

NEW CATHOLIC BOOKS & MEDIA

Inspirational Media for Today's Catholics

Fall 2011 • Vol. 2, No. 3

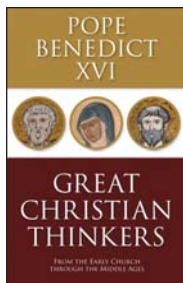
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New Fall Books Feature Teen Saints, Great Thinkers and Lay Ministers

By Christopher Fenoglio
Editor in Chief

Even with economic uncertainty clouding financial forecasts and a quickening movement to e-books changing the publishing business model, there are plenty of new books landing on bookstore shelves this fall.

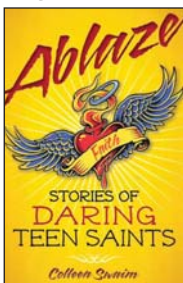
For instance, "Great Christian Thinkers" (Fortress Press, \$16.99) by Pope Benedict XVI is a collection of seventy presentations conducted during the past six years.



The pope often uses weekly papal audiences to explore the lives of great individuals in the history of our Church. He not only speaks of theologians and philosophers, but also the lives of spiritual guides, eremites and monks, abbots and abbesses, popes and bishops, founders and reformers, mystics and missionaries.

In this book, Pope Benedict XVI introduces readers to 1,500 years of theology, controversy and doctrinal developments while also encouraging personal reflection on these issues for one's own faith formation.

Another collection of great lives is "Ablaze: Stories of Daring Teen Saints" (Liguori Publications, \$12.99), written by Colleen Swaim. The author, a religion and English teacher in the Diocese of Covington,



teaches teens that being holy can be intensely radical in any age, especially in our modern society.

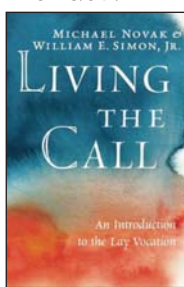
She looks at the lives of eight young souls who were "set afire with the spirit and set free to live lives of extraordinary virtue." All of these individuals eventually became saints for the selfless heroism of their teen years.

In "Living the Call – An Introduction to the Lay Vocation" (Encounter Books, \$21.95), authors Michael Novak and William E.

Simon, Jr. remind readers that Baptism confers on all Christians the right and duty to spread the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

Novak and Simon chronicle the lives of nine faithful laypeople who are serving the Church in diverse and important areas. The authors explain how these individuals discovered their calling and reveal how they have since transformed both their communities and their own spiritual lives. This book offers unique, practical guidance to all who aspire to serve God and an optimistic outlook on the Catholic Church that will "inspire the faithful to consider the lay vocation as a rewarding part of their lives."

FOX News analyst Father



Book program aims to help parents keep their children alcohol-free

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. – "Messengers In Denim: The Amazing Things Parents Can Learn From Teens" was recently chosen by the Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free Foundation for its national book club program.

The foundation, a unique coalition of current and former Governors' spouses, Federal agencies, and public and private organizations, is an initiative to prevent the use of alcohol by children ages 9 to 15.

"Messengers in Denim" was also chosen by the Mother's Club of St. Mary's Church in Pittsburgh, Penn. for discussions by its members.

The book was written by retired pediatrician Par Donahue, M.D., a parishioner of Holy Family Church. Published by Mapletree Publishing, "Messengers in Denim" invites parents to really listen to their teens.

Donahue encourages each parent to be a good example of the kind of adult they want their child to become. He urges parents to "listen with patience, respect, and love" to hear the encoded (yet often insightful) messages teenagers send.

Jonathan Morris writes in his new book "God Wants You Happy" (HarperOne, \$24.99) that self-help can only take a reader so far; what one really needs is God-help. Father Morris proposes that society replace the unsatisfying, fleeting solutions of the New Age self-help industry with the simplicity and depth of authentic Christian spirituality.

Illustrated with biblical passages and filled with case studies and exercises, "God Wants You Happy" helps readers to work through the faith-hope-love cure to get rid of self-destructive and self-limiting habits while forming new habits for receiving grace, forgiveness, acceptances and love.

