

# Researching Catholicism Resource Sheet

Created by Logan Winkelman



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### **Church Fathers/Early Church Writings Worth Reading:**

1. St. Ignatius of Antioch (apostolic father)
2. The Didache
3. St Irenaeus of Lyon
4. Shepherd of Hermas
5. St Gregory Nazianza
6. St Gregory of Nyssa
7. St Athanasius
8. St Jerome
9. Council of Nicea
10. St Hippolytus
11. St Justin martyr
12. Origen
13. Tertullian
14. St Cyril of Jerusalem
15. St Cyprian of Carthage
16. St Cyril of Alexandria
17. St Clement of Rome
18. St Augustine of Hippo
19. St Basil
20. St Ambrose
21. St John Chrysostom

### **Books, Talks, & Videos:**

1. Mike Aquilina - Mass of the Early Christians
2. Scott Hahn - The Lamb's Supper
3. Scott Hahn - A Father Who Keeps His Promises
4. Scott Hahn - Hail Holy Queen
5. Scott Hahn - Rome Sweet Home
6. Scott Hahn - The Fourth Cup
7. John Bergsma - Jesus and the Old Testament Roots of the Priesthood
8. John Bergsma - Stunned By Scripture: How the Bible Made me Catholic
9. John Bergsma - Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls
10. St. Francis de Sales - The Catholic Controversy
11. Brant Pitre - Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary
12. Brant Pitre - Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist
13. Joe Heschmeyer - Pope Peter
14. Joe Heschmeyer - The Early Church Was the Catholic Church
15. Joe Heschmeyer - The Eucharist is Really Jesus
16. Devin Rose - The Protestant's Dilemma
17. C.S. Lewis - Mere Christianity
18. Tim Staples - Behold Your Mother
19. Karl Keating - Catholicism & Fundamentalism
20. Steve Ray - Upon This Rock
21. Steve Ray - The Papacy
22. G.K Chesterton - Orthodoxy
23. G.K. Chesterton - The Everlasting Man
24. St. John Henry Newman - Essay on the Development of Doctrine

25. Peter Kreeft - Handbook of Catholic Apologetics
26. John Bergsma - Bible Basics: Getting through the Bible in One Hour (youtube video)
27. Trent Horn - Why We're Catholic
28. Patrick Madrid - Envoy for Christ
29. Logan Winkelman - To Whom Shall We Go: The Eucharist in Scripture, Typology, & Early Christianity

**Websites:**

1. [Catholic.com](http://Catholic.com) (Catholic Answers) - great articles discussing virtually every apologetics question imaginable (both in reference to Catholicism vs other denominations and christianity vs other religions.atheism)
2. [Shamelessjoe.com](http://Shamelessjoe.com) - Joe Heschmeyer's website
3. The Writings of the Early Christians on most topics can be found at *earlychristianwritings.com* by author/category, *staycatholic.com/early\_church\_fathers.htm* by topic, or *churchfathers.org* Also, check out **Newadvent.org** for tons of great resources including books, free ebooks, articles, a Catholic encyclopedia, etc.

AM Radio station - Relevant Radio has great apologetics discussions

Audible has some great books on these topics that are included in a regular monthly subscription

**Topics:**

1. The Papacy
2. The Eucharist
  - a. Symbolic vs literal;
  - b. sacrifice or not?;
  - c. Must be conected by ordained priest in apostolic line or no?;
  - d. What is the significance of typology w regard to the Eucharist? Could it possibly be less than a miracle if several of its typological prefigurements were miraculous?
  - e. What is the significance of Christ's title as Bridegroom and its connection to the Eucharist?
  - f. Is your belief on the Eucharist "hard to accept?" (John 6:60) Would it reasonably cause most of Jesus' followers to leave their discipleship? (John 6:66)
  - g. Is the Eucharist one and the same sacrifice as that of the crucifixion? (Look into "The Fourth Cup") — What implications does this have on whether the Eucharist is symbolic or literal?
  - h. What is the significance of the *hapax legomenon* used in the Our Father when describing "daily bread"?
3. Apostolic Succession
4. What is worship in the New Covenant supposed to look like?
5. Doctrinal Unity
6. Was the Reformation successful? Could Christ's Church ever need a doctrinal reformation? Were the fruits of the Reformation good? Do the ends justify the means in Christian morality? Was Luther a reliable person to trust to reform doctrine? Was his schism justified?
7. Church Authority
8. Infant Baptism
9. Baptismal Regeneration
10. Communion of Saints (intercession of the saints)
11. Purgatory
12. Loss of Salvation/Mortal Sin

13. The Sacraments
14. Sola Scriptura
15. Tradition as authoritative church teaching
16. New Testament priests?
17. Three-fold hierarchy in church
18. Visible vs invisible church body
19. Is there more than 1 Christian church?
20. Has the Catholic Church ever changed doctrine?
21. The Canon - Deuterocanon; who has the authority to recognize Scripture? Can we decide now if that decision was wrong, and what are the implications of all of these things?
22. Contraception & other sexual ethics questions
23. Divorce
24. Free Will
25. Confession to Priests (not in exclusion to God)
26. Marian Dogmas - Mary as sinless, ever-virgin, and mother of all believers (look into Mary as Queen of Heaven/Davidic Queen Mother, New Eve, Ark of the New Covenant)
27. Can any protestant church fulfill all prophecies the church fathers saw fulfilled in Christianity in specifically catholic ways (such as Malachi 1:11; Isaiah 66:18-21)
28. Is there a strong biblical basis for something like a "sinner's prayer" taking the place of baptism as a "Christian initiation act" that begins one's life of a Christian?
29. Is there a difference in Scripture between baptism, becoming saved, and confirmation (laying on hands)?
30. Is there a biblical basis for "baby dedication" as opposed to infant baptism?
31. Is the rosary an acceptable prayer?
32. Who was the first pope, if not Peter?