

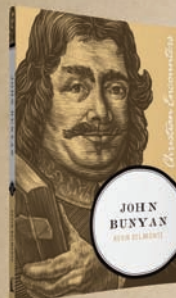
# Experience an Encounter Today



## JANE AUSTEN

9781595553027—Available 3/2/2010

Some may know Jane Austen simply as the English novelist whose books are required reading in high school and college. Perhaps it wasn't until the BBC's extremely successful TV miniseries of *Pride and Prejudice* or Emma Thompson's film *Sense and Sensibility* that many became entranced. Now younger readers are flocking to Austen with a unique twist in the bestselling *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: The Classic Regency Romance* by Seth Grahame-Smith. In this *Christian Encounters* biography, fans of Jane Austen will discover the Christian faith that was in the weft and weave of her character and how it influenced her writing and her life.



## JOHN BUNYAN

9781595553041—Available 3/2/2010

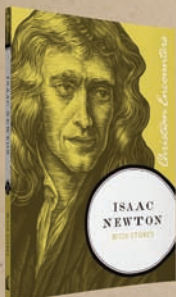
John Bunyan's world was a turbulent age of regicide, civil war, and revolution. Against this backdrop emerged a man whose matchless literary gifts were burnished amidst suffering and who profoundly influenced western culture. This *Christian Encounters* biography presents the life story you've never heard—how, amidst the crucible of repeated imprisonments, civil war, and violent persecution, John Bunyan crafted *The Pilgrim's Progress*, a testament unlike any other to the triumph of the human spirit.



## WINSTON CHURCHILL

9781595553065—Available 3/2/2010

Master statesman and orator Winston Churchill was in no small way responsible for the WWII Allied victory over the Axis powers. At many times he stood alone leading the fight against Hitler, absolute in his belief that Britain must "with all the strength that God can give us ... wage war against a monstrous tyranny." From where did he derive his strength and comfort? In this *Christian Encounters* biography, discover how Churchill's Anglican faith sustained him during some of the darkest hours in human history.



## ISAAC NEWTON

9781595553034—Available 3/2/2010

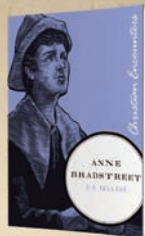
He built the first reflecting telescope, authored the book that became the basis for classical mechanics, and wrote the three laws of motion—and that's just a fraction of Sir Isaac Newton's achievements. Despite the fact that he's considered by many to be the most influential scientist in history, he actually wrote more about his Christian faith than he did about natural science. This *Christian Encounters* biography illuminates Newton's beliefs and how they shaped his view of the world he so desired to understand.



## SAINT PATRICK

9781595553058—Available 3/2/2010

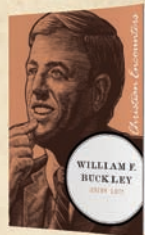
At age 14, he was captured from his homeland of Scotland by Irish marauders and taken as a slave to Ireland, where he lived for six years tending his master's flocks. In his early twenties, he fled over 200 miles and escaped by ship, returning to his family. By the eighth century, he had come to be revered as the patron saint of Ireland. What did he experience during his years of slavery that proved invaluable to this man who became a revered missionary who "baptized thousands of people," converted sons of kings, and led wealthy women to become nuns? Learn about the sustaining faith of St. Patrick in this *Christian Encounters* biography.



## ANNE BRADSTREET

9781595551092—Available 8/17/2010

Anne Bradstreet is recognized as one of the most important figures in the history of American literature, yet the majority of her poetry remained private until after her death. As a Puritan wife and mother, Anne knew that sharing her views and opinions with others was considered a sin, but she clearly valued knowledge and intellect, and was a free thinker. Bradstreet's work serves as a document of the struggles and hardships of colonial life and is a testament to the plight of the women of the age. Her poetry, filled with the love she had for God, her husband, and her eight children, showcased her intense devotion to being a good wife, mother, and Christian.

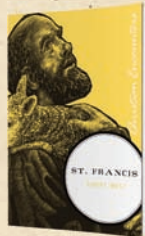


## WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY

9781595550651—Available 8/17/2010

William F. Buckley Jr., was the popular host of one of television's longest-running programs, "Firing Line," and the author of more than 50 books, but "his greatest achievement was making conservatism—not just electoral Republicanism but conservatism as a system of ideas—respectable in liberal post-World War II America."

Buckley started *National Review* magazine in 1955 and quickly became known as the standard-bearer of conservatism, promoting the fusion of traditional conservatives and libertarians. He inspired and incited three generations of conservatives—and counting—uniting anti-Communists, traditionalists, constitutionalists, and enthusiasts for free markets under one tent.



## SAINT FRANCIS

9781595551078—Available 8/17/2010

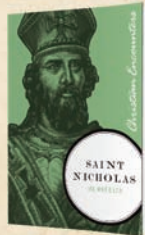
He's more than just a statue of the saint in the neighbor's garden surrounded by adoring animals. As a wealthy young man, Francis was a member of the "brat pack" of his day, wearing bright clothing, hanging out with rich friends, engaging in street brawls, and partying. After a dream in which God called him into service, Francis abandoned all his rights and possessions and began preaching simplicity and poverty, relying on God's providence rather than worldly goods. In this *Christian Encounters* biography, read about this patron saint of animals who so delighted in God's works that he once preached a sermon to a flock of birds.



## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

9781595552228—Available 10/12/2010

It's been more than 500 years since Christopher Columbus made his famous voyage, and still he remains a controversial and mysterious figure. Was he a brilliant sea navigator or a foolish mystic? A hero or a greedy thief? Known as the "Admiral of the Ocean Sea," Columbus led three more expeditions after the 1492 voyage and was famous throughout Europe but died unable to believe that he'd failed to reach Asia. This *Christian Encounters* biography presents a compelling portrait of the man who changed history with his voyages.



## SAINT NICHOLAS

9781595551153—Available 10/12/2010

He's not just a jolly man in a red suit. Saint Nicholas was a real person—a fourth-century bishop, a defender of the Christian faith, a model for sacrificial giving, a protector of children, and a true churchman. By recovering the story of Saint Nicholas and exploring how each generation has reinvented him, this book offers Saint Nicholas as a model of faith, hope, and love—virtues around which all Christians can unite.



## SERGEANT YORK

9781595550255—Available 10/12/2010

This biography chronicles the true story of a WWI conscientious objector who loathed killing and yet became a Medal of Honor winner, capturing the hearts of a nation hungry for a hero. It was a bitter-cold morning on October 8, 1918. Six hundred American soldiers were surrounded by the German army near the Argonne Forest in France. Corporal Alvin York's unit was ordered out of the trenches and into battle against an enemy armed with machine guns. York was eventually pinned down among his dead and injured comrades. What happened next was a feat of bravery and military skill that would amaze his countrymen and etch his place in the history books. Born in a log cabin in the hills of Tennessee, York was a backwoodsman who had taken many prizes at turkey shoots back home. His marksmanship served him well that morning in France. By the time he reached the U.S. position, York and his few remaining companions were marshaling 132 enemy soldiers. Not bad for a former conscientious objector.



# Christian Encounters



# Close Encounters of the Christian Kind

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*Christian Encounters* biographies are accessible for a broad age-range of readers and features important Christians from all ages and areas of the church.

## 1997 ~ WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR.

In *Nearer, My God*, Buckley condemned what he viewed as "the Supreme Court's war against religion in the public school" and argued that Christian faith was being replaced by "another God ... it is multiculturalism."



## 1948 ~ WINSTON CHURCHILL

"And wherever men are fighting against barbarism, tyranny, and massacre, for freedom, law, and honour, let them remember that the fame of their deeds, even though they themselves be exterminated, may perhaps be celebrated as long as the world rolls round. Let us then declare that King Arthur and his noble knights, guarding the Sacred Flame of Christianity and the theme of a world order, sustained by valour, physical strength, and good horses and armour, slaughtered innumerable hosts of foul barbarians and set decent folk an example for all time." — *On King Arthur Vol I: The Birth of Britain*

## 1917 ~ SERGEANT YORK

York received his draft notice on June 5, 1917, just six months prior to his thirtieth birthday. Because of the Church of Christ in Christian Union's proscriptions against war, York sought conscientious objector status. He wrote on his draft card: "Dont want to fight." When his case came up for review, it was denied at both the local and the state level because the Church of Christ in Christian Union was not recognized as a legitimate Christian sect.



## 1795 ~ JANE AUSTEN

It is believed that before 1796, Jane read aloud to the Austen family her story entitled *Elinor and Marianne*. The discerning Austen reader would know these to be the main characters in *Sense & Sensibility*.

## 1687 ~ ISAAC NEWTON

In his correspondence, Newton claimed that in writing the *Principia*, "I had an eye upon such Principles as might work with considering men for the belief of a Deity." He saw evidence of design in the system of the world: "Such a wonderful uniformity in the planetary system must be allowed the effect of choice."



## 1676 ~ JOHN BUNYAN

John Bunyan wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* in two parts, of which the first appeared at London in 1678, which he had begun during his imprisonment in 1676. *The Pilgrim's Progress* is the most successful allegory ever written, and like the Bible has been extensively translated into other languages.

## 1666 ~ ANNE BRADSTREET

Bradstreet's education gave her advantages to write with authority about politics, history, medicine, and theology. Her personal library of books was said to have numbered over 800, before many were destroyed when her home burned down. This event itself inspired a poem entitled "Upon the Burning of Our House July 10th, 1666". She rejects the anger and grief that this worldly tragedy has caused her and instead looks toward God and the assurance of heaven as consolation.



## 1492 ~ CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Columbus departed from Palos de la Frontera with three ships: one larger carrack, *Santa María*, and two smaller caravels, *Pinta* and *Santa Clara*, nicknamed *Niña*.

## 1209 ~ SAINT FRANCIS

Francis heard a sermon that changed his life. The sermon was about Matthew 10:9, in which Christ tells his followers they should go forth and proclaim that the Kingdom of Heaven was upon them, that they should take no money with them, nor even a walking stick or shoes for the road. Francis was inspired to devote himself to a life of poverty.



## Circa 450 ~ SAINT PATRICK

Pious legend credits Patrick with banishing snakes from the island, though all evidence suggests that post-glacial Ireland never had snakes. One suggestion is that snakes referred to the serpent symbolism of the Druids of that time and place or that it could have referred to beliefs such as Pelagianism, symbolized as "serpents."

## Circa 300 ~ SAINT NICHOLAS

Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. He had a reputation for secret gift-giving, such as putting coins in the shoes of those who left them out for him, and thus became the model for Santa Claus.

