



Mission Speaking Topics and Info

Dan Palmieri, *JMJ Missions* Primary Speaker

- *Eucharistic adoration, music, prayer or refreshments are recommended to go along with each talk
- *All talks come with either a professionally-formatted handout of talking points for attendees, OR slides
- *All topics run about 45-55 minutes but length can be modified
- *For more info and planning details, contact Daniel.Palmieri@jmjmissions.com

SET THE WORLD ON FIRE

This is one of our most popular talks, breaking down a few remarkable stories of times the Church has been revived by its Saints throughout its history, and essential tips on how we can bring about a “Catholic Revival” in our era. Having been given the example of Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, the early Church martyrs and others, the Church needs new Saints today, more than ever! We’ve been given the task to spread the Gospel to a culture that greatly needs it, and we must begin now.

FAITH, FREEDOM AND APPLE PIE!

A journey through the incredible story of American Catholicism! From the lone Catholic colony of Maryland to the first American Pope and the most popular religious affiliation of Gen Z, this talk focuses on the perseverance and growth of the Catholic Church in America through inspiring stories of America’s Saints and other holy individuals. Featuring St. Frances Cabrini, Venerable Fulton Sheen, St. John Neumann, St. Katharine Drexel, Venerable Fr. Emil Kapaun, and others!

MARY: GOD’S SECRET WEAPON

Why do Catholics love Mary so much? The answer: *Where do we even begin?!* This talk breaks down God’s choice to enter the world through the Blessed Mother and six staggering implications that come from it. This is a popular talk that includes Catholic theology about Mary, stories of her intercession throughout Church history, her role in defeating evil, and why she is the perfect mother for all who follow her Son. Appropriate for all seasons of the year, including Marian feast days and Advent.

SOURCE AND SUMMIT: THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Eucharist is a hot issue in the Church today! Regardless of debate, it is the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ, the focal point of our worship and the deepest manner of reaching union with Our Lord. Using Eucharistic miracles, devotions of Saints, and some basic theology behind the Mass, this talk aims to both deepen our understanding of the Blessed Sacrament and increase the fervor with which we receive and adore Him.

THE RESURRECTION AND THE SHROUD (Can be with or without PowerPoint slides)

If the Resurrection of Jesus Christ really occurred, it would be the most groundbreaking event in history—and it DID occur! This talk takes a bird’s eye look at the logical reasoning and data supporting the Resurrection as a real event, along with the incredible implications that follow. It ends with a look at the evidence for (and against) the Shroud of Turin as Christ’s true burial cloth, and the unexplained phenomena surrounding it. The talk is given in a way that adults and most youth can gain something from it. Are we willing to truly embrace the Good News?

ALL THINGS NEW (CONVERSION TESTIMONY)

From your typical, disengaged teenager to hanging out at the parish 3 to 4 times a week, Dan gives his conversion testimony and the supernatural turn of events that caused it. In it, he recounts how he and his friends met the family of a possible future Saint, Maria Esperanza, became acquainted with the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit, and experienced a chain of events that culminated in the founding of JMJ Missions. People of all ages, but especially teens and young adults, can relate to this story.

BRINGING YOUR LOVED ONES BACK TO GOD

Nearly all of us have family members who have fallen away from the faith and the Church. Whether it is our children, grandchildren, extended family or friends, we can often feel we have let them down spiritually, or that we are helpless to bring them back. In this talk, useful tips are given on how to successfully evangelize our loved ones and how to stay optimistic and hopeful throughout the process. This is a talk that faithful and active parishioners can relate to.

HOPE IN SUFFERING

A solid topic for the Lenten season, this talk explores the “best kept secret” of Catholic spirituality: redemptive suffering. Whether our struggle is emotional or physical, Jesus has gone before us, understands our suffering, has transformed suffering into a potential act of love, will use it to strengthen our souls, and eventually usher us into eternal life. We need only give Him permission to do so, and receive the peace and hope He offers even in the darkest of times.

THE HOLY FLAME OF FAMILY

Family is the building block of society. It is an institution that God Himself has designed, and oddly enough, it seems to be under great scrutiny in the 21st century. Here, it is explained how Christ changed the spiritual dynamic of society forever by injecting His divine love into the nuclear family and comparing His Church to the Sacrament of Marriage. With the Holy Family as the gold standard, the talk ends with practical and spiritual tips on how to transform our own homes into a true domestic church. A great topic for all families.

ST. JOSEPH: MODEL IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

This talk begins with a very bold realism about the state of our world today and the spiritual battle in which all human beings find themselves. There is great value in recognizing the reality of spiritual warfare, the powerful weapons Christ has given His Church in this fight, and an unexpected “dark horse” Saint who has emerged as a model to follow in this endeavor. Finally, despite the combat we are destined for, if we stand firm, our story ends on an optimistic note!

THE VIRTUES OF THE STIGMATIC SAINTS (academic-style, with slides)

Armed with slides, this presentation sheds light on the power of redemptive suffering as seen through the lives of various Saints, all who had the miraculous gift of the stigmata. It ends with practical and spiritual tips on how we can imitate the core virtues of these Saints. Perfect for casual settings and individual ministries.

THE THREE STAGES OF THE INTERIOR LIFE (academic-style, with slides)

Based on the classic book *The Three Conversions in the Spiritual Life* by Fr. Garrigou Lagrange, this talk expounds on The Purgative Way, The Illuminative Way, and the Unitive Way in a manner that is easy to understand. Included are tips on how to progress through each stage while avoiding intimidation and discouragement along the way. Great for devout prayer groups and ministries.

THE LOGICAL REASONING FOR GOD'S EXISTENCE (academic-style, with slides)

A “New Atheism” has emerged in recent years in the world of literature and media, and it is causing many well-intended souls to fall into spiritual doubt and confusion. This presentation uses basic philosophy, logic, sociological thinking, and the supernatural to quell doubts about God's existence and provide evidence for the truth of Christianity. A great presentation for university audiences, high school classes and individual parish ministries.