Peter Atkinson: The Catholic Theology Show Episode 188

Alumni Spotlight

April 28, 2026

From Ave Maria University to the world of audio storytelling, alumnus Peter Atkinson has embarked on a creative journey that is transforming how modern audiences encounter the lives of the saints. In a recent episode of the Catholic Theology Show, Dr. Michael Dauphinais sat down with Atkinson to explore the vision behind The Merry Beggars, an innovative project that brings immersive audio dramas to listeners through Relevant Radio. What began as a pursuit of acting after his time at Ave Maria took an unexpected and inspiring turn during the pandemic, ultimately leading to a creative breakthrough that continues to flourish today.

At the heart of The Merry Beggars lies a commitment to authentic storytelling that honors the full humanity of the saints. Rather than presenting them as distant, perfect figures, Atkinson and the team portray these spiritual heroes as real people who struggled, suffered, and ultimately chose courage and faith in the face of profound challenges. This approach makes their stories deeply relatable to contemporary audiences, offering listeners a mirror through which to examine their own spiritual journeys, especially during moments of difficulty and doubt.

Throughout his conversation with Dr. Dauphinais, Atkinson explores profound spiritual themes woven into The Merry Beggars' work: the ongoing nature of conversion, the redemptive meaning of suffering, and the transformative reality of God's mercy. By crafting narratives grounded in faith and delivered with artistic excellence, the project aims to accomplish something far greater than entertainment. It seeks to shape culture itself by forming the hearts and imaginations of listeners, one compelling story at a time.

The work of Peter Atkinson and The Merry Beggars reminds us of the power that Ave Maria graduates carry into the world. Whether through creative endeavors or professional callings, our alumni continue to witness to the faith in innovative and meaningful ways, touching hearts and strengthening the spiritual lives of countless others.

Read online for photos and videos:

https://alumni.avemaria.edu/news/peter-atkinson-the-catholic-theology-show-episode-188-1777394609204