



Great Homilies + A Great Book = Changed Lives

We're sure your Christmas homily is going to crush it (that's Millennial-talk for "be really good"). But the numbers don't lie. A great homily isn't enough to prevent 30% of the Christmas Mass audience to skip next week (and all the weeks before Easter). Here are great ways to include the book in homilies throughout the Christmas season.

DECEMBER 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Make an announcement about the books at least one time before Christmas. Why? To encourage your parishioners to invite as many people to your Christmas services as possible.

DECEMBER 24 & 25

Christmas Masses

The goal here is to let people know about the books: what the book is about, why they need to take one home, why they need to read it, and how a great book can change everything. Show parishioners the book—hold it up high for them to see. Make it personal.

Suggested talking points:

- If you've read it, make this personal.
What resonated for you?
- This book is NOT a dense biography about the saints. There are enough of those. This is

an invitation—to reflect on how the saints are active in your life and to let them be even more involved, each and every day!

- The chapters are short, so it wouldn't be ridiculous to read your favorite chapter (or a great excerpt).
- Chapter 21 features Saint Nicholas and is all about keeping Christmas in your heart every day of the year.

DECEMBER 28

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

This week's goal is simple: remind your parishioners to begin reading the book. What a great way to go into the New Year!

Suggested talking points:

- Chapter 22 of *Rediscover the Saints* is all about Mary's perfect example of surrendering to God's will. Joseph, her husband, demonstrates this "Beautiful Surrender" in our Gospel.
- Do you have a personal story about a saint's influence on your life?



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JANUARY 5

The Epiphany of the Lord

For this week, it's important to encourage your parishioners to gently and casually remind their loved ones who are not at Mass (those folks who got the book at Christmas but probably won't hear another homily until Easter) to try reading the book. Help them start that conversation with a simple, "Hey. What do you think of that book you got at Mass?"

Suggested talking points:

- Chapter 12 of *Rediscover the Saints* features Saint Harold, a martyred child, but it also poses the question, "When was the last time you did something with your whole heart?" The three magi were certainly acting with their whole hearts when they went to worship a baby born in a manger.
- Pick your favorite chapter from *Rediscover the Saints* and talk about.
- Do you have a personal story about a saint's influence on your life?

JANUARY 12

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

This is the last week where we provide suggestions, but feel free to occasionally bring up the book well into Lent!* You may also want to encourage small groups to work through the book together using the Study Guide (also available for download at [DynamicCatholic.com](https://www.DynamicCatholic.com)). We'd also recommend you launch an effort to create more small groups.

Suggested talking points:

- This week we hear about John the Baptist. Chapter 20 of *Rediscover the Saints* is about another rebel with an affinity for the desert: Saint Anthony. What connections can we make today about in the world of pop culture or in the desert?
- Do you have a personal story about a saint's influence on your life?

* *Rediscover the Saints* will be the source of our 2020 BEST LENT EVER program.

THE DYNAMIC CATHOLIC INSTITUTE

5081 Olympic Blvd, Erlanger, KY 41018

www.DynamicCatholic.com

Phone: (859) 980-7900