



St. Francis de Sales Award Winners

For outstanding contribution to Catholic journalism

Year Awarded	Awarded To	Contributions to the Catholic Press
2021	Cindy Wooden	for her career of service to Catholic journalism and by exemplifying the highest standards of our profession
2020	John Feister	for his commitment to effectively reach and faith-fully impact Catholics throughout the world
2019	Mark Lombard	for his high ethical standards, his respect for coworkers, his patience, his sense of order, his skillful communication—and his solid skill both as journalist and businessman.
2018	Julie Asher	for the professionalism she brings to her job and the ways she has raised the profile of the Catholic media nationwide
2017	Matthew Schiller	for his vision, his willingness to share his expertise with others and for sharing in the mission of Catholic journalism.
2016	Maria Ruiz de Lourdes Scaperlanda	for her dedication to Catholic media for more than 30 years, and for telling the human side of many of the tough social and political issues facing our state, Church and nation.
2016	Archbishop Claudio Celli (special)	for being an ardent supporter and advocate for the Catholic press around the world.
2015	Greg Erlandson	for his long-term contributions to multiple Catholic publications, his work with the Vatican and his leadership and contributions to the CPA.
2015	Sister Mary Ann Walsh, RSM (special)	for being a trailblazing journalist and a longtime spokeswoman for the USCCB
2014	Jim Lackey	for the first-rate quality of his reporting and editing, the wide reach of his work, and his tireless dedication to make the Catholic press great.
2013	Peter Finney	for his unequalled skills and outstanding leadership, all this is done with class, steady encouragement and enduring grace.
2012	Helen Osman	for the affirming, collaborative way she works. She is a role model for women leaders in the Catholic media and elsewhere for her ability to win the ear of decision makers through her character, her intelligence, vision and her grace under pressure.
2011	Robert Zyskowski	for his leadership, commitment to excellence and his ability to understand the big picture. He studies the demographic and readership trends that are changing the way the Catholic press must do business if it is to fulfill its mission in the future.
2010	Anthony Spence	for his contribution to the Catholic press, his leadership in the CPA and for seeing the importance of multimedia journalism as part of the mission of the church in the world.
2009	Karen M. Franz	for her leadership in the CPA and for serving as a role model to editors and to all women determined to pursue their vocation as Catholic journalists.
2008	Chic Davis	for his knowledge and expertise in business and advertising, and for his perseverance to deliver value to the dioceses and its readers through Catholic publications.
2007	John Thavis	for his in-depth knowledge of the workings of the Vatican and his ability to share that with fellow journalists and Catholic press readers.
2006	Father Jack Wintz, OFM	for his dedication to justice through the power of Catholic journalism and for radiating the truthful, gentle spirit of St. Francis de Sales.
2006	Owen P. McGovern (special)	for being a champion of the Catholic press during his service to the CPA as executive director, 1988-2005.
2005	Oscar Reyes	for his great faith, his remarkable strength of character and for his editorial excellence and innovation.
2004	Gerald Costello	for his outstanding and long-continuing performance in Catholic journalism with precisely the excellence, originality and initiative the award standards demand.
2003	Jerry Filteau	for a career of uncompromising journalism in the service of the Catholic press.
2002	Dennis Heaney	for his willingness to defend journalistic integrity; his deep and active spiritual life and his caring for people.
2001	Anne Buckley	for her enthusiasm for the job, personal sacrifice and dedication.
2001	Cardinal Avery Dulles (special)	for his contributions to the Catholic press.
2000	Christopher Gunty	for his zest for his mission as a Catholic journalist. Chris embodies all that is redeeming about Catholic journalism.
1999	Robert G. Hoyt	for his lifetime of service to the Catholic press, journalistic integrity and his lifelong promotion of truth and human dignity.
1998	Arthur L. McKenna	for his love of the Catholic press, his many selfless contributions and dedication over many years as CPA president, vice president, treasurer, board member and "mentor to all."
1997	Father Norman Perry, OFM	for being a powerful voice for thoughtfulness, fairness and reason in his work as editor of <i>St. Anthony Messenger</i> , and for his dedication to the Catholic press.
1996	Father Mark J. Brummel, CMF	for his years of editorial direction, professional publishing leadership and his gentle guidance of the many Catholic publications he has made possible
1995	Thomas N. Lorsung	for a commitment to excellence, a belief in the power of the written word, an ability to take leadership roles in guiding the press to growth and development.
1994	Barbara Beckwith	for her dedication and effort in being a resourceful ambassador for the Catholic press in communications circles in the United States and worldwide through UCIP.
1993	Father John Catoir	for his long-time, outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church through books, syndicated column, articles and the Christopher News Notes.
1992	Albina Aspell	for her distinctive and eloquent leadership in the Catholic press and for her role as a dynamic force and inspiration.

