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**Envoy for Christ: 25 Years as a Catholic Apologist**

**(Servant Books, 2012)**

**by Patrick Madrid**

**reviewed by Richard Grebenc**

Early in 1988, sensing a call from God yet unspecified, Patrick Madrid decided to “step out in faith” and quit his full-time career in sales despite having a growing family to support. Within days of this bold move he was invited to join a fledgling venture that turned a spare time labor of love into a career he did not anticipate.

*Envoy for Christ: 25 Years as a Catholic Apologist* provides a “kaleidoscope of memories” through essays and articles written during Madrid’s first quarter century in Catholic apologetics (that is, the art of giving a reasoned defense for the Faith).

The Introduction allows the author to step back and provide some reflections on, and a synopsis of, his work. Seven sections, each having a short introduction, categorize the writings he has chosen to represent his career. He starts with the foundational apologetic topic of *sola scriptura* but, while there are plenty of other works specifically of this nature in the book, not every piece is related to apologetics. Among additional areas of interest, short courses on other religions, mini biographies of personal heroes, and a travelogue of his experiences at World Youth Day in Manila round out a wide-ranging portrait of this influential man.

This book will be appreciated most by fans of Patrick Madrid. But anyone who is interested in apologetics -- especially those involved in or considering this vocation -- will benefit from this sweeping overview of the author’s life and work.