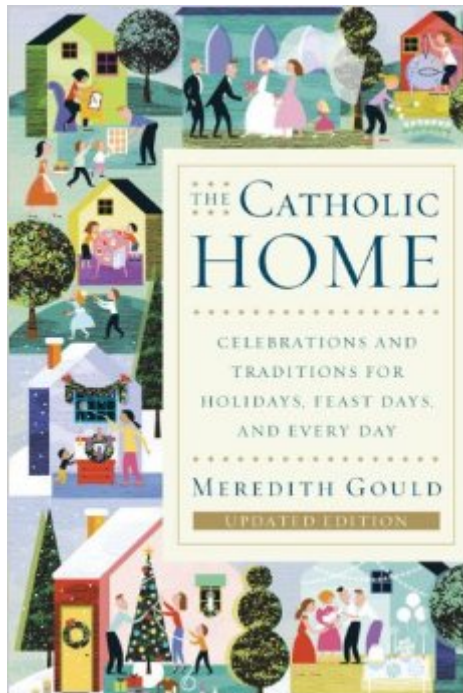


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# The Catholic Home: Celebrations And Traditions For Holidays, Feast Days, And Every Day



## Synopsis

For centuries, the Catholic Church has offered an abundance of splendid traditions that extend religious and spiritual practice into daily life. Now, Meredith Gould reintroduces these customs and rituals to modern Roman Catholics. Using the liturgical calendar, *The Catholic Home* provides familiar and new ways to celebrate each season and its special days. Gould reviews major holy days, select saints' days, familiar prayers, and suggests meaningful ways to prepare as a family for such sacraments as Baptism, Confirmation, First Eucharist, and Matrimony. This book includes a concise history of each ritual and clarifies the meaning behind it by highlighting celebrations of Catholic holidays from different parts of the globe. Your family will learn to make Advent wreaths, Jesse trees, St. Lucy's crowns, King's cakes, All Souls altars, traditional foods, and participate in family devotions. Throughout *The Catholic Home*, Gould's down-to-earth practicality and sense of humor give the activities she describes modern relevance no matter how ancient their origins. Excerpts from the official Catechism of the Catholic Church are included to illuminate Church doctrine on matters of faith and ritual. This indispensable guide will appeal to Catholics young and old and inspire beloved family traditions to be handed down from one generation to the next.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I think this book would make a wonderful gift for someone who is either new to Catholicism, say entering RCIA or returning to the Church after many years absence, or for someone who is just easing into the celebration of seasonal rituals for the home, for the first time, and who does not want

to be overwhelmed. It might help to point out that this is a book which makes some pretty basic distinctions: that Catholics pray with the saints in icons, not to the saints in icons. It explains the Jesse Tree for Christmas, but strangely, has little information on the Advent wreath (though, to be fair, the author suggests that you can find lots of information, including the daily readings, online). It includes a few paragraphs on keeping a prayer journal, lists the station of the cross for Lent and explains the Rosary in a fairly minimal and introductory fashion. The whole book runs to roughly 200 pages, not including appendices, but including non-seasonal information, daily devotions and honoring the sacraments, so that each seasonal celebration merits just a few pages. Today's solemnity, Mary, Mother of God, runs to a page and a half, a third of which is taken up by the entry heading. As the saying goes, this is not a fount of information that would drown an elephant, though it is a good, resourceful introduction for those individuals who are just beginning a deepening personal, sacramental life in the Church. I, personally, would have loved to have discovered, in this book, more information on all the seasons: crafts for adults and children; information on home altars not just in the back of the book, but within every seasonal entry; more historical information, prayers and novenas and lots and lots of pictures!

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