Almost two decades ago, Father Joseph F. Girzone inspired millions with his "Joshua" series. Now with "The Homeless Bishop" (Orbis

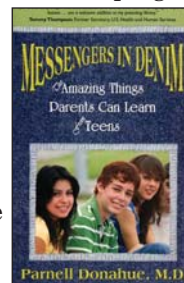
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Donahue says parents often send mixed messages – such as talking about how they "got wasted" in college – and that they too need to drink responsibly. He says kids who drink before the age of 15 have a 6–10 times greater risk of developing problems with alcohol as adults.

"Kids need to know that it's illegal for them to drink and that they shouldn't," Donahue says. "They also need to know that drinking at a young age, even for those under 24, has an adverse effect on their developing brain."

"Binge drinking is especially harmful to these kids as far as their personality development is concerned," continues Donahue. "It destroys their judgment. It's responsible for more than half of all of teenagers' deaths in accidents, murder and suicide."

A free discussion guide is available at www.alcoholfreechildren.org/node/378.

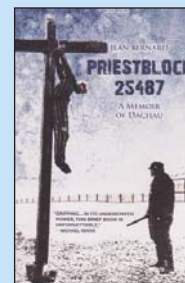


Memoir of Dachau Priest Raises Personal Questions

By Shellie Braeuner

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — In recent years, many have come forward accusing the Catholic Church of complicity with the Nazis. While it is true that some priests in Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe did work for the Nazis, there were many who refused.

"Priestblock 25487" is the personal memoir of one such priest from Luxembourg:



Jean Bernard. Arrested by the Nazi regime, Fr. Bernard was interred in Dachau in a special block set aside for Catholic priests and religious. Like many political prisoners, he has little idea of why he was arrested in the first place, but he knows that he cannot agree to the Nazi call to round up Jews and kill the aged and infirm.

After internment, Fr. Bernard quickly learns how to survive in the camp. He keeps his head down and helps those around him. The memoirs preserve the atrocities that were visited upon the priests. They were "special prisoners," with "special privileges." Fr. Bernard explains that these benefits were not to help the priests, but to make the other prisoners hate them, creating division among the captives.

For example, the priests were not expected to work the same as other prisoners. Instead, it was their job to carry food to the other barracks. If there was less food, or something spilled on the way, the priests were accused of stealing the food from other prisoners.

The Nazis also had special punishments ready for priests. For example, on Good Friday, 60 priests were hung on "The Tree." This meant that their arms were pulled behind them and they were hung on a cross. Priests were not taken down until their arms were completely disjointed.

Fr. Bernard's words speak to

Continued on page 2...

New Fall Books...

Continued from page 1.

Books, \$25), Father Girzone introduces a new hero for this age: Carlo Brunini, aka Charlie. An accomplished young Italian bishop, Carlo chooses to become a homeless beggar so he can understand why Jesus so loved the poor.

What happens next, says Girzone's publicist, will astonish and delight readers everywhere. Girzone's latest novel is described as a 'what if' book that readers will not be able to put down. Comment on this book and others on our website.

Available in September is the long-awaited companion book to

Father Robert Barron's documentary film series "Catholicism." Starting from the essential foundation of Jesus Christ's incarnation, life, and teaching, Father 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 a multi-disciplinary approach with art, literature, architecture, personal stories, Scripture, theology, philosophy, and history to present the Church to the world.

John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York from 1984 to

2000, believed in protecting all human life. He took very seriously the alarming culture of death that was taking hold in the United States during his tenure. His efforts to create a culture of life are documented in "John Cardinal O'Connor and the Culture of Life" (St. Pauls. \$14.95). Written by Rev. Charles P. Connor, Ph.D., L.Th, the book chronicles Cardinal O'Connor's sermons, addresses and encounters with the secular media



and politicians to continually foster a culture of life. His dream was realized in 1991 with the creation of the Sisters of Life, a contemplative and religious community that takes a vow to "protect and enhance the sacredness of human life."

In October, look for "Between Heaven and Mirth – Why Joy, Humor and Laughter are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life" by James Martin, S.J. (HarperOne, \$25.99). Father Martin relates personal experiences, insights from the lives of the saints, Bible passages and a few jokes to create a unique collection in spiritual literature.

