

# Public Speaking Video Suggestions

Below are some suggested videos to show students as examples of the different kinds of speeches. We encourage you to find additional short videos of excellent public speaking that you think your students will enjoy watching.

Be sure to include some Catholic speakers, and of course be sure to watch any speeches you choose in their entirety ahead of time to ensure appropriate topic, language (including from the audience), and so forth.

## Speeches from Film

- **Linus' speech on the meaning of Christmas from *A Charlie Brown Christmas*** (through 1:46).  
[SophiaOnline.org/LinusChristmas](https://SophiaOnline.org/LinusChristmas)
- **President Thomas J. Whitmore Addresses to the U.S. Fighter Pilots from *Independence Day*** (2:30)  
[SophiaOnline.org/IndependenceDay](https://SophiaOnline.org/IndependenceDay)
- **Aragorn II: Battle Speech at the Black Gate from *Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*** (4:32)  
[SophiaOnline.org/AragornBlackGate](https://SophiaOnline.org/AragornBlackGate)
- **Senator Smith Continues Filibuster from *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*** (3:38)  
[SophiaOnline.org/MrSmith](https://SophiaOnline.org/MrSmith)
- **No Excuses, from *Stand and Deliver*** (Beginning – 1:03)  
[SophiaOnline.org/StandandDeliver](https://SophiaOnline.org/StandandDeliver)
- **Lawrence Olivier, St. Crispin's Day Speech, from *Henry V*** (2:45)  
[SophiaOnline.org/StCrispinsDayOlivier](https://SophiaOnline.org/StCrispinsDayOlivier)
- **Gale Sayers' Acceptance Address for the George S. Halas Award for Courage from *Brian's Song*** (2:16)  
[SophiaOnline.org/BriansSong](https://SophiaOnline.org/BriansSong)
- **Kenneth Branagh, St. Crispin's Day Speech from *Henry V*** (0:40-3:12)  
[SophiaOnline.org/StCrispinsDayBranagh](https://SophiaOnline.org/StCrispinsDayBranagh)
- **Queen Gorgo Address the Spartan Apellan from *300*** (1:53)  
[SophiaOnline.org/Queen300](https://SophiaOnline.org/Queen300)
- **Dumbledore's Welcome Speech from *The Prisoner of Azkaban*** (0:51-2:58)  
[SophiaOnline.org/DumbledoreWelcome](https://SophiaOnline.org/DumbledoreWelcome)

## Extemporaneous and Manuscript Speeches

- **“Why Be Catholic and Not Just Christian?” by Father Mike Schmitz**  
(8:58)  
[SophiaOnline.org/WhyCatholicSchmitz](https://SophiaOnline.org/WhyCatholicSchmitz)
- **Denzel Washington, Dillard University 2015 Commencement Address** (5:05 - end)  
[SophiaOnline.org/DenzelDillard](https://SophiaOnline.org/DenzelDillard)
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. I Have a Dream**  
[SophiaOnline.org/MLKDream](https://SophiaOnline.org/MLKDream)
- **Steve Jobs’ 2005 Stanford Commencement Address**  
[SophiaOnline.org/JobsStanford](https://SophiaOnline.org/JobsStanford)
- **Admiral William H. McRaven, University of Texas at Austin 2014 Commencement Address**  
[SophiaOnline.org/McRavenUTAustin](https://SophiaOnline.org/McRavenUTAustin)
- **Ronald Reagan, Address at the Brandenburg Gate**  
[SophiaOnline.org/ReaganBrandenburg](https://SophiaOnline.org/ReaganBrandenburg)
- **John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address**  
[SophiaOnline.org/JFKInauguration](https://SophiaOnline.org/JFKInauguration)
- **Barack Obama, Remarks on Fatherhood**  
[SophiaOnline.org/ObamaFatherhood](https://SophiaOnline.org/ObamaFatherhood)
- **Archive of U.S. Presidential Speeches**  
[SophiaOnline.org/PresidentialSpeeches](https://SophiaOnline.org/PresidentialSpeeches)
- **“Until the Whole World Hears” by Bishop Robert Barron**  
[SophiaOnline.org/BarronWholeWorld](https://SophiaOnline.org/BarronWholeWorld)
- **Kimberly Hahn, “Why Worry”**  
[SophiaOnline.org/HahnWorry](https://SophiaOnline.org/HahnWorry)
- **President John F. Kennedy, “We Choose to Go to the Moon” speech at Rice University**  
[SophiaOnline.org/JFKMoon](https://SophiaOnline.org/JFKMoon)
- **Lou Gehrig’s Farewell to Baseball Speech** (Lou Gehrig, one of the all-time great baseball players, had recently been diagnosed with ALS, which would come to be known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, and could no longer physically play baseball. This is his farewell speech given to a sold-out Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939. The full speech no longer exists on film. These clips are all that remain.)  
[SophiaOnline.org/GehrigBaseball](https://SophiaOnline.org/GehrigBaseball)
- **Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, Keynote for 2018 Life Is VERY Good Evening of Prayer** (the entire speech is worth watching, but consider showing the section from 2:22-5:15 as an example of a dynamic introduction)  
[SophiaOnline.org/SrMiriamEveningofPrayer](https://SophiaOnline.org/SrMiriamEveningofPrayer)