

## **Resources I Recommend**

In the world of Catholic media there is a spectrum of content ranging from the right-wing, radical traditionalists who all but reject the Second Vatican Council to the very liberal folk who do not think that same council went far enough in modernizing the Church according to categories of the world. This just represents my clumsy attempt to express the matter in terms of a spectrum with extremes and a vast “in-between.”

For what it’s worth, I would like to suggest the resources which are, I think, most balanced and worthwhile and a few others which, not without problems, are still worth a look see:

### **Word on Fire wordonfire.com**

This, of course, is Bishop Robert Barron’s project for evangelizing the culture. I find the Bishop a brilliant apologist and evangelist and a theologian in his own right. The website blog posts are written by very thoughtful and doctrinally sound clergy and laity. Some of the content may be slightly erudite or scholastic for some. But there remains a lot on this website which is readily accessible to most.

### **Breaking In the Habit, (YouTube)**

Brother Casey is a young Franciscan Friar who has produced an abundance of videos on this channel. He reminds me of a young Bishop Barron. I really find his content well informed, balanced and nuanced. He recently took a lot of abuse for prioritizing discipleship over the fight against abortion and I was impressed by the grace with which he handled this delicate matter.

### **Aquinas 101, Thomistic Institute, (YouTube)**

This group of Dominicans does a great job of explaining the metaphysics of St. Thomas Aquinas. St. Thomas demonstrates the compatibility of Faith and Reason. The priestly and lay presenters understand how to answer atheistic “scientism” and other challenges to faith by means of important “meta-physical” concepts like “existence” “essence”, “potency”, “actuality”, “the soul” etc. These are made accessible to people who have never read the great doctor of the Church.

### **The Counsel of Trent, (YouTube)**

This cleverly titled channel is hosted by Catholic Apologist, Trent Horn. Apologetics is a defense of Catholic belief against misrepresentations by atheists, Protestants or others. Despite the name, this form of defense is not an “apology” for being Catholic or having the beliefs we have; it is a manner of explaining. Trent Horn is a very smart and well-versed presenter who is skilled at in-person debates.

### **3 Minute Catechism (You Tube)**

This is a clever channel which features cartoon drawings of an artistic priest. The priest uses his art to explain the basic things of our faith. He combines some humor with the graphic representations to clearly represent Catholic Christianity.

### **Catholic Productions, (You Tube)**

This is a wonderful resource for Bible study. Most of the presentation are by Dr. Brant Pitre who offers explanations and interpretations according to the best scholarship but in an accessible manner.

# CATHOLIC MEDIA

### **Catholic Answers (website)**

This resource is conveniently located at catholic.com. It is an apologetics resource not unlike Trent Horn’s channel on YouTube. It offers information in a wide variety of formats such as podcasts, blogs, articles, an encyclopedia, and database and more. Apologetics is a great way to delve more deeply into the content of our Faith.

### **Elements of the Catholic Mass, (YouTube)**

Offered by an organization called The Liturgical Institute, the priest in these videos offers some of the best explanations I have found for what we celebrate at the altar on Sunday and why. He taught me some things I apparently missed in my own formation as a priest.

There are, of course, many other good options out there. Hopefully you will find these helpful.