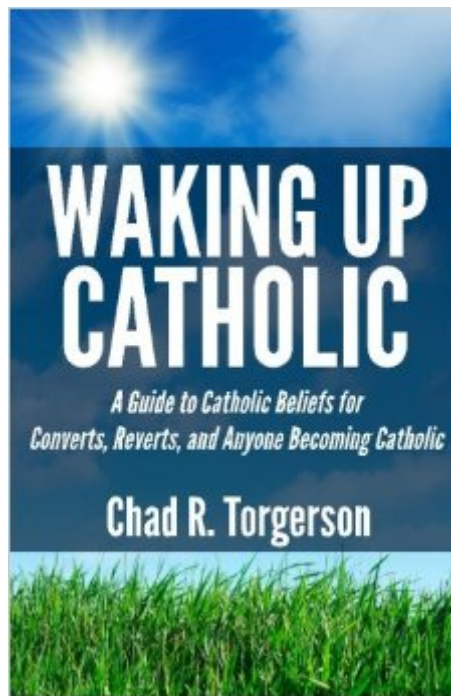


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# Waking Up Catholic: A Guide To Catholic Beliefs For Converts, Reverts, And Anyone Becoming Catholic



## Synopsis

Are you going through the RCIA Process? Are you new to Catholicism and become a recent Catholic convert? Did you grow up Catholic and return as a Catholic revert? Are you interested in becoming Catholic for the first time? The depth of Catholic theology is one of its greatest beauties, but understanding it can be one of its greatest challenges. If you want to learn more about basic Catholic beliefs, *Waking Up Catholic: A Guide to Catholic Beliefs for Converts, Reverts, and Anyone Becoming Catholic* is the book for you. You have questions. *Waking Up Catholic* has answers. Learn about: How does Catholic Tradition fit in with Scripture? Why do we have a pope? Do Catholics really worship Mary? Why do Catholics pray to saints? Is Holy Communion just a symbol of Christ? What is the purpose of Confession? Do repetitious Catholic prayers really work? And more... *Waking Up Catholic* answers these questions, and more, from the perspective of someone who converted to Catholicism himself. *Waking Up Catholic* may be the first Catholic book you've ever read, but after you're done, it won't be the last.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*Waking up Catholic*, by Chad Torgerson, is the story of one man's journey to Catholicism and the MANY objections he had to the Catholic faith along the way. However, his story is not unique to him. Many people, myself included, had these same objections and misconceptions before we finally made our way to Rome. Chad just had the good sense and spiritual gift to write about these points and help others along their journey. In this book one will find some of the major stumbling blocks people have with the Roman Catholic Church, including, Tradition, Mary, the Saints, the Eucharist,

etc. Each chapter follows a specific pattern. Chad mentions a subject that was a stumbling block for him. Next, he talks about his feelings on the subject before he was Catholic. He then explains the actual Catholic teaching on the particular subject using Scripture and the Catechism. Lastly, he explains his new viewpoint and appreciation of the matter at hand. This definitely was like re-living my conversion as I went through practically these same steps on each such subject. On face value, this book comes off as an introduction to Catholic Apologetics. Depending on your point of view, it is either a nice defense of your core beliefs or a reinforcement of them. However, the author wants us to not only know our faith; he wants us to live it too. He mentions the 80-20 rule, which says that 20% of the people do 80% of the work. In reality, and according to Matthew Kelly in "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic," 7% is a more accurate approximation of the number of Catholics who are active in their parish. ("Active" means more than just showing up to Mass once a week.) Chad designed this book to be a call to evangelization, particularly the New Evangelization.

In his new book, *Waking Up Catholic*, Chad Torgerson describes his journey into the Catholic Church. He discusses how his faith in Christ developed over the years, from Lutheran, to agnostic/atheist, to born-again Protestant, and finally Catholic. Specifically, he brings in how his relationship with Christ was influenced by his study of Catholic teachings and practices, and shows how they can bring one closer to Christ. The book is easy to read, but gets to the point of complex issues remarkably well without becoming too complex on the one hand, or being too simple on the other. Chad discusses several important topics that non-Catholics find problematic and often misunderstand, and shows how he overcame that misunderstanding, how these issues eventually made sense to him, and how he saw that there was indeed no conflict between Catholicism and the Bible. The important topics he covers are Tradition vs Sola Scriptura, the continuous transmission of Christ's teaching through the authority of the Church from the first century till today, the priesthood and the hierarchy of the Church, the Trinity, Mary and the saints, the Eucharist and the Real Presence of Christ, and prayer. He goes on to a discussion of what it means to be Catholic and live one's life as a Catholic and why we have "obligations" and what their purpose is, and ends off discussing the difference between apologetics (my forte, not unnecessary) and evangelisation (what the Church badly needs). In particular, I found his discussion of the saints as prayer warriors particularly enlightening - I hadn't thought of putting it the way he did, and it's a particularly powerful explanation.

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