

Pat's Big List of Books (and Resources) that Might Just Make You Catholic ;)

Quick introduction: I was baptized Catholic but fell away from the faith at a fairly early age, eventually becoming a philosophical atheist/religious skeptic. However, a deeper study of philosophy eventually brought me back to affirming theism, and a study surrounding the historical evidence for the life/resurrection of Christ and the founding of the Catholic Church caused me to formally enter the Church of Rome in 2017, a story which I recount [here](#) and [here](#), for those interested.

The reason a person should become Catholic is because it's true: God exists, Christ is God, and Christ founded the Catholic Church as the means for our salvation and relationship with himself. If one can find a reasonable basis for those three essential claims (existence of God, divinity of Christ, Christ founding the Catholic Church) then the matter is settled, one should either become baptized if not already Catholic, or get confirmed/return to the Church if they've fallen away.

What follows is a list, in no particular order, of resources for people considering (or re-considering) Catholicism from both a philosophy and historical perspective. I've separated the resources into their respective categories -- whether on the existence of God, divinity of Christ, and/or historical foundations of the Catholic Church -- along with a notation of their difficulty.

Books

**Difficulty Level: B = beginner; I = intermediate; A = advanced*

On the Existence of God

[5 Proofs of the Existence of God](#) (B/I) and [The Last Superstition](#) (B), Ed Feser

[New Proofs for the Existence of God](#) (I/A) and [The Soul's Upward Yearning](#) (B/I), Robert Spitzer

[Handbook of Christian Apologetics](#), Peter Kreeft (B/I)

[Aquinas's Way to God](#) (I/A) and [The Metaphysics of Creation](#) (B/I), Gaven Kerr

[Miracles](#) by C.S Lewis; also [Mere Christianity](#) (B/I)

[How Reason Can Lead to God](#) (B/I), Joshua Rasmussen

[A New Theist response to The New Atheists](#) (I/A), Vallier and Rasmussen

[The Reality of God and the Problem of Evil](#) (B/I) and [Thinking about God](#) (B/I), Brian Davies

[Infinity, Causation, and Paradox](#) (I/A) and [The Existence of God](#) (I/A), Alexander Pruss

[Necessary Existence](#) (A), Rasmussen and Pruss

[The One and The Many](#) (B/I) and [The Philosophical Approach to God](#) (B), Norris Clarke

[The Blackwell Companion to Natural Theology](#) (A), Craig and Moreland

[Insight](#) (A), Bernard Lonergan

[Thomistic Existentialism & Cosmological Reasoning](#) (A), John Knasas

Also, my \$1 eBook entitled [How to Think About God](#) (B/I).

On the Divinity of Christ

[The Case for Jesus](#) by Brant Pitre (B)

[The Case for Christ](#) by Lee Strobel (B)

[The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus](#) by Habermas and Licona (B/I)

[The Historical Reliability of the Gospels](#) by Craig Blomberg (I)

[The Resurrection of the Son of God](#) N.T. Wright (I/A)

[The Resurrection of Jesus: a New Historiographical Approach](#) by Mike Licona (I/A)

[The Son Rises](#) by William Lane Craig (I/A)

On the Catholic Church

[The Fathers of the Church: An Introduction to the First Christian Teachers](#) by Mike Aquilina (B)

[*The Fathers Know Best: Your Essential Guide to the Teachings of the Early Church*](#) by Jimmy Akin (B/I)

[*The Four Witnesses: The Early Church In Her Own Words*](#) by Rod Bennett (B/I)

[*Pope Peter: Defending the Church's Most Distinctive Doctrine*](#) in a Time of Crisis by Joe Heschmeyer (B)

[*Rome Sweet Home*](#) by Scott and Kimberly Hahn (B)

[*Why We're Catholic*](#) (B) and [*The Case for Catholicism*](#) by Trent Horn (B/I)

[*Why I Am Catholic \(and You Should Be Too\)*](#) by Brandon Vogt (B)

[*40 Reasons I am Catholic*](#) by Peter Kreeft (B)

[*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of The Eucharist*](#) (B/I) and [*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary*](#) (B/I) (also, lecture of [*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Papacy*](#)) by Brant Pitre

[*Faith and Reason: Philosophers Explain Their Turn to Catholicism*](#) by Ignatius Press (I)

Podcasts

I'll finish this section later, but for now...

[*My podcast, obviously!*](#) (See Philosophy Friday and Sunday School segments for relevant discussions pertaining to Catholicism)

Also, [*Word on Fire*](#), [*Pints with Aquinas*](#), and [*Classical Theism*](#) are all great.

Finally, I have many more resources for those interested, especially if you're hung up on an issue that doesn't seem to be addressed here. If so, email me anytime at PatFlynn@ChroniclesOfStrength.com with your questions.