

Dear St. Martin of Tours Parish Family,

With the COVID-19 restrictions that have been in place for the last year, the Adult Education Committee has been unable to offer the type of programming that we have in past years. In light of this reality, we have decided to put together a list of books compiled from those which Msgr. Tom, our deacons, and the Adult Education Committee members have found helpful in our respective faith journeys and which we hope could be useful for you as well. Titles on this list could also serve as summer reading since many of us will again be unable to take the type of family vacations that we have in the past.

Additionally, our parish library, located in the Manning Center, has a very good collection of books which you may borrow.

We sincerely hope that you find some of these titles to be spiritually nourishing and helpful for your personal faith journey.

May God Bless you,

The St. Martin of Tours Adult Education Committee

Rich Furney, Jane Guido, Janine Hughey, Lisa Irwin, Kathi Lovell, Sue Maneikis, and Kathy Waldron

Foundational Reading

The Bible

The Catholic Edition of any translation, usually denoted by CE, is preferable. Be aware that if you are using a Protestant edition, it will be missing seven books from the Old Testament.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition, revised in accordance with the official Latin text promulgated by Pope John Paul II

The Catechism draws on the Bible, the Mass, the Sacraments, Church tradition and teaching, and the lives of saints. It comes with a complete index, footnotes, and cross-references for a fuller understanding of the Catholic faith.

Documents of Vatican II: Vatican Translation

The 16 documents of the Second Vatican Council (1963-65) are included in this volume together with notes and an index.

Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture edited by Mary Healy and Peter Williamson

The *Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture (CCSS)* combines outstanding biblical scholarship with lively faith to help Catholics interpret Scripture and apply it to Christian life today. In seventeen volumes, the series aims to provide readable, informative commentary on each book of the New Testament. The CCSS responds to the desire of Catholics to study the Bible in depth and in a way that integrates Scripture with Catholic doctrine, worship, and daily life. Central to the commentary's approach are the theological principles taught by Vatican II for interpreting Scripture "in accord with the same Spirit by which it was written" that is, interpreting Scripture in its canonical context and in the light of Catholic tradition and the analogy of faith (*Dei Verbum*, 12). The CCSS helps readers grasp the meaning of texts both in their historical and literary context and in their relationship to Catholic doctrine and life in the present.

Authors of the volumes include: Nathan Eubank, Fr. Pablo T. Gadenz, Fr. Dennis Hamm, SJ, Scott W. Hahn, Mary Healy, Daniel Keating, Fr. William S. Kurz, SJ, Fr. Francis Martin, Curtis Mitch, Fr. George T. Montague, SM, Edward Sri, Fr. Thomas D. Stegman, SJ, Peter S. Williamson, and William M. Wright IV

Pathways to Prayer: A Field Guide to Ten Catholic Traditions by Pat Fosarelli

This reader-friendly handbook introduces ten of the most prominent traditions, Augustinian, Benedictine, Carmelite, Cistercian, Dominican, Franciscan Ignatian, Salesian, Lay, and Mystic spirituality and recounts a brief history of each tradition's founder, highlights its characteristics, and provides a prayer or spiritual practice for each one. A chapter titled "What's Right for Me?" guides spiritual seekers in discerning which path to prayer is the best match for their personality, needs, and circumstances.

Why Do Catholics Do That?: A Guide to the Teachings and Practices of the Catholic Church by Kevin Orlin Johnson

Blending religious history, a deep appreciation for art and culture, and an enlightened reverence for the traditions of the Church, *Why Do Catholics Do That?* is the definitive resource for anyone who wants to learn more about the rituals, symbols, and traditions that can strengthen our faith every day.

An Introduction to the New Testament for Catholics by Joseph F. Kelly

Kelly provides an introduction to the New Testament and deals with the concerns of modern Catholics reading the Bible. He helps readers to understand what modern scholars, especially Catholic biblical exegetes, say about the individual books because we cannot understand what role Jesus can play in modern life if we don't understand what he meant to the earliest Christians.

