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About three years ago I gave a sermon telling about a new movie called *The Golden Compass*, based on a novel from Philip Pullman's fantasy trilogy *His Dark Materials*. The purpose of the sermon was to inform people that Pullman's writing is both anti-Christian and a not so subtle attack on the Catholic Church. As I said in my sermon, I'm not usually inclined to comment on controversial pop culture items with the intent of sorting out the weeds from the wheat. *The DaVinci Code* was one such weed, though a massively successful one, which I never gave attention to. I figured that the debate over *The DaVinci Code* was so public that, should anyone want to know why certain Christians were objecting to it, there was ample information available. Shortly after that sermon on *The Golden Compass* I received an anonymous letter, the point of which as best I can remember, was to tell me that it was none of my business telling people what movies they should or should not watch. I appreciated the fact that they took the time to write me a letter if only for the fact that it proved to me that someone listened to my sermon that day. Figuring out what Pullman's beliefs and intentions are is difficult. Is he or is he not an atheist? Are his stories meant to attack Christianity? Is it true that he said he wrote his fantasy books to convince kids not to believe in God? It has been his own words in print and from interviews that prompt all the questions. What seems pretty clear is that he doesn't like organized religion, especially the Catholic Church, and that he likes to shock. His latest "novel", a re-telling of the Gospel called *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ*, delivers a story in which Mary gave birth to twins, one named Jesus and the other Christ. Christ subverts his brother Jesus' message so that he can invent Christianity. Sounds like a unique idea but it is neither unique nor all that shocking. History is replete with alternate versions of the Gospel which deconstruct it as if Sacred Scripture is the same as any other historical text. Pope Benedict wrote, "One must not read Sacred Scripture as one reads any kind of historical book...it is necessary to truly read it as the Word of God, that is, entering into a conversation with God. One must start by praying and talking to the Lord: "Open the door to me." I urge you to become familiar with the Bible and to have it at hand so that it can be your compass pointing out the road to follow. By reading it you will learn to know Christ." Those words of our Holy Father guide us to keep in mind that the true Gospel is the true golden compass.