Priestblock 25487...

Continued from page 1.

us today. He talks about the little miracles of kindness that different people, many that he never knew, gave to him and other prisoners. These were more than just simple acts of charity. They were the difference between life and death.

He also speaks to us today about the value of optimism. Like Eli Weisel, Fr. Bernhard talks about the absolute need for a positive attitude that comes from within, not from the environment. It is truly a life-saving gift from God.

Originally written as simple diary entries, Fr. Bernhard's memoirs were first published in weekly installments in 1945. At that time, it was common knowledge that many faithful clergy suffered along with others under the Third Reich. Today, it is even more vital that we remember the past so that we will never repeat it.

Family Ties

This book has special meaning to my family and me. For years we had heard the story of Fr. Bernhard, a different priest than the one in the book.

Fr. Bernhard Ketzlick was my grandmother's cousin. He stayed in Germany when the rest of the family emigrated to the U.S. and South Africa. My father was named for the young priest he had never met. We knew that he had been arrested and interred during the Third Reich, but had little other information.

In 2009, I began an Internet search. The Holocaust Museum has a link to arrest records in the Third Reich and I was able to obtain his records. As a young priest, Fr. Bernhard worked for the Bishop of Westphalia, August Graf von Galen, a noted anti-Nazi Bishop. On July 13, the Bishop delivered a strong sermon denouncing the Nazi regime. He delivered a second sermon on July 20.

While it may or may not have been a coincidence, on August 1, 1941, two days before the Bishop made a third public outcry against Hitler, Fr. Bernhard was arrested and held in "protective custody" by the Hamburg police. He spent six months in the local jail until January, 1942 when he was transferred to Dachau. He spent the next three

years in the concentration camp. On paper, he was released less than two weeks before the Allies liberated the camp. However, family records say that he was in the infirmary when the allies came into the camp.

There is also evidence that clerks processed release paperwork for as many prisoners as they could just before liberation in an attempt to hide the number of people killed.

Fr. Bernhard contracted typhus while in Dachau and died soon after his release. "Priestblock

25487" explains that German priests were kept separate from their fellow priests from foreign lands. While my family does not appear in this book, reading the book helped me understand what Fr. Bernhard went through.

It also makes me wonder what I would go through to defend my faith. Would I ignore abuse to save my own life or risk death just to do what's right?

Shellie Braeuner M.Ed is a freelance writer and author of "The Great Dog Wash."

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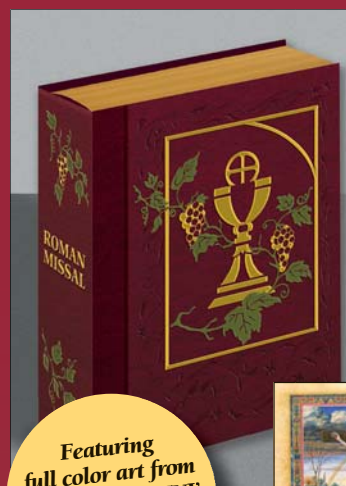
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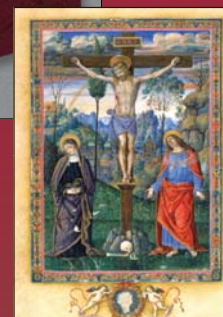
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The New Roman Missal



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by Paul Turner

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Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
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The true story of a band of believers who came together in a crusade to save their beloved church, unravel the mystery of why it was closed and discover the resiliency of their own faith.

Little Rock Catholic Study Bible

By Little Rock Scripture Study
Diocese of Little Rock & Liturgical Press
\$39.95 • 2,650 pages • ISBN 978-081462675

Using the text of the New American Bible, revised edition, this study bible includes maps, time lines, graphics and photos; articles about the value of bible study and notes on archaeology, culture, etc.

How to Watch Movies with Kids

By Hosea Ruppert, FSP
Pauline Books & Media
\$9.95 • 109 pages • ISBN 978-0819833983

Offers practical tips, questions to ponder, and resources to help build your family's own values-based strategy for dealing proactively with media influences.

