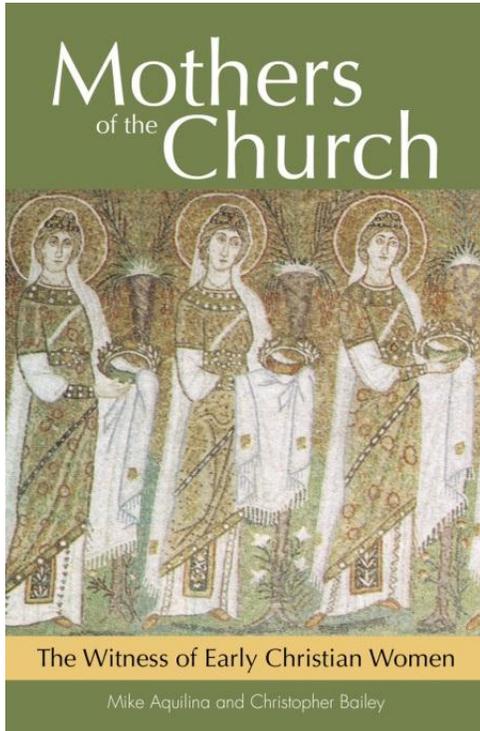


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Christianity's heroines still models for today

HUNTINGTON, Indiana, May 29, 2012 - In a follow-up to the best-selling **The Fathers of the Church**, Our Sunday Visitor Publishing has just released, an inspiring companion volume on the Mothers of the Church.

Mothers of the Church: The Witness of Early Christian Women, (Our Sunday Visitor, 2012), by Mike Aquilina and Christopher Bailey, elucidates Catholics' understanding of the role played by women in the early Church. Drawing upon a wide spectrum of sources, it profiles the women who left their mark on sacred history by responding to God's call. Whether martyrs, abbesses, mothers, desert solitaries, or managers of large family businesses, these women's stories will inspire anyone in the modern world.

Each chapter features a concise biography supplemented by quotes from the Fathers' writings concerning the particular woman, poetry about her, and other ancient testimonials. The authors' authoritative yet accessible writing style deftly explores the significant impact of early Christian women – and proves that the Catholic Church has a strong history of indelible female mentors, many of whom were both secular and spiritual leaders.

The **Mothers of the Church** include:

- Holy Women of the New Testament
- St. Blandina
- St. Perpetua and St. Felicity
- St. Helena
- St. Thecla
- St. Agnes of Rome
- St. Macrina
- Proba the Widow
- St. Marcella, St. Paula, and St. Eustochium
- St. Monica
- Egeria the Tourist

About the Author



Mike Aquilina is author or editor of more than thirty books on Catholic history, doctrine, and devotion.

He is co-host, with Scott Hahn, of eight series that air on EWTN. For many years he also appeared as a regular panelist on “The Weekly Roman Observer,” broadcast by Catholic Familyland Network. He is a frequent guest on Catholic radio.

Mike’s career in publishing spans almost three decades, and hundreds of his articles have appeared in periodicals and journals in the United States and abroad.

In 2011 he was a featured presenter of the U.S. Bishops’ Diocesan Educational/Catechetical Leadership Institute, an online formation program co-sponsored with the National Catholic Education Association and the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. He also wrote the USCCB’s theological reflection for Catechetical Sunday in 2011.

He has co-led pilgrimages to the Holy Land and Italy and has keynoted major events, such as the Conference on Catholic Social Thought in Nassau, Long Island, the Aquinas Forum at Aquinas College in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Society of St. John Chrysostom’s celebration of the 1,600th anniversary of their patron’s passing to heaven.

Mike is also a poet and song lyricist. His poems have been translated into Polish and Spanish and have appeared in *First Things*, *Plains Poetry Journal*, *Catholic Digest*, and elsewhere. His songs have been recorded by Grammy Award-winner Dion DiMucci

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The world’s largest English-language Catholic publisher, Our Sunday Visitor serves millions of Catholics globally through its publishing, offertory, and communication services. Established in 1912, Our Sunday Visitor has grown into the largest supplier of offering envelopes, parish and diocesan mailings, books, periodicals, curriculum, address management, and stewardship services. Our Sunday Visitor is a not-for-profit organization, returning a portion of net earnings back to the Catholic community through the Our Sunday Visitor Institute. For more information, visit www.osv.com.