1991	Henry Gosselin	for his outstanding example as a dedicated and innovative Catholic editor of an award-winning newspaper.
1990	Penny Lernoux (posthumously)	for being an exemplary journalist who continually pushed herself and others to live according to the challenges of the Gospel.
1989	Father Owen F. Campion	for excellence in his long career in religious journalism and in service to the CPA. Gracious, diplomatic, untiring devotion; a fine Southern gentleman.
1988	Deacon Henry Libersat	for management of five editions of <i>The Florida Catholic</i> , service to the CPA and its members and courageous and community-centered journalism.
1988	James A. Doyle (special)	for dedicated service to CPA as executive director, 1958-1988, counseling the Catholic press family with patience, wit, and integrity for 30 years.
1987	Edward S. Skillin	for his integrity, faith, charity, and commitment to the Church, and for 50 years of service to Catholic journalism at <i>Commonweal</i> magazine
1987	Charles J. McNeill (special)	for more than 50 years of service to the entire Catholic press and the CPA
1986	Moises Sandoval	for service as editor of <i>Maryknoll</i> and <i>Revista Maryknoll</i> magazines; and for his commitment to proclaim the truth in lands of the underprivileged and oppressed
1985	Father Norman J. Muckerman, CSSR	for service as editor of <i>Ligourian</i> and CPA president, and as "professional leader and spiritual father figure" of the Catholic press
1984	Msgr. George Gilmary Higgins	for nearly 40 years analyzing the toughest social questions of his day, mainly through his NC News Service column, <i>The Yardstick</i>
1984	Cardinal John P. Foley (special)	for his selection as president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications; and service as editor of <i>The Catholic Standard & Times</i> and CPA officer
1983	Ethel M. Gintoft	for her professionalism, for being a trailbreaker for women in journalism, and her service to the CPA
1982	Allen C. Bradley	for his complete dedication to the Catholic press and for his outstanding service on the Mailers Technical Advisory Committee
1981	John F. Fink	for his outstanding services to the CPA and the International Catholic Union of the Press, and for exemplifying and encouraging Catholic press excellence
1980	Father Thurston N. Davis, SJ	for leading <i>America</i> magazine, as editor, for directing the John La Farge Institute, and for his work as consultant to the USCC
1979	Father Walter J. Burghardt, SJ	for his outstanding work in shaping the context of responsible freedom in which Catholic writers and editors should operate
1978	Donald J. Thorman	for his service in several Catholic press positions, and as editor and publisher of <i>National Catholic Reporter</i>
1977	A.E.P. Wall	for his example and promotion of high journalistic standards here and abroad, and for introducing the wire service at NC News Service
1976	Lillian R. Block	for her many years of service to the Catholic press and other media as editor/director of Religious News Service
1975	Father John B. Sheerin, CSP	for his quarter-century as editor of <i>Catholic World</i> , and for his outstanding ecumenical, international and social welfare activities
1974	Gerard E. Sherry	for his excellent service as editor, writer and reporter and for his work with the Catholic Press Association
1973	Robert E. Burns	for his outstanding work directing the operations of Claretian Publications, <i>U.S. Catholic</i> , and allied activities
1972	Father Jeremy Harrington, OFM	for his superior work as editor of <i>St. Anthony Messenger</i> magazine
1972	Thomas A. Brennan (special)	for service as legal counsel of the CPA
1971	Francis A. (Bill) Fink	for 40 years of service with <i>Our Sunday Visitor</i> and long service to the Catholic press
1970	Msgr. Robert G. Peters	for long-term service as editor of the <i>Catholic Post</i> , Peoria, and his service as chairman of the CPA/NC Liaison Committee
1969	no award given	
1968	James P. Shannon	for his liaison between bishops and the press as USCC press officer
1967	Father John Reedy, CSC	for his position paper on revitalization of the CPA
1966	Joseph A. Breig	for his long-term contributions to the Catholic Press
1965	John Cogley	for his work as Religious News Service Vatican II correspondent
1964	Father Patrick O'Connor, SSC	for his long-term contributions to the Catholic Press
1963	Floyd Anderson, KSG	for his long-term contributions to the Catholic Press
1962	Father Albert J. Nevins, MM	for directions of the CPA Latin American Program
1961	Father John Courtney Murray, SJ	for his book, "We Hold These Truths"
1960	Frank A. Hall	for long service as director-editor of NC News Service
1959	Dale Francis	for his "Operation Understanding" edition of <i>Our Sunday Visitor</i>