

# A Theology of Beauty and Faith

TRAVELING WITH  
LEAH DARROW



**Leah Darrow** is an international Catholic speaker, author and host of the popular *Do Something Beautiful* podcast. Leah is most notably known for her time on the TV show, *America's Next Top Model* and subsequent years as a professional model. After an encounter with Christ, she returned to the Church as she describes in her own words. "My big conversion moment happened in 2005, when I had my reversion back to the Catholic faith and made a conscious choice to turn my life around. I decided enough was enough. I wanted to start over again after carrying around my wounds for such a long time. So that's when I first came back to the sacraments and to the church, but it's now evolved into a daily experience. Conversion makes you admit the truth about yourself. Every day, I try to be patient and practice virtue, praying for myself and others. God allows me moments where I see weaknesses and trends, helping me stop and pray. It's extremely humbling to be honest in prayer, but there's a lot of hope there too. The goal of my work is to bring the joy of the Gospel to people, to be a happy Christian and to share the message of salvation through Jesus Christ with others. People want to hear about my modeling career, but the bigger story is that Christ Jesus came into my life and changed it."



*"LOOK at all God is offering you  
within the pilgrimage"*

– Leah Darrow



She is often a keynote speaker at men, women and youth conferences, leads mother-daughter retreats and is the author of *"Drowning In Beauty"*, and *"The Other Side of Beauty"*. Leah's unique background has been inspiring people to embrace the mercy of Jesus Christ, reclaim their God-given beauty and join in Christ's mission in the world for over a decade. You can read her blog posts, listen to her podcast or contact her for a speaking engagement at [www.leahdarrow.com](http://www.leahdarrow.com). Leah lives in St. Louis, Missouri with her husband, Ricky, and their four wild saints-in-training.



## *Leah's Travel Tips*



- 1** Pack your suitcase. Then take half of it out. You really don't need it (trust me).
- 2** Expect different. A receptive and open attitude will offer more surprises and less frustration.
- 3** Put the phone/camera down and LOOK at all God is offering you within the pilgrimage. The sites, churches, food, people, pilgrims - God is working in all of it. Pictures can't capture the blessings that await you.

Q&A

### **What is your favorite bible verse and why?**

"Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little loves little." (Luke 7:47)  
I love the boldness in the woman who came to Jesus for forgiveness and His quick outpouring of mercy on her. A good lesson for us all.

### **Where are you from?**

I was born and raised on a farm in Oklahoma, but now live in St. Louis, MO with my husband and four children.

### **What is your favorite destination and why?**

Home. But my favorite travel destination is France. I love all parts of it - northern France with its beauty, art, and faith, and southern France with its peaceful wineries, beautiful coast and serene landscapes.

### **What is your favorite church/cathedral and why?**

My favorite Cathedral is Santa Maria Maggiore because of its profound and loud love for the Mother of God. I love walking through and praying while gazing upon all of its immense beauty and artwork.

### **What are your hobbies?**

I enjoy good company, good wine, and good books.

### **Why did you become a group leader and partake in pilgrimages?**

I became a group leader in pilgrimages because I wanted people to experience Faith outside of the pew and because I wanted people to connect with people again through food, travel, and faith.



Leah Darrow has partnered with  
Select International on numerous pilgrimages.