The Imitation of Christ by Thomas à Kempis

The Imitation is perhaps the most widely read Christian devotional work next to the Bible, and is regarded as a devotional and religious classic. The text is divided into four books, which provide detailed spiritual instructions: "Helpful Counsels of the Spiritual Life", "Directives for the Interior Life", "On Interior Consolation", and "On the Blessed Sacrament". The approach taken in the *Imitation* is characterized by its emphasis on the interior life and withdrawal from the world. The book emphasizes devotion to the Eucharist as key element of spiritual life.

You Can Understand The Bible: A Practical And Illuminating Guide To Each Book In The Bible by Peter Kreeft

Christians are often intimidated or overwhelmed by the sheer size and complexity of the Bible. But now, popular author and teacher Peter Kreeft has written a clear roadmap of the Bible, focusing his keen insight and engaging wit on the core message of each book. Sparkling with intelligence and Kreeft's trademark humor, *You Can Understand the Bible* will transform dry study into spiritually satisfying adventures in God's Word.

Catholic Christianity: A Complete Catechism of Catholic Church Beliefs Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church by Peter Kreeft

A thorough summary of Catholic doctrine, morality, and worship in a popular format with less technical language than the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Kreeft presents a systematic, organic synthesis of the essential and fundamental Catholic teachings in the light of the Second Vatican Council and the whole of the Church's Tradition. This book is the most thorough, complete and popular catechetical summary of Catholic belief in print that is based on the universal Catechism.

Lives of the Saints, Spiritual, Theological, Meditation, Popular, etc.

Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith by Fr. Robert Barron (now Bishop Robert Barron)

Eclectic, unique, and inspiring, Fr. Barron seeks to capture the body, heart, and mind of the Catholic faith in a style that is both faithful to timeless truths while simultaneously speaking in the language of contemporary life. Starting from the essential foundation of Jesus Christ's Incarnation, life, and teaching, Barron moves through the defining elements of Catholicism, from sacraments, worship, and prayer, to Mary, the apostles, and saints, to grace, salvation, heaven and hell using his distinct and dynamic grasp of art, literature, architecture, personal stories, Scripture, theology, philosophy, and history to present the church to the world. Paired with his documentary film series of the same title, *Catholicism* is an intimate journey, capturing "The Catholic Thing" in all its depth and beauty.

Seeds of the Word: Finding God in the Culture by Bishop Robert Barron

Since the first century, Christians have detected "seeds of the Word" in the surrounding culture. No matter how charred or distorted the fragments, we can always uncover inklings of the Gospel, which can then lead people to God. Through this evocative collection of essays, Bishop Robert Barron finds those "seeds" in today's most popular films, books, and current events. How do Superman, Gran Torino, and The Hobbit illuminate the figure of Jesus? How does Bob Dylan convey the prophetic overtones of Jeremiah and Isaiah? Where can we detect the ripple of original sin in politics, sports, and the Internet culture? Finding the "seeds of the Word" requires a new vision. This book will train you to see.

In Sinu Jesu; When Heart Speaks to Heart by a Benedictine Monk

In 2007, Our Lord and Our Lady began to speak to the heart of a monk in the silence of adoration...He was prompted to write down what he received, and thus was born *In Sinu Jesu*, whose pages shine with an intense luminosity and heart-warming fervor that speaks directly to the inner and outer needs of our time with a unique power to console and challenge.

The Practice of the Presence of God in Modern English by Brother Lawrence, translated by Marshall Davis

This is a modern translation of a timeless spiritual classic written over 300 years ago in French. Brother Lawrence was a 17th century Christian who had a dramatic spiritual awakening at the age of eighteen. Seeing a tree in winter, his soul suddenly opened to the presence of God. Within six years he had entered a Carmelite monastery in Paris, where he worked chiefly in the kitchen, cooking and cleaning. He practiced a simple and natural method. He merely turned his attention to the Divine Presence available at all times during any activity. He reports that he was as fully present with God while washing dishes in the kitchen as he was when partaking of the sacrament in worship.

