigan Area of The United Methodist Church

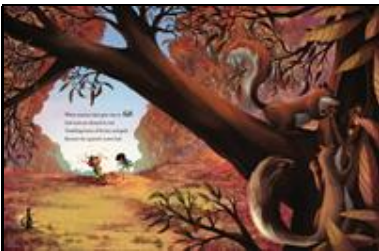
"The combination of Glenys Nellist's simple, elegant use of rhyme and illustrator C. B. Canga's whimsical illustrations and deft use of color make *Song of the Seasons* a truly special book. Children and their grownups are invited to "hear the seasons speak" and to remember that God made us, and we are good. What a lovely book...for any time of year!" —**Jennifer Grant**, author of *Maybe God Is Like That Too* and *What If I Can't Explain God?*

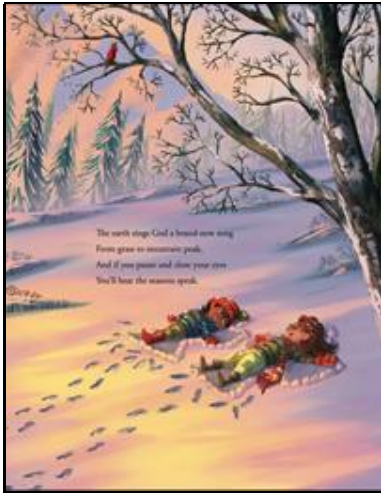
"*Song of the Seasons* is a playful and beautiful book with the overarching message that God is with us always. The colorful, lively illustrations bring the rhythmic verses to life on each page. This is a wonderful addition to a church or home library to showcase Psalm 98 in a child-friendly way." —**Rev. Kathy Pittenger**, Children's Initiatives Coordinator, Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church

"I want my children to grow up knowing and believing God loves them no matter what. *Song of the Seasons* makes this message crystal clear in ways that both literal and metaphorical thinkers will appreciate. Written in the lovely lyrical style we've come to expect from Glenys Nellist, this book does not disappoint. Thank you, Glenys, for writing another book my family will treasure for years to come." —**Traci Smith**, author of the Faithful Families series

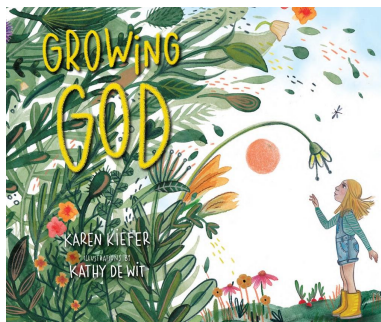
"*Song of the Seasons*" is a captivating book that beautifully celebrates the unique beauty of each season, reflecting the marvels of God's creation. Glenys Nellist skillfully captures nature's praises through poetic and action-filled verses inspired by Psalm 98. The colorful illustrations by C.B. Canga vividly animate the wonders of the natural world, captivating young readers and fostering a deep appreciation for the Earth's intricacies. Nellist's poetic writing and Canga's lively artwork blend seamlessly to create a moving portrayal of the seasons, making this book essential for those exploring the connection between nature and spirituality." —**Roger Hutchison**, author of *Sparrow's Prayer*

Illustrations





The earth sleeps. God's a brand-new song.
Faint grasses in meadows peek.
And if you listen and close your eyes
You'll hear the seasons speak.



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Grades K to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033200

8.5 in H | 11 in W
Status: **FORTHCOMING**

Growing God

Karen Kiefer, Kathy De Wit

Summary

Emma -- the little artist with a big dream from Karen Kiefer's bestselling *Drawing God* -- is back, a few years older, and looking for God in a whole new way.

When Emma returns home from spending school vacation on Nana's farm — a place where Nana says she “grows God” — Emma is inspired to try to grow God, too. Emma knows that she must be patient and believe, but she soon realizes that planting seeds and growing God is hard work! Join Emma as she cares for God's creation, and finds out how a seed of opportunity can grow into something amazing.

Learn more about *Growing God* and find free resources at growinggodbook.com.

Contributor Bio

Karen Kiefer is the Director of the Church in the 21st Century Center at Boston College. A catechist for over two decades, she has also served as an adjunct faculty member in the Communication Department at Boston College. Kiefer is the author of *Drawing God*, and lives near Boston with her husband, Sam, and their four daughters.

Kathy De Wit is an illustrator and art teacher in Belgium. Her work has appeared in many publications, exhibitions, storefronts, and books, including *Drawing God*. She lives in Flanders with her Peruvian husband and twin daughters.

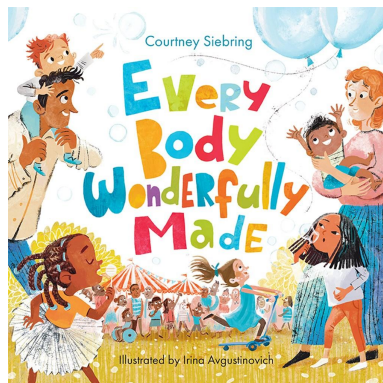
Quotes

“Like the parables of Jesus, *Growing God* invites children into the mystery of how God is made known in the world around us. With joyful simplicity, Karen Kiefer and Kathy De Wit introduce young readers to nature not only as something that needs our help and care, but as a place of sacred encounter.” —Laura Alary, author of *Here: The Dot We Call Home*, and many other books

“A children’s book that echoes Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J.’s poem, “Trust in the Slow Work of God.” *Growing God* is growing in God and learning to find God in all things, no matter how big or small.” —Quang D. Tran, S.J., co-creator and co-host of the “Breakfast with God” children’s ministry program.

Illustrations





Every Body Wonderfully Made

God's Good Plan for Boys and Girls

Courtney Siebring, Irina Avgustinovich

Summary

Motivated by Psalm 139, this book tells of the incredible delight that each human is lovingly crafted by God, fearfully and wonderfully made. Through imaginative illustrations, lovable characters, and playful language, children can celebrate the wonderful miracle of their bodies. *Every Body Wonderfully Made* speaks directly to each child about their worth, purpose, and uniqueness in the eyes of the Creator. Every child has amazing opportunities to experience life, creation, beauty, and love.

Every Body Wonderfully Made encourages children ages 3 to 10 in their identity—boy or girl—from a biblical point of view. Paired with rich, colorful illustrations that assist early readers in understanding sophisticated concepts, *Every Body Wonderfully Made* teaches children about the goodness of their loving heavenly Father, who created them on purpose with purpose in their beautiful bodies.

Every Body Wonderfully Made:

- Is the perfect book for boys and girls ages 3-10 to learn about just how much they are worth in the eyes of God.
- Makes a wonderful gift for baby showers, birthdays, and elementary/preschool graduations.
- Provides parents, grandparents, and caregivers a wonderful narrative to help explain the dignity, worth, and beauty of each child from a God-centered perspective.
- Is a valuable resource for homeschooling families, librarians, children's ministers, Sunday school teachers, and Christian school educators.

Every Body Wonderfully Made lovingly cups each child's chin, looks deeply into their eyes, and says, "You were made **on** purpose **with** purpose." *Every Body* affirms to children's hearts that their bodies—male or female—are inextricably linked to their personhood. How good! We are God's workmanship, and God doesn't make mistakes.
-Courtney Siebring, Author

Contributor Bio

Courtney Siebring is a creative artist currently living in Colorado Springs, CO, with her husband and daughter. Her devotion to Christ, background in theatre making, current work as a voiceover artist, and long time practice of writing poetry informs the way she sees and interacts with the world. Her children's book, *Little Spark of Life*, is fueled by her passion for the unborn and their mamas as well as her experience as a foster and adoptive parent.

Quotes

Illustrations



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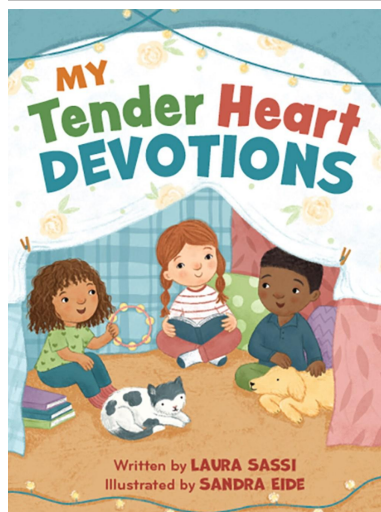
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P And Up

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

JUV039140

9.3 in H | 9.3 in W

Status: **FORTHCOMING**



My Tender Heart Devotions (Part of the "My Tender Heart" Series)

Laura Sassi, Sandra Eide

Summary

My Tender Heart Devotions offers 52 age-appropriate meditations for toddlers and preschoolers, including Bible verses and prayer. Using concrete, everyday experiences or objects that little ones can relate to, each weekly reflection is easy to understand and prompts conversation about God's goodness and love. Written in catchy rhyme, an opening poem is followed by a short devotional that includes a Bible passage, a playful "Heart Moment" activity, and a prayer.

With short and sweet, well-written text and whimsical illustrations, this devotional will become a beloved part of any morning or bedtime routine. Beginner readers will enjoy using items from around home or thinking about daily activities when it comes to God's Word. Simple yet uplifting Biblical application shines through every "Heart Moment" for parents or other caregivers to share and ponder. Scripture references for further reading are noted throughout and encourage regular Bible reading. With a note from the author and tips on how to help young readers begin daily devotions, every household or classroom will learn and grow in their relationship with God while using *My Tender Heart Devotions*.

My Tender Heart Devotions:

- Contains 52 easy-to-read, easy-to-understand devotions for younger children ages 0-6
- Offers colorful and vivid illustrations that can hold the attention of busy toddlers and active preschoolers
- Includes rhyming verses for memorization and improved reading comprehension
- Provides an active response for young children to interact with for improved understanding and life application
- Is perfect for use at home, church, or classroom
- Can be a wonderful morning or bedtime reading option for your family
- Has detailed artwork that allows little ones to find things for "point and learn" discovery
- Serves as a base for teaching prayer and talking to God
- Is the perfect size for small hands and short attention spans
- Makes a great gift for many occasions including baby shower, christening, baptism, baby dedication, new grandchild, curious toddlers, and boys and girls ages 0 to 6

Contributor Bio

Laura Sassi has a passion for telling stories in prose and rhyme. Her books with Paraclete Press include *Happy Birthday*, *Christmas Child*, *My Tender Heart Bible*, *My Tender Heart Prayer Book* and *My Tender Heart Devotions*, coming in 2024. In addition, she is the author of multiple books for young children including the best-selling *Goodnight*, *Ark*, *Love Is Kind*, *Diva Delores and the Opera House Mouse*, *Little Ewe*, and *Bunny Finds Easter*. She also writes stories and poems for various children's publications.

Laura had a fulfilling teaching career before becoming a children's author. She's been a homeschool mom, children's ministry director, historic museum interpreter, and more. She writes daily from her home in New Jersey and finds special joy in sharing messages of kindness, comfort, and faith through story at school visits, church gatherings, and other events.

Sandra Eide is a children's book illustrator from the Pacific Northwest. Sandra works with a mixture of real watercolors, textures, and digital mediums to create her illustrations. Her art is influenced by nature, culture, and the importance of showing all kinds of people in her work.

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Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious

JNF049120

Series: My Tender Heart

7 in H | 5.3 in W

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32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033090

9 in H | 9 in W
Status: **FORTHCOMING**

No Greater Love

A Celebration of How High, How Deep, and How Wide God's Love is for His Children

Dominique Okonkwo, Lhaiza Morena

Summary

No Greater Love by Dominique Okonkwo is a faith-based children's book that tells a story of love and hope. With each page turn, children will be mesmerized by the rhyming narrative and beautifully illustrated scenes that bring to life the message of God's love being wide, high, deep, and long. A heartwarming and inspiring read, this book is the perfect tool to plant seeds of faith and guide children on the path to understanding just how much God loves them.

This read-aloud, rhyming book with colorful illustrations is perfect for:

- Sparking the imagination of young children ages 3-8
- Sharing the message of God's great love that is high and deep and wide
- Gift-giving during Valentine's Day, Easter, birthdays, baptisms, and seasons of church ministry outreach
- Inspiring faith-based and Biblical discussions with parents, grandparents, friends, and teachers
- Establishing Jesus as the provider of immense love outlined in Ephesians 3:18-19 and initiates age-appropriate conversation about God's unending, unconditional, and constant love

Contributor Bio

Dominique Okonkwo, an award-winning Haitian-American author and writing coach based in Miami, FL, draws inspiration from her family's adventures, shaping her devotion to creating exceptional and inspirational literature. Actively engaged in community events across Miami-Dade and West Palm Beach counties, Dominique's commitment to writing and service reflects her passion for making a positive impact.

Dominique is the proud recipient of awards from prestigious platforms such as Kirkus, Writer's Digest, and Readers' Favorite. These accolades stand as a testament to her exceptional storytelling and literary prowess. Her tireless dedication to storytelling serves as an inspiration, proving the transformative power of narratives in children's lives. Dominique has achieved extraordinary success through a successful self-publishing journey marked by determination and belief in her goals.

Currently residing in Miami, FL, Dominique continues to spread her message of hope and love through her writing, embodying the essence of an emerging voice in children's literature. For the latest releases and newsletters, visit DominiqueOkonkwo.com and join the conversation on social media @DOKWrites.

Lhaiza Morena Castro is a Brazilian artist who set out on a mission to represent black characters in children's books, helping young black readers love themselves, their hair and their skin. With her bold and energetic cartoon style, she is achieving that goal and then some. A rising star in Brazilian children's illustration, Lhaiza now has an enviable client list including brands that are household names across the country.

Quotes

No Greater Love immediately reminded me of Ephesians 3:17-18, which is an attempt for humanity to grasp just how wide and long and deep is the love of God for each of us. For me, this book embodies a biblical message that young readers will not only understand but also embrace! What a beautiful and necessary message to plant early on in childhood! —**Linsey Davis**, television broadcast journalist and bestselling children's author

The book is beautiful, from the illustrations to the story to the heart of the gorgeous young girl seeking answers about love and nature. I believe this book could awaken the curiosity of young children of all backgrounds and introduce them to the answers they have been searching for. Great job, Dominique. You are leading the way.

—**Marvin Winans Jr.**, Recording Artist and Lead Pastor of Perfecting Home Church

No Greater Love is a delightful celebration of God's love—the myriad ways He cares for us, comforts us, and ultimately changes us. With engaging lyricism and lively illustrations, it's sure to become a family favorite, a book you read together time and again. —**Elizabeth Laing Thompson**, author of many books for women and teens, including *When God Says, "Wait"*, *All the Feels*, and *All the Feels for Teens*

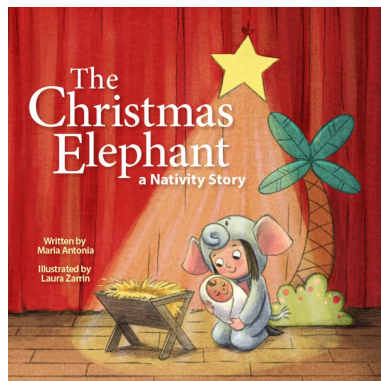
As a father, I love how Dominique opens up with a series of very innocent questions. This is exactly how my daughter innocently approached learning about God. She then turns the table and paints a vivid picture of God's love around us in everything, everywhere, all at once. She then seamlessly shifts into a call to action, showing children how they can participate in God's love. And the icing on the cake, ending it with Psalms 139. The art and beauty of this book is how it gently holds the reader's hand from beginning to end, with clarity and simplicity. Dominique nailed it again.

—**Anthony 'AJ' Joiner**, CEO and Founder of Blooksy

"As a mom, I understand the importance of teaching your children biblical principals at a young age and how imperative that is in helping your kids to better grasp details of the Christian faith. This book helps parents to do so in a practical way by not only describing the vastness of God's love, but also teaching little ones how to love others well using His example. This is a concept any and every child should know, and the way the author accomplishes this so successfully in her colorful and poetic words is beautiful." —**Kytia L'amour**, Author and Public Speaker

Illustrations





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32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
JUV017010

9 in H | 9 in W
Status: **FORTHCOMING**

The Christmas Elephant

a Nativity Story

Maria Antonia, Laura Zarrin

Summary

Ellie thinks outside the box. She stands her ground and remains in her elephant costume even when her older sister-and director of this year's Christmas play-demands she change into a sheep costume. The theme of standing up for your own uniqueness sends a subtle message to children that they can fit in anywhere if they persevere and don't give in to peer pressure. Ellie's approach to standing her ground is entertaining and empowering. There is also a teaching moment for the bossy sister who comes to see that everything doesn't have to work out the way she planned in order to be wonderful. *The Christmas Elephant* is an ideal addition for family, preschool, elementary school, and community library Christmas picture book collections.

This unique holiday book is perfect for:

- Children ages 3-8
- Sharing the story of Christmas through a memorable narrative text and engaging, whimsical illustrations
- Christmas gifts, including stocking stuffers and church ministry outreach
- Inspiring discussion and dialogue with parents, grandparents, friends, and teachers Christmas celebrations, church ministry outreach, and Advent discussions
- Sparking age-appropriate conversations about Christmas, self-esteem, Jesus' birth, and helping others.

Contributor Bio

Maria Antonia has plenty of experience with the Annual Sunday School Christmas Play-sometimes performing, sometimes writing, sometimes directing. Although, not one of those plays has featured a Christmas Elephant! (At least not yet.) She is currently the Sunday School Superintendent at her church and has formerly taught at a Christian school in New York City. When not writing, she's busy taking photos of God's wonderful creation. She has lived in Sunny Spain, Busy New York City, and currently resides in the Great White North of Canada.

Laura Zarrin planned on becoming an archeologist, but realized she was much happier staying home drawing and watching TV. Luckily that worked out pretty well. Laura is the illustrator of the Wallace and Grace series by Heather Alexander and the Katie Woo's Neighborhood series by Fran Manushkin. Laura has illustrated over 30 books for children including board books, picture books, and chapter books, Highlights Hidden Pictures, and various educational projects. She's happiest writing and illustrating characters with subtle and not so subtle humor.

Quotes

In Maria Antonia's heartfelt Christmas story, Ellie just wants to be part of the Nativity play, but of course as an elephant, so what could go wrong? The perfect warm holiday tale in times of chaos and pressure to be perfect. Ellie's story of determination is a gentle reminder for us all to slow down and remember that in the eyes of Christ, we all belong. This tale could lead to a new generation of Nativity plays with all of God's creatures to remind us of Jesus' universal love. —**Donna Barba Higuera**, Newbery Medal and Pura Belpré Author Award Winner

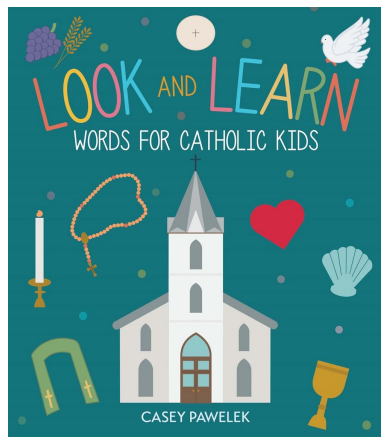
The Christmas Elephant is a sweet story to remind us that God's love is big enough to love all of us, even the ones who feel like an elephant in the room. —**Emily Morrow**, creator of Really Very Crunchy

Just like an elephant, you won't soon forget this adorable Mary and Martha retelling with a Christmas twist! —**Amanada Rawson Hill**, author of *The Hope of Elephants*

This creative story about a determined girl wearing an elephant disguise at a Christmas play is not only sweet and funny but also a reminder that Christmas is all about Jesus. And Jesus loves everybody, even elephants. And, for sure, everybody will love this story. Get ready for giggles and AWWWS and many "Read it again!" —**Ana Siqueira**, author of *Abuela's Super Capa*

Illustrations





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Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049080
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Status: **ACTIVE**

Look and Learn

Words for Catholic Kids

Casey Pawelek

Summary

From Ambo to Zucchetto, this brightly illustrated look-and-learn book helps kids to discover and name all the fascinating things that are part of the Catholic faith!

The church is full of beautiful and mysterious things—things we can see and touch, and some we can't see, but we speak, sing, and believe in our hearts. *Look and Learn: Words for Catholic Kids* is a fresh concept: a simple, engaging, and lively book full of colorful illustrations that help kids to learn about all the things they will encounter in church.

Sit with your child and explore the church grounds as you learn about a labyrinth, a mausoleum, and a rectory. Walk inside the sanctuary to discover the tabernacle and explore the altar to peek at a ciborium. Learn about the fruits of the spirit, the books of the Bible, the rosary, the sacraments, the virtues, and much more. These pages will spark spiritual curiosity in children and lead to meaningful conversations with parents, grandparents, teachers, and catechists.

Look and Learn:

- Is full of colorful illustrations that name the people, places, and items of our faith
- Was written by the author to help keep her own 5-year-old happy, quiet and engaged at church. It's the perfect book for a young child to bring to church week after week!
- Is different, because it's not just another illustrated Bible or saint story. This book brings kids up close, with just a few words, to discover more about the faith.
- Sparks spiritual curiosity in children and leads to engaging conversations with parents and teachers
- Allows kids to discover the Catholic faith for themselves
- Makes a great gift for First Communion, Easter, first day of school, curious preschoolers and young elementary kids, and boys and girls ages 4-8 years old

Contributor Bio

Casey Pawelek is a Catholic wife to her high school sweetheart and mama to three young kids. She lives in Texas. This is her first book.

