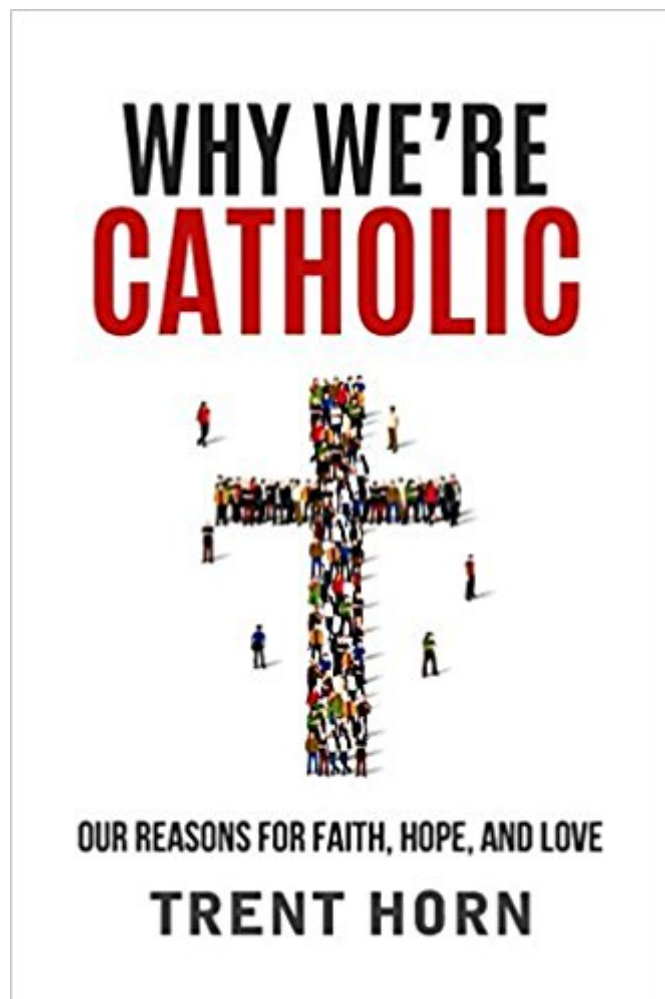




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# Why We're Catholic: Our Reasons For Faith, Hope, And Love



## Synopsis

How can you believe all this stuff? This is the number-one question Catholics get asked and, sometimes, we ask ourselves. Why do we believe that God exists, that he became a man and came to save us, that what looks like a wafer of bread is actually his body? Why do we believe that he inspired a holy book and founded an infallible Church to teach us the one true way to live? Ever since he became Catholic, Trent Horn has spent a lot of time answering these questions, trying to explain to friends, family, and total strangers the reasons for his Catholic faith. Some didn't believe in God, or even in the existence of truth. Others said they were spiritual but didn't think you needed religion to be happy. Some were Christians who thought Catholic doctrines over-complicated the pure gospel. And some were fellow Catholics who had a hard time understanding everything they professed to believe on Sunday. Why? We're Catholic assembles the clearest, friendliest, most helpful answers that Trent learned to give to all these people and more. Beginning with how we can know reality and ending with our hope of eternal life, it's the perfect way to help skeptics and seekers (or Catholics who want to firm up their faith) understand the evidence that bolsters our belief and brings us joy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you've ever wondered why Catholics believe what they do, Trent's book is the ideal resource to find the answers. With great clarity and charity, he walks the reader through the most common objections and questions people have about Catholicism. Whether you're a Catholic looking to deepen your faith or you're curious about the claims made by the Church, you need to read *Why*

We re Catholic. --Jason Evert, author of Saint John Paul the Great: His Five Loves  
RCIA teachers should consider gifting a copy to every candidate and catechumen, and every priest and deacon should keep a stack of these books on his desk, as a ready handout. Why We re Catholic must find a home on every Catholic s bookshelf; I promise you, it will gather no dust. --Leila Miller - blogger

Trent Horn is a staff apologist for Catholic Answers who specializes in teaching Catholics to graciously and persuasively engage those who disagree with them. Trent has a master's degree in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in philosophy from Holy Apostles College. He is the author of three books: Answering Atheism, Persuasive Pro-life, and Hard Sayings: A Catholic Approach to Answering Bible Difficulties.

