

Memorial of Blessed John Paul II

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

This is an exciting week as we celebrate the canonization of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, which has a strong connection with our Archdiocese.

The Religion Curriculum Revision process is continuing to move forward. Please remember to check our webpage (www.seattlearchdiocese.org/CFF/RE/Curriculum.aspx) for editing information. We are asking all elementary schools and parish religion programs to designate a person to send us suggested revisions from your location. Please let us know if you have any questions; your involvement is deeply appreciated!

I also would like to draw your attention to two new links from the Liturgy Office that can be very helpful for RCIA team members.

This issue of our Religion Resource Newsletter is filled with lots of information related to the *Year of Faith*, including a list of American Saints and new resources that can be used in our parishes and schools. Please scroll through the following pages to find webinar opportunities, articles on social media, several inspirational video links and a new book on the Biblical story of Jonah.

In Christ,

Anne

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.
Director of Parish and School Faith Formation

<p>Archdiocesan website for the <i>Year of Faith</i>: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/yof</p>

Information from the Liturgy Office

The Liturgy Office website is being updated to have the most current information. Two sections that may be of assistance, especially to RCIA leadership, include the following:

www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Liturgy/Resources.aspx for resources on the RCIA
www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Liturgy/workshops.aspx for ongoing RCIA events and webinars and Dates for the 2013 Rites of Election and Chrism Mass

Feel free to browse around the new and improved Liturgy Office website and know that it will be maintained on a regular basis, with more up-to-date information and resources.

The Liturgy Office website also includes liturgical resources for the *Year of Faith* and a calendar of major Liturgies throughout the Archdiocese, such as multicultural Masses, Youth Convention, and Deacon and Priest Ordinations.

Ten American Saints For The Year Of Faith



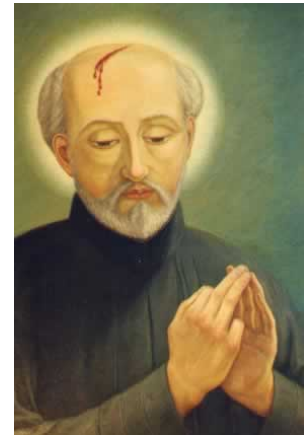
To honor the fiftieth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council and the twentieth anniversary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pope Benedict XVI has announced a Year of Faith, starting October 11 and ending November 24, 2013, meant to strengthen the faith of Catholics and draw the world to faith by their example. Pope Benedict has encouraged Catholics to study the lives of the saints as part of the Year of Faith in order to follow their example.

Jeannine Marino, program specialist for the Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) offers "*10 American Saints for the Year of Faith*" to help Catholics learn about the lives of the saints and to appreciate the history of the Catholic faith in

America. Marino is a canon lawyer who has served as a postulator and advisor to several canonization causes. A postulator conducts research into the life of a proposed saint.

Two saints from the list, Marianne Cope, OSF and Kateri Tekakwitha, will be canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 21. Here is the full list:

1. **OCTOBER: St. Isaac Jogues, SJ** was born in 1607 and ordained a Jesuit priest in 1636. During the year following his ordination, Isaac saw the fulfillment of his dearest wish: to be a missionary to the Indians in New France. His first several years of missionary work among the Indians were quiet enough, but in 1641, he and a group of fellow missionaries traveled to Iroquois country. There, the missionaries were whipped, bitten, and tormented in the most barbarous ways imaginable. St. Isaac Jogues became a living martyr, watching his friends die around him and being constantly threatened by death himself. After a year of this torment, in which Isaac was able to evangelize and baptize a few of the Iroquois, a chance for escape presented itself. He boarded a Dutch ship and went back to France. This only lasted a few months, however, as his heart still longed to bring the Word of God to the Iroquois. This return mission was to be his last. Isaac foresaw this when he wrote to a fellow Jesuit, saying "My heart tells me that, if I am the one to be sent on this mission, I shall go but I shall not return. But I would be happy if our Lord wished to complete the sacrifice where he began it." He was killed with a tomahawk in 1646, and canonized a saint in 1930 by Pope Pius XI. He is the patron saint of the Americas and Canada.