Quotes

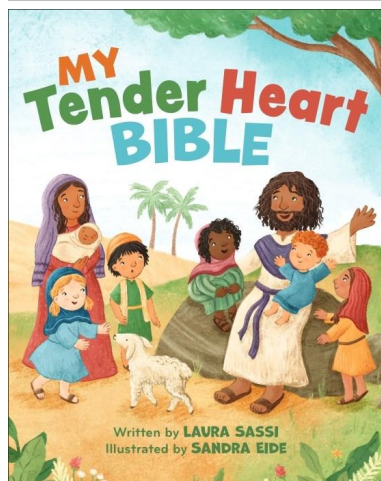
"While you may be purchasing *Look and Learn for Catholic Kids* by Casey Pawelek for the little ones in your life, don't be surprised when you also learn a few new things about the riches and beauty of the Faith! Chock full of delightful illustrations with the names of the things that fill our parishes and domestic churches, this primer promotes curiosity and enthusiasm for the thing that matters most in our lives: our love for God and God's Church." —**Lisa M. Hendey**, author of *I'm a Saint in the Making*, founder of CatholicMom.com

"*Look and Learn for Catholic Kids* is sure to capture a child's faith imagination. Wandering through the pages, they will uncover the riches that define their Catholic faith. What a gift for a lifetime!" —**Karen Kiefer**, author of *Drawing God*, founder of Million Misfit Sock March

"This is the perfect beginner book for young Catholics. As they explore each page, your little one will love hearing all of the Catholic vocabulary and seeing the colorful pictures!" —**Tommy Tighe**, author of *Saint Dymphna's Playbook*

Illustrations





My Tender Heart Bible (Part of the "My Tender Heart" Series)

Laura Sassi, Sandra Eide

Summary

With sweet, rhyming text and whimsical illustrations, *My Tender Heart Bible* features beloved and classic Bible stories for beginner readers.

Bestselling author Laura Sassi pairs simple yet creative paraphrasing of Old and New Testament re-tellings with a "Heart Moment" for families to read aloud and pray. Scripture references are noted with each story that tell of God's redemption plan for even more exploration together! *My Tender Heart Bible*:

- Makes the Bible memorable and accessible for young readers
- Helps kids think deeper about what the Bible says about God's creation, His plan for humanity, and His love for all of people as His children
- Is perfect as bedtime reading for your toddlers and little ones, especially during the holiday season
- Offers details in the artwork for little ones to enjoy and find for "point and learn" discovery
- Serve as a base for introductory Bible discussion
- Includes an inviting cover and sturdy pages for little hands
- Makes a great gift for Easter, new baby, christening, baptism, baby showers, new grandchildren, curious toddlers, and boys and girls ages 0 to 4 years old

From Creation to Abraham to Moses and Jesus, God's story of redemption is told through each individual story and as a collection. Look in the mirror and thank God for making you unique—what makes you different from others you see in your neighborhood? Can you count the stars and make your hands twinkle? Flap your arms like the dove that appeared when John the Baptist baptized Jesus. How many coats and blankets can you spread out for Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem? Let's read the stories and celebrate God's perfect plan from the marvelous beginning of Creation through Easter's glorious hope made known by Jesus' resurrection.

Learn more about *My Tender Heart Bible* and find free resources at MyTenderHeartBooks.com.

Contributor Bio

Laura Sassi has a passion for telling stories in prose and rhyme. She is the author of multiple books for young children including the best-selling *Goodnight, Ark*, which was a 2015 Christian Book Award Finalist; *Goodnight, Manger*; *Diva Delores and the Opera House Mouse*, which is a 2021-2022 Iowa Goldfinch Award Nominee; *Love Is Kind*, which was a 2020 Anna Dewdney Read Together Award Honor Book; *Little Ewe: The Story of One Lost Sheep*, *Bunny Finds Easter*, and *Happy Birthday, Christmas Child!*, her new counting board book.

Laura had a successful teaching career before becoming a children's author. She's been a homeschool mom, children's ministry director, historic museum interpreter, and more. She writes daily from her home in New Jersey and finds special joy in pointing kids to God and to good through story and sharing her love of reading and writing at school visits, church gatherings and other events.

Sandra Eide is a children's book illustrator from the Pacific Northwest. Sandra works with a mixture of real watercolors, textures, and digital mediums to create her illustrations. Her art is influenced by nature, culture, and the importance of showing all



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Ages 0 to 4, Grades P And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049040
Series: My Tender Heart
7.3 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.6 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

kinds of people in her work.

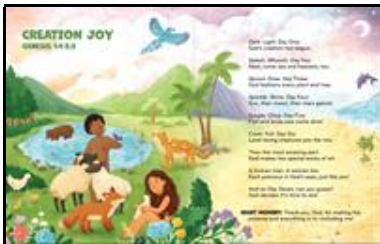
Quotes

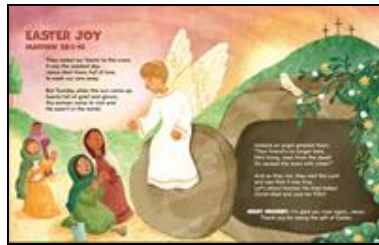
"The title says it all! *My Tender Heart Bible* is a sweet Bible storybook, just right for little hands and little hearts. Written in rhyming verse and paired with adorable illustrations, this collection of favorite Bible stories will help young children learn about people and events from the Bible, while reminding them of God's unconditional love. I need this book for my grandkids." —**Crystal Bowman**, award-winning, bestselling author of more than 100 books for children including, *Our Daily Bread for Kids*

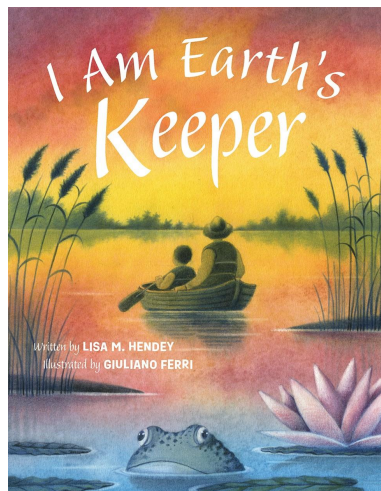
"You will enjoy reading these twelve Bible stories accurately depicted with rhyme and rhythm to engage your children in learning more about God's Truth. The images are beautiful and also tell the story. This is a great introduction to God's Word for young children." —**Tracey Young**, Director of First Baptist Preschool, Charlottesville, VA

"Beloved Bible stories are joyfully retold with fun-to-read rhymes and colorful illustrations rich with details for children to discover. "Heart Moment" prayers connect the stories to real life, teaching children how to pray—and making *My Tender Heart Bible* a wonderful first Bible for any little one." —**Tama Fortner**, ECPA award-winning and bestselling author of more than fifty books

Illustrations







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I Am Earth's Keeper

Lisa M. Hendey, Giuliano Ferri

Summary

Embark on a whimsical journey to encounter and protect the majesty of Earth. With rhyming prose and a call to simple but impactful action, this book invites young readers to serve as caretakers for the natural world around them.

With a gentle, rhyming story by bestselling author Lisa M. Hendey and artwork by award-winning Italian illustrator Giuliano Ferri, *I Am Earth's Keeper* describes one child's pre-dawn kayak ride that opens his eyes to the astonishingly beautiful world around him. Observing the rising sun, frogs, fish, birds, trees, and gentle breeze, he begins to marvel at the life all around, and to imagine how he can care for it. Inspired by St. Francis and his famous love song "Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon," this warmhearted book sparks the imagination of young readers to connect more deeply with God's creation and develop an ever-deepening sense of commitment to living in solidarity with nature. *I Am Earth's Keeper* offers:

- A warm, calming visual presentation with exquisite illustrations
- An empowering message that children are ready to act as stewards of the natural world
- An inspiring reminder to treasure the life all around us
- An ideal book for reading aloud at bedtime, story time, Sunday school, or in the classroom
- The perfect gift for children ages 3-8, for birthdays, Earth Day celebrations, summer gifts, and more

Contributor Bio

Lisa M. Hendey is the founder of CatholicMom.com and the bestselling author of *I'm A Saint in the Making*, among other books. She has journeyed around the globe to hear and share messages of hope and encouragement. Her [Chime Travelers](#) series for kids is read and studied worldwide in homes, schools, and churches. A frequent TV and radio guest, Lisa also hosts two podcasts and speaks internationally on faith, family, evangelization and technology topics. She has traveled worldwide with non-profits to support their humanitarian missions. Lisa and Greg Hendey worship and live their story in Los Angeles, CA.

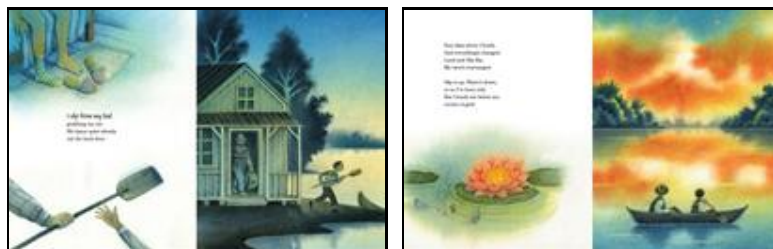
Quotes

"This is a great read before an outing to encourage readers to take in the natural ecosystems and to integrate the relationships, big and small, among God's creation. The colorful art leads the journey as the story starts in the blue shadows before the sun rises and slowly bursts with colors and movement as the morning awakens."

—**National Catholic Reporter**

"By empowering children ages three to eight to be caregivers of the earth, this book offers a great service." —**Spirituality and Practice**

Illustrations





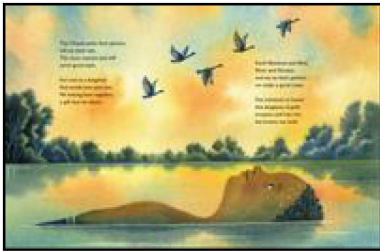
My rainbow boat
is on the sky,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.

My rainbow boat
is on the sky,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.



Under the rainbow
I see the fish,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.

Under the rainbow
I see the fish,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.



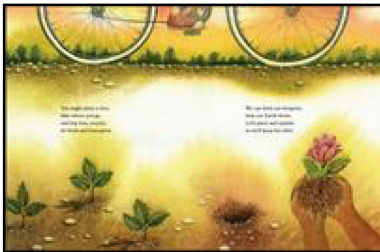
The rainbow is on the sky,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.

The rainbow is on the sky,
and I'm sailing
on the rainbow.



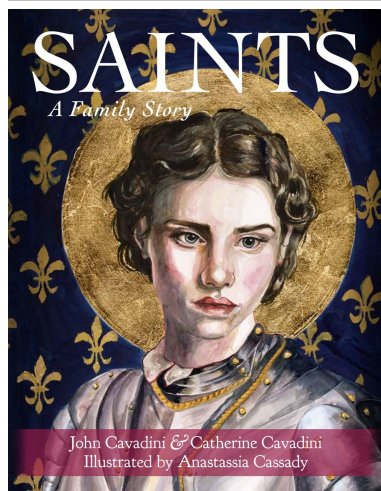
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Full color illustrations throughout
Ages 8 And Up, Grades 2 And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
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Status: **ACTIVE**

Saints: A Family Story

John Cavadini, Catherine Cavadini, Anastassia Cassady

Summary

A beautifully illustrated collection of the stories of the Saints the whole family will love — by father and daughter writing team, John and Catherine Cavadini, with stunning portraits by Anastassia Cassady.

This collection, *Saints: A Family Story*, is composed of stories the authors have written for their own children and grandchildren and friends. They are adapted from Scripture, from original sources within the Tradition, and from the writings of the saints themselves or their family and friends. The saints are presented as a “Family,” living in many different times and places. Just think: many of these saints learned to love and to live the faith through the witness of their parents and grandparents or their brothers and sisters. Other saints form spiritual families, with connections between them found across the centuries.

The stories begin with Pope St. John Paul II because he called the Church today to sanctity by giving us the gift of more and more saints. The stories then move chronologically, from stories of saints in the Gospels, to martyrs, confessors and ascetics of the early Church, to saints of the medieval period, and to more modern saints, like Ven. Augustus Tolton, Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati and St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Through the stories of these saints, we receive new brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers in the faith. Each person’s life tells the “story” of God’s love in a unique and unrepeatable way. The illustrations bring shape and color to these stories, capturing the true diversity among the magnificent and beautiful “family of saints.”

Contributor Bio

John Cavadini is Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame, where he also serves as McGrath-Cavadini Director of the McGrath Institute for Church Life. John's work as a theologian arises from his love for the Church Fathers, especially St. Augustine. Knighted by Pope Benedict XVI for his service to the Church, John and his wife, Nancy, live in South Bend, IN, where visits from any number of their 17 grandchildren are a daily diversion.

Catherine ("Katie") Cavadini is John's daughter and Tess's old swim coach. She teaches theology at Notre Dame, where she also directs the Master of Arts Program in Theology. In the classroom, Katie typically offers courses on scriptural interpretation, spirituality, and the stories of the saints. Katie and her husband, Anthony, live in South Bend, IN with their four children: Anna, James, John, and Zelie.

Anastassia "Tess" Cassady studied Art and Art History at the University of Michigan (Go blue!) and Indiana University. She resides in South Bend with her husband, Bob, and three children: Genevieve, Ivanka, and Dmitri. She has spent the last ten years teaching high school advanced art and art history at Trinity School at Greenlawn. She is also a professional freelance artist and has taken on many commissions including church murals, altarpiece paintings, paschal candles, byzantine icons, gilding a baldacchino, book covers, and private oil paintings (her favorite!). Tess swam collegiately at the University of Michigan, while Katie swam at Notre Dame. Despite all of this, they still remain friends. In her free time, if not painting, you can usually find Tess cooking Ukrainian food, making pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs), playing ice hockey, or cuddling with her three massive Maine Coons.

Quotes

“This is destined to become a classic in the genre. There is simply no other book of which we are aware on the topic of Catholic Saints that is so informative and so exquisitely captivating with this realistic, superb portrait art. In a way this is not a

typical children's book, although the writing is upbeat and lovely. It is designed to be read together, to help encourage families to read about saints (from history or from the Bible.) The art is stunning, and somewhat diverse. Besides a wild, wild-eyed, long-haired John the Baptist, on the other page there is a big bug, I'm guessing, uh, a locust. Yep, there are these smaller depictions and insets. A few of the pictures are edgy and iconographic, others (like the cover) more realistic. The picture of blessed Franz Jaegerstaetter hugging his wife over his scrippled letters is heartbreakingly powerful. There is a great bibliography at the end. An excellent resource for families with older kids. Or no kids. It's amazing." —**Byron Borger**, *Hearts & Minds*

"This book is full of life. Christ promised to bring his disciples life in abundance and his saints are the shining testaments to the fulfillment of that promise. By word and image, this book reveres the beauty of Christ's life in his saints, teaching us, delighting us, and inspiring us in the way of sanctity. This book stands apart from others because of its spiritual warmth, theological sensitivity, and artistic beauty." —**Leonard J. DeLorenzo**, University of Notre Dame, Author of *Our Faithful Departed: Where They Are and Why It Matters*

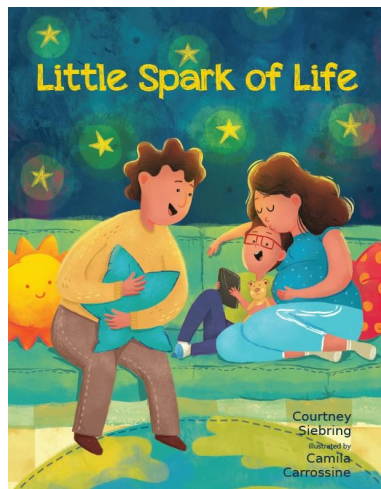
"Literature on the saints, especially those written for children and families, tend to turn these holy men and women into cartoon characters from another era. *Saint: A Family Story* avoids this misstep, letting the saints become wonderfully beautiful and strange icons of holiness for our day. The lives of the saints are easy to read, but they never reduce the saints to models for living. You feel like you get to know these holy men and women, what they cared about, and why it matters to your life. The art throughout the volume captivates. The saints look like people, but the kind of people who have been forever transformed through an encounter with Christ. I feel, at last, there is a book on the saints that adults, adolescents, and young children alike can get excited about. Every family should own a copy of this book." —**Timothy P. O'Malley**, Director of Education, McGrath Institute for Church Life; Academic Director, Notre Dame Center for Liturgy

"With graceful simplicity, this extraordinary little book introduces the communion of saints in a voice brimming over with wonder at and gratitude for the goodness of the Catholic faith. The luminous reality of the lives of these saints—brave, kind, true, and holy—shines through every loving word and beautiful image. An instant classic!" —**Jennifer Newsome Martin**, University of Notre Dame

"*Saints: A Family Story* breathes new life into hagiography, making it a golden legend for our times. John and Catherine Cavadini recount the grace-filled lives of thirty-four men and women ranging from apostolic times to the present, from Chicago to Nagasaki, from martyrs to contemplatives, forming an extraordinary community of holy friendships for young and old. Each biography in *Saints* is unique, like the path to sanctity it sketches, and written in an engaging style sure to captivate the modern reader. Anastassia Cassady's illustrations, drawing on the rich traditions of Christian art for each distinctive and compelling portrait, are magnificent." —**Liz Lev**, Art Historian and Author

Illustrations





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Juvenile Fiction / Family
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Status: **ACTIVE**

Little Spark of Life

A Celebration of Born and Preborn Human Life

Courtney Siebring, Camila Carrossine

Summary

"Little Spark of Life has quickly become one of my children's favorite books to pick up and read at bedtime. I personally love how it is a teaching tool but also shows them the value and dignity of God's Creation in the womb." —**Abby Johnson**, bestselling author of *Unplanned*; founder of And Then There Were None

A new baby is coming! It's time to celebrate! With exciting rhymes and vibrant illustrations *Little Spark of Life* will help families get ready and learn more about the miracle of life.

All children are a gift from the Lord — fearfully and wonderfully made! In a safe and cozy family setting, author Courtney Siebring tells the whole story of how every "little spark" grows into a one-of-a-kind, wonderful creation of human life. She explains how every detail — boy or girl, blue eyes or brown, curly or straight hair — is set in place from the very beginning, and how week by week the baby inside Mom grows and changes until Baby is finally ready to be born! *Little Spark of Life*:

- Is the perfect book for big brothers and sisters ages 4-8 getting ready for a new baby to come
- Makes a wonderful gift for baby showers
- Provides parents, grandparents, and caregivers a wonderful narrative to help explain the miracle of life
- Supports the value of life messaging and the worth of every child
- Gives a biblical perspective and Christian worldview regarding when life begins and the wonder of human development
- A valuable resource for homeschooling families, librarians, children's ministers, Sunday school teachers, and Christian school educators

It's never too early to impart little ones with respect and love for the Creator, and every single life in his care! *Little Spark of Life* demonstrates the great love that families can share in together as they embark on the journey to welcome a new baby, and will provide a wonderful platform for conversation about just how much every child is needed, loved, and uniquely valued.

Learn more and find free resources at littlesparkoflifebook.com

Contributor Bio

Courtney Siebring is a creative artist currently living in Colorado Springs, CO, with her husband and daughter. Her devotion to Christ, background in theatre making, current work as a voiceover artist, and long time practice of writing poetry informs the way she sees and interacts with the world. Her children's book, *Little Spark of Life*, is fueled by her passion for the unborn and their mamas as well as her experience as a foster and adoptive parent.

Camila Carrossine is Brazilian and lives in São Paulo. She has been drawing since she was a little girl and grew up with pencils and paper. Camila then went onto graduate in Fine Arts and also studied Art Direction. Camila considers herself a visual storyteller and loves to mix traditional and digital techniques in her illustrations. She divides her time between children's book projects and animated films. And she loves books, traveling, and walking barefoot.

