



# WHAT TO BUY THE RELIGIOUS

**2015  
HOLIDAY  
GIFT GUIDE**

**T**here's a range of religious attention that can be given to Christmas gifts, from reverence to silliness. Some presents can strengthen your own practice, while others demonstrate that faith can be fun. Holy Toledo, how will you show your sacredness?

— TK BARGER, BLADE RELIGION EDITOR

## Pet medals

Want to give your pet a bit more holy protection on its collar? Consider a medal of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals, or calling on a guardian angel. **\$2.98-\$5.98 at Churchill's Religious Goods & Gifts**, 2748 Tremainsville Rd.



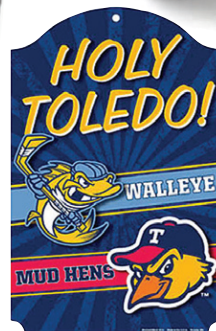
## Our Lady Undoer of Knots

One popular depiction of Mary is as Our Lady Undoer of Knots, a painting at the Church of St. Peter in Perlack, Germany. An Undoer jewelry box that plays "Ave Maria" is **\$29.98 at Churchill's Religious Goods & Gifts**, 2748 Tremainsville Rd.



## Tagua nut nativity

Tagua nuts are from South American palm trees, and they resemble ivory when carved. To be elephant-friendly, you might consider a tagua nativity scene. For **\$15**, it's available locally as one of the Ten Thousand Villages products at **Georgette's Fair Trade Ground & Gifts**, 311 Conant St., Maumee, which is owned and operated by Sunshine, a nonprofit agency supporting people with disabilities and their families.



## Holy Toledo

Put the hometown on display with Holy Toledo gear from the Swamp Shop, with decals, keychains, drinkware, T-shirts, a jersey, and baseball hats. About the only item missing is a hoodie. **\$5.95-\$59.95 at Fifth Third Field**, 406 Washington St., and the **Huntington Center**, 500 Jefferson Ave., as well as at [swampshop.milbstore.com](http://swampshop.milbstore.com).



## Advent calendar

The calendars giving a prize a day throughout Advent can be elaborate, but consider one that's a children's toy. A 27-piece set from Playmobil is for age 1-1/2 and up. **\$29.99 at Learning Express Toys**, 5577 Monroe St., Sylvania.

## Armed with prayer

The movie *War Room*, released in August, is generating many spin-offs, and pre-orders are being accepted for the DVD. See the variety of *War Room* material affirming its slogan "Prayer is a powerful weapon." Preorder DVD on sale for **\$14.99 at Family Christian Stores**, 4015 Secor Rd. and 1400 S. Holland-Sylvania Rd., Holland, and **\$17.99 at LifeWay Christian Store**, 4121 Talmadge Rd.



## Precious metal

Sterling silver plaques from Italy by Leader Argenti, mounted on fine wood, depict the Holy Family and, with gold leaf added, the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Hangable or for table display. The Holy Family is **\$215**, Reger's Church Supplies & Religious Gifts, 4100 Secor Rd.



## Sanctus Send-off

The Christian group Sanctus Real, which was formed in Toledo, is saying goodbye to its lead singer, Matt Hammett, as he makes a change to organize conferences and concerts around men, marriage, and family. Pick up Sanctus Real's 2014 album *The Dream* and its new greatest hits CD, on sale for **\$7.99** and **\$9.99**, at **LifeWay Christian Store**, 4121 Talmadge Rd.



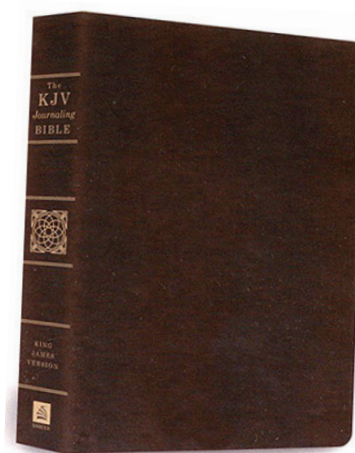
## The real thing

What's a more traditional gift than gold, frankincense, and myrrh, the presents the wise men were said to give the baby Jesus in Matthew 2:11? **\$31.95** and **\$51.95** in boxes for display, at **Reger's Church Supplies & Religious Gifts**, 4100 Secor Rd.



## Journaling Bible

You might have seen people's Bibles all marked up with highlighter and notes squeezed in. Journaling Bibles give more space for a personal record. Wide margins and thicker paper let you write and draw beside the scripture you read. **\$20-\$50 at Family Christian Stores**, 4015 Secor Rd. and 1400 S. Holland-Sylvania Rd., Holland, and **LifeWay Christian Store**, 4121 Talmadge Rd.



\* Prices and availability subject to change.



## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH | THE OLD WEST END TOURS DE NOEL | NOON – 7PM

Featuring Tony Packo's famous food items along with food prepared by Women's Fellowship. Also, please join us at First Church (2315 Collingwood Blvd.) for the Holiday Boutique & Cookie Walk!

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH | TOLEDO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | 3PM

Women's Fellowship at First Church will be sponsoring the Toledo Symphony Orchestra's "A Christmas Celebration" in our beautiful sanctuary. Call the church office at 419-243-6248 to see how you can purchase your tickets (\$10 per person). It is going to be a wonderful event.