2. **St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, MSC**, the first U.S. citizen to be canonized, came to the United States as a missionary from Italy. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and, over 35 years, started six institutions for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated and the sick. She died in 1917 and is the patron saint of immigrants.

3. **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, SC**, the first native-born U.S. citizen to be canonized, was left poor and widowed with five children. She converted to Catholicism and founded the first order of religious women in America, the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph. She was cofounder of the first

free Catholic school in America and is considered the founder of the Catholic school system in the United States. She died in 1821.

4. **St. John Neumann, CSsR**, a Redemptorist priest, was the fourth bishop of Philadelphia from 1852 till his death in 1860. A native of Bohemia, he followed his vocation to New York City and, at the time of his ordination, was one of only 36 priests serving 200,000 Catholics. He founded the first diocesan Catholic school system in the United States, growing the number of schools in his diocese from two to 100.

5. **St. Katharine Drexel, SBS**, a wealthy, educated young woman from Philadelphia with a deep sympathy for the poor, gave up everything to become a missionary to the Indians and African Americans. She founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and started numerous schools and missions for Native and African Americans. She died at the age of 96 in 1955 and was canonized in 2000.

6. **St. Mother Théodore Guérin, SP**, founder of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, was asked to leave France and lead a small band of missionary sisters to Indiana. When the sisters arrived, there was only a log cabin with a porch that served as a chapel. By the time she died in 1856, she and her community had opened schools in Illinois and throughout Indiana. She was canonized in 2006.

7. **St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, RSCJ**, a missionary to Native Americans, traveled to the Louisiana Territory from France in 1818, where she and other members of the Society of the Sacred Heart carried out their missionary work. She opened the first free school for girls west of the Mississippi River, as well as the first Catholic school for Native Americans. She was known among the Pottowami Indians as the "Woman Who Prays Always."

8. **St. Damien de Veuster of Molokai, SSCC**, missionary to the lepers of Molokai, Hawaii, was born in Belgium in 1840 to a poor farmer and his wife. At 19, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. His older brother, also a priest in the congregation, had offered to minister to the lepers on the island of Molokai but fell ill and couldn't go. Damien volunteered to take his place and offered to stay in the leper colony permanently, building schools, churches, hospitals and coffins. He contracted leprosy himself but continued to serve the mission until his death in 1889.

9. **St. Marianne Cope, OSF**, another missionary to the lepers of Molokai, joined the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in her teens and served in leadership roles including novice mistress of her congregation and superior of St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse. She became a leader in the field of health care, often caring for those considered outcasts, which led her to volunteer in Hawaii. In Hawaii she cared for women and girls suffering from leprosy, providing them with an education. She died in 1918.

10. **St. Kateri Tekakwitha**, also known as the Lily of the Mohawks, converted at the age of 19, heedless of the anger of her relatives. Because she refused to work on Sundays, she was denied meals that day in the Mohawk village. Finally, a missionary encouraged her to run away to Montreal, where she practiced her faith freely and lived a life of extreme prayer and penance, taking a vow of virginity. She died in 1680.

More information on American saints and holy men and women for the Year of Faith is available online: www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/saints-for-the-year-of-faith.cfm.

Blessed John Paul II Added To U.S. Liturgical Calendar; Feast Day-October 22



The Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship has approved insertion of the optional memorial of Blessed John Paul II in the proper calendar of the dioceses of the United States. It also has provided the proper liturgical texts for observance of the Memorial in the Mass and Divine Office. Liturgical prayers and readings for the feast can be found at:

<http://www.usccb.org/about/leadership/holy-see/pope-john-paul-ii/memorial-of-blessed-john-paul-ii.cfm>

The U.S. bishops last November voted overwhelmingly to request the addition of the popular pope, who reigned for 27 years, into the U.S. liturgical calendar. The Office of Readings includes an excerpt from Pope John Paul's homily at his inauguration as pope in 1978, when he stressed "Do not be afraid, Open, I say open wide the doors for Christ." The message became one of the signature statements of his papacy.

The biographical piece in the Divine Office highlights the pope's pastoral visits around the world, his participation in the Second Vatican Council, and his zeal for families, young people and the sick. It also noted his promotion of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the new Code of Canon Law.