Quotes

"Little Spark of Life has quickly become one of my children's favorite books to pick up and read at bedtime. I personally love how it is a teaching tool but also shows them the value and dignity of God's Creation in the womb." —**Abby Johnson**, bestselling author of *Unplanned*; founder of And Then There Were None

"Paraclete's *Little Spark of Life: A Celebration of Born and Pre-born Human Life* by Courtney Siebring (out now) is a rhyming baby-on-the-way book promising 'a biblical perspective and Christian worldview regarding when life begins,' according to the publisher." —**Publishers Weekly**

"As the leaves take on bold colors before falling from the trees, we're reminded of life's passing beauty, but also await the hope of new life that each Spring brings. *Little Spark of Life* is a new pro-life children's book that captures the wonder of that profound miracle. This heartwarming story provides vibrant illustrations of a father and mother walking their child through the pregnancy of their preborn sibling. Balancing whimsy with scientific facts, this book thoroughly details the many milestones achieved during the weeks of pregnancy—from cells dividing, to perceiving light and sound. This is a must-have-read for parents and children, whether welcoming a new sibling or just wanting to explore the beauty of life in the womb!" —**Catholic Vote**

"Ideal for the 'biggs,' the brothers and sisters who wait and wonder!" —**National Catholic Register**

"This book provides parents with a beautiful way of reminding their children that they are perfectly and divinely made and that their lives had purpose long before their first cry! May our children know that everyone's life is a miracle from the very first spark!" —**Kristan Hawkins**, President, Students for Life

"*Little Spark of Life* beautifully communicates the value of every life, no matter how small. This is a great resource for parents who want to help their children understand the valuable truth that every person is an image bearer of God and has dignity, value and worth." —**Lauren Green McAfee**, Founder, Stand for Life & Author of *Beyond Our Control*

"As an adopted child and a former foster and adoptive mother, Courtney's beautiful book brought me to the most joyful tears! *Little Spark of Life* is an inspired reminder for children—and the child in each of us—that God created us for a distinct purpose, and that we are fearfully and wonderfully made." —**Diane Ferraro**, CEO, Save the Storks

"With a perfect blend of science and heart, *Little Sparks of Life* is my go-to book to celebrate the uniqueness and distinctiveness of each child and every life. This book teaches children that their life is intentionally created with value, creativity and infinite worth. I want to buy this book for every expecting big brother and big sister I know." —**Esther Fleece**, bestselling author of *No More Faking Fine* and *Your New Name*

"*Little Spark of Life* will help you explain the ongoing transformation of your baby in the womb. Kids will learn how every child bears the image of God from the moment of conception. They'll see the growth milestones along the way – heartbeat, brain development, facial features and more. What a great resource to help siblings prepare for a new brother or sister!" —**Jim Daly**, President, Focus on the Family

"*Little Spark of Life* is the delightful story of a mother telling her son about his unborn sister's development. Colorful, imaginative illustrations bring the mother's descriptions of growth in the womb to life. This charming book is a perfect way to introduce the pro-life message to a young child—I look forward to sharing it with my own children!" —**Emily Yocum**, Executive Direction, Orthodox Christians for Life

"With endearing illustrations and lilting rhyme, *Little Spark of Life* by Courtney Siebring, is a beautiful introduction to the wonder and miracle of conception through birth through the lens of a mother conversing with her pre-school aged child as they expectantly await the birth of a new baby. It's a lovely introduction and reminder of the sanctity of life." —**Laura Sassi**, author of multiple books for young children including the *My Tender Heart* series, *Goodnight Ark* and more

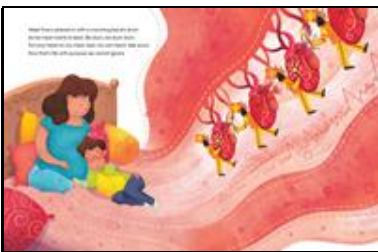
"A sweet rhyming read-aloud to help young children appreciate the hidden development of the child in the womb, emphasizing that it was all designed by God." —**Barb Szyszkiewicz**, Editor, CatholicMom.com

"This book is a reminder to us all--young and old--that we are uniquely made in the image of God. Courtney has written a beautiful story that will inspire every little reader to know their identity in Christ and how much God loves them! Every child should have this book on their shelf!" —**Amy Ford**, President, Embrace Grace, and author of *Help Her Be Brave*

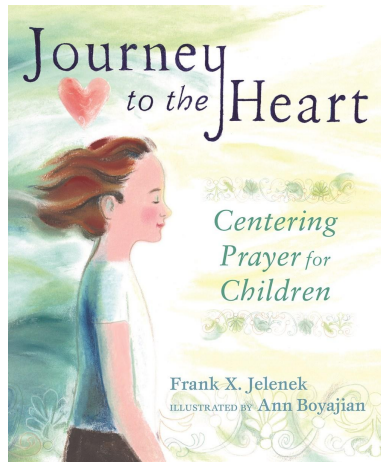
"A wonderful little book full of beautiful illustrations which will go a long way to foster a culture of life among our children." —**Eilís Mulroy**, Pro Life Campaign (Ireland)

"What a joyful, kid-friendly introduction to how babies grow and develop before they're born! *Little Spark of Life* gives lots for families to explore and celebrate—great for 'sparking' deeper conversations with curious kids." —**Valerie Ellis**, children's author and founder of Our Everyday Parables

Illustrations







Journey to the Heart: Centering Prayer for Children

Frank Jelenek, Ann Boyajian

Summary

The first guide to a contemplative prayer practice for children, *Journey to the Heart* both instructs and inspires.

Centering prayer is a way of opening our whole being to God, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. It is simple and practical—a way of preparing heart and mind to receive the gift of intimate relationship with God. Jesus said, "When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:6) Frank Jelenek shows young children just how to do that!

The first guide of its kind for children ages 3-10, *Journey to the Heart*:

- Draws children into a peaceful, quiet frame of heart with soft and beautiful illustrations
- Lovingly instructs and inspires children, their parents, caregivers, and teachers
- Introduces children to the joy of communicating with God in this special, intimate way
- Makes it easy for children to share in the spiritual nourishment of centering prayer
- Features age-appropriate text that provides clear directions and encouragement in simple, fun language

Ideal for ages 3 – 10, *Journey to the Heart* has been declared Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur by William B. Smith, S.T.D., Censor Librorum and Dennis J. Sullivan, Vicar General, Archdiocese of New York.

Contributor Bio

Frank X. Jelenek is a member of Thomas Keating's Contemplative Outreach, dedicated to teaching the practice of centering prayer to people of all ages. He works for Scholastic Book Fairs and shares his passion for books and prayer with his grandchildren.

Ann Boyajian is the illustrator of many books, including *Samantha's Friendship Fun* (in the American Girl series), *More Spice Than Sugar* (Houghton Mifflin), and *O Say Can You See? American's Symbols, Landmarks, and Inspiring Words* (Scholastic).

Quotes

"The nature-centric illustrations are gorgeous, and the rhyming text offers a doorway into the method of Centering Prayer that is age appropriate (and appropriate for all ages). "In every heart there is God's kingdom, a holy place to pray. Your soul is the home of God inside you, each and every day." How I wish I had received this message when I was a child! But like the saying goes, "It's never too late to have a happy childhood" — which means it's never too late to nurture the child within with a hopeful message of God's love and an invitation to silently consent to that love's healing presence within us. So get this book for the children in your life; it will bless them — but be sure to let it bless yourself as well." —**Carl McColman**, Anamchara.com

"Contemplative prayer would seem to be a discipline more suited to adults than children, but this easily understandable book offers a framework that even primary-schoolers can work within. The book begins by introducing the concept of the soul explaining that a journey to the deepest part of the heart is time to commune with God and Jesus. First, the book suggests choosing a secret word or phrase such as *faith*, *Father*, *Jesus*, or *Holy Spirit*. Then, it recommends sitting silently, eyes closed, feet on



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Color illustrations
Carton Qty: 80
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Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049120

10 in H | 8.3 in W | 0.2 in T | 0.3 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

the floor; if others are participating, it suggests placing chairs in a prayer circle. The next step involves saying the secret word silently while resting within. When other thoughts intrude, participants can let them float away during the six moments of silence they are to spend with God. The session ends with the Our Father. The gentle text encourages children, and the attractive, simple pictures, often depicting people at prayer, are done in warm, gentle colors. An unusual, peaceful offering." —**Booklist**



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Juvenile Fiction / Recycling &
Green Living
JUV063000

11 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.9 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Here: The Dot We Call Home

Laura Alary, Cathrin Peterslund

Summary

***Here: The Dot We Call Home* is a simple and enchanting book that invites children to see themselves as both descendants and ancestors, and caretakers of our beautiful planet.**

This is my home. I live here. But I am not the first...

When a child finds clues that others have lived in her house before her, she begins to wonder about them, and about those who will come after her. The more she wonders, the more her sense of home expands, stretching to include an entire planet.

With her thoughtful approach and her unique ability to make big concepts engaging and personal to children, Laura Alary invites readers along for the ride, zooming through time and space to the outer reaches of our solar system for a new perspective on the planet we share. The child marvels: How can something so big seem so small? But also: How can something so small seem so big? Overwhelmed by the mess that humans have left behind, in the end she realizes that there is only one thing to do: start where she is.

In spare and simple words, *Here: The Dot We Call Home* helps children begin to think of themselves as both descendants and ancestors, and to comprehend that people of every place and time share one home, and the task of looking after it.

Here: The Dot We Call Home is:

- An engaging story about one curious and thoughtful child
- An imaginative way to enlarge a child's perspective on our homes and neighborhoods, and how we're all connected
- A great conversation-starter about the environment and our responsibility to protect it
- Filled with enchanting and whimsical illustrations that encourage a child's natural sense of wonder
- Ideal for boys and girls ages 5-10 years old

Add it to the shelf with books like *If You Come to Earth* by Sophie Blackall and *Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth* by Oliver Jeffers.

Contributor Bio

Laura Alary is a writer, educator, and storyteller. She has loved books since she was barely big enough to clamber up the steps of the book mobile that rolled into her neighborhood once a week. These days she is happy to be surrounded by books in the library where she works, and she delights in writing stories that make us bigger on the inside. Among her recent books are *What Grew in Larry's Garden*, *Sun in My Tummy*, and *The Astronomer Who Questioned Everything*. Laura grew up by the ocean in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and also spent many hours exploring the beaches of Prince Edward Island—one of her favorite spots on this dot we call home. She now makes her home in Toronto, where she likes to walk by the lake and think about how she can be a better ancestor.

Quotes

"This is a book I wish every child everywhere could have read to them when they're young, then read to themselves when they're older, and then read to their children when they're much older. The book your child, grandchild, or student needs is HERE!"
—**Brian D. McLaren**, author of *Corey and the Seventh Story*

"In *Here: The Dot We Call Home*, Laura Alary reminds us that home is the daily spaces we inhabit, the history we are a part of, and the universe that holds us. In this book, she beautifully weaves humanity into relationship with the creatures around us and the Earth herself, reminding us that while we can't fix all the problems we encounter, we can be present to the life we've been given. That is enough. I'm so grateful for this book and what it will teach kids and adults alike about how to practice kinship and belonging." —**Kaitlin Curtice**, award-winning author of *Native*

"Laura Alary's *The Dot We Call Home*, teaches children to be co-sustainers in a real place, right where they are. What could be more important, loving, or more human than that?" —**Randy Woodley**, author of *Becoming Rooted: One Hundred Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth*

"Alary's book draws us into the intimacy of our immediate home and then expands us out into ever widening circles to our biggest home—deep time and deep space. What a terrific message for children to learn...and feel!" —**Jennifer Morgan**, President of Deeptime Network

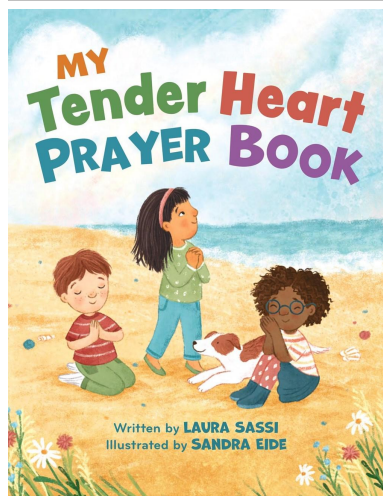
"Creation care starts at home as Laura Alary shows in this beautiful, delightful, and heartwarming book." —**Grace Ji-Sun Kim**, Professor of Theology and author of *Invisible*

"Amidst climate catastrophe, how do we lovingly prepare kids for all that is to come? Perhaps the first step is to invite children to fall intimately in love with the place that nourishes their bodies. And to remember that we are part of a story that has gone on before us and will continue after we are gone. Laura Alary invites us into this beautiful work through the eyes of one child offering joy, memory, and imagination about our place on this planet." —**Lydia Wylie-Kellerman**, editor of *The Sandbox Revolution: Raising Kids for a Just World*

"A perfect book for anyone who cares about the Earth and children! Laura Alary offers a vision of hope at a time when many kids feel powerless. With lyrical writing and beautiful pictures, *The Dot We Call Home* invites people to find love and possibility." —**Amelia Richardson Dress**, author of *The Hopeful Family: Raising Resilient Children in Uncertain Times*

Illustrations





My Tender Heart Prayer Book (Part of the "My Tender Heart" Series)

Rhyming Prayers for Little Ones

Laura Sassi, Sandra Eide

Summary

With rhyming text and playful illustrations, *My Tender Heart Prayer Book* offers a vibrant collection of prayers for every moment of the day from morning to night. Inspiring words and "Heart Moments" combine to foster a little one's relationship with God.

Simple yet uplifting prayers for toddlers going through their daily routine are accentuated with a "Heart Moment" for parents to share and ponder. Scripture verses are noted throughout that point to God's Word and relevance to everyday experiences.

My Tender Heart Prayer Book:

- Contains 23 prayers for baby or toddler that encourage gratitude, thinking of others, asking for help, joy, compassion, trust in God, and teach important spiritual cornerstones
- Is a sturdy board book that can withstand repeated readings and usage at home, church, or classroom
- Is perfect as bedtime reading for your toddlers and little ones
- Offers details in the artwork for little ones to enjoy and find for "point and learn" discovery
- Serve as a base for introductory Bible discussion with handy Scripture references
- Is the perfect size for little hands
- Makes a great gift for many occasions including baby shower, christening, baptism, baby dedication, new grandchild, curious toddlers, and boys and girls ages 0 to 4 years old

At the breakfast table, in the car, at school, or at bedtime – every time is the perfect time to help kids connect with God! Parents, caregivers, teachers, godparents, aunts and uncles will want to make *My Tender Heart Prayer Book* part of their beloved little one's daily routine.

Learn more about *My Tender Heart Prayer Book* and find free resources at [MyTenderHeartBooks.com](https://www.MyTenderHeartBooks.com).

Contributor Bio

Laura Sassi has a passion for telling stories in prose and rhyme. She is the author of multiple books for young children including *My Tender Heart Bible* and *Happy Birthday, Christmas Child!* Laura had a successful teaching career before becoming a children's author. She's been a homeschool mom, children's ministry director, historic museum interpreter, and more. She writes daily from her home in New Jersey and finds special joy in pointing kids to God and to good through story and sharing her love of reading and writing at school visits, church gatherings and other events.

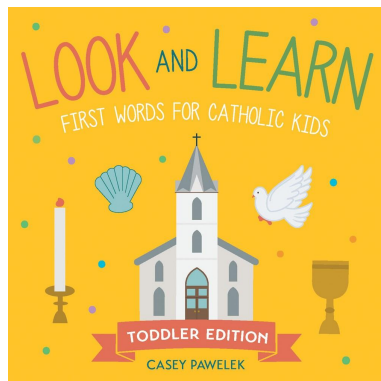
Sandra Eide is a children's book illustrator from the Pacific Northwest. Sandra works with a mixture of real watercolors, textures, and digital mediums to create her



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26 Pages
Fully Color Illustrations
Ages 0 to 5, Grades P to K
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049120
Series: My Tender Heart
7.3 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.6 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**





Look and Learn – Toddler Edition

First Words for Catholic Kids

Casey Pawelek

Summary

This brightly illustrated look-and-learn board book helps toddlers discover and name the fascinating things that are part of the Catholic faith! Written to help engage her young child during church, *Look and Learn – Toddler Edition: First Words for Catholic Kids* board book by Casey Pawelek makes faith fun.

Sit with your child and go on a “treasure hunt” to explore the colors, sights, and sounds of a typical parish church.

Look and Learn – Toddler Edition: First Words for Catholic Kids board book:

- Will hold a child’s interest with colorful illustrations that name people, places, and things
- Is the perfect book for young children ages 1-3 to bring to church!
- Sparks spiritual curiosity in young children and plants seeds for conversations with parents and teachers
- Invites children to experience the Catholic faith from a very early age as lively, fun, and engaging
- Makes a great gift for new babies, toddlers, new parents, and children’s ministry leaders

Paraclete Press
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Board Book

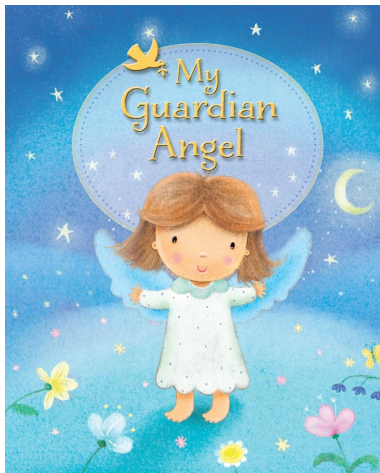
14 Pages
Full color illustrations
Ages 0 to 4, Grades P And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049200
7.3 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
Status:**ACTIVE**

Contributor Bio

Casey Pawelek is a Catholic wife to her high school sweetheart and mama to three young kids. She lives in Texas.

Illustrations





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Hardcover Paper over boards

48 Pages
Ages 0 to 6, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049200
6.6 in H | 5.4 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

My Guardian Angel

Sophie Piper

Summary

From the bestselling author of *My Baptism Book*—a sweet collection of prayers and poems to remind every child of the heavenly love that surrounds them.

Nothing is more comforting to young children than knowing that they have a special guardian angel watching over them, loving and protecting them all day and night.

This collection of prayers, Scriptures, and poems is the perfect all-occasion gift for any child, from infant to elementary age. Every page is filled with a warm and inviting illustration.

My Guardian Angel:

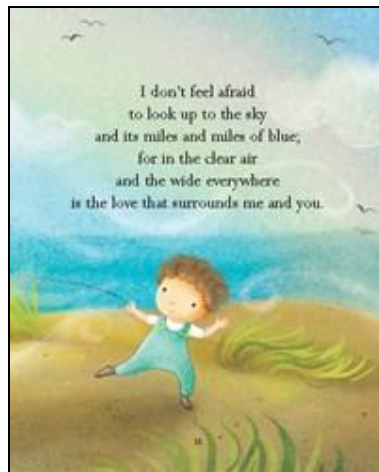
- Features beautiful poetry that comforts and reassures children of God's constant love and presence
- Verses inspired by Scriptures
- Helps calm bedtime worry and anxiety in small children
- Teaches children about kindness, love, and care for others
- Includes illustrations of children from multicultural backgrounds
- Includes a presentation page with room to personalize with the recipient's name and the gift-giver
- Is perfect for baptism, Easter, and newborn gifts

My Guardian Angel is a classic and timeless gift for any young child, to help them begin their spiritual journey enveloped in the loving care of angels.

Contributor Bio

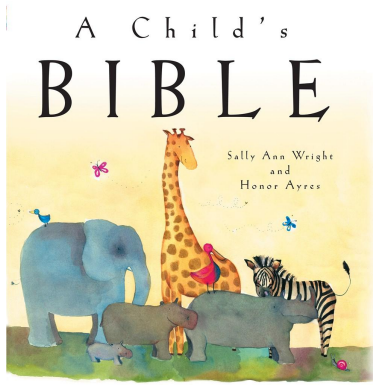
Sophie Piper lives in the Thames Valley. Over the years, she has taken a special interest in writing and compiling books to communicate the themes of love, hope and faith to young children. Her sincere and simple style has given rise to many prayer and gift books, including *My Baptism Book* and *On the Day You Were Born*.

Illustrations



For his sake
eternally
angels will
watch over me.





A Child's Bible

Sally Ann Wright, Honor Ayres

Summary

***A Child's Bible* is the perfect introduction to the stories that form the building blocks of faith—a wondrous collection of miracles, adventures, special friends and heroes, all bound together by God's love.**

Raising little people of faith isn't easy! But with this beautiful book, you can help the child in your life get to know all about God, and the amazing ways God has been taking care of everyone and everything on earth since the very beginning. They will also meet Jesus, learn about the things he did on earth, about his death and resurrection, and how the disciples spread his words of love over the whole world.

A Child's Bible opens up the mysteries of both the Old and New Testament in language that speaks to young readers right where they are, without watering down the message of God's love. Vibrant and expressive full-color illustrations fill every page and help bring the action to life.

Parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles, teachers, and pastors will all want to add *A Child's Bible* to their bookshelves. It's a wonderful resource for homeschooling, Christian education, and Sunday school, too!

The perfect gift for every occasion—Baptism, Holy Communion, birthdays, Christmas, Easter, and more—*A Child's Bible* has many special features including:

- A lovely presentation page to mark the special occasion
- 57 easy-to-read, memorable stories from the Old and New Testament
- A handy table of contents that makes it easy to find your favorite story
- A sturdy hard cover and heavy pages to last for generations
- A list of Scripture references that makes it easy to go back to the source for each story



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049040

9 in H | 8 in W | 1.7 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Illustrations



David fights a giant



David was the little, youngest son of Jesse. He was a shepherd and he had a dog and a staff and a sling and a stone.
One day he went to the fields to look after the sheep.
The giant Goliath was there too.
The giant was very tall and very strong.
He looked at David and he said, "I will kill you."
David answered, "I will be your enemy."
Then David took a stone and he threw it at Goliath.
The stone hit Goliath in the forehead and he fell down.
David was very brave.