I Believe in Love: A Personal Retreat Based on the Teaching of St. Therese of Lisieux by Fr. Jean C.J. d'Elbee

This spiritual classic has long been beloved by Catholics for its wondrous distillation of the teaching of St. Therese of Lisieux into a reader-friendly set of meditations. It's perfect as a personal retreat when you have only a few moments to spare each day and for spiritual reading anytime and anywhere.

An Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

As no sensible person would make a long road trip without first consulting a map, so the person intent upon gaining Heaven should first resort to a competent guide to reach that Goal of all goals. No better guide to Heaven exists than *An Introduction to the Devout Life* by St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622), Doctor of the Church. It is at once easy to read, being laid out in short chapters, yet thorough, authoritative, reliable, kind, and gentle; a mirror of its author. It is a book, moreover, for all, because all are called to the devout life. True devotion to God, the author points out, adorns every vocation. The devout life, moreover, is a lovely, a pleasant, and a happy life.

Happy Are You Poor: The Simple Life and Spiritual Freedom by Fr. Thomas Dubay

To the modern mind, the concept of poverty is often confused with destitution. But destitution emphatically is not the Gospel ideal. A love-filled sharing frugality is the message, and Happy Are You Poor explains the meaning of this beatitude lived and taught by Jesus himself. But isn't simplicity in

lifestyle meant only for nuns and priests? Are not all of us to enjoy the goodness and beauties of our magnificent creation? Are parents to be frugal with the children they love so much? The renowned spiritual writer Dubay gives surprising replies to these questions. He explains how material things are like extensions of our persons and thus of our love. If everyone lived this love there would be no destitution. After presenting the richness of the Gospel message, more beautiful than any other world view, he explains how Gospel frugality is lived in each state of life.

The Admirable Heart of Mary by St. John Eudes

This book is a basic work in modern spirituality, one of the great devotional treatises which have shaped the history of Catholic prayer life. The characteristic gifts of the devout writer, his elevation of thought and directness of expression, are admirably exemplified in the beloved pages of his Marian masterpiece.

The Little Flowers of St. Francis by St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi's ecstatic embrace of a life of poverty revolutionized Christianity even as it transformed the ethics of the West. In this luminous and lively book, St. Francis's followers preserved his legend and those of his first disciples, combining stories of miracles with convincing portraits of men who were no less human for having been touched by God.

A Man of the Beatitudes: Pier Giorgio Frassati by Luciana Frassati

A beguiling and moving biography written by the sister of Pier Giorgio Frassati, a handsome, athletic and fun-loving young man from a rich, aristocratic Italian family in the 1920's who was beatified by Pope John Paul II. Pier Giorgio turned from a life of privilege to one devoted to working with the poor, and was a courageous witness of Christian faith and charity to many.

Divine Intimacy: Meditations on the Interior Life for Every Day of the Liturgical Year by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

The beloved Carmelite classic on how to reach intimate union with God through prayer. Covers the whole spiritual life. Based on the traditional liturgical calendar. Gives an absolutely Catholic view of life.

Consoling the Heart of Jesus: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat Inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius by Fr. Michael Gaitley

This do-it-yourself retreat combines the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius with the teachings of Saints Therese of Lisieux, Faustina Kowalska, and Louis de Montfort. The author has a remarkable gift for inspiring souls to trust in Jesus, The Divine Mercy.

33 Days to Morning Glory: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat In Preparation for Marian Consecration by Fr. Michael Gaitley

From Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, author of the bestselling book *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*, comes an extraordinary 33-day journey to Marian consecration with four giants of Marian spirituality: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, and Blessed John Paul II. Gaitley masterfully summarizes their teaching, making it easy to grasp and simple enough to put into practice. More specifically, he weaves their thought into a user-friendly, do-it-yourself retreat that will bless even the busiest of people.

