



A Short List of Recommended Books

Catholic Teaching and Theology

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church by Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI)

The Catholic Catechism by John Hardon

The Faith Explained by Leo Trese (or *The Faith Explained Today* by Joe Babendreier)

Rome Sweet Rome by Scott and Kimberly Hahn

Major Documents from Vatican II:

Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church)

Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World)

Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation)

Apostolicam Actuositatem (Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity)

By Pope Paul VI:

Humanae Vitae (Encyclical Letter entitled *Of Human Life: On the Regulation of Birth*)

By Pope John Paul II:

Crossing the Threshold of Hope

Love and Responsibility

The Theology of the Body (or *The Theology of the Body Simplified* by Anthony Pearce)

Evangelium Vitae (Encyclical Letter on *The Gospel of Life*)

Fides et Ratio (Encyclical Letter on *Faith and Reason*)

Veritatis Splendor (Encyclical Letter on *The Splendor of Truth*)

By Pope Benedict XVI:

Deus Caritas Est (Encyclical Letter entitled *God is Love*)

Spe Salvi (Encyclical Letter entitled *Saved by Hope*)

Caritas in Veritate (Encyclical Letter on *Charity in Truth*)

For Prayer and Spiritual Reading

Handbook of Prayers by James Socias; Midwest Theological Forum

In Conversation with God by Francis Fernandez-Carvajal (a seven-volume series of meditations for each day of the Church's liturgical calendar)

By St. Josemaria Escriva:

The Way, The Furrow, and The Forge

Friends of God

Christ is Passing By

The Way of the Cross

The Holy Rosary

In Love with the Church

The Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis

The Soul of the Apostolate by Jean-Baptiste Chautard

Spiritual Combat by Lorenzo Scupoli

Call Him Father: How to Experience the Fatherhood of God by Edward G. Maristany



To Know Christ Jesus by Francis J. Sheed
His Cross in Your Life by Bertrand Weaver
The Tremendous Lover by Eugene Boylan
Difficulties in Mental Prayer by Eugene Boylan
In Silence with God by Benedict Baur
Frequent Confession by Benedict Baur
Lukewarmness: The Devil in Disguise by Francis Fernandez-Carvajal
Mary of Nazareth by Federico Suarez
Joseph of Nazareth by Federico Suarez
 Scepter Booklets (PDFs downloadable for free at <http://www.scepterpublishers.org>)
 By Jacques Philippe (simple yet profound works on prayer, freedom, and God):
 Interior Freedom
 Searching for and Maintaining Peace
 Time for God
 In the School of the Holy Spirit
 Called to Life

Virtue

Man and Values by Cormac Burke
The Eight Beatitudes by George Chevrot
The Four Cardinal Virtues by Joseph Pieper
Back to Virtue by Peter Kreeft
The Book of Virtues by William J. Bennett
Character Building by David Isaacs
20 Teachable Virtues: Practical Ways to Pass on Lessons of Virtue and Character to Your Children by Barbara C. Unell and Jerry L. Wyckoff
The Hidden Power of Kindness by Lawrence G. Lovasik

Marriage, Love, and the Family

Covenanted Happiness by Cormac Burke
Three to Get Married by Fulton J. Sheen
 By James Stenson
 Upbringing: A Discussion Handbook for Parents of Young Children
 Lifeline: The Religious Upbringing of Your Children
 Compass: A Handbook on Parent Leadership
 Preparing for Peer Pressure
 Successful Fathers
God and Children by Jesus Urteaga
How to Teach Your Child the Facts of Life by Caesar Santos
Building Self Esteem in Children by Patricia H. Berne and Louis M. Savary
What Would You Do If...? 101 Five-Minute Devotions for the Family by Greg Johnson
Little House on the Freeway: Help for the Hurried Home by Tim Kimmel
Finding Time for Family Fun by Gwen Weising



“Know Yourself”

The Temperament God Gave You by Art and Laraine Bennett

The Temperament God Gave Your Spouse by Art and Laraine Bennett

Being Happy! A Handbook to Greater Confidence and Security by Andrew Matthews

From Resentment to Forgiveness by Francisco Ugarte

Surrendering our Stress: Prayers to Calm the Soul and Strengthen the Spirit by Joan Guntzelman

Saints and History

Saints of the Roman Calendar by Enzo Lodi

Saints and Feast Days: Lives of the Saints with a Calendar and Ways to Celebrate by the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, OH (Adapted from the Christ Our Life Series)

Triumph: The Power and the Glory of the Catholic Church by H.W. Crocker III

Biographies

Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II by George Weigel

Thomas More: A Portrait of Courage by Gerard B. Wegemer

The Cure D’Ars by Francois Trochu