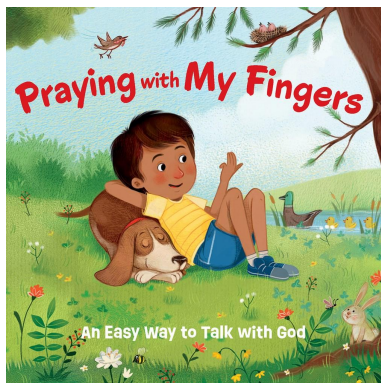


The Mitten



Once upon a time, there was a little boy named Hansel.
He had a little sister named Gretel.
One day, Hansel's father said to him, "Go into the forest and bring me some wood."
Hansel went into the forest and he found a little house.
The house was made of bread.
A witch lived in the house.
The witch was very ugly and very mean.
She had a long nose and a big mouth.
She had a black dress and a black hat.
She had a black cat and a black dog.
The witch was very evil.
One day, Hansel and Gretel went to the forest.
They found the little house.
The witch saw them and she said, "Come in."
Hansel and Gretel went in.
The witch was very happy.
She gave them food and drink.
She gave them a bed.
Hansel and Gretel were very happy.
But the witch was very evil.
She wanted to eat Hansel.
One day, she said to Hansel, "Go into the forest and bring me some wood."
Hansel went into the forest and he found a little house.
The house was made of bread.
A witch lived in the house.
The witch was very ugly and very mean.
She had a long nose and a big mouth.
She had a black dress and a black hat.
She had a black cat and a black dog.
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One day, Hansel and Gretel went to the forest.
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Hansel and Gretel went in.
The witch was very happy.
She gave them food and drink.
She gave them a bed.
Hansel and Gretel were very happy.
But the witch was very evil.
She wanted to eat Hansel.





Praying With My Fingers

An Easy Way to Talk With God

Paraclete Press, Alessia Girasole

Summary

Start your little ones off on their journey with God with this classic prayer using their five fingers — a simple and real way to pray!

With gentle, rhyming text and engaging, colorful illustrations, this sturdy board book, *Praying With My Fingers: An Easy Way to Talk With God* offers a simple yet effective method for little ones and beginner readers to guide them through an easy-to-understand and easy-to-remember prayer routine. Simple yet uplifting Bible verses and prayer prompts bring young children and parents together to share and ponder.

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Board Book

18 Pages
Full color illustrations
Ages 0 to 5, Grades P to K
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049080
6.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Praying With My Fingers:

- Contains rhyming phrases for easy-to-learn, easy-to-understand prayer form
- Is a sturdy board book that can withstand repeated readings and usage at home, church, or classroom
- Is perfect for teaching prayer concepts to any toddlers and preschoolers
- Offers details in the artwork for little ones to enjoy and find for “point and learn” discovery
- Serves as a base for teaching prayer and talking to God
- Is the perfect size for little hands
- Makes a great gift for many occasions including birthdays, baptism, child dedication, new grandchild, curious toddlers, and boys and girls ages 0 to 4 years old

This creative form of prayer has been around for a long time! It is a powerful way to teach our children how to pray.

Contributor Bio

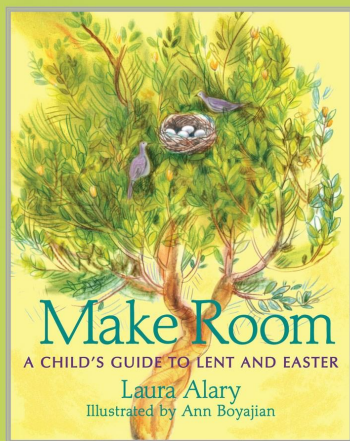
The Editors of Paraclete Press are committed to offering inspirational texts to encourage readers on their spiritual journey.

Alessia Girasole was born in Milan, Italy where she currently resides. She has been drawing since early childhood and realized early on that she would turn her hobby into a rewarding career as an illustrator. After graduating at the European Institute of Design in Milan, with a major in Illustration and Multimedia Animation, she decided to focus on illustrating for children. Nowadays, she spends most of her time with her two favorite and very close mates: her MAC and Neve, a faithful Labrador retriever.

Illustrations







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JNF026020
Series: Circle of Wonder
11 in H | 8 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.4 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Make Room

A Child's Guide to Lent and Easter — Part of the "Circle of Wonder" Series

Laura Alary, Ann Boyajian

Summary

While the Advent season is filled with fun and expectations, Lent can be more difficult for children. How can we help children approach this season in a way that is meaningful and not frightening?

Make Room presents Lent as a special time for creating a welcoming space for God. Other books offer excellent ideas for going through the Lenten season with children, but *Make Room* uniquely connects its projects to the story of Jesus. Simple and practical activities such as baking bread, having a neighbor over for dinner, uncluttering your room, and watching less TV become acts of justice and kindness, part of a life of following and imitating Christ, and a way to make room for God in our lives and in the world around us.

Other books tell the Passion narrative for young readers; this unique book integrates themes of hospitality and self-giving that echo Jesus' ministry, Jesus' entire life. *Make Room* invites children to wonder about the story, to encounter Lent with all their senses, and to experience activities in Lent as part of a life of discipleship.

Contributor Bio

Laura Alary is a writer, storyteller, and religious educator. When she was a little girl she used to make her own books out of manila paper, crayons, and mucilage. These early efforts at writing eventually gave way to academic papers and theses, as she earned degrees in Classics (B.A., Dalhousie), Theology (M.Div., Knox College, University of Toronto) and New Testament (Ph.D., University of St. Michael's College). More recently, Laura has focused on a new type of education—raising three creative and curious children. She leads workshops on everything from storytelling to biblical interpretation, teaches the occasional university course, and works with children at a local congregation. She has also returned to her early love of creating her own books, including *Is That Story True?* and *Mira and the Big Story*. Laura lives in Toronto, Canada.

Ann Boyajian is the illustrator of many books, including *Samantha's Friendship Fun* (in the American Girl series), *More Spice Than Sugar* (Houghton Mifflin), and *O Say Can You See? American's Symbols, Landmarks, and Inspiring Words* (Scholastic).

Quotes

"A great addition to your Lent / Easter Shelf Unit: This unique book invites children to experience Lent with all their senses, and to see it as a special time for creating a welcoming space for God. We recommend placing this book on the bottom shelf of your Lent / Easter shelf unit." —**The Rev. Cheryl V. Minor, Ph.D.** Co-Rector, All Saints' Church, Belmont, MA, Director of the Center for the Theology of Childhood, The Godly Play Foundation

"While I realize my daughter will develop her own faith traditions, I want her to be aware of all the various ways she can remember all her Lord and Savior has done for her. This book explains why Lent helps us remember. Taking us through the events of Holy Week, the author explains how all the Lenten traditions we focus on help us "Make Room" for more of Jesus. While the book is simple enough for a child, it unpacks the importance of participating in Lent very well." —**Traci Rhoades**

"The book reveals what is usually hidden: what we knew as penitential is actually life-giving and faith-building. After reading the book to my kids, my five year old daughter exclaimed 'I can't wait for Lent! I just can't wait!'" —**Gary Neal Hansen**, Author of *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers*

"Dr. Alary truly respects the child and asks us to walk with them as they point us to Christ. This is a wonderful resource." —**Rev. Olivia Stewart**, Director of Children & Worship

"This is a poetic, practical and theologically wise book for children." —**L. Ann Jervis**, Professor of New Testament, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto.

"Wow, what a wonderful children's book, delightfully illustrated and nicely told. It is an invitation for children to wonder about the Lenten story, helping children to experience Lent with all their senses. I think it is a fine book for almost any kind of Christian." —**Byron Berger**, Hearts and Minds Books

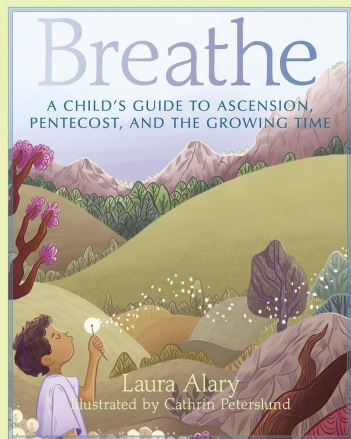
"*Make Room: A Children's Guide to Lent and Easter* was a solid addition to the religious education of our young children. Where many Easter books focus on the resurrection of Christ, this book tenderly and thoughtfully explained the Lenten season with child-appropriate examples of reasonable and realistic ways in which children can observe. With sections on reaching out to help others, giving away extra so that others can have simply enough, and ways to sit in quiet prayer and reflection, this book created room for ongoing thought-provoking questions. Best of all, the book is written in a way that allows the child to see ways in which to meaningfully participate in the process and shift attention away from a season of 'I can't have...' to a season of preparation and dedication. Make room on your shelf for this title." —**Amy Shaw**, Educator

"Reading *Make Room* with my two-year old Plum, I delighted to see how Alary makes room for our own conversation within her text, sprinkling pages with *I wonder* and *maybe*. I wonder why Jesus went into the desert? I wonder who they thought Jesus was? Ann Boyajian's illustrations are thought-filled and beautiful, making the book feel like a window into an active congregation where the Biblical stories are vividly live. I liked how Alary balances wondering questions with more straightforward teaching. She writes simply and clearly so that small children will be able to understand, but older ones will also be able to find rich material for their own wondering. Intriguingly, Alary makes a point of creating a wide sense of space around both the crucifixion and the resurrection. She does not supply the theological meaning behind either aspect of the story, but rather describes the lived history and experience of Easter and again makes room for us all, whatever our theological understanding, within the story." —**Katie Munnik**, *The Messy Table*, Presbyterian Record

"Children of all ages will come away with a broader understanding of the holy Lenten season and what it means to prepare for the glorious gift of Easter and new life in Christ." —**Michelle Thomas-Bush**, Big Ideas in Youth Ministry

Illustrations





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Breathe

A Child's Guide to Ascension, Pentecost, and the Growing Time — Part of the "Circle of Wonder" Series

Laura Alary, Cathrin Peterslund

Summary

Imbued with a sense of wonder, and a strong connection to the natural world, Laura Alary's books invite young readers to engage with the liturgical seasons of the church year. *Breathe* is a journey through Ascension, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time.

"The day of Pentecost is coming. The church is changing color. The white and gold of Easter will soon burst into flaming red, then cool to green." So begins *Breathe: A Child's Guide to Ascension, Pentecost, and the Growing Time*.

In the warm, thoughtful style that has made her books so popular with families who want to encourage their children to think deeply and engage their spiritual imaginations, Laura Alary presents the third book in a trilogy (previous books include *Look! A Child's Guide to Advent and Christmas* and *Make Room: A Child's Guide to Lent and Easter*) that explores the church's liturgical seasons.

At the heart of *Breathe* lies a puzzle: How can Jesus go away, yet promise to be with us always? Can we trust someone who comes and goes so mysteriously?

Moving beyond long ago and far away events, *Breathe* invites children to wonder about and watch for the presence and work of the Spirit here and now, in practices of prayer and mindfulness, and through acts of justice, generosity, and kindness. Slowly but surely, we discover that we are the body of Jesus now, his way of being in the world. And that whenever we choose the way of love, Jesus is there. Always.

Contributor Bio

Laura Alary is a writer, storyteller, and religious educator. When she was a little girl she used to make her own books out of manila paper, crayons, and mucilage. These early efforts at writing eventually gave way to academic papers and theses, as she earned degrees in Classics (B.A., Dalhousie), Theology (M.Div., Knox College, University of Toronto) and New Testament (Ph.D., University of St. Michael's College). More recently, Laura has focused on a new type of education—raising three creative and curious children. She leads workshops on everything from storytelling to biblical interpretation, teaches the occasional university course, and works with children at a local congregation. She has also returned to her early love of creating her own books, including *Is That Story True?* and *Mira and the Big Story*. Laura lives in Toronto, Canada.

Cathrin Peterslund is an illustrator, visual artist, and cartoonist. She studied at The Animation Workshop (Denmark), and graduated with a BA in Graphic Storytelling in 2017. She now works as a freelance illustrator in Copenhagen.

Quotes

"*Breathe* invites children—and the grownups who read to them—to feel the wonder of the Christian stories that unfold after Easter. Through warm and wonderful illustrations and prose that is close to poetry, Laura Alary invites children not just to imagine the stories back then, but to experience what those stories can mean to us now." —**Brian D. McLaren**, author of *Faith After Doubt*

"*Breathe* imparts new life into our consciousness of God's presence in the world. It clarifies as much as it intoxicates, intuitively guiding readers of all ages through Pentecost to reveal God in our lives."

—**Grace Ji-Sun Kim**, Professor of Theology, Earlham School of Religion

"In gentle words that seem to float, *Breathe* reassures, encourages, and inspires even the youngest followers of Jesus, helping them understand how the Spirit is at work in and through us all." —**Wendy Claire Barrie**, author of *Faith at Home*

"*Breathe* is an invitation to wonder, delight, and celebration and incorporates breathtaking illustrations along with masterful reflection and prose. True to Alary's style and other work, *Breathe* is a must-have for every parent and Christian Educator I know." —**Traci Smith**, author of *Faithful Families*

"Laura Alary's Bible stories are some of the only ones that I entirely trust my children with. This Pentecost story is like none other I've encountered, brilliant, paced like an autumn wind with moments of stillness to sit with breath and moments that sweep us up in that holy wind that still animates everything that is good and of God. This is a beautiful book that I look forward to having on my children's bedside table." —**Daneen Akers**, author of *Holy Troublemakers and Unconventional Saints*

"*Breathe* takes all who read it on a journey with the Spirit. The biblical stories of this time in the liturgical year flow like the air currents into children's experience in the church and world. This book is for all who need reassurance that God is with them in their daily lives—good times and difficult times." —**Dr. Kathy Dawson Benton**, Family Associate Professor of Christian Education, Columbia Theological Seminary

"It can be hard to talk about the things we don't fully understand; things like why Jesus returned to heaven, what happened at Pentecost, and how the Holy Spirit works. *Breathe: A Child's Guide to Ascension, Pentecost, and the Growing Time* provides those who tell them with language to tell them well; using words which invite wonder and examples which help listeners connect God's story with their own. As someone who regularly engages in ministry with children and their families, I love that I can draw from it, reading small sections as a way to savor the story of Pentecost and dwell in it together." —**Karen Deboer**, Author of *Homegrown Handbook for Christian Parenting*

"Anyone who is interested in nurturing a child's spirituality will inevitably be drawn to this lovely new title from the pen of Laura Alary. One only needs to read the opening words to know that *Breathe: A Child's Guide to Ascension, Pentecost, and the Growing Time* will cause the reader or listener to wonder about the mystery and meaning of this liturgical season.

The day of Pentecost is coming.

The church is changing color.

The white and gold of Easter

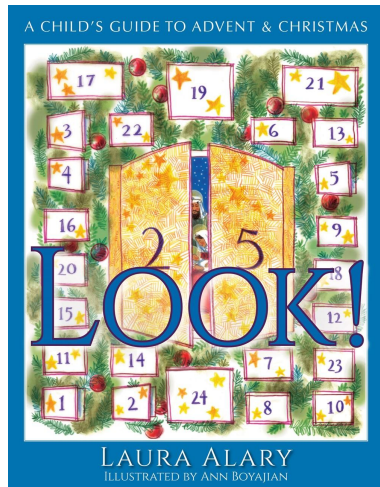
will soon burst into flaming red,

then cool to green.

In this poetic, thoughtful text, Laura deftly interweaves biblical stories with subtle invitations for readers to consider how the gentle wind of the Holy Spirit might be at work in their lives today. Although much of this book revolves around 'Ordinary Time,' there is nothing ordinary about the text. It is imaginative, insightful and thoroughly inspirational- a must for every parent, pastor and children's minister." —**Glenys Nellist**, author of the *Love Letters from God, Snuggle Time* and *Little Mole* series

"*Breathe* by Laura Alary is a winsome, nuanced, and beautiful book. Though it is intended for children, we adults, long in the tooth, should read it, too. It is fresh, even frolicking—qualities of life that prove elusive, but not inevitably so. Laura Alary rekindles grace and makes us want to dance with the people who populate her latest book. A great gift, a good read, for both old and young." —**Jack Levison**, author of *40 Days with the Holy Spirit, Fresh Air* and *Holy Spirit, I Pray*





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Look!

A Child's Guide to Advent and Christmas — Part of the "Circle of Wonder" Series

Laura Alary, Ann Boyajian

Summary

Look! A Child's Guide to Advent and Christmas presents Advent as special time for waiting and watching—paying attention—to the ways God comes to us.

Told from the point of a view of a child, the story weaves together familiar Advent traditions like the Jesse tree and the Advent wreath, biblical stories and characters, and reflections on what these stories call us to do and be.

This book reassures children of the presence of God in all times and places and invites them to become part of the holy work of making Christ present in the world.

Contributor Bio

Laura Alary is a mother, writer, teacher, preacher and storyteller. She grew up in Nova Scotia, studied Classics at Dalhousie University, has an M.Div. from Knox College and a Ph.D. in Theology from The University of St. Michael's College. She is the director of Christian Education at Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church in Scarborough and is the author of several picture books.

Ann Boyajian is the illustrator of many books, including *Samantha's Friendship Fun* (in the American Girl series), *More Spice Than Sugar* (Houghton Mifflin), and *O Say Can You See? American's Symbols, Landmarks, and Inspiring Words* (Scholastic).

Quotes

"*Look!* certainly stands alone as an effective and evocative overview of the season of Advent, but I also I think it would be particularly helpful as a guide for families as they make their way together through Advent. The stories could be told, the activities mentioned could be engaged in, and the wondering questions discussed. It is a book that calls out to be played with!" —Andrew Sheldon, Godly Play Advocate for International Development

"*Look! A Child's Guide to Advent & Christmas* takes us from the people of the Bible who waited for redemption to the people of the church today who are still waiting. The book introduces children to the powerful symbolism of Advent, especially that of light and darkness, but also talks about Advent as a time for spiritual practices such as journaling, painting and using prayer beads, and serving others." —Debbie Kolacki, *Practical Resources for Churches*

"Don't rush through this book! Just as the season of Advent invites us into expectant waiting and wondering as we reflect on and experience God, Laura Alary weaves familiar story, language, and questions into a warm invitation for readers to pause and wonder. Take her up on the invitation and experience the depth of Advent." —Alexis Meredith, *Building Faith, Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary*

"Seldom comes a book that evokes the response of all our senses. From the flickering flames of glowing lamplight to the aroma of baking cookies Alary invites you into the waiting, wondering, and life-giving story. Winter branches shiver in the cold. The reader shivers with anticipation. The Light comes and Love is born." —Roger Hutchison, author of *My Favorite Color is Blue. Sometimes.*

"Advent is a season too easily swallowed by festive busyness. Reflecting on the best known biblical texts of the season, Laura Alary gently invites us into activities that embody their waiting. We look back to Israel, look around us with John the Baptist, and look forward with Mary. Families that spend a month with this book may

experience Advent for the first time." —Gary Neal Hansen

"Look back, look around, look ahead... *Look!* is a terrific circumnavigation and exploration of the season of Advent for children (and adults.) With a child as our guide and narrator, we travel to ancient Jerusalem, to church, to home, and to the neighborhood to get a panoramic view of the rich paradoxes and themes of Advent. With the simple storytelling of a child and colorful, inviting illustrations author Laura Alary masterfully and gently connects the Biblical story, the church's story, and our personal story with the ongoing story of God in our midst. *Look!* introduces some creative and wonderful Advent activities to do at home; but this is not just a cheery 'let's get ready for Christmas and Jesus's birthday' book. This book honors a child's ability to be a young theologian, to pay attention to not only what is right in front of them but to spin 360 degrees to look at the way God moves in the world—past, present, and future." —Sybil MacBeth is the author of *Praying in Color: Drawing a New Path to God* and *The Season of the Nativity: Confessions and Practices of an Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Extremist*.

Learning about Lent and Easter

Make Space for Jesus



Laura Alary Illustrated by Ann Boyajian



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Make Space for Jesus

Learning About Lent and Easter

Laura Alary, Ann Boyajian

Summary

Invite little children to learn about Lent and Easter in this gentle and engaging board book that encourages generosity and compassion.

Laura Alary, bestselling author of *Make Room: A Child's Guide to Lent and Easter*, presents a simple board book for the youngest readers to experience the story of Jesus at this important time of year. With simple text and soft, watercolor illustrations, *Make Space for Jesus* teaches young children about Jesus' way of compassion, welcome, and generosity, and suggests little ways that we can make room in our hearts for others, like smiling and saying hello. This reassuring little book makes it clear that sadness is not the end of the story, but gives way to joy and new life.

Make Space for Jesus:

- Tells the Lent and Easter story to young readers in a thoughtful, accessible way
- Helps families who want to experience the liturgical rhythms of the church year
- Explains why the church is dressed in purple, and what Holy Week is about
- Helps kids think deeper about how to follow Jesus' example of love
- Provides a thoughtful alternative to the more consumeristic messages surrounding Easter
- Makes a great gift for curious toddlers and boys and girls ages 1-5 years old, to read together at home or bring to church

Make Space for Jesus will be a welcome addition to every child's library, to lay a foundation for their lifelong spiritual journey.

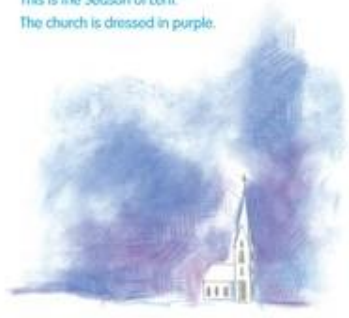
Contributor Bio

Laura Alary is a writer, storyteller, and religious educator. When she was a little girl she used to make her own books out of manila paper, crayons, and mucilage. These early efforts at writing eventually gave way to academic papers and theses, as she earned degrees in Classics, Theology, and New Testament. More recently, Laura has focused on a new type of education—raising three creative and curious children. She leads workshops on everything from storytelling to biblical interpretation, teaches the occasional university course, and works with children at a local congregation. Laura lives in Toronto, Canada.