LA Archbishop Thinks Best Ways To Reach Youth Are Often Old Ones



The New Evangelization needs to reach out to young people using every means available, new and old, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles says. "It is our mission to ask God for the grace to discover new means to reach out to young people," Archbishop Gomez said. "We need to use all the new means of communication so that they can understand what we are talking about."

The New Evangelization must present timeless truths in new ways. "Beautiful traditions, like the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and the time of contemplation and meditation, are very popular among young people," he noted. "So we have to go back to that, so that they can feel, too, how important ... the Catholic faith is for them."

Bishops at the synod say that Church-approved catechists will be instrumental in bringing people to Christ and making the New Evangelization a success [my emphasis added].

Archbishop Gomez was excited to report that last week he presided at a Mass welcoming 3,000 new Church-certified catechists. Many of them are Spanish speakers who can minister to LA-area Latinos who may be devout and practice popular pieties but need instruction in the faith.

Before hurrying off to a late lunch, Archbishop Gomez referenced a point he made at his Oct. 9 synod address: “the teachings of the Catholic Church have not changed, society has changed.” At that address, he said, “We need to find the ‘language’ that best presents the traditional means of sanctification – the sacraments, prayer, works of charity – in a way that is attractive and accessible to people living in the reality of a globalized, secular, urban society. With our rich treasury of Catholic spiritualities ... and with our good news of God's ‘family plan’ for history, we possess powerful resources for our evangelization of culture in the context of globalization and the increasing secularization in our societies.”

Inspired By Vatican II - Father Shay Cullen

Religion & ETHICS N E W S W E E K L Y

Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly features an interview and story about Dominican Father Shay Cullen. He arrived in the

Philippines in 1972, inspired by the Second Vatican Council to “get out of the rectory and into the streets” to fight human trafficking. You can read or listen to this piece at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/episodes/october-19-2012/father-shay-cullen/13462/>.



Bishops To Address Challenges, Opportunities In Digital Age



The U.S. bishops will discuss getting up to speed with church teaching – literally – when they consider a statement on doctrine in the digital age at their November 12-15 meeting in Baltimore

Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington, chairman of the Doctrine Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), will present the statement "Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities for the Exercise of the teaching Ministry of the Diocesan Bishop," to be voted on by the entire assembly of bishops.

The statement cites challenges presented by the "quantum leap" in the speed of communications since the invention of the Internet. It demands that bishops "be able to respond immediately when Church teaching is challenged or misrepresented." The bishops also face the challenge that amidst many voices in the digital world "a bishop's voice on the Internet can appear to be just another in the competition for attention" requiring bishops to explain to people the nature of their authority.

The document also points to new opportunities, noting that the new digital media "constitute a blade that can cut two ways." They "create new difficulties for bishops in the exercise of their teaching office" yet "they also offer powerful new tools for more effective ministry." A key benefit of new media is "that they offer the bishop the possibility of communicating with people in a relatively unmediated fashion," the document said.

Year of Faith: Celebrating What We Believe, Practicing What We Teach



William H. Sadlier, Inc.

Join Sadlier and Father Ron Lewinski for a Webinar on Tuesday, October 23

Two convenient times to choose from.

* 4 p.m. Eastern Time click here: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/709917718>

* 7 p.m. Eastern Time click here: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/899833502>

In this Year of Faith Sadlier also celebrates the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. In revisiting a few theological themes of the Council, we have the opportunity to grow richer in our faith by rediscovering some of our basic Catholic beliefs which in this Year of Faith we are called to put into practice.

A Certificate of Attendance will be sent to attendees upon request.

Father Ron Lewinski is a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago and pastor of St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish in Mundelein, IL. He is an author and teacher on pastoral, liturgical and catechetical issues. He also serves as President of Frassati Catholic Academy and is the Pastoral Moderator for Parish Transformation, an Archdiocesan initiative for revitalizing parishes. Father Ron authored Sadlier's series of online articles on implementing the changes in the *Roman Missal*, Third Edition.