Moments of Grace

By Christopher de Vinck
Paulist Press
\$19.95 • 240 pages • ISBN 978-0809105977

Tired of all the negative news in the media? The author finds a desirable balance by tapping into the "richness of hope that comes with every change of season," an ebb and flow of change and renewal.

God's Tender Mercy

By Joan Chittister
Twenty-third Publications
\$10.95 • 80 pages • ISBN 978-1585957996

Reflections on forgiveness that tackle the virtue of mercy and its vital connection to forgiveness. The author invites us to be realistic about our own actions before we "throw the first stone" at another.

A Call to a Deeper Love

By Blessed Zelig & Louis Martin
St. Pauls
\$29.95 • 422 pages • ISBN 978-0818913211

Through 234 family letters, the parents of St. Therese of the Child Jesus give us access to the honesty and intimacy of their lives never meant for the general public.

Discovering the Camino de Santiago

By Rev. Greg J. Markey
Roman Catholic Books
\$9.95 • 78 pages • ISBN 978-1934888209

Author describes his month-long pilgrimage to the Tomb of St. James

and the conversations with others who sought to rediscover Christ as the main focus of their lives.

The One Thing

By Matthew Kelly
Beacon Publishing
\$13.95 • 66 pages • ISBN 978-0984131884

A personal reflection on the challenges of passing faith onto children, Kelly writes about his own faith, why religion has played such a powerful role throughout history, and the hopes he has for his first child.

Sinner

By Lino Rulli
Servant Books
\$18.99 • 000 pages • ISBN 978-1616360399

The host of "The Catholic Guy" on Sirius Radio, Rulli shares a collection of stories from his own life that illustrate the joys and struggles of trying to follow God in everyday circumstances.

The Artist's Rule

By Christine Valters Paintner
Sorin Books
\$14.95 • 178 pages • ISBN 978-1933495293

Outlines a twelve-week journey to connect creativity and spirituality in daily life through lectio divina, reflection, walking, and a variety of artful projects. Focus is on connecting the work of the hands with internal reflection on spiritual truths.

Saints for Healing

By Janice McGrane, S.S.J.
St. Anthony Messenger Press
\$13.99 • 144 pages • ISBN 978-0867169621

Stories of people who followed Christ's path – Joan of Arc, Maximilian Kolbe, Catherine of Siena, Mother Teresa and others – who through their example, afford us all the courage and hope necessary to endure life's most painful trials.

America's Church

By Thomas A. Tweed
Oxford University Press
\$35 • 398 pages • ISBN 978-0199782987

The author describes how the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., America's largest Catholic church, is also an illuminating site from which to tell the story of twentieth-century Catholicism.

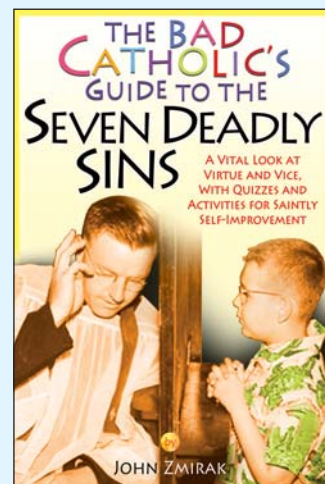
Sports and Faith

By Patrick McCaskey
Sporting Chance Press
\$20 • 224 pages • ISBN 978-0981934235

Stories of the devoted and the devout look back at decades of spiritual enrichment and life lessons from athletes, coaches, religious and everyday people.



The Crossroad Publishing Company

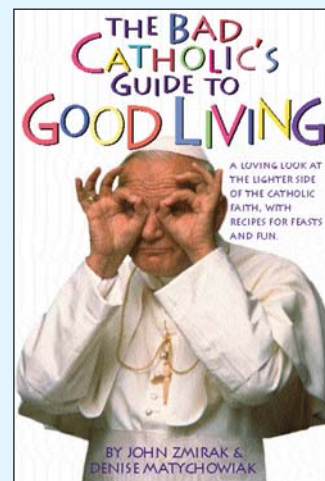


The Bad Catholic's Guide to the Seven Deadly Sins

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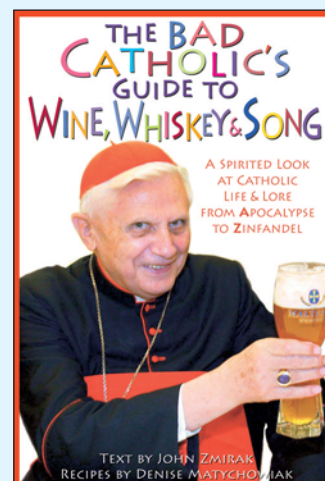