Ann Boyajian is the illustrator of many books, including *Samantha's Friendship Fun* (in the American Girl series), *More Spice Than Sugar* (Houghton Mifflin), and *O Say Can You See? American's Symbols, Landmarks, and Inspiring Words* (Scholastic).

Illustrations

This is the Season of Lent.
The church is dressed in purple.



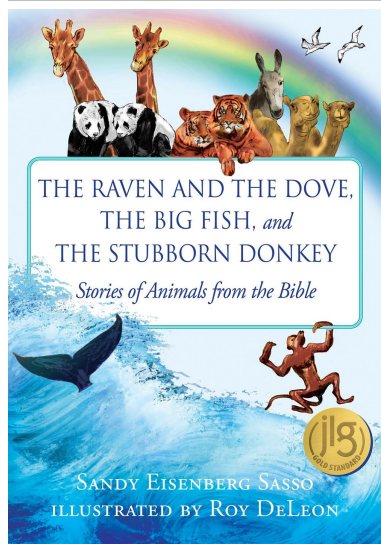
During Lent we share meals with people.
We send greetings to anyone who is sad or sick.
When someone seems lonely we smile
and say hello.

Like Jesus, we make room.



"Hallelujah!"
we sing.
"Jesus is alive again!"





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The Raven and the Dove, The Big Fish, and The Stubborn Donkey

Stories of Animals from the Bible
 Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Roy DeLeon

Summary

From the snake in the Garden of Eden to the lost sheep in Luke's parable, stories about fish and birds, rams and goats abound. We read about them, but they have no voice of their own. Here we allow the raven and the dove on Noah's ark, the big fish that swallowed Jonah, and the donkey on which Balaam rode, to be the narrators of their own stories, to inform us and help us to re-imagine our stories. We learn something about the intrinsic value of all living beings, and something about ourselves.

Contributor Bio

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso is Rabbi Emerita of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck and director of the Religion, Spirituality, and the Arts Initiative at IUPUI Arts and Humanities. The second woman to be ordained as a rabbi in the U.S., she and her husband are the first rabbinical couple in world Jewish history. An award-winning children's author, she loves to imagine old stories in new ways, giving voice and story to those who have none. She writes and lectures on the Spiritual Imagination of Children and is active in the interfaith and civic communities.

Quotes

"Sandy Eisenberg Sasso has a gift for sparking religious imagination in children—and in the rest of us. In her new book, three iconic biblical stories are told from the animals' perspectives and new life and meaning is breathed into them. The unwilling raven, the whale who describes Jonah as a 'bitter pill,' and the donkey who knows herself to be her master's 'greatest asset' are a delight. Fresh, funny, and wise, this book is a treat." —**Jennifer Grant**, author of *Maybe God Is Like That Too* and *A Little Blue Bottle*

"A donkey who would appreciate it if her owner, Balaam, thanked her once in a while. A giant fish who complains that swallowing Jonah gave him indigestion. Combine this with a clever collaboration between a raven and dove on Noah's ark and you have a delightful reimagining of biblical tales from animal perspectives. Sandy Eisenberg Sasso writes with verve and insight, giving readers much to enjoy." —**Jacqueline Jules**, author of *The Generous Fish* and *Never Say a Mean Word Again*

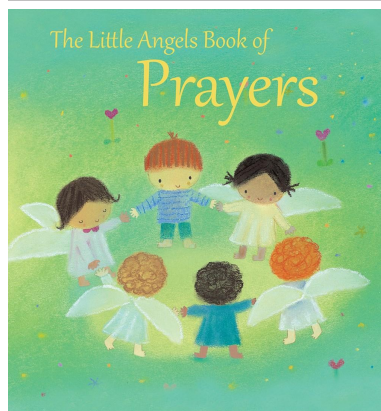
"In these wise and witty tales, animals invite us to look through their eyes for a fresh view of some familiar stories. A big-hearted whale, a perceptive donkey, and the pragmatic partnership of raven and dove teach us about new life, compassion, and the true nature of blessing. Through her playful yet respectful handling of biblical texts, Sasso reminds us that God speaks in surprising ways, and that we still have much to learn from other creatures. Perfect for reading aloud, this collection is sure to spark laughter and deep wondering among adults and children alike." —**Laura Alary**, author of *Breathe: A Child's Guide to Ascension, Pentecost, and the Growing Time* and *Read, Wonder, Listen: Stories from the Bible for Young Readers*

"Biblical characters are far from being perfect people. Thankfully, animals come to the rescue in Sandy Eisenberg Sasso's re-envisioning of three classic stories. No longer mere sidekicks, creatures take center stage as the heroes of these beloved tales, making sure we look in unexpected places for a fresh point of view." —**Rabbi Mychal Copeland**, author, *I Am the Tree of Life: My Jewish Yoga Book*

"In these new stories, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso engages familiar biblical texts with her imagination and ears attuned to the ways God speaks through a dove, a raven, a fish and a donkey. Children of all ages have the chance to wonder about how God waits for us hoping we will find ways to 'make a life worthy of blessing.'" —**Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Caldwell**

Illustrations





The Little Angels Book of Prayers

Elena Pasquali, Dubravka Kolanovic

Summary

This sweet collection of prayers and blessings is the perfect gift for a new baby, or for a young child on the occasion of Baptism, First Communion, Easter, or a birthday.

Soft pastel illustrations accompany the simple, joyful text that reassures children of God's love and protection.

Contributor Bio

Elena Pasquali worked for some years in children's publishing before going on to be an author in her own right. She has a special interest in researching and retelling folk tales from around the world.

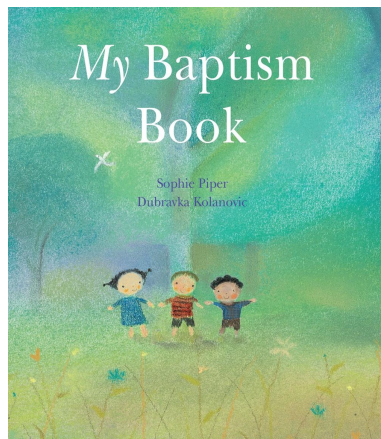
Dubravka Kolanovic was born in Croatia. She studied at Savannah College of Art and Design. She lives and works in Zadar on the coast of Croatia with her husband, two sons, and a dog. She illustrated the best-selling *My Baptism Book*.



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My Baptism Book

Sophie Piper, Dubravka Kolanovic

Summary

This collection of prayers, psalms, and Bible stories is the perfect gift for any child being baptized, from infant to elementary age. Every page is filled with an inviting and warm color illustration.

My Baptism Book:

- Features beautiful poetry that celebrates the child being baptized and the love God has for that special little one
- Mentions Bible stories and psalms from Scripture
- Includes a presentation page with room to personalize with the recipient's name, baptism date, names of godparents, and well wishes from the gift giver
- Showcases various Christian statements of faith with age-appropriate language
- Is perfect for baptism and newborn gifts

Sections of the book include:

Me — an area that recognizes the child's self in relation to God

My Baptism — verses and excerpts from the Holy Bible, ending in simple prayers

A Child of God — offering Scripture passages, Psalms, and other Bible excerpts

God, Jesus, God's Holy Spirit — simple thoughts about the Holy Trinity

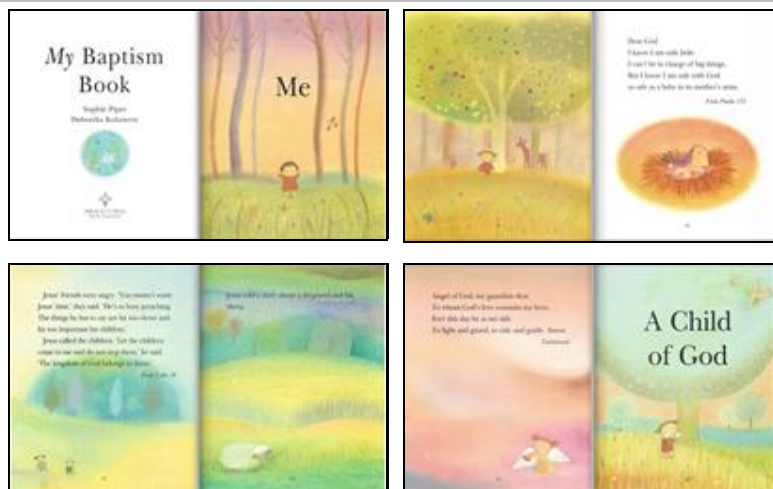
Blessings — simple prayers and well wishes for the child as they grow into the community of believers.

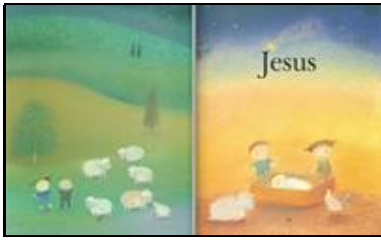
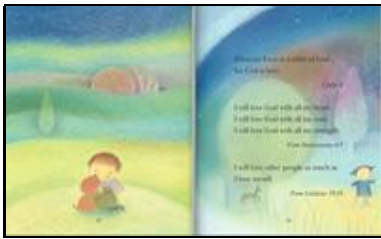
Those who attend the baptism or christening can sign the inside pages, creating a special book for any child's spiritual journey. With its reassuring message of God's eternal love and care, *My Baptism Book* is sure to be a treasured memento.

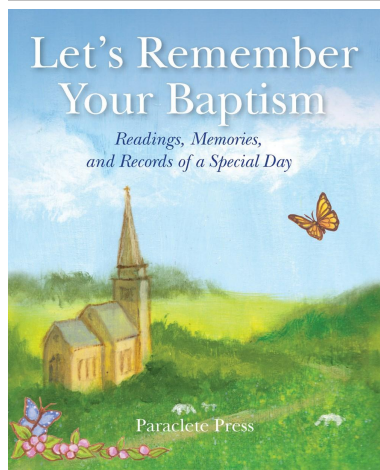
Contributor Bio

Sophie Piper lives in the Thames Valley. Over the years, she has taken a special interest in writing and compiling books to communicate the themes of love, hope and faith to young children. Her sincere and simple style has given rise to many prayer and gift books, including *A Book of Prayers to Keep for Ever* and *On the Day You Were Born*. Her most recently published work includes the *Bible Story Time* series of books for young children.

Illustrations







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Let's Remember Your Baptism

Readings, Memories, and Records of a Special Day

Editors at Paraclete Press

Summary

"This child has been reborn in Baptism. This is now a child of God." So begins this beautiful, illustrated book for memories and reflections of a day your child will honor for the rest of his or her life. Includes:

- *Presentation Pages
- *The Calling of the Baptized
- *Space for Family and Friends to Write
- *Prayers and Scripture
- *Responsibilities of Family and Friends
- *The Baptism of Our Lord
- *Jesus's Blessing for Little Children

Let's Remember Your Baptism: Readings, Memories, and Records of a Special Day is a beautiful keepsake to help a child remember and reflect on their baptismal covenant.

Contributor Bio

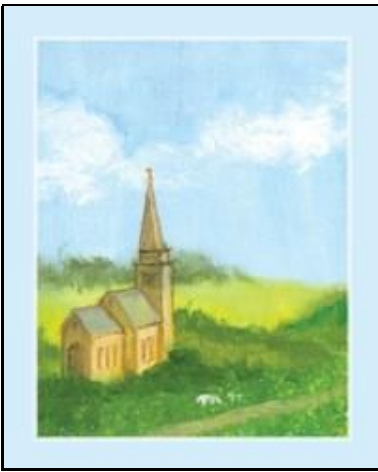
The Editors at Paraclete Press

Quotes

"An ideal gift and very highly recommended for all parents in the Christian community wanting to memorialize the baptism of their child, *Let's Remember Your Baptism: Readings, Memories, and Records of a Special Day* is a simply lovely and enduringly appreciated keepsake to help a child remember and reflect on their baptismal covenant." — **Midwest Book Review**

Illustrations





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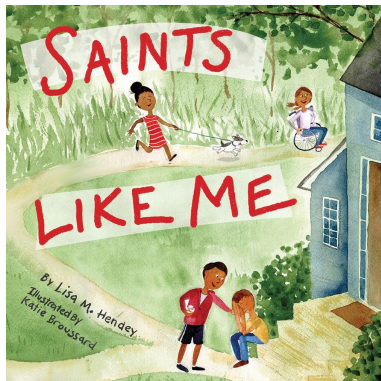
The Calling of the Baptized

I therefore . . . beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

—ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE
Ephesians 4:1-6





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Status: **ACTIVE**

Saints Like Me – Toddler Edition

Lisa M. Hendey, Katie Broussard

Summary

Lisa Hendey, bestselling author of *I'm a Saint in the Making*, presents a delightful board book to help young children discover that God has a special mission just for them!

Even ordinary people can live amazing lives. That's the message of *Saints Like Me*, a book to help the youngest children understand that God has a plan and a purpose for their lives! We don't have to be grownups, and we don't have to do big things. Whenever we do a little thing with great love, we are just like Jesus and the saints!

Saints Like Me:

- Reassures children that God knows, loves, and hears them
- Instills values of self-respect, care for others, and care for the earth
- Helps children understand that God loves them unconditionally, no matter what
- Makes a great gift for birthdays, First Communion, All Saints Day, toddlers, and preschoolers

With whimsical illustrations by Katie Broussard and sweet, simple text by popular Catholic author, catechist, mother, and grandmother Lisa Hendey, *Saints Like Me* will be a welcome gift for every young family.

Contributor Bio

Lisa M. Hendey is the founder of CatholicMom.com and the bestselling and award-winning author of *The Grace of Yes*, *The Catholic Mom's Prayer Companion*, *The Handbook for Catholic Moms*, and *A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms*. Her children's projects, *I Am God's Storyteller* and the "Chime Travelers" fiction series are read internationally in homes, classrooms and parishes. Lisa is the host of "Lisa Hendey & Friends" on Breadbox Media and the co-host of "Catholic MomCast", a production of Holy Cross Family Ministries and CatholicMom.com. She has produced and hosted multiple programs and is a frequent radio and television guest. Lisa's writing has appeared in Catholic Digest, America Magazine, National Catholic Register, and Our Sunday Visitor. Hendey travels internationally giving workshops on faith, family, and Catholic new media topics.

Katie Broussard is the illustrator of the award-winning children's book [Audacious Ignatius](#). She lives outside Chicago with her husband and two sons.

Quotes

"With its inspiring and uplifted message, *Saints Like Me* by author/storyteller Lisa M. Hendey and artist/illustrator Katie Broussard is an ideal board book gift for birthdays, First Communion, and All Saints Day—and is an unreservedly recommended addition to family, daycare center, preschool, Sunday School, and community library board book collections for children ages 2-5." —**Midwest Book Review**

Illustrations



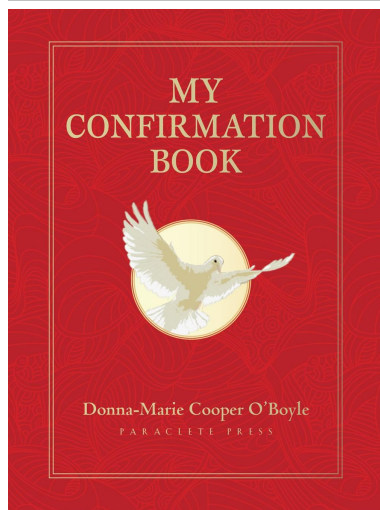
I'm a saint in the making.
God has an important
mission for me!



Saints have lived in many ways.
When we do little things with
great love, we can be like them.



Saints notice when
someone needs help.
God asks me to share my gifts
with others.



My Confirmation Book

Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle

Summary

Part keepsake, part teaching book, this small volume is filled with inspiration, encouragement, and reflections to ponder for 4th graders and up. Through simple text, it

explains the privileges and responsibilities imparted through the sacrament of Confirmation. Compelling stories about saints and children their own age will help kids become more familiar with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and learn how the gifts can be active in their own lives. The apostolic mission of a confirmed Catholic is emphasized and readers are reminded that the sacrament of Confirmation is exciting—the same Holy Spirit who appeared to the apostles and the Blessed Mother at Pentecost is the one who will come to them when they are confirmed.

Contributor Bio

Catholic wife, mother, and grandmother, **Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle** is known worldwide for her heartfelt encouraging words and down-to-earth guidance. Meeting St. Teresa of Calcutta deeply impacted her soul and transformed Donna-Marie's life. She weaves the wisdom from her ten-year friendship with the saint of the gutters into her work. Donna-Marie is the EWTN Host of three television series which she created, a world-renowned speaker, award-winning journalist, and best-selling and award-winning author of thirty books. She leads pilgrimages and gives retreats worldwide.

Quotes

"*My Confirmation Book* is the perfect gift for any Confirmand. Full of inspiration and wisdom, each chapter poses a thought-provoking scenario to help bring the various gifts of the Holy Spirit to life. Donna-Marie's book will be my present of choice for the special teens in my life preparing to receive this beautiful sacrament." –**Lisa M. Hendey**, Founder of CatholicMom.com and author of *A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms*

"Too often we whisk our youth through the Sacrament without a clear understanding of what's happening. That's tragic, because a grace misunderstood is easily unappreciated, and a grace unappreciated is easily lost. *My Confirmation Book* empowers young people to receive the Holy Spirit in a way that's active, personal, willing, and enduring. Highly recommended." –**Mike Aquilina**, co-host of *The Lamb's Supper* on EWTN, and Executive Vice-President of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

"A wonderful tool for parents, religious education leaders, and all who are concerned about raising up strong young Catholics – Catholics who will be able to boldly and joyfully proclaim their faith and engage a culture so in need of God." –**Teresa Tomeo**, Catholic syndicated talk show host, Ave Maria Radio

"Another winner from Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle! Clear, concise and inspiring - everything Confirmation candidates could want in a book that will help them prepare for one of the most important moments in their lives! A great resource for parents and catechists, too. Kudos on a job well done!" –**Marge Fenelon** Author of *Strengthening Your Family: A Catholic Approach to Holiness at Home*

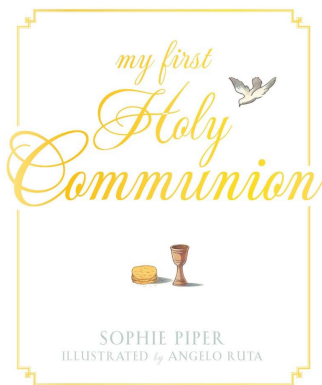
"Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle has created a resource of great simplicity and beauty for young confirmands. Tenderly and wisely written, *My Confirmation Book* explains and explores the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Concise, but powerful, the text includes illuminating stories and discussion questions, and a superb collection of brief quotes from saints and sacred scripture. I am eager to buy an armload of copies, not only for all the young people I know who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, but



Paraclete Press
9781612613574
1612613578
Pub Date: 4/1/2013
On Sale Date: 3/1/2013
\$16.99
Hardcover Paper over boards

70 Pages
Carton Qty: 60
Religion / Christian Rituals &
Practice
REL055010
7 in H | 5.3 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.4 lb
Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

for those who have already received it. In fact, I found so much encouragement and clarity in the pages of this small book of reflections; I'm going to give them to my adult friends, as well." -**Lisa Mladinich**, author "Be an Amazing Catechist: Inspire the Faith of Children," OSV



My First Holy Communion

Sophie Piper, Angelo Ruta

Summary

This collection of prayers, scriptures, and blessings is a beautiful gift for a child on the occasion of First Communion. Readings touch on the themes of praising God, remembering baptism, coming to confession, taking part in Holy Communion, and living a Christian life. This fully illustrated keepsake book includes a dedication page to personalize, and space for a photo.

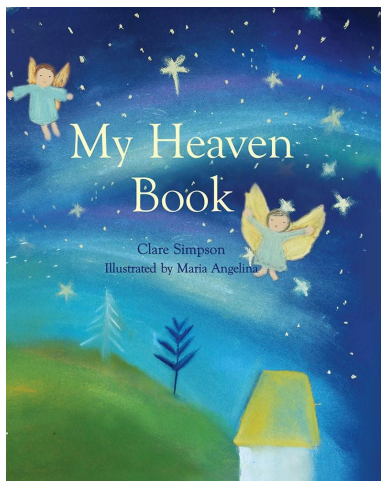
Contributor Bio

Sophie Piper is the inspiring author of many books for young children, including the Paraclete Press bestseller, *My Baptism Book* (nearly 30,000 copies sold so far), *Prayers for Each and Every Day*, and *Poems & Prayers for Easter*. She lives in the Thames Valley, England.



Paraclete Press
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1557256969
Pub Date: 3/1/2010
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\$14.99
Hardcover

64 Pages
Color illustrations
Carton Qty: 60
Ages 7 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religious
JNF049120
7 in H | 5.6 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**



My Heaven Book

Clare Simpson

Summary

This delightful keepsake may be the gift-of-choice for children this Christmas, as a profound but simple way to remind them that faith—and life—are everlasting. *My Heaven Book* includes prayers that are easy to commit to memory and to say throughout the day, along with very simple expressed statements of Christian belief that are appropriate for the youngest of children.