Religious Image Stamps Part of Holiday Tradition



The United States Post Office unveiled its new Christmas stamp Oct. 10 featuring an image of the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt. The image, released Oct. 10, is a change from the portrayal of Madonna and child featured on the Christmas stamp for close to 50 years. Roy Betts, a spokesman for the Postal Service, said the post office doesn't "really get comments" about the holiday stamps in general, most likely because of the diversity of stamps -- besides stamps with Christian imagery, there are those that commemorate Kwanzaa,

Hanukkah and Muslim festivals.

At the stamp's unveiling at Washington National Cathedral, the Rev. Gary Hall, the Episcopal cathedral's dean, said the stamp's image has its own universal message. He said the "story of this new family forced to leave their home" can remind people to care for those who are marginalized: "the poor, the elderly, the immigrant, and the refugee." He also said the image of the Holy Family "embarking for an unknown land" is a reminder that "we are in God's hands and we trust in God to guide our journey."

Faith Formation Learning Exchange

www.faithformationlearningexchange.net



**FAITH FORMATION
LEARNING EXCHANGE**

John Roberto is happy to announce the new Fall Update of the Faith Formation Learning Exchange is now available. It is brought to you as a service of Vibrant Faith Ministries. You can now access new research studies, theory and practice essays, and practical tools across the life span - all from the front page of the website. Check out the update now at: www.FaithFormationLearningExchange.net.

They are working to create a new design for early 2013 that will bring you the same great content with a new look and with new social media features to engage you in sharing your best resources and practices in faith formation across the life span.

Please let John, as the Project Coordinator, know if there are resources you would like to see on the Learning Exchange as they create the new website. Contact him at jroberto@lifelongfaith.com.

Heaven is Real



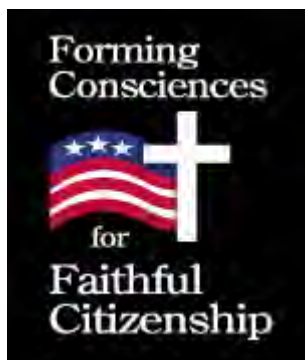
This was the first time I have seen the topic addressed without a question mark. In fact, this statement was on the cover of *Newsweek* and it features an interesting article by a medical doctor, a neurosurgeon to be exact, who had a near-death experience and because of it he is “very different from the person I was before....” You can read the article by Dr. Eben Alexander at

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2012/10/07/proof-of-heaven-a-doctor-s-experience-with-the-afterlife.html>.



I read my first book about these life after death experiences in the early 1980's and I was fascinated. These last few years there was even a book entitled [*Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back*](#). This article is a little different because he offers some scientific background to his observations. I don't suggest that this strengthens my belief in the afterlife that we have come to call heaven but it does convince me that I need not be afraid in a way that is reassuring and maybe even comforting. You may wish to check out the October 15, 2012 issue for yourself.

November 4 Faithful Citizenship Sunday



Don't forget that November 4 is the final of four Sundays on which the bishops are encouraging parishes to focus on *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. The theme for Nov. 4 is on "Our Commitment to Faithful Citizenship." There are several resources available for use on this Sunday, including [homily suggestions](#) (also in [Spanish](#)). Also consider using one of the [bulletin inserts](#) (also in Spanish), and showing one of the Faithful Citizenship [videos](#). Remember, many other resources are available in the [Parishes and Schools](#) (such as prayers, lesson plans, etc.) and [Diocesan and Community Leaders](#) (such as Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for voter registration, etc.) sections of the website at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

FREE Professional Development Webinar – Thursday, November 8



Ave Maria Press, in partnership with the **National Conference for Catechetical Leadership**, the National Association for Lay Ministry, and National Federation of Priests' Councils presents a series of free, online

workshops on professional development for parish ministers. This webinar *O Radiant Dawn: Ministering to Families (and Yourself) this Advent Season* is offered on Thursday, November 8 at 3:00 pm EST. You can register at [PDW-11.08.2012](#)

(<http://tiny.cc/o7h6lw>). For a complete listing of professional development webinars in this series, please visit www.avemariapress.com/webinars.



