



## **Catholic Ventures Launches as Incubator for Technology in the Church**

*Seeks to Sanctify the Digital Continent, Providing Alternatives to 'Big Tech' while Giving Back to Catholic Religious Orders and Nonprofits*

**Denver, CO (March 19, 2021)** - Catholic Ventures today announced its public launch as an incubator for technological innovation in the Church. Catholic Ventures will be developing projects that support the Church in serving the laity through community, social communications, commerce, education and information.

Catholic Ventures three founding partners bring expertise working for and with Word on Fire, the Augustine Institute, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the US Department of Defense, Conde Nast, Warner Bros. and other major film studios, game developers and talent agencies in media, technology and marketing.

"We are living through the most disruptive time period in human history," said Matt Meeks, CEO of Catholic Ventures. "While the Church was once on the vanguard of civic life, education, and healthcare, the digital age has disrupted this past reality. Technology is flattening organizational structures, centralizing commerce and communications in a way that is incongruent with the territorial subsidiarity of the Church. Unless the Church responds at every level, she risks becoming a relic of God's action in the world. We seek to support this response through the development of platforms that will allow the Church to lift up its subsidiary parts together, in solidarity."

"The Church is in many cases more than 20 years behind technologically," said Forest Toney, CTO of Catholic Ventures. "Parishes are still figuring out how to manage parish websites and online giving, while technology is disrupting the foundations of society. We can see this in the secular conversation including topics like 'election hacking,' 'shadow banning,' 'big tech,' and 'crypto-currencies.' The Church has become so focused on survival, scrambling to prop up outdated structures that we're losing the ability to innovate and wasting energy innovating in the wrong areas. Catholic Ventures seek to help the Church pivot, by aligning with the conversations and needs of the population today, not the population 20 years ago."

Catholic Ventures initial projects include Catholic.store, an e-commerce platform supporting Catholic publishers and businesses and Catholic Creatives, an online community of makers, artists, engineers, musicians and creatives seeking to bring beauty back to the Church.

To learn more, visit [www.Catholic.ventures](http://www.Catholic.ventures)

**About Catholic Ventures**

Catholic Ventures develops technologies through strategic initiatives and investments in people, software, data and online communities. Dedicating its efforts in support of the Church, Catholic Ventures gives back to Catholic organizations and causes. Its portfolio includes Catholic.store, the Catholic e-commerce solution supporting makers, businesses and faithful non-profits and Catholic Creatives, an online community of Catholic creative professionals seeking to bring about a new renaissance through the beauty of the Catholic faith. [www.Catholic.ventures](http://www.Catholic.ventures)