

– Conference and Seminar Topics –

By Patrick Madrid

Is Everything Up for Grabs? (A Catholic Critique of Moral Relativism)

This presentation is a practical, down-to-earth explanation of what moral relativism is (the notion that all beliefs are relative and there is no such thing as “objective” truth) and how to recognize its more subtle forms. Patrick exposes the *seven fatal flaws* of moral relativism, offers sample dialogues for speaking with moral relativists, and he explains how Catholics can respond to moral relativist arguments in a friendly yet effective way.

Answers to Lies Society Tells You

A fast-paced, information-packed look at several common fallacies we frequently encounter in our culture, including ones like these: “If it feels good, do it,” “There’s no such thing as objective truth,” “The earth is overcrowded,” “Suffering is bad,” “Abortion is wrong, except in cases of rape and incest,” “Belief in Christ is just a blind leap of faith,” “Assisted suicide is a noble option for those whose quality of life is not worth living,” “The Catholic Church is anti-intellectual,” “Question authority!” and more.

Where Is That In the Bible?

This lively workshop explores a wide array of scriptural evidence for Catholic teachings. Succinct biblical answers are presented in response to many questions raised about Catholic teaching and practices by non-Catholics, including: calling priests “father,” infant baptism, the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, purgatory and prayers for the dead, confession to a priest, the intercession of Mary and the saints, Sacred Tradition, the sacraments, as well as non-Catholic theories such as the “Rapture,” “once-saved-always-saved,” *sola scriptura* (Latin: the Bible alone), and more.

Why Be Catholic? (When You Could Be Anything Else?)

This talk is a charitable and respectful examination of a dozen key biblical and historical reasons for being Catholic. Includes a discussion of common reasons why Catholics leave the Church, why they return, and what lay Catholics can do to help people better understand the teachings of the Catholic Church from a biblical and historical standpoint. One of Patrick’s most popular talks!

The “Ticking Time Bomb” – How Global Aging Will Affect You

Drawing upon Catholic moral teaching as expressed in Scripture and Tradition, this seminar covers the practical and spiritual implications of several interlocking social and moral issues such as contraception, abortion, euthanasia, cloning, and the population *implosion* taking place in the West; discusses the rapidly expanding of “global aging,” the myth of over-population, why countries whose birth rates are below replacement levels (most are) signals an imminent social catastrophe of staggering proportions, and how the Terri Schiavo saga is an example of the “right to die” movement’s steady transformation into the “obligation to die” juggernaut that will threaten the lives of countless aged and infirm men, women, and children in the years to come.

The Bible and the Catholic Church: A Marriage Made in Heaven

Examines the nature and interdependence of Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium; offers practical tips and proven techniques for Catholics who want to share and explain Catholic teaching with others; critiques the Protestant notion of “*sola scriptura*” (Latin: by Scripture alone), showing from the Bible, the facts of Christian history, and common sense itself that the “Bible alone” approach to authority is not what the Bible itself teaches, nor did Christ or the Apostles or early Christians teach or follow that principle. Loaded with scriptural information!

Search and Rescue: How You Can Help People Come Home to the Church

Based on the popular book by the same title, this seminar explains ten crucial “dos and don’ts” for Catholics who want to share, explain, and defending their Catholic beliefs. With a generous helping of humorous anecdotes, biblical examples, and practical illustrations, this talk equips lay-Catholics with the tools they need to help their family, friends, and co-workers come into (or back into) the Catholic Church. Cardinal Edward Egan, Archbishop of New York, said: “How do you bring someone back to the Catholic Church? First you pray, then you follow Patrick Madrid’s advice in *Search and Rescue*.”

Surprised by Truth: Why Are So Many Non-Catholics Becoming Catholic?

Every year, many thousands of people convert and are received into the Catholic Church. In this talk the specific reasons for conversion are explained along with the theological, spiritual, scriptural, and interpersonal dynamics that lead people into the Catholic Church. Offers a respectful and thought-provoking overview of why people become Catholic and how we can help.

Answer Me This!: How to Respond to Common Questions About Catholicism

From Mary to the papacy, from the Eucharist to contraception, there are many questions people ask about the Catholic Church. This illuminating seminar shows how to answer these and other questions using the Bible and the facts of Christian history for support. Just as importantly, this talk shows why it’s so important to always answer questions and challenges “with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:16), and how to do so without losing your cool or trying to “win” an argument.

Pope Fiction: Answers to Myths and Misconceptions About the Papacy

Covers many common biblical and historical misunderstandings about the papacy, including papal infallibility, was Peter the first pope? What about the bad popes? What role did the popes play in the Inquisition, the Crusades, and the Galileo Affair? Were there ever three popes at one time? Was there ever a female imposter pope called “Pope Joan”? What exactly did Pope Pius XII do to help the Jews during the Holocaust? And more.

The Case for Christ:

These days, many people dismiss the idea that Jesus Christ was the Son of God or that He rose from the dead. Indeed, many deny that he even existed. This dynamic and fast-paced seminar presents the solid historical proofs for the existence of Christ, His public ministry, death and Resurrection, and shows why its really the skeptics – not believing Christians – who are mired in “blind faith” when they deny the existence and divinity of Jesus Christ.

Any Friend of God's Is a Friend of Mine: Mary and the Communion of Saints

Many people have questions about and objections to Catholic teaching on the role of Mary and the saints in God's plan of salvation. This seminar examines the biblical evidence supporting Catholic doctrines and practices including praying to Mary and the saints, honoring Mary and the saints, the use of statues and icons vs. the sin of idolatry, and praying for the souls in purgatory. This presentation also offers succinct and persuasive answers to questions such as, "How can Mary hear all those millions of simultaneous prayers?" "Why do Catholics 'worship' Mary?" Why do you pray to saints when you can go directly to God?" and "Do Catholics worship statues?"

How to Explain the Sacraments to Someone Who Doesn't Believe in Them

The sacramental system is at the heart of the Catholic Faith, though many people, including some Catholics, don't understand why we need sacraments. This seminar examines the rich scriptural evidence surrounding the purpose and effects of the sacraments, especially baptism, the Eucharist, and confession to a priest. Discover why Christ used physical things like water, bread, wine – and *even His own saliva* – to impart grace to people!

Stump the Apologist: An Open-Forum Q&A Workshop

This free-wheeling and exciting question-&-answer workshop covers the waterfront of issues pertaining to the teachings of the Catholic Church, Scripture, Tradition, and Church history. The audience determines the questions and are encouraged to bring their Bible, a note pad, and their toughest questions – all of which will be answered in a friendly, charitable, and informative style.

For details on how to schedule a seminar with Patrick Madrid, or to view his bio and testimonials about his work from bishops, priests, and DREs, please visit **www.surprisedbytruth.com**.

Patrick Madrid
Surprised by Truth Seminars
PO Box 640
Granville, OH 43023

740-928-7767 voice
740-928-5975 fax
patrick@surprisedbytruth.com

*"Always be prepared to make a defense
to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you,
yet do it with gentleness and reverence" (1 Peter 3:15).*