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Just released: three new books that will help readers understand the beauty and depth of the Catholic Faith

SAN FRANCISCO, December 5, 2013 – Ignatius Press has released three new theological books that will assist readers in exploring the beauty and teachings of the Catholic faith: *Bountiful Goodness: Spiritual Meditations for a Deeper Union with Christ*, *Into All Truth: What Catholics Believe and Why*, and *Figuring out the Church: Her Marks, and Her Masters*.

*Bountiful Goodness: Spiritual Meditations for a Deeper Union with Christ*

*The Imitation of Christ*, also by Thomas à Kempis, is the most famous and beloved Christian devotional ever written. The simplicity, piety and wisdom that readers have found in that classic will also be discovered in these new modern-English translations of *A Little Garden of Roses* and *The Valley of Lilies*, combined into one volume, *Bountiful Goodness: Spiritual Meditations for a Deeper Union with Christ*. The aim of these works is to draw the reader to a closer union with Jesus. While *Imitation* sets forth the principles of discipleship, the two works in this volume offer more practical advice. They treat of the virtues needed to advance toward God.

The introduction to this volume includes a brief biographical sketch of Thomas à Kempis, a fourteenth-century German monk, as well as some notes about the texts themselves. Like all meditation books, explains the introduction, this one is not to be read in one sitting, but pondered and prayed over slowly. “Pause and reflect on what [à Kempis] has to say,” advises Fr. Joseph Tylenda, the translator, “and then join with him when he address the Lord and listen to Him when He speaks to you.”

*Thomas à Kempis* (1379-1471) was born in Germany and schooled by the Order of Brothers and Sisters of the Common Life in Netherlands. He lived for seventy years among the Canons Regular of St. Augustine at Mount St. Agnes Monastery. Ordained a priest, he twice served as the community’s subprior and copied books by hand, including the entire Bible. He is best known as the author of the spiritual classic *The Imitation of Christ*. 

*Into All Truth: What Catholics Believe and Why*

*Figuring out the Church: Her Marks, and Her Masters*
**Into All Truth: What Catholics Believe and Why**

*Into All Truth* by Milton Walsh presents the basic beliefs of the Catholic Church, beginning with the Resurrection. That extraordinary event prompted Jesus’ followers to reflect on his identity and mission, which in turn led them to see the one God as an eternal communion of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Good News of the Catholic Church is that God invites every man and woman into this communion.

With extensive use of the Bible, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and the documents of the Second Vatican Council, *Into All Truth* explains clearly and succinctly the dogmas of the Catholic Church that flow from her faith in the Trinity. Each dogma is traced back to the faith of the first followers of Jesus, and its development over time is explored.

Each chapter also outlines the implications of a given belief. The Resurrection, for example, has as much to say about human destiny as about the ultimate fate of Jesus.

This book is intended for the general reader, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. An online study guide is available for use with this book. It is an ideal way for young adults, and older adults as well to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith.

Karl Keating, founder of Catholic Answers, says, “Decades of turmoil have left many Catholics in a state of suspension. They aren’t sure what the Church teaches and what they are to believe. They will not find a better resource than Milton Walsh’s latest book, written precisely with these ‘suspended’ Catholics in mind.”

Milton Walsh holds a doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome. For many years he taught theology at St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, California. He is the author of *In Memory of Me: A Meditation on the Roman Canon* and *Second Friends: C.S. Lewis and Ronald Knox in Conversation*.

**Figuring out the Church: Her Marks, and Her Masters**

The Church is a mystery. Believers who want to enter more deeply into that mystery will reflect on the Church’s basic characteristics, the “marks of the Church”: what it means for the Church to be one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. Non-Catholics and nonbelievers looking to appreciate how Catholics regard the Church also will desire to understand these “marks”.

In this book, *Figuring out the Church: Her Marks, and Her Masters*, renowned Dominican theologian Fr. Aidan Nichols explores the Church’s characteristics. Drawing on insights from four theological masters – Henri de Lubac, Jean Tillard, Hans Urs von Balthasar, and Charles Journet – Nichols seeks to help Catholics and non-Catholics to “figure out” the Church, on at least a fundamental level. The four masters in question do not claim to exhaust the mystery of the Church, nor does Nichols. They do, however, assist the reader in going deeper into the mystery.

To accomplish this goal, Nichols appeals to both the Scholastic tradition and authors influenced by the *ressourcement* movement in theology. In this way, he provides readers with a sense of Catholicism’s breadth, which is at once orthodox and yet generously conceived.

Matthew Levering, Chair of Dogmatic Theology at Mundelein Seminary, says, “Fr. Nichols takes an extremely complex and important topic – the Church's holiness, unity, catholicity, and apostolicity -- and delivers a marvelously limpid, succinct, and balanced theological portrait. He lovingly illuminates the Church herself, the mystery of communion with the God the Father in Christ and the Holy Spirit. No contemporary work on the Church comes close to the level of Father Nichols's achievement here.”
“A brilliant explanation of the characteristics of the Church. Nichols offers the reader a clear summary of the ‘marks’ that are the key to apologetics and ecclesiology,” says Fr. Kenneth Baker, SJ, author of Inside the Bible.

“This work draws together the seminal contributions in twentieth century and contemporary ecclesiology. Nichols is sensitive to the different nuances found across the spectrum of theological traditions, including Eastern Orthodoxy. It is simply the best work available for understanding the fundamental elements of Catholic ecclesiology. It is also a case study in how to present scholastic material without putting readers to sleep. Nichols can be read for the sheer beauty of his prose,” says Professor Tracey Rowland, John Paul II Institute, Melbourne, Australia.

Fr. Aidan Nichols, O.P., a Dominican priest, is currently the John Paul II Memorial Visiting Lecturer, University of Oxford. He is the author of numerous books including Lovely Like Jerusalem, Looking at the Liturgy, Holy Eucharist, and The Thought of Benedict XVI.

To request a review copy or an interview about these books, please contact:
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**Product Facts:**

**Title:** BOUNTIFUL GOODNESS  
*Spiritual Meditations for a Deeper Union with Christ*  
**Author:** Thomas À Kempis  
(Translated by Father Joseph Tylenda, S.J.)  
**Release Date:** October 2013  
**Length:** 192 pages  
**Price:** $14.95  
**ISBN:** 978-1-58617-778-2 • Softcover  
**Order:** 1-800-651-1531 • [www.ignatius.com](http://www.ignatius.com)

**Title:** INTO ALL TRUTH  
*What Catholics Believe and Why*  
**Author:** Milton Walsh  
**Release Date:** November 2013  
**Length:** 304 pages  
**Price:** $17.95  
**ISBN:** 978-1-58617-486-6 • Softcover  
**Order:** 1-800-651-1531 • [www.ignatius.com](http://www.ignatius.com)

**Title:** FIGURING OUT THE CHURCH  
*Her Marks, and Her Masters*  
**Author:** Aidan Nichols, O.P.  
**Release Date:** November 2013  
**Length:** 187 pages  
**Price:** $17.95  
**ISBN:** 978-1-58617-818-5 • Softcover  
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