A Heart on Fire: Apostolic Reflection with Blessed Rosalie Rendu by Joan Gibson and Kieran Kneaves
Blessed Rosalie Rendu was a Sister of the Daughters of Charity and was instrumental in the forming of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Her ministry focused on the poor and needy. Available from the St. Vincent de Paul Society: <https://ssvpusa.org/product/apostolic-reflection-with-rosalie-rendu/>

The Shadow of His Wings: The True Story of Fr. Gereon Goldmann, OFM by Fr. Gereon Goldmann
This is the astonishing true story of the harrowing experiences of a young German seminarian drafted into Hitler's dreaded SS at the onset of World War II. Without betraying his Christian ideals, against all odds, and in the face of Evil, Gereon Goldmann was able to complete his priestly training, be ordained, and secretly minister to German Catholic soldiers and innocent civilian victims caught up in the horrors of war. How it all came to pass will astound you. Fr. Goldmann tells of his own incredible experiences of the trials of war, his many escapes from almost certain death, and the diabolical persecution that he and his fellow Catholic soldiers encountered on account of their faith. What emerges is an extraordinary witness to the workings of Divine Providence and the undying power of love, prayer, faith, and sacrifice.

The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth by Scott Hahn
Of all things Catholic, there is nothing that is so familiar as the Mass. With its unchanging prayers, the Mass fits Catholics like their favorite clothes. Yet most Catholics sitting in the pews on Sundays fail to see the powerful supernatural drama that enfolds them. Pope John Paul II described the Mass as "Heaven on Earth," explaining that what "we celebrate on Earth is a mysterious participation in the heavenly liturgy." *The Lamb's Supper* reveals a long-lost secret of the Church: The early Christians' key to understanding the mysteries of the Mass was the New Testament Book of Revelation. With its bizarre imagery, its mystic visions of heaven, and its end-of-time prophecies, Revelation mirrors the sacrifice and celebration of the Eucharist. Beautifully written, in clear direct language, this book will help readers see the Mass with new eyes, pray the liturgy with a renewed heart, and enter into the Mass more fully, enthusiastically, intelligently, and powerfully than ever before.

A Father Who Keeps His Promises: God's Covenant Love in Scripture by Scott Hahn
Hahn explores the "covenant love" God reveals to us through the Scriptures and explains how God patiently reaches out to us, despite our faults and shortcomings, to restore us into relationship with his divine family. Join Hahn as he follows the high adventure of God's plan for the ages, beginning with Adam and Eve and continuing down through the generations to the coming of Christ and the birth of the Church. You'll discover how the patient love of the Father revealed in the Bible is the same persistent love he has for you.

Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism by Scott and Kimberly Hahn
The Hahns' conversion story and love for the Church has captured the hearts and minds of thousands of lukewarm Catholics and brought them back into an active participation in the Church. They have also influenced countless conversions to Catholicism among their friends and others who have heard their powerful testimony. Written with simplicity, charity, grace and wit, the Hahns' deep love and knowledge of Christ and of Scripture is evident and contagious throughout their story. Their love of truth and of neighbor is equally evident, and their theological focus on the great importance of the family, both biological and spiritual, will be a source of inspiration for all readers.

Hail, Holy Queen: The Mother of God in the Word of God by Scott Hahn

Most Christians know that the life of Jesus is foreshadowed throughout the Old Testament. Through a close examination of the Bible, as well as the work of both Catholic and Protestant scholars and clergy, Hahn brings to light the small but significant details showing that just as Jesus is the "New Adam," so Mary is the "New Eve." He unveils the Marian mystery at the heart of the Book of Revelation and reveals how it is foretold in the very first pages of the Book of Genesis and in the story of King David's monarchy, which speaks of a privileged place for the mother of the king. Building on these scriptural and historical foundations, Hahn presents a new look at the Marian doctrines: Her Immaculate Conception, Perpetual Virginity, Assumption, and Coronation.

