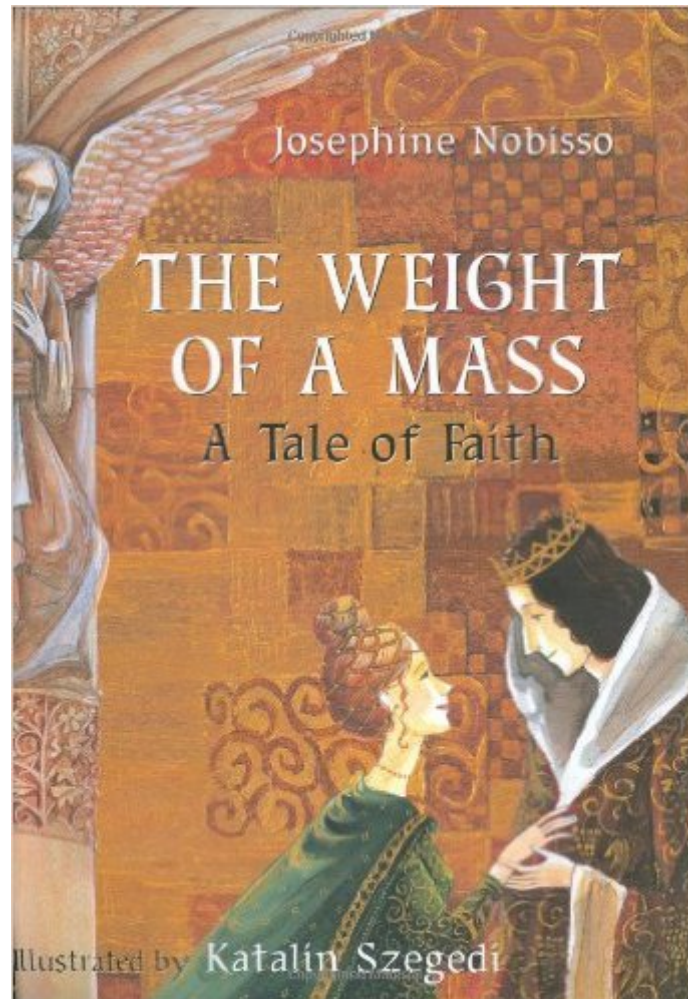


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# The Weight Of A Mass: A Tale Of Faith



## Synopsis

When a poor devout widow begs for a scrap of bread from a rich faithless baker, she promises to participate in the king's wedding mass as payment for the baker's generosity. The baker writes "One Mass" on a scrap of paper and places it on his scale to determine how much bread it is worth. To his and the entire town's surprise, nothing in the shop, not even the gigantic wedding cakes made for the king, outweighs the simple piece of paper representing the true worth of a mass. Luminous old-world watercolor paintings grace the interior of the book and gold foil artwork lends an air of solemnity and sacred beauty to the story.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Gingerbread House; 1 edition (June 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0940112094

ISBN-13: 978-0940112094

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (109 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #205,270 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #126 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Other Religious Fiction](#) #607 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian](#) #1397 in [Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity](#)

Age Range: 5 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten and up

## Customer Reviews

Want to give your children or other children whom you love a precious gift? Give them this book! It's one they'll read as children and they'll read 40 years from now to their own children. It's not only a beautiful story, but one that will strengthen their faith. Wonderfully written by Josephine Nobisso and luminously illustrated by Katalin Szegedi, *The Weight of a Mass*, is an original cultural folk tale based upon a true story. The story reads and looks like a fairy tale. A ragged, destitute widow arrives at the kingdom's prosperous bakery and begs only a crust of bread in exchange for offering a royal wedding Mass for the baker. The baker scoffs and tears off a tiny piece of tissue paper on which he writes the words: One Mass, intending to place them it on the scale to find out the value of a

Mass. Much to his surprise, when he drops a piece of old bread on the other side of the scale, it does not tip. So, he enlists his son to stack more and more baked goods on top of the scale. Out come cherry topped cupcakes, marzipan apple, filled chocolates, poppy seed cakes, rolls, donuts, fruitcakes, cream cakes, berry tarts, poached pears, plum pudding, candied fruits, almond confetti, crushed walnuts, and eventually the royal wedding cake. The father, his son, the old woman, and others in the kingdom come to learn the weight of a Mass. The story includes an author's postscript recounting the original story as told by Father Stanislaus from Luxembourg who tells of a conversation between a butcher and a Captain of the Forest Guards that was interrupted by an old woman begging a morsel of meat in exchange for a Holy Mass intention. As a result of the miracle, the Captain began attending Mass daily and one of his sons later received a calling to the priesthood.

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