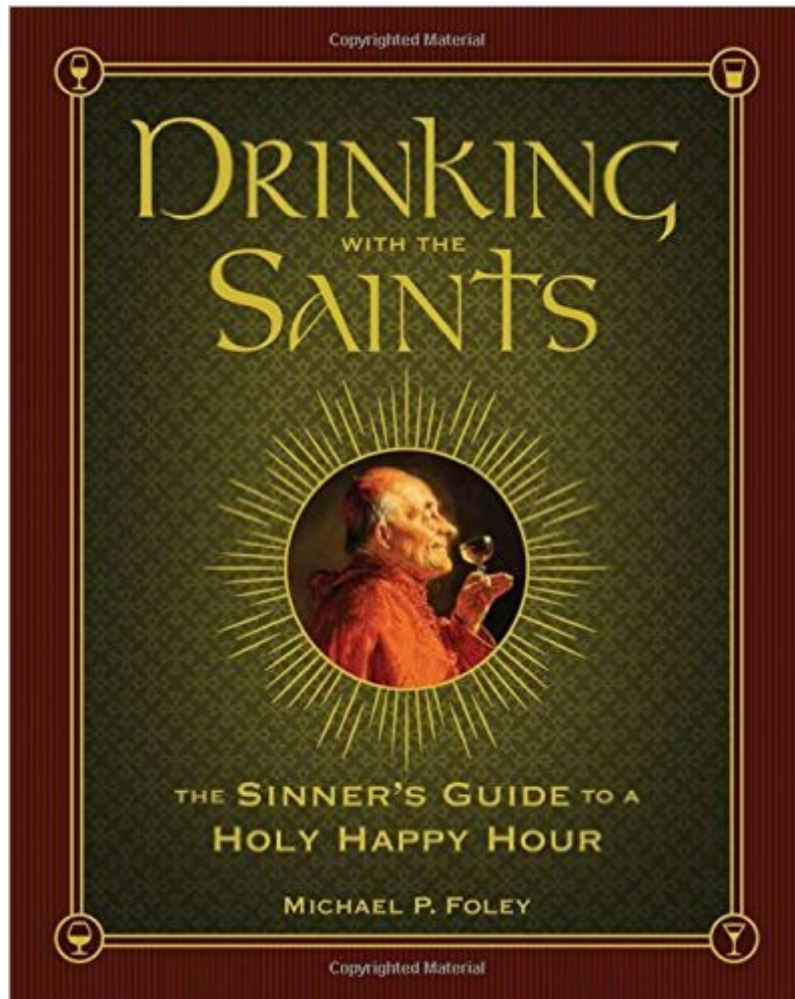


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# Drinking With The Saints: The Sinner's Guide To A Holy Happy Hour



## Synopsis

Pub crawl your way through the sacred seasons with this entertaining and useful collection of cocktail recipes, distilled spirits, beer, and wine for virtually every occasion on the Catholic liturgical calendar. One part bartender's guide, one part spiritual manual, a dash of irreverence, and mixed with love: *Drinking with the Saints* is a work that both sinner and saint will savor.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a gem and a one-of-a-kind gift for yourself, your family or your friends! It is a substantial hardbound book with beautiful Catholic art inside. It is large because it literally has a drink for every day of the liturgical year that has a Saint's feast day. Unlike a coffee table book, this book is one that you will use. You can both learn from it and live with it -- learning about the lives of the Saints and enjoying life with friends by making a delicious beverage in the Saints' honor. For an extra special gift, give this book along with a drink shaker (with built in strainer as the author suggests). Three cheers for Michael P. Foley's "*Drinking with the Saints*."