The message of *My Heaven Book* is one of God's eternal love and care. For ages 0-8.

Contributor Bio

Clare Simpson is an editor and educator working at Paraclete Press in Massachusetts.

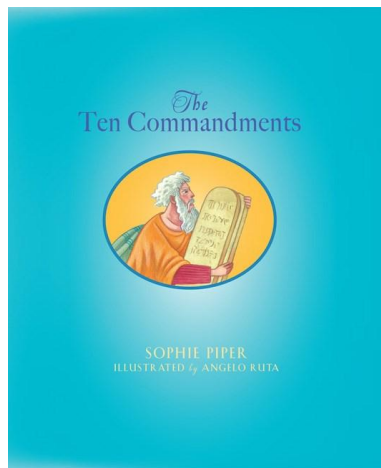


Paraclete Press
9781612616438
1612616437
Pub Date: 4/1/2016
\$13.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Carton Qty: 80
Grades P And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033000

6.7 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.4
lb Wt

Status: **ACTIVE**



Paraclete Press
9781612611495
1612611494
Pub Date: 3/1/2012
On Sale Date: 2/1/2012
\$14.99
Hardcover

46 Pages
Color illustrations
Carton Qty: 60
Ages 5 to 9, Grades K to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049080

7 in H | 6 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

The Ten Commandments

Sophie Piper, Angelo Ruta

Summary

From the bestselling author of *My Baptism Book* comes an essential guide to the guideposts of the Christian journey: *The Ten Commandments* by Sophie Piper. Featuring classic and contemporary prayers and Scriptures on the themes of love, faithfulness, worship, and living the Christian life, this little book is a perfect gift for children ages 5-10 who are beginning a life of faith.

The Ten Commandments:

- Includes a Presentation Page
- Is an ideal gift for important religious occasions such as First Communion, Confirmation, and Baptism
- Features whimsical, imaginative illustrations throughout
- Includes Psalms, Scriptures, and contemporary prayers

Together with *My Baptism Book* and *My First Holy Communion*, *The Ten Commandments* is a timeless source of wisdom that will nurture a child's spirituality and growing faith.

Contributor Bio

Sophie Piper is the inspiring author of many books for young children, including the Paraclete bestseller, *My Baptism Book*, as well as *Prayers for Each and Every Day*, *My First Holy Communion*, and *Poems & Prayers for Easter*. She lives in the Thames Valley of England.



Paraclete Press
9781612619170
1612619177
Pub Date: 3/1/2017
On Sale Date: 2/1/2017
Ship Date: 2/1/2017
\$14.99
Board Book

20 Pages
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049150
5.5 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.5 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Jesus's Story

Editors at Paraclete Press

Summary

In simple language and with sweet illustrations that young children will love, this book retells the stories of Jesus. Share in the excitement of the night that Jesus was born, his baptism by his cousin John and the calling of his friends, the fishermen who were to become his disciples!

Join Jesus as he shares the loaves and fishes with the crowds, and celebrate when he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. After Jesus rises from the dead, his friends receive God's Spirit. It's like a little flame above their heads! They tell each other, "Let's talk about Jesus to everybody!"

In a padded board format, this book is perfect for little fingers!

Contributor Bio

The Editors of Paraclete Press are committed to offering beautiful children's books that will help parents and religious educators to teach the truths of the faith to the next generation.

Illustrations





Paraclete Press
9781612619163
1612619169
Pub Date: 9/12/2017
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Ship Date: 8/22/2017
\$14.99
Board Book

20 Pages
Ages 1 to 4, Grades P to P
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049150
5.5 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.5 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Mary's Story

Editors at Paraclete Press

Summary

With simple language and lovely illustrations, this book retells the stories of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Share in the excitement as Mary learns from the Angel Gabriel that she will become Jesus's Mommy.

Be with Mary as she teaches Jesus to walk and to read, and join Joseph as he shows Jesus how to cut wood and use carpenter's tools.

As Jesus grows older, he sets off to tell people that God loves them. Mary is always there, and she loves to see Jesus surrounded by all his friends!

A wonderful book to read aloud to children!

Contributor Bio

The Editors of Paraclete Press are committed to offering inspirational texts to encourage readers on their spiritual journey.



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1640607994
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\$9.99
Board Book

10 Pages
Full color illustrations
Ages 1 to 4, Grades P to P
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049150

7.3 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.5 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Happy Birthday, Christmas Child!

A Counting Nativity Book

Laura Sassi, Gabi Murphy

Summary

Join Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, sheep, and various stable critters as they celebrate the birthday of a very special baby in this rhyming counting book for little readers and their families.

Written by bestselling author Laura Sassi and illustrated by Gabi Murphy, *Happy Birthday, Christmas Child!* celebrates the warmth, wonder and excitement of the night Jesus was born. Written in gentle rhyme with bright illustrations and lots of things for little ones to notice and count, it's sure to be a Christmas favorite.

Intended for little ones ages 0 - 4 and their families, *Happy Birthday, Christmas Child* is:

- sturdy board book perfect for little hands
- a charming introduction to the wonder and joy of Christmas
- a spark for conversation about how Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus' birth
- a fun way for toddlers and preschoolers to practice counting and naming things
- a great gift option for Christmas, birthdays, baby showers, children's ministry, preschool programs and more
- an ECPA 2023 Christmas Bestseller

Visit happybirthdaychristmaschild.com for lots of wonderful free resources – plan a birthday party for Jesus, activity pages, and more!

Contributor Bio

Laura Sassi has a passion for telling stories in prose and rhyme. She is the author of multiple books for young children including the best-selling *Goodnight, Ark*, which was a 2015 Christian Book Award Finalist; *Goodnight, Manger*; *Diva Delores and the Opera House Mouse*, which is a 2021-2022 Iowa Goldfinch Award Nominee; *Love Is Kind*, which was a 2020 Anna Dewdney Read Together Award Honor Book; *Little Ewe: The Story of One Lost Sheep*, *Bunny Finds Easter*, and *Happy Birthday, Christmas Child!*, her new counting board book.

Laura had a successful teaching career before becoming a children's author. She's been a homeschool mom, children's ministry director, historic museum interpreter, and more. She writes daily from her home in New Jersey and finds special joy in pointing kids to God and to good through story and sharing her love of reading and writing at school visits, church gatherings and other events.

Quotes

"A fun and engaging introduction to the Christmas story." —**School Library Journal**

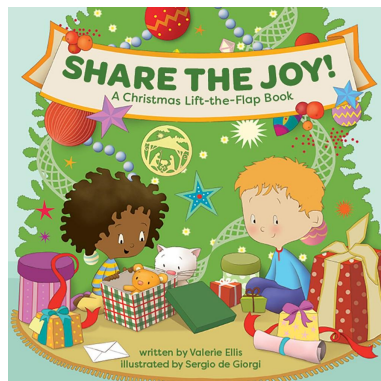
"You will not be able to read this book without smiling! Every single page of this counting Christmas offering from Laura Sassi is filled with delight. From one stable to ten tiny toes, this book is a joyous, fun, interactive way to celebrate the season with little ones." —**Glenys Nellist**, author of *Snuggle Time Christmas Stories* and *Good News! It's Christmas!*

"A creative re-telling of a timeless story—young children will smile with the turn of each page." —**Christine Voegeli**, Director of Children's Ministry at New Providence Presbyterian Church

"*Happy Birthday, Christmas Child* has everything I'm looking for in a faith-based picture book—lilting rhymes, a sweet story, and, most importantly, Biblical truth! It deserves a place in your holiday book basket." —**Kristin Wynalda**, creator of Big

Illustrations





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9781640608764
1640608761
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Ship Date: 9/29/2023
\$14.99
Board Book

22 Pages
Full color illustrations
Ages 0 to 4, Grades P to K
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
JUV017010

8 in H | 8 in W | 0.7 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Share the Joy! A Christmas Lift-the-Flap Book

Keep Jesus at the Center this Advent & Holiday Season with This Rhyming Storybook about the Nativity for Children Ages 0-4

Valerie Ellis, Sergio de Giorgi

Summary

It's Christmas, and there is so much to be excited about! This lift-the-flap book helps kids explore and share all the fun, love, and true joy of this special time of year.

This first book from author, speaker, and mom Valerie Ellis celebrates all the wonderful things that bring us joy at Christmastime! Charming rhymes and vibrant illustrations will entice little readers to lift the flap to learn even more about how they can help make Christmas special for others, and share the gift of Jesus's birth with everyone.

Intended for children ages 0-4 and their caregivers, *Share the Joy!* is:

- an 8X8 inch, sturdy and colorful board book with engaging, durable flaps — perfect for excited, busy little hands
- a wonderful introduction to the joy of giving and receiving at Christmas
- a fun way to help parents teach ideas like generosity, kindness, and empathy to sensitive young hearts
- filled with rhythmic, rhyming language little ears will love
- a great gift for Advent or Christmas, birthdays, baby showers, children's ministry, preschool programs, church nativity plays, and more
- an ideal children's library, nursery, and preschool resource

Contributor Bio

Valerie Ellis is a children's book author, speaker, and founder of the multi-author online resource *Our Everyday Parables*, which offers book reviews and parenting ideas for families pursuing faith and compassion. A certified teacher, Valerie is passionate about helping kids and parents connect with God and each other in the everyday moments. Her upcoming books are designed to serve families at the intersection of faith and fun. Valerie is also a nonprofit consultant, trainer, and grant proposal writer in the Houston area, where she lives with her husband, Josh, and their two boys. For more information, visit ValerieEllis.com and connect with Valerie at @iamvalerieellis.

Sergio De Giorgi was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he currently lives with his wife Viviana and two daughters, April and Emma. As a young child, he dressed up in his superhero costume to explore his neighborhood, jumped over rooftops, and went home to write and draw about his superhero adventures. He has never stopped drawing. When his first daughter was born in 2000, he started writing and illustrating for children. In his free time, Sergio enjoys designing and manufacturing wooden and paper toys.

Quotes

"*Share the Joy!* is the perfect way to invite children to celebrate Advent by giving one another our presence, instead of getting lost in the consumer fever of presents that do not last." —**Chris Seay**, Pastor of Ecclesia Houston and author of *Advent Conspiracy*

"With its fun, lift-the-flap design and beautifully vibrant and diverse illustrations, *Share the Joy!* encourages little ones to seek and celebrate the true joys of Christmas: the love of family and friends, giving and thanksgiving, and—most of all—the celebration of the Savior who 'changed the world with His great love!' A must for Christmas!" —**Tama Fortner**, ECPA award-winning and bestselling author of more than fifty books

"Kids will delight in their favorite Christmas activities, and parents will love the 'share and serve' twist revealed under each flap. *Share the Joy!* is a perfect way for little hearts to learn that Christmas is about more than treats and gifts." —**Christie**

Thomas, Christian parenting coach & award-winning children's book author

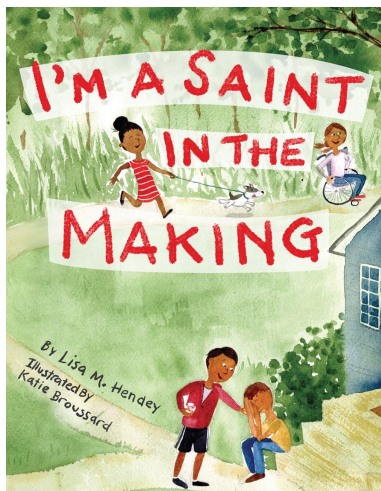
"What a delightful Christmas offering from debut author Valerie Ellis! With interactive lift-the-flaps and a focus on kindness and generosity, *Share the Joy!* truly is a joy to share with little ones." —**Glenys Nellist**, author of over thirty children's titles including *Good News! It's Christmas!* and *Snuggle Time Christmas Stories*

"With sweet, playful language and vivid illustrations, *Share the Joy!* encourages a heart for generosity in even the youngest children. By modeling sharing during regular Christmas traditions, children's favorite holiday is repositioned as a Christ-centered season of missional love. A perfect book for every family's Christmas collection!"
—**Lindsey Schultz**, Children's Ministry Director, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, East Side, New York City

Illustrations







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32 Pages
Color illustrations
Ages 0 And Up, Grades K And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049080

11 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

I'm a Saint in the Making

Lisa M. Hendey, Katie Broussard

Summary

God has a special mission for each of us! With engaging prose and delightful illustrations, *I'm a Saint in the Making* reminds children of their unique call from God to live with mission and love. By recounting the highlights of the stories of both well-known and newer saints (including John Paul II, Mary MacKillop, Augustus Tolton, Teresa of Calcutta, Juan Diego and Chiara Badano) in relatable lessons, the book helps readers learn that there is no one single way to live a life of sanctity. *I'm a Saint in the Making* offers simple but impactful suggestions for ways children can offer acts of prayer, service, and love. Resources for parents, teachers, and caregivers at the end of book provide support for adults as they seek to encourage and accompany their young saints in the making.

Awarded the Catholic Writers Guild "Seal of Approval."

Contributor Bio

Lisa M. Hendey is the founder of CatholicMom.com and the bestselling and award-winning author of *The Grace of Yes*, *The Catholic Mom's Prayer Companion*, *The Handbook for Catholic Moms*, and *A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms*. Her children's projects, *I Am God's Storyteller* and the "Chime Travelers" fiction series are read internationally in homes, classrooms and parishes. Lisa is the host of "Lisa Hendey & Friends" on Breadbox Media and the co-host of "Catholic MomCast", a production of Holy Cross Family Ministries and CatholicMom.com. She has produced and hosted multiple programs and is a frequent radio and television guest. Lisa's writing has appeared in Catholic Digest, America Magazine, National Catholic Register, and Our Sunday Visitor. Hendey travels internationally giving workshops on faith, family, and Catholic new media topics.

Katie Broussard is the illustrator of the award-winning children's book [Audacious Ignatius](#). She lives outside Chicago with her husband and two sons.

Quotes

"The illustrations alone in this book are fantastic, whimsical, and curiously beautiful. Lisa's words bring them to life as she encourages our young children to see themselves as saints—in small and big ways. Her stories about the saints, the real-life examples, and her encouragement to be in the saint making business make up the kind of book I want my children reading. And what a poignant reminder that as a mother I'm in the saint making business, too!" —Kathryn Whitaker, author of *Live Big, Love Bigger*

"In a most delightful and pleasing way, Lisa depicts the excitement of what it means to be a saint and how we are all on that journey toward a familial relationship with God and his saints, the heavenly superheroes. Children with their parents discover the saints as reliable companions, ordinary people whose lives look much like our own, but whose love for God gave them the impetus to do extraordinary things. This strikingly illustrated book will certainly be an essential catechetical tool to teach how faith, shown in virtuous living, transforms our everyday existence." —Sr. Nancy Usselman, FSP – Director, Pauline Center for Media Studies, Los Angeles, CA

"Lisa Hendey's *I'm a Saint in the Making* is a wonderful catechism that will help young and old alike strive for sainthood. Children will learn what a saint is, get introduced to a variety of saints old and new, and learn how they, too, can be a saint. Katie Mitchell Broussard's active illustrations make it easy for the young to relate. This book will help readers to grow in virtue." —Tim Drake, author of *The Attic Saint*

"THIS! This is the way we should be talking with our kids about vocation. Vocation is not something unusual reserved for an elite. It's for each and every one of us. God has

a plan for every life, and all those plans are vitally important to the Church. Vocation talk is failing today because it misses the point that is front and center in Lisa Hendey's book. May this book reach many homes and many hearts." —Mike Aquilina, author, *Love in the Little Things: Tales of Family Life*

"Lisa Hendey has done it again! She has written a wonderful book that introduces children to the most important subject in the world—becoming a saint. Her latest effort shows kids why everyone is called to be a saint. More importantly, it inspires them to actually desire sanctity by connecting them in a fun way to the heroic legacy of past saints. Finally, this new book gives children some very practical ways they can serve those around them who are in need. Thus, it has the power to truly transform the world—by helping transform the children of the world into the future heroes of the Church." —Anthony DeStefano, Bestselling author of Christian books for adults and children

"A heart-felt THANKS to Lisa Hendey for this precious little book of wisdom! Be holy—and happy—by becoming the person God made you to be. Share this book with your kids and you'll help light the way for the whole family." —Father James Phalan, CSC, National Director of the Family Rosary

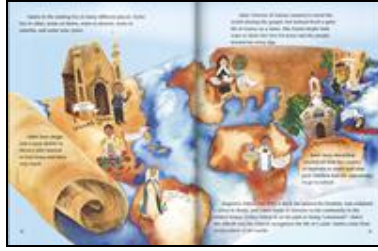
"*I'm a Saint in the Making* is a lovely book that makes the universal call to holiness come alive for today's kids. With concrete, kid-friendly examples, colorful illustrations, and a great mix of saints old and new, Lisa Hendey and Katie Mitchell Broussard remind us that holy people come in many shapes and sizes, and we're all called to join their ranks." —Colleen Carroll Campbell, author of *The Heart of Perfection*, *My Sisters the Saints*, and *The New Faithful*

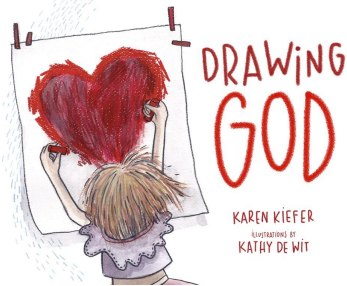
"In her latest children's book, *I'm a Saint In the Making*, author Lisa Hendey strikes a beautiful balance between storytelling and apologetics. Starting with the well appointed title and accompanied by the sweet illustrations of artist Katie Mitchell Broussard, Hendey walks young readers through what it means to be a saint. Using the corporal works of mercy as the backdrop, she challenges the reader to be a prayer champion and a role model, explaining in depth what each those jobs looks like. Incorporating several stories of what famous saints were like in their childhood, Hendey crafts a landscape of language that keeps the idea of sainthood within the grasp of young reader all while still educating and entertaining those who are simply young at heart. *I'm a Saint in the Making* will encourage and inspire the young ones in your life that sainthood is possible for anyone." —Mary Lenaburg, author *Be Brave in the Scared*

"This book changes lives, young and old. With stunning simplicity, engaging stories, and beautiful illustrations, *I'm a Saint in the Making* draws children and adults into the realization that every day, with every act, no matter how small, we can grow in holiness. This book doesn't leave you guessing what you want to be when you grow up; you know you want to follow in the footsteps of ordinary people who did extraordinary things by being who God called them to be. The perfect book for every 'little' saint in the making, no matter if they are three years old, or a hundred and three!" —Kelly Wahlquist, founder of WINE: Women In the New Evangelization, author of *Created to Relate: God's Design for Peace and Joy* and editor of *Walk In Her Sandals: Experiencing Christ's Passion through the Eyes of Women* and *Gaze Upon Jesus: Experiencing Christ Childhood through the Eyes of Women*

"What a beautiful book! And the perfect gift for young people, who long for, and need, good role models. The stories of the saints are always fascinating to kids and Lisa Hendey's new book will invite them not only to discover these stories but discover sanctity in their own lives. And, not incidentally, the illustrations are jaw-droppingly good!" —James Martin, SJ, author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage* and *My Life with the Saints.*"

Illustrations





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Color illustrations
Carton Qty: 36
Ages 0 And Up, Grades K to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033240
8.5 in H | 11 in W | 0.3 in T | 1 lb
Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Drawing God

Karen Kiefer, Kathy De Wit

Summary

Picasso's artistic inspiration takes hold of young Emma's faith imagination in this beautifully illustrated debut picture book about how we all see God differently.

"This urge to draw something beyond spectacular would not leave my side. 'What should I draw?' I thought. I sat quietly, listening to my mind and heart. That's when I heard their whisper and I decided to draw God."

Emma tries again and again and again to draw God, but her classmates can't see God in any of her drawings. Emma finally realizes that she doesn't need their approval.

"I knew I had drawn God. God knew I had drawn God, and maybe Picasso knew, too. That finally felt like enough."

But when Emma returns to school on the following Monday, something beyond spectacular happens.

Drawing God is a story for children to discover what inspires their very own faith imagination and to realize the contagious faith that lives powerfully within them.

Celebrate World Drawing God Day on November 4th, 2022! Visit www.drawing-god.com.

Contributor Bio

Karen Kiefer is the Director of the Church in the 21st Century Center at Boston College and managing editor of C21 Resources magazine. A catechist for over two decades, Kiefer also served as an adjunct faculty member in the Communication department at Boston College. Kiefer cofounded the grassroots, award winning, bread-giving organization Spread the Bread, winner of the "National Make a Difference Day Award." A decade later, she published the children's Christmas storybook *The Misfit Sock* and launched a companion educational initiative—Misfit University—and the national anti-bullying movement, The Million Misfit Sock March. Kiefer's programs have been adopted by the Girl Scouts nationally and she has been featured in the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, *USA Today* and *People* magazine. She has sold 10,000 copies of *The Misfit Sock* through grassroots marketing and promotion. Kiefer lives in Wayland, Massachusetts with her husband, Sam, and four daughters.

Illustrator **Kathy De Wit** creates and teaches art in Belgium, where she lives with her husband and her two daughters.