***O Radiant Dawn: Ministering to Families (and Yourself) this Advent Season* by Lisa Hendey**

As clergy, religious, ministry professionals, laity, family members, and parents, we strive to make Advent a season of prayerful preparation for those around us, but we often fall prey to the busyness and demands of the season. Join author Lisa Hendey for a look at how to make this Advent season meaningful for yourself and others, while at the same time seeking peace and a sense of amazement at the splendor of God's love.



Pressed for Time? Take a Minute to Feel Awe



If you're feeling pressed for time, try hiking to a mountain vista or listening to a masterful symphony. New research suggests that the resulting awe may leave you feeling less rushed. Experiencing awe makes people [feel as if time is plentiful](http://tiny.cc/oa06lw) (<http://tiny.cc/oa06lw>), according to a new study to be published in the journal *Psychological Science*. Not many emotions make people feel that way, study researcher Melanie Rudd, a graduate student in business at Stanford University, told *LiveScience*. "We kind of run around with these very hectic day-to-day lives," Rudd said. "To find something out there that actually gives us a feeling of more time — it seems like such a rare event." [[The Most Awe-Inspiring Natural Wonders in America](http://tiny.cc/bd06lw)] (<http://tiny.cc/bd06lw>). You can read the complete article at <http://tiny.cc/3e06lw> or you can download a PDF of her paper at <http://tiny.cc/ch06lw>.

Is Social Media Making Us Lonely?

This *Food for Thought* appeared as a *Team Building Tip of the Month* on the website Terrapin Adventures <http://www.terrapinadventures.com/blog/>. I think it's worth some reflection.

In a May 2012 Atlantic Monthly article, Stephen Marche talks about how technology and



social media are good at helping people connect. People are able to stay on top of what is happening within the business community and within their personal sphere of family and friends. While social media has enabled us to get or stay connected with many more people, many of these connections are superficial.

Many more people are in single person households now. Computers and smart phones have enabled us to stay connected with people as we deal with the ex-burbs, and long commutes. 27% of households today contain only one person compared to 10% in 1950. In 1985 only 10% of Americans said they had no one with whom to discuss important matters, and 15% said they had only one such good friend. By 2004, 25% had nobody to talk to, and 20% had only one confidant. In the face of this social disintegration, we have essentially hired an army of replacement confidants with huge increases in clinical psychologists, social workers, counselors and therapists to share our personal thoughts. Many would argue that having a Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn account has helped them get more connected. They are able to keep up or reconnect with people far away or who have gone in different directions.

No matter what your take on the subject, take time to make connections with people. Pick up the phone, post to your social media account, react to others postings, get together in person and enjoy the human experience.

The Power of Strangers

This is a very intriguing article from ODE magazine. Of interest, “Pew found that the average American is involved in 3.5 groups. The most popular are church gatherings, sports leagues and consumer groups.” So we have to ask ourselves, if this is true, why aren’t these people turning to the church. Here are excerpts from the beginning of the article. If interested, you can find the entire piece at <http://odewire.com/134910/the-power-of-strangers.html>.



"People around the world are finding rejuvenation in groups, from book clubs that meet in living rooms to the mass street protests that have swept the Arab world. This coming together may well be a response to the breakdown of social networks caused by everything from the changing nature of the family to the ongoing economic squeeze. And in some cases, these face-to-face

meetings are facilitated by the same digital technologies thought to be supplanting them. What they have in common though, according to Henry Hemming, author of the book [**Together: How Small Groups Achieve Big Things**](#) is the power of giving -- a collective effort that harnesses the gifts of individuals to achieve something greater than the sum of its parts.

...But groups not only hurl members toward their goals but make happier, healthier people who are better connected to themselves and their communities, according to the evidence. And the best news of all? Groups seem to be on the rise.



While statistics on informal gatherings are hard to come by, the numbers support this idea. A study by the Pew Research Center found that 74 percent of Americans belong to some kind of group, compared with 65 percent who said the same in 2008. The report, “The Social Side of the Internet,” covers 2,303 adults and 27 kinds of associations, from religious organizations to fan clubs

If after reading the article you want to know even more you can order [**Together: How Small Groups Achieve Big Things**](#).