I read this book right after reading Why I Am Catholic (and You Should Be Too) by Brandon Vogt. In some ways there is a number of similarities, and both speak specifically about the example of Saint Damien of Molokai. This was also the 10th book by Trent Horn that I have read this year. With each of his books that I read I am more impressed with his writing, his faith, his knowledge and his love of sharing these three things. Now having read a number of his books in such a short time, there were a number of times where I felt like I had read this passage before. He uses some of the same examples or arguments as his other books. But to be honest this book was a wonderful read. The chapters in this book are: Introduction: Why We Believe . . . Anything1. Why We Believe in Truth2. Why We Believe in Science3. Why We Believe in a Creator4. Why We Believe in God5. Why We Believe God Conquers Evil6. Why We Believe in Jesus7. Why We Believe in the Resurrection8. Why We Believe in the Trinity9. Why We Believe in the Bible10. Why We Aren't Bible-Only Christians11. Why We Belong to the Catholic Church12. Why We Have a Pope13. Why We Have Priests14. Why We Go to Mass15. Why We Baptize Babies16. Why We Believe in Spite of Scandal17. Why We Believe that Faith Works Through Love18. Why We Believe in Purgatory19. Why We Pray to the Saints20. Why We Honor Mary21. Why We Protect Life22. Why We Cherish Our Sexuality23. Why We Defend Marriage24. Why We Believe There's a Hell25. Why We Hope for HeavenHow to Become CatholicHow to Go to ConfessionCommon Catholic PrayersEndnotesTwo sections in the book immediately struck a chord with me; first the section on Saint Damien or Molokai, of whom I have been reading about and researching for over a decade now. And second Father Emil Kapaun, whom I only discovered last year. Both of these men have inspired me and finding them both called out as examples in this book hit me. But let's go back to the beginning, in the introduction Trent states: "I

don't look at people who've left the Catholic Church or who aren't Catholic as potential "customers." They're just people. They have things they love and things they hate. They may differ from me in lots of ways, but they almost certainly have one thing in common with me: they don't want to be ignorant and they do want to be happy. I became Catholic in high school because 1) I thought it was true, and 2) finding answers to my deepest questions about existence and purpose made me happy. It would be selfish of me to keep to myself the peace and joy I receive from being Catholic, so I share this "good news" with others. My aim in this book is simple: to explain why Catholics believe what they believe. I haven't given every explanation I can think of, because most people aren't in a rush to read a book that is so thick it can double as a step stool. Instead, I've presented the reasons that made the biggest impact on me during my conversion to the Catholic faith. This book is designed to strengthen your faith, and help you be able to explain it and defend it. It is not all encompassing but it does a great job of covering many of the basics. Throughout the book there are "side boxes," pieces that explain deeper, or give examples of what is being talked about in that section of the book. Another great feature is that each chapter ends with three or more bullet points reinforcing what Catholics believe from the topic of that specific chapter. One of the most powerful side boxes is: WHO STARTED YOUR CHURCH? Calvary Chapel, 1965: Chuck Smith Mormon church, 1830: Joseph Smith Disciples of Christ, 1809: Thomas Campbell Baptist church, 1609: John Smyth Presbyterian church, 1560: John Knox Calvinist church, 1536: John Calvin Lutheran church, 1517: Martin Luther Eastern Orthodox church, 1054: Eastern Patriarchs Catholic Church, 33: Jesus Christ And at the end of the book is a mini prayer book of common prayers. These eight prayers are the basis of so many popular Catholic devotions, or parts of a plan of life. And then there is an extensive section of end notes with quotes, and sources to go deeper. I have read just shy of 200 books so far this year, of those 200, 105 were Catholic and this is one of the best out of all of that reading. Another incredible book from Catholic Answers, and written by Trent Horn. Pick it up you will be challenged, become more firmly rooted and prepared to answer hard questions about your faith!

Easy and fast to read, this is a great summary of the Catholic faith. It's a perfect starting point for learning about catholicism or a useful checkpoint for refining your understanding.

another well written work by Trent Horn, very clear and reasonable explanations of Catholicism.

Interesting and informative. I especially like the recap at the end of each chapter.

Great book! Will be one I reread often.

Looks good haven't read yet

I recommend this for non-Catholics and Catholics. Very good resource to have. Will order hard copies to give away. Ben

Good overview of Catholic beliefs and the reason believed.

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