Quotes

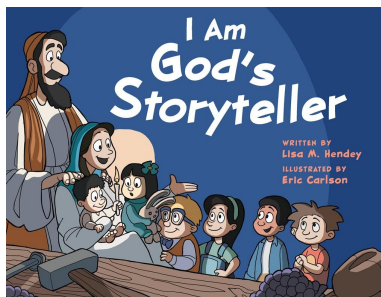
"De Wit's illustrations well match the text and story: simple line drawings that have an abstract quality that mirrors the art theme. God is not defined or attributed to any particular religion in this book, so it will have appeal to readers of many faiths. It closes with suggestions for faith-based activities for children that connect with Emma's story. A simple, easily understood, and welcome book about children's relationships with God." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"Emma sees without complication that God is light, warmth, love, and through her drawings and encourages her friends to explore their understanding of God and faith. A beautiful story!"

—**Susanna Leonard Hill**, award-winning children's author of *The Moon's First Friends* and many other books

"A charming and inspiring book that will help children (and their parents) begin to understand the beauty and mystery of God, through artful words and expressive art."

—**James Martin, SJ**, author of *The Abbey* and *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*



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Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033010

8.5 in H | 11 in W | 1 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

I Am God's Storyteller

Lisa M. Hendey, Eric Carlson

Summary

I Am God's Storyteller invites children to use their gifts to shine God's light and share the Gospel. Offering children examples of noted storytellers in Bible history (Sarah, Moses, Deborah, Esther, David, Isaiah, Mary, John the Baptist, and the Evangelists and early Church), this colorful and engaging picture book also looks at how Jesus used storytelling to teach and share his message of faith, hope and love. *I Am God's Storyteller* concludes by asking children to be "God's storytellers," and helps them to understand that our world needs them now more than ever to shine God's light.

Includes information for parents, teachers and caregivers, with suggestions and guidelines for building a love for storytelling in the hearts of children. With encouragement and empowerment, young storytellers are sent on a mission to engage the world around them with joy and creativity.

Contributor Bio

Lisa M. Hendey is the founder of CatholicMom.com and a bestselling author. She has journeyed around the globe to hear and share messages of hope and encouragement. Her [Chime Travelers](#) series for kids is read and studied worldwide in homes, schools, and churches. A frequent TV and radio guest, Lisa also hosts two podcasts and speaks internationally on faith, family, evangelization and technology topics. She has traveled worldwide with non-profits to support their humanitarian missions. Lisa and Greg Hendey worship and live their story in Los Angeles, CA.

Illustrator Eric Carlson is a student at the University of Notre Dame. This is his first book!

Quotes

"The world only makes sense when you realize you're in a story. It's the Great Story of God, one that's been going on for thousands of years, in which we each play a critical part. But how do we share that Great Story with children? And how do we teach them to share it with others? Lisa Hendey's charming new book does both. Whether you're a parent, grandparent, or teacher, read this book with your children and stir the wonder of faith." —**Brandon Vogt**, founder of ClaritasU and author of *Why I Am Catholic (And You Should Be Too)*

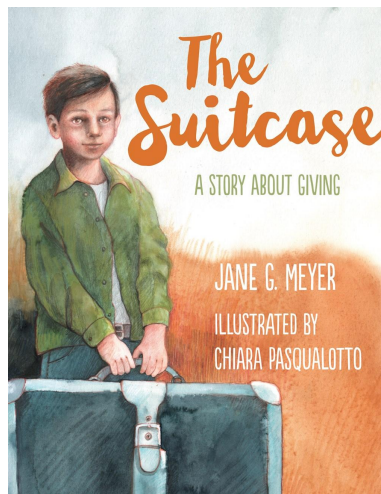
"This is a beautiful book that harnesses the power of stories to connect children with their faith and with their families." —**Jennifer Fulwiler**, SiriusXM radio host and author of *One Beautiful Dream*

"God created us to be enchanted by a good story. By highlighting some of the greatest stories ever told, *I Am God's Storyteller* beautifully encourages children to be their own brave and imaginative storytellers, cooperating with God in His plan to share His love and truth with the world. Your children will understand better why they love hearing stories, and why it's so important to tell their own!" —**Katie Warner**, author of *I Went to Mass: What Did I See?* and editor of the FirstFaithTreasury.com series

"I look forward to sharing this book with children and adults to remind them of the story we've inherited and how we are called to share it. We need to be careful in asking Scripture to be something it's not. The best thing we can do is share the story and invite others into it." —**Rev. Rebekah McLeod Hutto**, Presbyterian (USA) minister, author of *Paul and His Friends*

"*I Am God's Storyteller* will set your children and mine on a path of sharing their faith,

helping Jesus and His Church to better known and loved by all, and pushing the New Evangelization to a whole new level.” —**Tommy Tighe**, author of *The Catholic Hipster Handbook*, co-host of *Repent & Submit* on Catholic TV



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Status: **ACTIVE**

The Suitcase

A Story About Giving

Jane G. Meyer, Chiara Pasqualotto

Summary

Zeal and excitement are a part of every child. This picture book celebrates a young boy's enthusiasm to put into practice the words of Christ: to feed and clothe the poor; help the needy; and love one's neighbor.

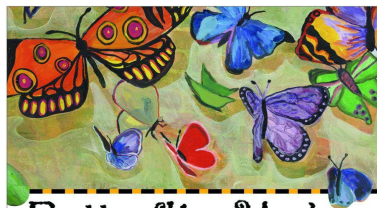
As Thomas shows his family the items he has packed into his suitcase after hearing a stirring homily at church, they marvel at his inventiveness and loving heart—he is traveling to the Kingdom of Heaven, and he knows what it takes to get there! Thomas and his family figure out a way, with his suitcase, to accomplish the goal that Thomas is so excited about: to arrive at the Kingdom.

Contributor Bio

Jane G. Meyer is a children's book author and editor who lives in Santa Barbara, California, with her husband and children. She is a trained catechist, a homeschooling mom of a spunky fifth-grader, and a supporter of allowing children to express their faith in God in their own unique ways. Jane loves the outdoors, baking hearth breads, pruning fruit trees, drinking tea, traveling anywhere! and weaving with pine needles. But more than any hobby, Jane believes in the Kingdom of God, and wants to walk, suitcase in hand, with kids like Thomas along that very road...

Quotes

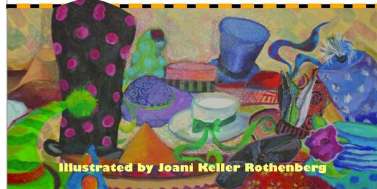
"This is a delightful book showing a multi-ethnic family, and the group scene at the end of the book includes a diverse group of adults and children. Complete with wonderful illustrations, this book will help show children how even they can help other people. In the back of the book is a resource page for grown-ups." —**Congregational Libraries Today**



Butterflies Under Our Hats

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso

AUTHOR OF GOD'S PAINTBRUSH AND GAINING ABEL



Illustrated by Joani Keller Rothenberg

Butterflies Under Our Hats

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Joani Keller Rothenberg

Summary

Once there was a town called Chelm where there was no luck. If something could go wrong, it did. The roofs of the houses always leaked. The sidewalks were cracked. The gardens grew only weeds. Nothing was ever right. So begins best-selling children's author, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso (nearly 500,000 copies of her books are in print) in this charming, original story inspired by a Jewish folktale.

Contributor Bio

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso is the best-selling author of *In God's Name*, *God's Paintbrush*, *Creation's First Light* and other books. She is a rabbi and director of the Religion, Spirituality and Arts Initiative at Butler University in Indianapolis.

Joani Rothenberg is the illustrator of several children's books. She also lives in Indianapolis.



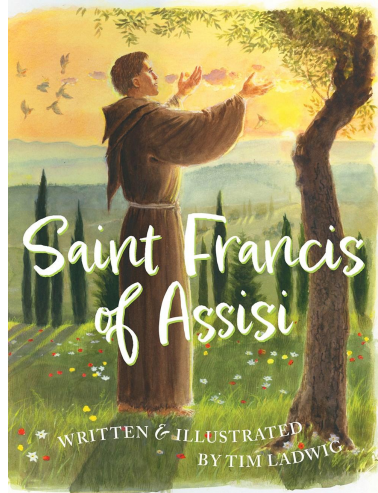
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Wt

Status: **ACTIVE**



Saint Francis of Assisi

Tim Ladwig

Summary

Young readers, meet Francis of Assisi—the world's most famous Saint

Travel back in time and over the sea to a city in Umbria in the heart of Italy in 1182. There you'll meet Francesco Bernardone—better known as Saint Francis of Assisi.

But who was Francis? He was a Saint, that's for sure—but he was also a soldier and a rebel. He was a man who loved peace and preached to animals but was unafraid to stand up for what was right, take care of lepers, challenge the rich, and defend the poor.

Tim Ladwig's beautiful illustrations will transport you into Francis's world and open your eyes and your heart to the inspiring life of the world's most famous saint.

Contributor Bio

Tim Ladwig is an accomplished painter and is experienced in Christian ministry. He has illustrated more than twenty picture books, including many award-winners such as *Psalm Twenty-Three*, *The Lord's Prayer*, and *Good King Wenceslas*. He is married to Leah. They live in Wichita, Kansas, and have three grown children.

Quotes

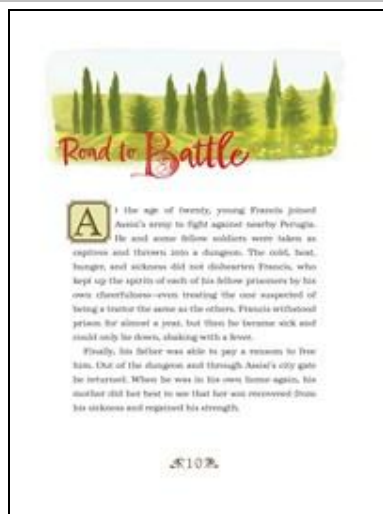
"This brisk early reader introduces youngsters to a saint beloved for his care for all of Earth's fauna. It moves in the style of fairy tales and parables, dropping bits of medieval and religious history here and there as it follows Francis from his spirited childhood play toward his coming-of-age, which was marked by concern for the poor and the ill. It covers the hardships he faced, and his monastic work, too. Delicate watercolor illustrations illuminate almost every page of this excellent inspirational biography." —**Foreword Review of Books**

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Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
JNF049080

12 in H | 9 in W
Status: **ACTIVE**

Illustrations





When it seemed he was well enough to fight again, Francis eagerly bought a suit of armor and an especially fine warrior's mantle, a set of tape worn over his armor for warmth. Later, he happened across a very poor man and exchanged his own beautiful mantle for the man's shabby cloak.

In his bed that night, Francis had a vision of swords, shields, and armor hung in an armory. The swords were made in the shape of a cross, like the Crusaders' swords. The shields and armor also were marked with the sign of the cross. Seeing a resemblance to the Crusaders' shields, Francis took the dream to mean he should fight in the Crusades.

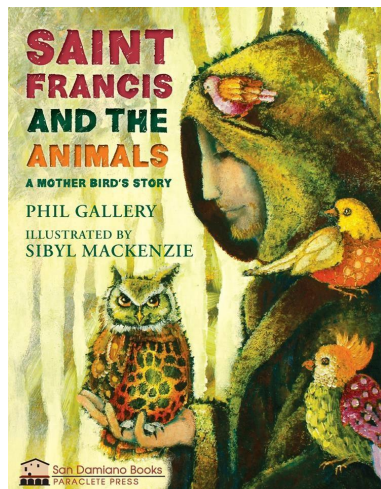
117



Francis returned through Assisi's gate and was seen in his own house again, lying in his bed, being nursed to health by his mother, who made certain he rested and ate well. As he recovered, his heart turned toward God.

He grew stronger and he began to find quiet places outside town where he prayed. One day, alone in one of these spots, he looked up and saw before him Jesus as he was called to the cross. As Francis saw God's all-out love for him, his soul melted. And whenever this image came to mind, he could not keep from tears. From that day on, he lived his life to reflect God's love.

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St. Francis and the Animals

A Mother Bird's Story

Phil Gallery, Sibyl MacKenzie

Summary

Mother Bird tells her son stories of St. Francis of Assisi.

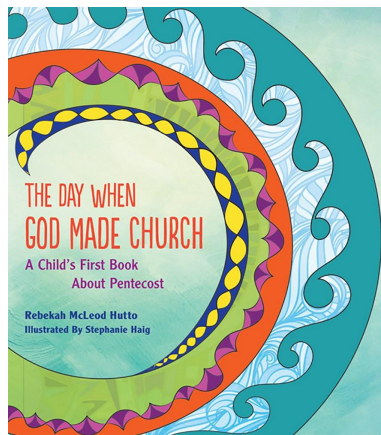
If the animal kingdom can understand the life and teachings of the world's most famous saint, so can children, who will be delighted by this simple, beautiful book for the ages.

"Stunning illustrations and engaging text. This book is sure to spark valuable conversations." —**Fr. Pat McCloskey, OFM**, Franciscan Editor, *St. Anthony Messenger*

Contributor Bio

Phil Gallery is the author of four books in the "Can You Find" series that have sold more than 140,000 copies. All four won the Catholic Book Association's coveted Best Book Award. Three made the Catholic bestseller list, and *Can You Find Jesus?* reached the top of the list. He lives in the hills of eastern West Virginia, where he and his wife Shari raised their four children.

Sibyl MacKenzie was born in Virginia, and has lived in England, China, and Germany. She studied Chinese watercolor painting under Hsiao Yu Hsien for five years. She graduated from Columbia University with a degree in German Literature and has exhibited in galleries all over the United States.



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Wt
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The Day When God Made Church

A Child's First Book About Pentecost

Rebekah McLeod Hutto

Summary

Children love birthday parties. This is a book – a first of its kind – to help kids understand and celebrate the birthday of the Church. *The Day When God Made the Church* is the story of Pentecost and how the Holy Spirit shaped, and continues to shape, who we are as God's Church. Children will learn the story of Pentecost: the sights, sounds, and events of that miraculous day described in the Book of Acts. They will also discover who the Holy Spirit is and how God calls each of us to follow Jesus. At the end, parents, educators, ministers will discover fresh ways to celebrate Pentecost with children in their own churches and families.

Contributor Bio

Rebekah McLeod Hutto is a Presbyterian U.S.A. minister currently serving in New York City at Brick Presbyterian Church. She and her husband, B.J., who is also an ordained minister, are originally from the South, both growing up in loving and supportive churches. Living in the city, they are raising their children to love the diversity and culture of New York City. As a child Rebekah was surrounded by stories, thanks to her mother, and one day hoped to write engaging stories for children.

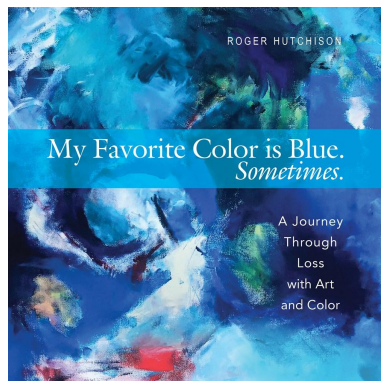
Quotes

"A great addition to your Pentecost shelves: This book is a wonderful telling of the story of Pentecost: the sights, the sounds and the people that began the community of the Church. We recommend placing this book on the bottom shelf of your Pentecost shelves." —**The Rev. Cheryl V. Minor, Ph.D.**, Co-Rector, All Saints' Church, Belmont, MA, Director of the Center for the Theology of Childhood, The Godly Play Foundation

"Readers and listeners of all ages will discover much to stimulate their understanding of Pentecost through this theologically grounded book. Its engaging qualities and vivid images rhythmically connects children to the movement of The Holy Spirit, and the birth of the Church. Rebekah seamlessly helps children understand this sometimes difficult celebration in the liturgical year." —**Melanie C. Gordon**, Director of Ministry with Children, Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church

"This is a delightful and powerful telling of the birth of the church. Your child will love this book. *The Day When God Made Church* invites the parent, teacher, and child to engage in conversation about God, love, and the church. This is the book we have been waiting for..." —**The Rev. Mark Bozzuti-Jones**, award winning author of *God Created* and *Jesus, the Word*

"*The Day When God Made Church* immediately draws readers of all ages into the Acts 2 story of Pentecost. Haig's illustrations give deep meaning to Hutto's child-like words that tell how the disciples wait...wait...WAIT in the Upper Room...The story continues as colors visually represent the Holy Spirit's wind and fire, warming the disciples' hearts. Blue swirls turn into drops of rain filled with words from a host of different languages, eliciting sounds like drumbeats and whispers. Young readers will love to interact with these pages as their imaginations, curiosity, and enthusiasm are engaged by a sense of wonder. The story draws readers into the disciples' questions: *Who is the Holy Spirit? ... What is happening? ... Why do we feel so different? ... Why do we hear so many languages?* These questions beautifully set the scene for remembering Jesus, as well as for Peter's definition of the church: We are a family that shares, eats, and worships together. The story ends with a jubilant 'Alleluia!' and a visual invitation to the Lord's table, evoking the famous Holy Trinity icon." —**Alexis Kruza**, Building Faith



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REL012010

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Status: **ACTIVE**

My Favorite Color is Blue. Sometimes.

A Journey Through Loss with Art and Color

Roger Hutchison

Summary

A picture book to guide the reader through different emotions and reactions related to grieving.

The text and illustrations of this lushly colored picture book guide the reader through different emotions and reactions related to grieving, including shock, tears, anger, and hope. *My Favorite Color is Blue. Sometimes.* is a children's picture book by design, but accessible to people of all ages.

Following the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT, author Roger Hutchison had the privilege of painting with children who had witnessed this tragic event. The experience affected him profoundly and convinced him of a vocation to serve those who grieve with his writing and art.

Contributor Bio

Artist and author **Roger Hutchison** is the Director of Christian Formation and Parish Life at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas. His first book, *The Painting Table: A Journal of Loss and Joy*, has been used by people of all ages in schools, churches, and community groups across the United States. Roger's second book, *Under the Fig Tree: Visual Prayers and Poems for Lent* (2015) has been released to rave reviews. He had the privilege of painting with children who had witnessed the tragic shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, CT. The experience affected him profoundly and convinced him of a vocation to use his writing and art to serve those who grieve.

Quotes

"Through brilliant colors revealed and remembered, Roger offers sacred space to dwell with grief and be at peace." —**Lisa Kimball, Ph.D.** Associate Dean for Lifelong Learning, Director, Center for the Ministry of Teaching, Professor of Christian Formation and Congregational Leadership Virginia Theological Seminary

"*My Favorite Color is Blue. Sometimes.* is a fabulous book. For all ages." —**Gail Godwin**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Father Melancholy's Daughter*

"This original volume belongs in every collection of books for children about grief." —**Wendy Mogel, PhD**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*

"An amazing book with a unique way of teaching how to grieve...a must read!" —**Arun Ghandi**, Gandhi Worldwide Education Institute

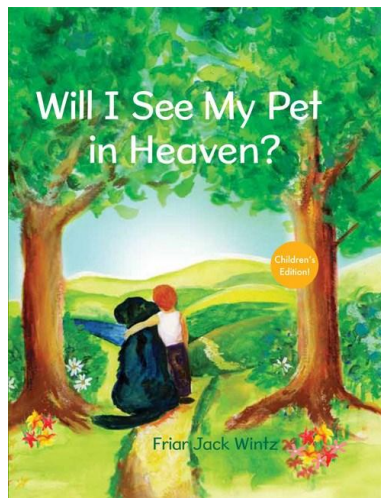
"Each brush stroke and each word is perfectly crafted to bring healing." —**Rev. Dr. David Peters**, Episcopal Veterans Fellowship

"Explores the many colors of bereavement." —**Marian Mankin**, Program Director of Bo's Place (Bereavement Center)

"Our world is increasingly re-discovering that grief and trauma are whole-body experiences. Hutchison's imagery and art are a feast for the eyes, soaking into the mind's memories and rendering fresh tears, smiles, and that human-divine alchemy of prayer that all great art performs." —**Troy Bronsink**, founder of The Hive: A Center for Contemplation, Art, and Action and author of *Drawn In: A Creative Process for Artists, Activists, and Jesus Followers*.

"Working in hospice and palliative care, we often discussed the lack of appropriate resources to help the children, grandchildren and siblings of our patients process their

grief. I wish I'd had a copy of My Favorite Color is Blue. Sometimes. on my shelf. The poetic verse and vivid artwork gently explore the spectrum of emotions grieving children, youth and adults experience." —**Sarah H. Cross**, LMSW, MPH



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Status: **ACTIVE**

Will I See My Pet in Heaven?

Friar Jack Wintz

Summary

Friar Jack wants you to know: God loves and cares for all creatures, including and especially those we are closest to!

"Today at school, one of the kids told me that only humans go to heaven," my young friend, Eva Maria said. "I almost started to cry. Is that true, Friar Jack?"

She went on, "My dog Daisy is my best friend. When I go home she jumps into my arms and licks my face. Wouldn't God want her to be with me in heaven?" Eva Marie looked at me, waiting for my answer. . .