4 Marks of the Catholic Church



The lyrical talent of Sammy Blaze describes the four pillars of the Catholic faith. Watch the video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZfUQHk3x3I&feature=related> . The song is found on his album, *The Meaning of Life*, and can be purchased at [4 Marks](#).



4 MARKS

REFRAIN:

4 Signs, that Jesus lived forever on this Earth,
4 Things, that He gave to His One True Church,
4 Marks to distinguish the Truth from Imitators,
And 2000 years later, we still shakin' off tha haters.
Cuz it's One, One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism
And it's Holy, founded by Christ, not by a schism
It's Catholic, spread worldwide, total evangelism
And Apostolic, passed down by apostles, no criticism

From His ministry to the Ascension, Heavenly elevation.
He preached faith, love, unity, never separation.
He commissioned His chosen to go out into the world,
Reveal the revelation and baptize the nations,
He came, became man, to make man
The same man as His son, with The Father, Holy Spirit three in one
For a kingdom divided cannot stand and withstand the sands of time and the human hand.
It takes a greater man, to understand, the power in communion and the master plan.
Connected through the Vine, in a single file line. One Fold and One Shepherd we are
connected to Divine, Better fitted than a Mitchell and Ness, The mystery consumes us,
Pure holiness. Sanctity flows through us, to show us the true us. Remove all the blinders
so we can be what we were born to be, Truth finders.
One Life to live, One life to give on this earth to do my thing till I return to the dirt
One bread One body one Lord of all One name to call as I rise from the fall

REFRAIN

It came upon the bout 100 AD That old St. Ignatius would be so gracious
To write a letter to sustain us, that anywhere on God's green earth there was a bishop
there's the Catholic Church. Now many people used the Name of Jesus for their own
agenda, so Catholic separated real Christians from the pretenders. They shook those who
didn't have the keys and cooked those who had the beef
The Name held it down for centuries Anything from Pharisees to Heresies
They couldn't overcome the Holy See Remember Matthew Chapter 16
It's coming full circle now, like once around the globe
The truth won't hurt you now, so everybody know

Catholic Missionaries, Universal messengers,
Take the world by storm and Grab it like a wrestler,
Protect our Mother Church, if anybody stressing her
Take the Word everywhere, up close and personal,
Whatever it takes so every person know,
Beautiful faith, the gift and curse you know.
Our Calling as Catholics, meaning Universal
One Holy Catholic Apostolic Yes Let's Go

REFRAIN

As the Father has sent me, I now send you, and those who hear you, will hear me too
Please do your homework, if you need the proof,
Unbroken succession means unbroken Truth
The Holy Spirit revealed the faith under two conditions
One: by Sacred Scripture, Two: Sacred Tradition
The Scripture from God's Will, to the Spirit to the prophets
And Tradition from the mouth of witnesses, Apostolic
No doubt the original twelve taught the Truth Divine
Jesus promised to be with us, until the end of time
The 4 Marks not road blocks, but more of safety signs
Unless you fall for anathema, and lead you to your demise
Been One since it was founded, safeguarded from Fallacies, Holy by the Founder,
Creator of the Galaxies
All around the world Catholic knows no boundaries
It's just a matter of time and people are bound to see
The modern day apostles, our every day priests
Defenders of the Way of the Lord, as they preach
and teach original doctrines from the root
What more can I say, the choice is up to you.
When the Truth hits ya, like two to the dome
Welcome Home, from here all roads lead to Rome.

How a 29-Year-Old Stockbroker Saved 669 Lives – “...do some good.”



This is the story of Sir Nicholas Winton. In 1939, Winton and a friend, Martin Blake, were supposed to take a skiing vacation. Instead, Blake, who worked with refugees, told Winton, at the time a 29-year-old stockbroker, that he should visit him in Prague and help with the refugees fleeing Hitler's advancing armies.

Nicholas Winton did go to Prague, and he was deeply affected by what he saw: thousands of refugees driven out of Sudetenland, a Czechoslovakian area recently under Nazi control (Britain and France agreed to allow Hitler to annex a large part of Czechoslovakia in an attempt to avoid a

World War and the Nazis had started to take control of the country.) There was no plan to save the refugees from the looming danger of the Nazis.

