



PRESS RELEASE

LIFE's Year In Pictures Showcases 2004's Most Memorable Moments *Top Celebrities Share Their Favorite Photographs*

San Jose, CA – January 18, 2005

The ultimate source for iconic photography, LIFE magazine pored over thousands of images from 2004 for its "Year In Pictures" issue, available this Friday, December 17. In addition to the photographs that capture the most notable events of 2004, LIFE talked to several famous faces who share their favorite photograph of the year, including picks from **Jamie Foxx**, **Arnold Schwarzenegger**, **Jay-Z** and **Christopher Reeve's** wife **Dana Reeve**.

In over **40 poignant photographs** and four distinct sections, LIFE showcases the remarkable year that was 2004:

- In "**The Memorable Moments of 2004**", you'll see shots of Afghan women, "waiting at a polling place in Kabul, among millions who revel in their country's new, democratic elections" alongside Janet Jackson just seconds before her infamous "wardrobe malfunction."
- In "**The Pictures They Love**," some of the most photographed people of 2004 choose the single image that moved them the most. **Donald Trump**, **Michael Phelps** and **Annette Bening**, among others, show readers a different side of their frequently photographed faces.
- Also: This year marked the loss of some extremely gifted celebrities who entertained and enlightened us for decades. In a special tribute, LIFE asked loved ones of these stars to select the single photo that best captures the spirit of their loved one. Among others, **Dana Reeve** reveals her favorite photograph of her husband, **Christopher Reeve**, and share in her own words what this picture means to her.
- In "**Remembrance: The Photographers**," LIFE honors six photographers who passed away in 2004. From Henri Cartier-Bresson to Richard Avedon, LIFE proves that these men "live on through their photographs, as vital today as the moment the shutter opened."
- Finally, in "**Schilling's Choice**," LIFE visited Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling at home in November, with his leg in a cast from ankle surgery, to talk about his favorite picture of 2004. After much internal debate – should it be a photo of his bloody sock or an action shot of Schilling bringing the heat? – Curt settled on a team shot from the last game of the World Series. In his words, "It was much bigger than any individual, bigger than all the guys on the field even."

LIFE is the nation's weekend magazine, drawing on its rich heritage and infused with a thoroughly modern sensibility. LIFE features the country's finest photographers and writers telling the most compelling stories of our times. With great pictures, great stories and great ideas for the weekend, LIFE helps readers get the most out of the two best days of the week. LIFE arrives Friday in more than 70 newspapers nationwide with a total circulation of 12 million, reaching 26 million readers nationwide. The LIFE website can be accessed at www.life.com.

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LIFE Uncovers Holy Ground

Pulitzer Prize winning author Frank McCourt explores what it is about religious sites that move the mind and stir the soul

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With the season's holidays in mind, LIFE traveled across the globe to uncover sacred places for the issue available this Friday, December 10. Despite fundamental -- and sometimes volatile -- differences in the world's religious beliefs, there is a common thread that runs through these sacred sites. "It is in the air. Here, people talk with God," writes Angela's Ashes writer and Pulitzer Prize winner **Frank McCourt** along side 11 poignant LIFE photographs that capture and convey the emotional intensity and stark diversity in the places we call "holy." The images take on a special significance as the season's holidays and reflections on the New Year approach.

"These places are special because we imbue with them their sacredness," writes McCourt in his examination of what it is about these sacred sites that draw those who seek them. Some images capture the familiar: Here is the Wailing Wall or a small church in a cotton field in Mississippi. Others are more unexpected: A gritty street corner in New York City where two boys were killed by a truck. It is now a shrine of remembrance and prayer.

Also in LIFE: How do you stay friends for 40 years? In this week's issue, Cassandra King, acclaimed author of *The Sunday Wife* and now *The Same Sweet Girls*, describes how her personal experiences growing up in Alabama led her to form long-lasting bonds with a group of women and how they maintained a tradition of annual reunions for the past 40 years.

Other stories appearing in this week's issue, to be distributed to more than 26 million readers in over 70 leading newspapers:

- **The Great Weekend** Make the most of the next 48 hours with LIFE's insider looks into **George Clooney** and **new mom Julia Robert's** latest flick *Ocean's Twelve*, Josh Groban's newest CD, and coffee table books that make great gifts.
- **How I Got There** In a first person account, Anthony Zuiker, creator of *CSI*, *CSI: NY* and *CSI: Miami*, takes LIFE on a journey through his career that included a stint in stock-brokering, a tram operator of the Mirage Hotel, and finally to his dream job: screenwriting.
- **Sunday Dinner** Lidia Bastianich, owner of four nationally acclaimed restaurants and host of *Lidia's Family Table*, pulls from her own family traditions to give LIFE readers a recipe for Ragú alla Bolognese (the best part - it freezes well for use throughout the week).
- **Weekend Project** LIFE gives readers the 1-2-3 "how-to" lesson on making your own wreath.

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