First Comes Love: Finding Your Family in the Church and the Trinity by Scott Hahn

Delving into the Gospels, Hahn shows that family terminology, words like brother, sister, mother, father, and home, dominates Jesus' speech and the writings of His first followers, and that these very words illuminate Christianity's central ideas. As he explores the fatherhood of God, the marriage of the Church to Christ, and the all-enveloping role of the Holy Spirit, Hahn deepens readers' understanding of the sacraments, teaches them how to create a family life in the image of the Trinity, and demonstrates the ways in which the analogy of the family applies to every aspect of Catholicism and its practices, from the role of "father" embodied by the ancient patriarchs and contemporary parish priests, to the comfort and guidance offered by the brothers and sisters who comprise the Communion of Saints, to the nurturing embrace of Mary, the mother of all Christians.

Entering the Heart of God by Charles Irvin

Behind each of the words and phrases in The Lord's Prayer lies a rich array of concepts. Take the first word for example. Have we spent much time meditating on 'Our'? Most of us have not. But we should. Jesus selected every word deliberately. Perhaps we should spend some time meditating on His choice and why He placed it as the very first word of the prayer He taught his disciples. This book is a detailed (word by word, phrase by phrase) breakdown and analysis of the Lord's Prayer.

First and Second Apologies by St. Justin Martyr

Justin's first and second apologies are an important and classic work of Christian theology. Written in the second century AD, there is a wonderful description of the Mass and some of the sacraments. It's great reading for those that believe the Church has changed everything over the years, especially since Vatican II.

John of the Cross: Doctor of Light and Love by Kieran Kavanaugh

St. John of the Cross is one of the greatest mystics of the West. He lived in the 16th century in Spain, was monk, reformer, and best known for Dark Night of the Soul and his deep friendship with St. Teresa of Avila. St. John is considered one of the most important poets of the Spanish language.

Rediscover Catholicism: A Spiritual Guide to Living with Passion and Purpose by Matthew Kelly

Kelly proposes that Catholicism is not a lifeless set of rules and regulations, but a way of life designed by God to help each person reach his or her full potential. He dispels dozens of myths that surround the rejection of Catholicism today and provides a profound and practical vision of what will lead the Catholic Church to thrive again in the future.

The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis

A classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below." At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, *The Screwtape Letters* is the most engaging account of temptation, and triumph over it, ever written.

The Story of a Soul: Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux

The Story of a Soul conveys St. Therese of Lisieux's "Little Way" of spiritual childhood, her "elevator" to Heaven, as she called it. This method was approved by Pope Pius XI as a way for all to grow in holiness through unflinching confidence and childlike delight in God's merciful love. Again and again in this book, St. Therese shows us how her "Little Way" of love and trust comes straight from Sacred Scripture.

The Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook for the Journey to God Based on the Wisdom of the Saints

by Ralph Martin

Drawing upon the teaching of seven Spiritual Doctors of the Church, Ralph Martin presents an in-depth study of the journey to God. This book provides encouragement and direction for the pilgrim who desires to know, love, and serve our Lord.

The Seven Storey Mountain by Thomas Merton

Merton's autobiography tells of the growing restlessness of a brilliant and passionate young man, who at the age of twenty-six, takes vows in one of the most demanding Catholic orders, the Trappist monks. At the Abbey of Gethsemani, he wrote this extraordinary testament, a unique spiritual autobiography that has been recognized as one of the most influential religious works of our time.

The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri J.M. Nouwen

A chance encounter with a reproduction of Rembrandt's "The Return of the Prodigal Son" painting catapulted Henri Nouwen on an unforgettable spiritual adventure. Here he shares the deeply personal and resonant meditation that led him to discover a place within where God has chosen to dwell. As Nouwen reflects on Rembrandt's painting in light of his own life journey, he evokes a powerful drama of the classic parable in a rich, captivating way that is sure to reverberate in the hearts of readers. The themes of homecoming, affirmation and reconciliation will be newly discovered by all who have known loneliness, dejection, jealousy, or anger.

The Way of Trust and Love - A Retreat Guided By St. Therese of Lisieux by Fr. Jacques Philippe

St. Therese of Lisieux sought a new way to Heaven: "a little way that is quite straight, quite short: a completely new little way." Blessed with personal limitations that might have discouraged another, Therese believed God would not have given her a desire for holiness if He did not intend for her to achieve it. She learned to humbly accept herself as she was and trust completely in God's love. First given as a retreat by renowned author Father Jacques Philippe, *The Way of Trust and Love* navigates excerpts of St. Therese's writings phrase by phrase, extracting powerful, resonating insights.