So Winton decided to act. He told the BBC, “The task was enormous but I had to do something. The so-called Kindertransports—initiatives to bring children west—had been organized elsewhere, but not in Prague.”

From March to August 1939, Winton worked as a stockbroker by day and a rescue worker at night to get the kids to the UK. Winton advertised in British newspapers and in churches and temples to find families. He raised money for transportation and managed logistics—even forging entry permits when the government was moving too slowly. Winton saved 669 children, working until war broke out and kids could no longer leave Czechoslovakia.

In fact, Winton kept his heroic deeds to himself for almost 50 years. His wife, Grete, didn’t even know about his rescue efforts until 1988, when she found his scrapbook in the attic, with records, photos, names and documents from his efforts. With his wife’s encouragement, Winton shared his story, which led to his appearance on the BBC television program *That’s Life*. The emotional video clip in this article is from that show—you’ll see the moment when he realizes that the studio audience is composed mostly of people he rescued.

The rescued children, many of them now grandparents, still refer to themselves as “Winton’s children.” And Winton said that hardly a week goes by when he isn’t in touch with one of the children or their relatives. Vera Gissing, one of the rescued children, said, “If he hadn’t gone to Prague on that day [instead of on his skiing vacation], we wouldn’t be alive. There are thousands of us in this world all thanks to him.”



When asked by a class doing a history project for advice, Nicholas Winton said “Don’t be content in your life just to do no wrong. Be prepared every day to try to do some good.” You can read the entire article and watch the video at <http://www.bradaronson.com/nicholas-winton/>.

Reel Wisdom: Lessons from 40 Films in 7 Minutes



It is not known who [Superluminal805](#) is but thanks to him/her, we are able to watch clips from these 40 films portraying scenes that could lead to interesting conversations. Here is [Superluminal805](#) and the writer’s comments.

I made this video because I love films and I think there is great wisdom inherent in the film medium. This video represents some of the best film wisdom I could find, edited together as a single, coherent piece of advice.

In creating this video, I wanted to focus on a few key themes, while featuring as many films as I could. As a result, Reel Wisdom features a broad array of films, from action/adventure and sci-fi films, to dramas and



traditional/CG animated films in order to show how all genres of film have something important to say.



There are a lot of Star Wars lines, I know. I included those mainly because I grew up watching Star Wars, and I love all the great lessons found in the films. And obviously, I couldn't make a video with all the wisdom from films, because it would be really long and rather incoherent. This video contains wisdom from only 40 films in a world where hundreds of films are made every year. Sorry if your

favorites didn't make it. You can watch it at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8CaC4RMwsM>.

The films used, in order of appearance:

Pirates of Silicon Valley
Swimming with Sharks
The Matrix
Star Trek (2009)
Ghost Rider
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
The Iron Giant
Lions for Lambs
The Shawshank Redemption
The Matrix Revolutions
Dead Poet's Society
Gladiator
Troy
The Matrix Reloaded
Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith
The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008)
The Bucket List
The Lion King
Forrest Gump
Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi
Ferris Beuler's Day Off
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Ratatouille
Terminator 2: Judgment Day
Catch Me If You Can
Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope
Batman Begins
Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace
Hitch
Phenomenon

The Pursuit of Happyness
The Men Who Stare at Goats
Bicentennial Man
The Incredibles
Under the Tuscan Sun
Kung Fu Panda
K-Pax
Quantum of Solace

Jonah's Whale



This is the story of Jonah's encounter with the whale from the whale's perspective. God created Whale and gave him everything that he needed: a family, food to eat, joyful songs to sing, and a beautiful ocean in which to swim and play. Then God called upon Whale to rescue a drowning man from a stormy sea. Whale did as he was told, but no matter how hard he listened, he couldn't hear any more directions from God regarding what to do with the fellow who was now in his stomach. Finally, on the third night, Whale heard new instructions to spit the man Jonah onto dry land. This he did, and then he returned to the open sea, where he spent his remaining years singing his sweet song, ready to rescue anyone else who needed him. You can order [*Jonah's Whale*](#).