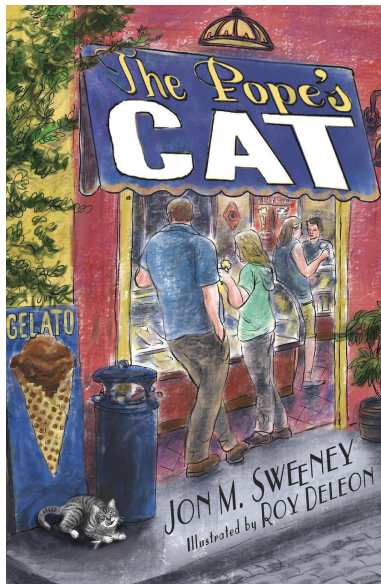
"We don't know everything God has planned for us in heaven," I told Eva. "But there are many good reasons for you to believe that your dog, cat, fish, hamster, snake, ferret, iguana—or any other creature that God created—will go to heaven when it dies. God has given us clues and hints in stories from the Bible and in the teachings of my favorite saint, Francis of Assisi..."

This charming book is the children's edition of the Paraclete bestseller, *I Will See You in Heaven* (more than 25,000 copies sold). It comforts and explains to children that God loves and cares for all creatures, including and especially those we are close to.

Includes a presentation page for gift-giving.

Contributor Bio

Friar Jack Wintz, OFM, was for many decades an editor at *St. Anthony Messenger* magazine in Cincinnati, where he interviewed luminaries such as St. Teresa of Calcutta and Gene Kelly. His inspiring books have sold more than a quarter of a million copies.



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Juvenile Fiction / Religious
JUV033050
Series: The Pope's Cat
8.5 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.3 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

The Pope's Cat

Jon M. Sweeney, Roy DeLeon

Summary

"A heartwarming tale, which gives the papacy a human touch." —**Christopher Lamb**, Rome correspondent, *The Tablet*

"I give it one million stars!" —**Luca, Mrs. Gilman's class**, St. Margaret Mary School (Omaha, NE)

Meet Margaret — the Pope's cat — in the very first book in this best-selling series by Jon M. Sweeney!

This is the story of a stray born on the Via della Conciliazione in Rome, how she's adopted by the Pope, and then "rules" the Vatican from museum to floorboard! First in a new series.

No one has a closer view of what's happening in the world's tiniest nation, Vatican City, than Margaret, the Pope's new cat. But she wasn't always Margaret, and she wasn't always the Pope's cat. She started out as a stray on the streets of Rome, and there are those in the Vatican who wish she'd never been allowed inside.

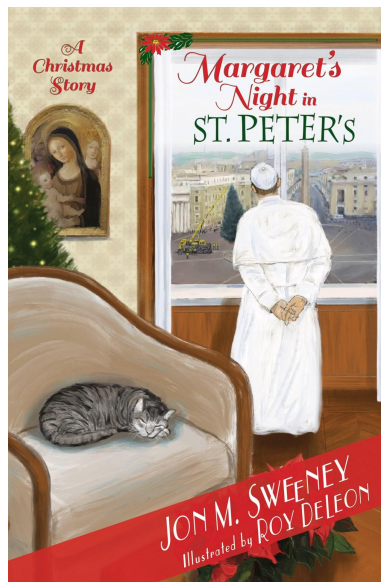
This fun, adorable new character will appeal to all kids! Here is a cat who does what she likes regardless of what others, even someone like the Pope, expects of her—even when the Queen of England comes on a state visit!

This new fiction series is intended for Catholic schools, elementary school teachers, Catholic librarians, superintendents of schools, reading specialists, educators, catechists, school principals, Catholic homeschoolers, and parents.

Contributor Bio

Jon M. Sweeney's popular history, *The Pope Who Quit*, was optioned by HBO. In addition to *The Pope's Cat* series for children, he's the author or translator of many other books including *The Complete Francis of Assisi*, and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: The Essential Writings*, often used in classes, book groups, and for individual study by people around the world wanting to know more about St. Francis of Assisi. Jon lives in Milwaukee with his wife, daughters, and cats.

Roy DeLeon is an Oblate of St. Benedict, a spiritual director, a workshop facilitator focused on creative praying, an Urban Sketcher, and a professional illustrator and visual artist. Roy is the author of *Praying with the Body*, and the illustrator of The Pope's Cat series. He lives in Bothell, Washington with his wife, Annie.



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Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
JUV017010
Series: The Pope's Cat
8.5 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.3 lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Margaret's Night in St. Peter's (A Christmas Story)

Jon M. Sweeney, Roy DeLeon

Summary

Margaret — The Pope's Cat — is back! Illustrated in full color.

Bang! Slam! Boom! Loud sounds in St. Peter's Square had been going on for nearly an hour already. Margaret was annoyed, because as you may know, cats like to sleep. A lot.

The apartment where Margaret lives with the Pope, ever since he adopted her off the streets of Rome, looks out onto St. Peter's Square. And the noises down there kept waking Margaret up.

She rolled over, covering her ears with her paws.

A few minutes later, the sounds began again, as more trucks arrived to unload even more chairs. *Beep, beep, beep, beep* went the trucks as they backed up to where men in yellow jackets were waiting to unload them. Then came *Bang! Slam! Boom!* all over again, as the men arranged the chairs in rows facing the portico of St. Peter's Basilica.

All of this was in preparation for a special event to take place the following day, Christmas.

In this delightful new story from their lives, the Pope takes Margaret on a tour of St. Peter's. But when he's called away to work, Margaret gets lost in the world's largest church. She meets saints, children, tourists, and the artist Michelangelo's famous statue, The Pieta, before being reunited with the Pope as Midnight Mass is about to begin.

Contributor Bio

Jon M. Sweeney's popular history, *The Pope Who Quit*, was optioned by HBO. In addition to *The Pope's Cat* series for children, he's the author or translator of many other books including *The Complete Francis of Assisi*, and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: The Essential Writings*, often used in classes, book groups, and for individual study by people around the world wanting to know more about St. Francis of Assisi. Jon lives in Milwaukee with his wife, daughters, and cats.

Roy DeLeon is an Oblate of Saint Benedict, spiritual director, yoga instructor, graphic designer, and professional visual artist in Seattle. He is also author of *Praying with the Body*.

Quotes

"So beautifully written and illustrated! I think that children and adults will love this book." —**Msgr. Charles Pope**, "Morning Glory" radio show, EWTN, December 10, 2018

"This beautiful book is a love letter to the church, to Christmas, to Rome, and to St. Peter's Basilica—and not just for children!" —**James Martin, SJ**

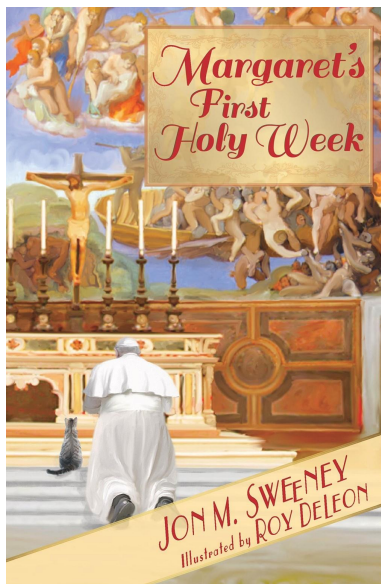
"What could be more endearing than a charming and curious stray cat? It could only be the cat that's been adopted by the pope and has free run of the Vatican at Christmastime: Margaret! This enchanting and beautifully illustrated storybook will tickle your fancy! I highly recommend it to children and adults alike!" —**Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle**, EWTN TV host and author of *Angels for Kids* and *Our Lady's Message to Three Shepherd Children and the World*

"Have you ever wished you could celebrate the wonder of Christmas within the beauty

of the Vatican? Take a step inside St. Peter's Basilica with the Pope's special friend Margaret the cat and see the Church's celebration of the Nativity with fresh eyes and a glowing heart. Jon Sweeney playfully invites us into another adventure featuring exquisite color illustrations by Roy DeLeon. Sensational!" —**Lisa M. Hendey**, founder of CatholicMom.com and author of the *Chime Travelers* series

"A cute introduction to life at the Vatican for children ages 6 – 10." —**Today's Catholic Homeschooling.com**

"This series about Margaret, the cat and her best friend, the Pope, may be intended for young readers but the gentle stories will delight any adult. Margaret has free rein in the Vatican and through her eyes we can enjoy the Christmas celebrations taking place there, in the middle of Rome. You know what they say about cats and curiosity? Well, Margaret is true to her species which will lead her to a new adventure in the very heart of St. Peter's. This is the perfect book (Christmas present?) for anyone ages 4 — well, any age. It will warm the heart." —**Brenda Repland**, *Eyes on World Cultures*



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Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
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JUV017020
Series: The Pope's Cat
8.5 in H | 5.5 in W
Status: **ACTIVE**

Margaret's First Holy Week

Jon M. Sweeney, Roy DeLeon

Summary

The story of Margaret and her friend the Pope continues with Book 3 in The Pope's Cat series.

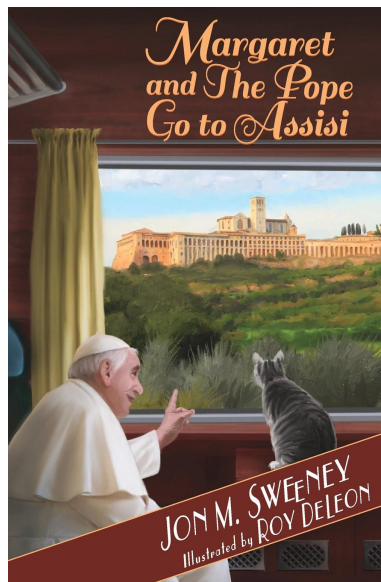
This adventure has Margaret experiencing the prayers, penitence, liturgy, and excitement of Holy Week in the Vatican and Rome—from the joy of Palm Sunday in St. Peter's Square, to foot-washing in a Roman prison, the solemnity of Good Friday, and the expectation of Easter.

She learns about Jesus and the meaning of his Passion, visits important new places such as The Sistine Chapel, where she seems to pray beside the Pope, and the Roman Colosseum, where she learns that many early Christians were martyrs for their faith. Margaret's friends, the Swiss Guards, are watching over her, and she manages to eat (she still loves to eat!) some interesting foods, even though it's Holy Week. Oh yes, and she sleeps a lot.

Contributor Bio

Jon M. Sweeney's popular history, *The Pope Who Quit*, was optioned by HBO. In addition to *The Pope's Cat* series for children, he's the author or translator of many other books including *The Complete Francis of Assisi*, and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: The Essential Writings*, often used in classes, book groups, and for individual study by people around the world wanting to know more about St. Francis of Assisi. Jon lives in Milwaukee with his wife, daughters, and cats.

Roy DeLeon is an Oblate of St. Benedict, spiritual director, yoga instructor, graphic designer, a professional visual artist, and the author of *Praying with the Body*.



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 Status: **ACTIVE**

Margaret and the Pope Go to Assisi

Jon M. Sweeney, Roy DeLeon

Summary

In this fourth installment of "The Pope's Cat" series, Margaret and the Pope travel for the first time together away from the Vatican and out of Rome. They go by train to the Umbrian hill town of Assisi, a place of pilgrimage for Christians all over the world who want to remember the life of St. Francis of Assisi. Together they visit the great Basilica named for St. Francis, greet Franciscan friars at the monastery, attend a World Day of Prayer for Peace, meet religious leaders (each, it seems, with a very different hat!) from around the world, and see evidence of the spirit of St. Francis all over town.

Most of all, the Pope shows his love and care for his vulnerable creature friend, as at the beginning of the book when someone from the Curia has frightened Margaret and she's hiding in a closet in the Pope's apartment. "Don't worry, *il mio amore*." (*Il mio amore* means "My love.") "People can be so fussy, can't they?" the Pope says, picking her up in his arms.

Contributor Bio

Jon M. Sweeney's popular history, *The Pope Who Quit*, was optioned by HBO. In addition to *The Pope's Cat* series for children, he's the author or translator of many other books including *The Complete Francis of Assisi*, and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: The Essential Writings*, often used in classes, book groups, and for individual study by people around the world wanting to know more about St. Francis of Assisi. Jon lives in Milwaukee with his wife, daughters, and cats.

Roy DeLeon is an Oblate of St. Benedict, a spiritual director, a workshop facilitator focused on creative praying, an Urban Sketcher, and a professional illustrator. In addition to illustrating *The Pope's Cat* series, he is also the author of *Praying With the Body: Bringing the Psalms to Life*. He lives in Bothell, Washington, with his wife, Annie.

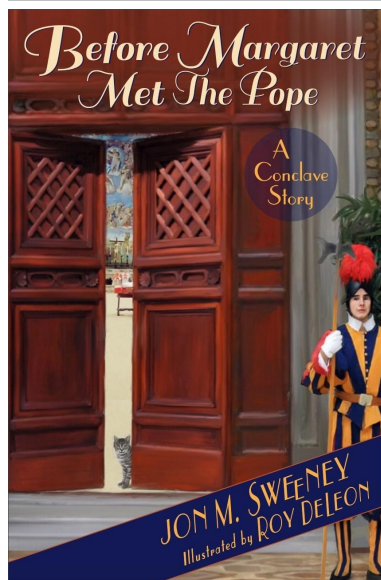
Quotes

"I've been to Assisi and the Vatican many times, but I saw them fresh when I saw them through Margaret's eyes. I'm severely allergic to cats, but I can't help but love the times I spend with Margaret and my grandchildren. This is the gift for all your young-uns (and yourself too)." —**Mike Aquilina**, author of *Angels of God*, and executive vice-president of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

"Slurping on gelato, sleeping through sermons, and annoying the Roman Curia ... Margaret's back, and is as mischievous and lovable as ever." —**Brendan Walsh**, Editor, *The Tablet*

"If you've ever wanted to know more about the real man we call St. Francis, then let the Pope's constantly curious cat be your guide. Discover this saint's revolutionary teachings and why they are more important than ever in our world today. Walk the streets of Assisi through Roy DeLeon's magnificent illustrations and even savor the sweetness of gelato with Margaret as she gives us a peek inside all the places we long to explore." —**Lisa M. Hendey**, author of *I Am God's Storyteller*

"Pack your imagination and board the train with Margaret and the Pope, on a historical, fun-loving, faith-filled adventure to the city of St. Francis. Margaret's infectious curiosity makes her the perfect traveling companion, with every twist and turn a page turner. Get ready. *Arrivederci!*" —**Karen Kiefer**, Director, The Church in the 21st Century Center, and author of *Drawing God*



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lb Wt
Status: **ACTIVE**

Before Margaret Met the Pope

A Conclave Story

Jon M. Sweeney, Roy DeLeon

Summary

"Before Margaret met the Pope, she lived on the streets of Rome. She was a small cat in one of the busiest, most crowded, cities in all Europe. Rome is the capital of Italy. Rome surrounds Vatican City, the world's tiniest country, and home to the Pope, the Curia, and the Swiss Guard." So begins this fifth adventure in the lives of Margaret and the Pope.

A prequel, this episode tells of the conclave that elected the Pope who would one day meet Margaret on the Via della Conciliazone. It turns out, Margaret was somehow there, watching, in the Sistine Chapel as the votes were cast.

Children and adults alike will delight in this behind-the-scenes story about love and the Church, learning not only about what popes do, but this time, how popes are chosen.

Contributor Bio

Jon M. Sweeney's popular history, *The Pope Who Quit*, was optioned by HBO. In addition to *The Pope's Cat* series for children, he's the author or translator of many other books including *The Complete Francis of Assisi*, and *Francis of Assisi in His Own Words: The Essential Writings*, often used in classes, book groups, and for individual study by people around the world wanting to know more about St. Francis of Assisi. Jon lives in Milwaukee with his wife, daughters, and cats.

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Illustrations



The Blessing of the Beasts

Ethel Pochocki
Engravings by Barry Moser



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Wt

Status: **ACTIVE**

The Blessing of the Beasts

Ethel Pochocki, Barry Moser

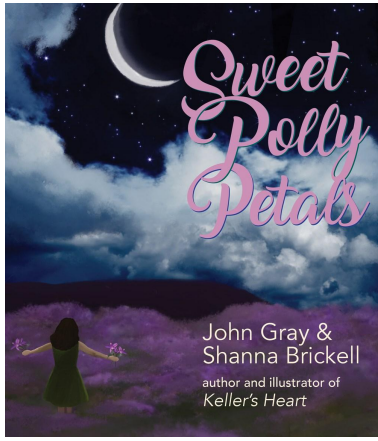
Summary

As a young roach, Francesca was warned against churches. They were disgustingly clean, barren of food, although sometimes you might find leftover rice from weddings under the pews, and they were dangerous. Francesca and Martin, a skunk, originally met in a trash can awhile back: He'd startled her by rising from the garbage, wearing a cap of coleslaw and a mustache of yogurt. As the Celebration of Creatures service approaches, Francesca yearns to be there, but Martin warns her against it: "I don't think that we are meant to be included, Francesca. It's for the respectables, the cute and cuddlies. We are outcasts. They'll never let us in. Can't you just hear the humans shrieking as we walk down the aisle? They'd be fainting left and right." Kids and adults alike treasure this story about the value of all creatures and how all of creation has value, purpose, and God's blessing.

Contributor Bio

Ethel Pochocki is the author of several other books for children and adults, including *Once Upon a Time Saints*.

Barry Moser is one of the most acclaimed illustrators alive today.



Sweet Polly Petals

John Gray, Shanna Brickell

Summary

This is a fairy tale set, not in some far away mystical land but, in any town USA. The hero is a little girl named Polly who loves going to the park with her mother. One day she notices homeless people sleeping on the benches. When Polly asks her mother why they are there, her mother tells her that they are good people who have simply lost their way.

Polly offers to share her lunch with a homeless woman she has seen before. In exchange for her sweet gesture, the woman gives Polly a magic orchid that grants wishes. But there are two catches: you can't wish for anything for yourself, and with each wish the flower loses a petal. When Polly realizes the orchid has only four wishes left, she sets out to help as many people as she can.

Sweet Polly Petals will teach children the virtue of helping those who are less fortunate, and has a surprise ending kids will love.

Contributor Bio

John Gray is an Emmy Award-winning television journalist and columnist in upstate New York, and the author of two popular children's books, *God Needed a Puppy* and *Keller's Heart*. John's books have captured the hearts of readers around the world. His heart shines through his uplifting stories, teaching children that kindness is the path to happiness. John donates a generous portion of book sales to help others; he has given \$30,000 to more than 50 animal shelters around the country. John is a father of three and lives in upstate New York with his wife, Courtney, and their five rescue dogs; three of which have disabilities. John plans to use a portion of the proceeds from his new children's book *Sweet Polly Petals* to help the homeless.

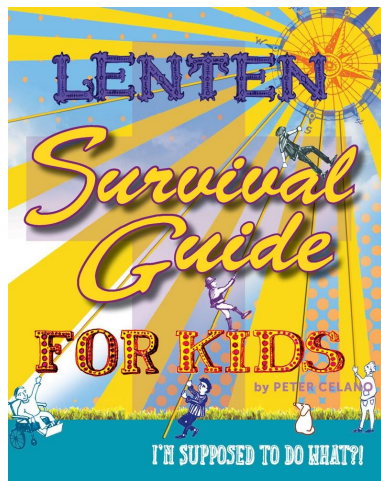
Illustrations



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Wt

Status: **ACTIVE**

Lenten Survival Guide for Kids

I am Supposed to Do What?!

Peter Celano

Summary

Written for 7-11 year olds, this playful guide appeals to kids who want to know more about what adults are telling them is a serious time. Without talking down to them, and challenging them to learn and do more, the following topics are explored in detail: What Lent Is, What Lent Definitely Is Not, 40 Days of Survival Tactics, and A Few Prayers and Practices — Only for Kids.

From What Lent Definitely Is Not:

People easily become confused on this subject. In fact, we're glad you are reading this book, because we want to set you, at least, straight. You can then please set others straight.

Lent is not about "giving up" silly things. It is not about making sad faces to show how difficult life has suddenly become for you. (Need we start explaining how most of the world would think that giving up candy bars or soda for 40 days sounds just plain silly? According to Bread for the World, 925 million people around the world go hungry each day. So please don't talk about the terrible hardship you are undergoing by giving up M&M's and Coca-Cola for a few weeks.)

So instead of focusing on what you may give up, take time to consider why you may do it. You give stuff up for Lent because you want to become a better Christian. You are testing yourself — and allowing God to test you — to see if, by giving up something that maybe you are too focused on in everyday life, you can concentrate more on him.

Contributor Bio

Peter Celano is a writer and editor at Paraclete Press who is also the recent author of the popular book, *My Year with the Saints for Kids*.



That Baby in the Manger



ANNE E. NEUBERGER *Illustrated by Chloe E. Pitkoff*



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11 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.4 lb Wt
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That Baby in the Manger

Anne E. Neuberger

Summary

That Baby in the Manger is a children's Christmas picture book with a needed message about inclusion and acceptance of cultural differences. As the children of a small church struggle with the portrayal of the Holy Family in the Nativity scene as European—not Middle Eastern and not necessarily like them—they learn more about Jesus's love for all children.

Contributor Bio

Anne E. Neuberger has been a freelance author of children's stories, books, activities and curricula for over 25 years. The majority of this has been for religious education, including books on Saints Kateri Tekakwitha and Francis of Assisi, as well as ongoing work for the Maryknoll Classroom Program. You can also see her work at www.anneneuberger.com.