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New Tenth Anniversary Edition of *My Life with the Saints* Celebrates Jesuit Writer Father James Martin's Contemporary Spiritual Classic

This fall, Loyola Press celebrates Father James Martin's modern spiritual classic with an updated edition: *My Life with the Saints 10th Anniversary Edition* (\$16.95 paperback, September 1, 2016). Originally released in 2006, the book has sold roughly 200,000 copies. It was named one of *Publishers Weekly's* Best Books of the Year, and won a Christopher Award and the Catholic Press Association Book Award, and is today used in countless parishes and schools.

My Life with the Saints was a break-out book for Father Martin, a Jesuit priest and editor at *America* magazine. Already an established writer and media source when the book was published, he went on to become a *New York Times* best-selling author, "Official Chaplain" of "The Colbert Report," and a welcome presence in the media whenever there's a breaking Catholic news story.

In his characteristically witty, warm, and honest voice, Father Martin tells how his life was shaped by the saints of the Catholic Church. He introduces readers to saints with whom he has a special friendship, such as Peter, Francis of Assisi, Thérèse of Lisieux, and Ignatius of Loyola. Several of the Catholic spiritual giants he included in the book were not officially saints, but that has changed: Pope John XXIII is now Saint John XXIII, and Mother Teresa will be canonized Saint Teresa of Calcutta on September 4. Two others are on their way: Pedro Arrupe and Dorothy Day were declared by the Church to be "Servants of God," the first step on the road to canonization.

Throughout the success of *My Life with the Saints* and his subsequent books, and the attendant media attention, Father Martin has always remained recognizably himself. As noted Catholic journalist John L. Allen, Jr., says in the foreword to the new edition, "[T]he Jim Martin experiment in American public life shows that a generous and calm personality, one based on treating people with respect and civility, actually can win hearts and minds, as Jim has been doing for a full decade since the appearance of *My Life with the Saints*."

In addition to the foreword by Mr. Allen, the 10th anniversary edition includes an extensive new chapter by Father Martin, "Still Trying to Become a Saint." Here he updates readers on his life over the last ten years, discusses the response to the book and common questions he receives—"Why didn't you include Saint (insert name here)?" being one of the most frequent queries he hears—and discusses other saints who have played an important role in his life, such as the Jesuit North American Martyrs.

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About James Martin, S.J.

New York Times bestselling author James Martin, S.J. is known as an engaging explainer of American Catholicism through his books and frequent, well-received media appearances—including on Stephen Colbert’s former show, “The Colbert Report,” where he was dubbed “Chaplain to the Colbert Nation.”

Before entering the Jesuits in 1988, he graduated from the Wharton School of Business. A Jesuit now for more than 25 years, Father Martin’s faith is informed by the Jesuit Order founder Saint Ignatius Loyola’s directive to “find God in all things,” and by the lives of the saints he writes about so winningly in *My Life with the Saints*.

His work as a priest has taken him around the world, including two years with Jesuit Refugee Service/East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, where he helped East African refugees start small businesses, and co-founded a refugee handicraft shop called The Mikono Centre. He has worked at a hospital for the seriously ill in Cambridge, MA; in a hospice for the sick and dying with the Missionaries of Charity in Kingston, Jamaica; at the Nativity Mission Center, a school for poor boys, in New York City; an outreach program with street-gang members in the Chicago housing projects, and as a chaplain in a Boston jail. He has also works as a spiritual director.

Martin is editor-at-large for *America* magazine, and author of numerous books, including *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*, *A Jesuit Off-Broadway*, *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*, *Between Heaven and Mirth*, *The Abbey*, *This Our Exile*, and *In Good Company*. He’s appeared on all the major networks and in venues as diverse as NPR’s Fresh Air, The O’Reilly Factor, PBS NewsHour, the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Boston Globe*, and on the History Channel, BBC, and Vatican Radio.

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