Nine Days to Welcome Peace by Fr. Jacques Philippe

We think of it as a blessing to have a peaceful heart, but it is also a necessary condition for the growth of our spiritual lives. How do we not only find peace but then keep it? Step by step, in a period of nine

days, Fr. Jacques Philippe describes how to welcome this inner peace in all areas of our existence. He shows us how to rest in the deep resonance of God's holy peace amidst the highs and lows, ease and struggles of everyday life.

Real Mercy: Mary, Forgiveness, and Trust by Fr. Jacques Philippe

In *Real Mercy* Father Jacques Philippe turns his focus on mercy in this book that developed from talks given on the first three days of the Year of Mercy beginning Dec. 8, 2015. On that feast day of the Immaculate Conception, he explored how Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is an exemplar of mercy to the Church and the entire world. In a discreet but vital way she dispenses graces and favors with the compassion of a mother. His second essay on forgiveness in families hits home with everyone. No one has escaped the ill feeling and bitterness caused by strife and misunderstanding within the family, and yet the same family is intended to be the path for both earthly and eternal happiness. The author brings to light vivid examples of how lack of forgiveness causes severe damage while forgiveness heals and restores broken relationships. Finally, he uses the writings of St. Therese of Lisieux to show how trust in God's mercy leads to extraordinary supernatural effects in one's life and in the lives of those one touches.

The Case for Jesus: The Biblical and Historical Evidence for Christ by Brant Pitre with an afterword by Bishop Robert Barron

For well over a hundred years, many scholars have questioned the historical truth of the Gospels, claiming that they were originally anonymous. Others have even argued that Jesus of Nazareth did not think he was God and never claimed to be divine. In *The Case for Jesus*, Pitre, goes back to the sources, the biblical and historical evidence for Christ, in order to answer several key questions. He shows that recent discoveries in New Testament scholarship, as well as neglected evidence from ancient manuscripts and the early church fathers, together have the potential to pull the rug out from under a century of skepticism toward the traditional Gospels. Above all, Pitre shows how the divine claims of Jesus of Nazareth can only be understood by putting them in their ancient Jewish context.

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper by Brant Pitre with a foreword by Scott Hahn

Pitre explores ancient Jewish beliefs about the Passover of the Messiah, the miraculous Manna from heaven, and the mysterious Bread of the Presence. As he shows, these three keys, the Passover, the Manna, and the Bread of the Presence, have the power to unlock the original meaning of the Eucharistic words of Jesus. Along the way, Pitre also explains how Jesus united the Last Supper to his death on Good Friday and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Santa Maria Goretti: Vestida toda de rojo by Fr. Godfrey Poage, C.P.

A contemporary classic in the making, young people are especially affected by this memorable narrative. However, this is truly a book for all ages, because anyone will be inspired by this little girl's unshakable purity and mercy, even in the face of brutal violence. The book also includes a compelling collection of portraits and photographs, with a novena and additional prayers to instill further devotion to Maria.

Jesus of Nazareth, from the Baptism in the Jordan to the Transfiguration by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI)

In this bold, momentous work, the Pope seeks to salvage the person of Jesus from today's "popular" depictions and to restore his true identity as discovered in the Gospels. Through his brilliance as a theologian and his personal conviction as a believer, the Pope incites us to encounter Jesus face to face.

The Spirit of the Liturgy by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI)

Considered by Ratzinger devotees as his greatest work on the Liturgy, this profound and beautifully written treatment of the "great prayer of the Church" will help readers rediscover the Liturgy in all its hidden spiritual wealth and transcendent grandeur as the very center of our Christian life.

Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel by Fr. John Riccardo with a foreword by Scott Hahn

How can we believe and be transformed by the gospel? Once we understand that the gospel is not merely good news but explosive, life-changing news, we will never be the same again. And in response to God's work in our lives, what part can we play in recreating the world for his good plan? In this powerful book, Fr. John Riccardo helps us to see the world through God's lens, with a clear vision of the future.

The Shepherd Who Didn't Run: Blessed Stanley Rother, Martyr from Oklahoma, Revised by Maria Ruiz Scaperlanda

"The shepherd cannot run at the first sign of danger." - Fr. Stanley Francis Rother

Fr. Stanley arrived in Guatemala in 1968, and immediately identified with his parishioners' simple, farming lifestyle. He learned their languages, prepared them for the Sacraments, and cared for their needs. Fr. Stanley, or "Padre Francisco" as he was called by his beloved Tz'utujil Indians, had found his heart's calling. After nearly a decade, the violence of the Guatemalan civil war found its way into the peaceful village. Disappearances, killings, and danger became daily occurrences, but despite this unrest Fr. Stanley remained hard at work, building a farmer's co-op, a school, a hospital, and the first Catholic radio station, used for catechesis. In early 1981, his name was on a death list, so he returned to Oklahoma and was warned not to return. But he could not abandon his people, so he went back, and made the ultimate sacrifice for his faith.

From Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Pastoral Strategies for an Apostolic Age by University of Mary and James P. Shea

Every human society possesses a moral and spiritual imaginative vision, a set of assumptions and ways of looking at things according to which life proceeds. This essay is an attempt to contribute effective strategies to engage our own time and culture once more with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and, for a weary world, to awaken the Catholic imaginative vision.

Lord, Teach Us To Pray: A Fulton Sheen Anthology by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Over the course of Archbishop Fulton Sheen's storied career, thousands approached him with a simple request: "Teach us to pray." Now, his wise teachings on prayer have been collected into a single volume to help you perfect your prayers and make them what they must become: a daily, holy habit.

Prayer, meditation, Holy Hours, the Mass, and even a bit of philosophy: it's all here in this delightful anthology of the works of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen!

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do In The Liturgy by Edward Sri
In *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, Sri takes us on a unique tour of the liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass, this book explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Catholic Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist.

The Rosary for the Holy Souls in Purgatory by Susan Tassone
Giving the Holy Souls in Purgatory an indulgence is "the highest act of supernatural charity," says Pope Saint John Paul II. What better way to pray for them than by adapting our favorite devotional tradition, the Rosary? Tassone points out the Scripture passages that relate to those awaiting their release into heaven. Make praying for the Holy Souls a regular part of your devotional life.

The Cure D'Ars: St. Jean-Marie-Baptiste Vianney by Msgr. Francois Trochu
The definitive story of St. John Vianney based on the official records from the process of his beatification and canonization. Of humble education and assigned to a forgotten farmers' village, he attracted the whole world to Ars and was named the patron saint of parish priests in 1929. He ate one meal a day, slept only a few hours a night, heard confessions up to 17 hours a day, converted thousands. His body remains incorrupt. A grace-filled story of total love of God!

The Song of Bernadette by Franz Werfel
This classic tells the true story surrounding the miraculous visions of St. Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, France in 1858. Werfel, a highly respected anti-Nazi writer from Vienna, became a Jewish refugee who barely escaped death in 1940, and wrote this moving story to fulfill a promise he made to God. While hiding in the little village of Lourdes, Werfel felt the Nazi noose tightening, and realizing that he and his wife might well be caught and executed, he made a promise to God to write about the song of Bernadette that he had been inspired by during his clandestine stay in Lourdes. Though Werfel was Jewish, he was so deeply impressed by both Bernadette and the happenings at Lourdes, that his writing has a profound sense of Catholic understanding.

Seasons of Your Heart: Prayers & Reflections by Macrina Wiederkehr
In this masterpiece of simplicity, Wiederkehr offers a series of meditations to bring us closer to a "God for all seasons". Designed for daily use as well as for retreats, it is an eloquent and lyrical invitation to journey through the spiritual seasons of wonder, hope, love, mystery, and faith.