I ordered this book as soon as I saw it on , and have had a few days to sample both the impressive research and the tasty drinks. First I turned to my wife's birthday and learned about St. Melchiades and Grappa. So far, so good. Then I turned back a page & read about the Immaculate Conception and drank both a White Lady and, having recently bought a very nice chachaca, a Caipirinha. Even better (2-for-1). The next day, I stuck to the present and read about Michael Ghisleri (Pius V) and had a very satisfying Verper Martini. All I can say is that this year is going to be both educational

and a lot of fun. By the way, all reviews so far, save one, are right on the money accurate. The other reminds me of the way David Letterman used to have movie reviews delivered by particular specialists, e.g., an electrician reviewing *The Verdict* and finding the lighting completely wrong. Foley's point in the introduction has to do with sizing your drinks - a cocktail used to be a small affair - and not what Cary Grant was drinking in *North by Northwest*. Nit-Pickers be dashed (with bitters)! Foley knows his drinks (and his saints)!

"Drinking with the Saints" arrived from 3 days ago. The first thing my 12-year-old son said was, "That's a great cover!" And the book is handsome: well-designed, beautifully-illustrated & built for use. And it will get plenty of use in our household. This book would be well worth the price just for the remarkable variety of delicious drink recipes presented; but why not add in the rich history of the lives of the saints and the beautiful seasons and cycles of the calendar? I mean, even pagan French kids still know more about the religious calendar and the saints than most of us. Mike Foley presents remarkably extensive research with a light touch and gives us a deeper meaning to celebrate with fine cocktails, beer & wine. Skol!

I intend to write a more detailed review at New Liturgical Movement -- the book deserves it! -- but for now, let it suffice to say that this tome is absolutely entertaining from start to finish. It is a whole education in the calendar of the saints, a frequent cause of ebullient joy, and a veritable encyclopedia of creative concoctions. When you add to this the salt and pepper of theological lessons (never heavy-handed), the thoughtful artistic design, the classic pictures of saints, and various indices, you are talking about a book to cherish.

This book reminds me of how much fun we, as Catholics, are. Michael P. Foley brings out the joy of the Faith in a rather refreshing, unexpected way. In the Old Testament, we read how God delights in wine. If wine gladdens the heart, then Michael P. Foley's little gem has brought joy to the soul. On a side note. Take this little book with you to Mass. Drinking with the Saints makes for great spiritual reading. It certainly helped me get through some horrid music during the Offertory. I was reading the section on St. Gregory the Great (of Gregorian Chant fame) when Hail Mary/Gentle Woman began. This little tome certainly numbed the pain.

Drinking with the Saints is a fine, fresh look at two things of perennial interest: faith and drink. With separate sections tracking the liturgical cycle and the feast days for saints, Mike Foley recommends

beer, wine, spirits, and/or cocktails for each day of the year. These may be chosen geographically (e.g. made in a saint's home town) or thematically (check out St. Albert the Great or St. Lucy!), but each time you peruse, you're in for a treat. He is a master of the distilled vignette -- each entry is pithy and punchy, with just the right blend of erudition and humor. What Bill Bryson did for popular history of the English language in "Made in America" and "Our Mother Tongue", Foley has now done for the beverage. One word of caution (besides the obvious caveats): Foley's research is extensive. While he works in many standards and new recipes with old ingredients, occasionally his recommendations might require special order. And finally, in the name of full disclosure: Mike Foley is a personal friend. I am acknowledged in the book and received a copy from the publisher. But don't let that keep you from buying and loving it!

Heavy with classic and original recipes, good cheer, and the Saints. Beautifully bound. My Methodist mother-in-law and Southern Baptist mom both love it. I'm giving it to my Reformed Baptist brother soon. Where'er the Catholic sun doth shine, There's music and laughter and good red wine. At least I've always found it so. Benedicamus Domino! -Hilaire Belloc And cocktails and fine beer, too, May Our Lord be e'er with you! (Begging the pardon of the late Belloc.)

We love this book for many reasons. First, it's beautiful and calls to be opened and shared. The stories of the Saints are fascinating and fun. The cocktails are delicious and they are explained in such a manner that even a novice barkeep can delight a crowd. We liked it so much that we ordered several more as gifts.

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