The Bad Catholic's Guide to Good Living

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Daily Reflections Help Readers Experience God's Presence in Their Lives

Reviewed by Rev. Steve Wolf

The book "An Ignatian Pathway: Experiencing the Mystical Dimensions of the Spiritual Exercises" by Paul Coutinho, S. J., should be experienced rather than just read. I halted my Kindle highlighting after too much underlining.

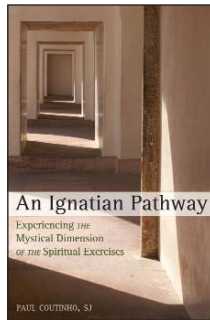
With 43 years of a Jesuit life in the background, a relationship with our loving God unfolds. Fr. Coutinho's primary sources are by St. Ignatius of Loyola: the instructions for retreat directors called the Spiritual Exercises, the Autobiography describing in third person the journey of the pilgrim (Ignatius), and the Spiritual Journal.

The reader is invited "to be open to experience, to reflect on that experience, and to have the courage to renew our lives in the light of the discerned meaning of our experience." That sentence might send grown men running to the gym or a man-cave for protection from group hugs and sharing. But Ignatius' spiritual journey followed military service. Even wounds of war can

be used by God to bring us into peace, joy, and inner freedom. This path is for men and women of our time who know there is a war going on within them. It is healthy to admit in the effort that words about encounters with God often miss the mark.

The outline includes Days of Preparation (which I often summarize as "God loves you; now sit still and deal with that reality"), Days of Reverence (reflecting on our magnificent God, the goodness of creation, and our shame and confusion around the absurdity of sin), Days of Contemplation (where we ponder as Mary did the incarnation and public life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth, open to how Christ might be calling us today), and Days of Grace (Jesus' loving free gift of himself on the cross and in the joy of the resurrection). "Ignatius wants us to find God's pattern of acting in our lives."

Cautioned by a seminary professor's warning to make a directed



An Ignatian Pathway
by Paul Coutinho, SJ
Loyola Press
\$14.95, 224 pages
ISBN 978-0829433098

retreat before reading the exercises, still these 116 reflections are a fairly balanced introduction, and they mimic somewhat the personal experience of being directed. A daily pondering would expand the "experience" to over three months. They offer a worthy companion to the popular 34 week on-line retreat available from Creighton University, or to inspire daily prayer after a retreat. I'll keep Fr. Coutinho on my Kindle.

Rev. Steve Wolf is a parish priest and spiritual director in Nashville, Tenn. He is the author of "Anger – Grief the Jesus Way." Read more at www.etcfaith.org.

Oral histories cover 75 years of changes for American nuns

Reviewed by Sister Rosemary Skelley, O.S.U.

Spanning almost 75 years, Rogers' oral history of some 96 American sisters yields a kaleidoscopic picture representing about forty congregations. She "bookends" the interviews with a 1996 prologue and a 2011 epilogue.

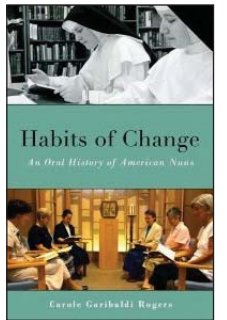
A reading of "Habits of Change"

exposes an astounding story of fifty plus continuous and changing years. The sisters' narratives begin in the relative anonymity of their convents, schools and hospitals. In the 1950's a wind of change stirs in Pope Pius XII's calls for the communities to renew, update and educate their Sisters to adapt more to the needs of the modern world.

The Sister Formation Movement resulted with colleges and curricula to answer the call. In the next decade, Pope John XXIII and Vatican Council II called the entire Church to update, to attend to

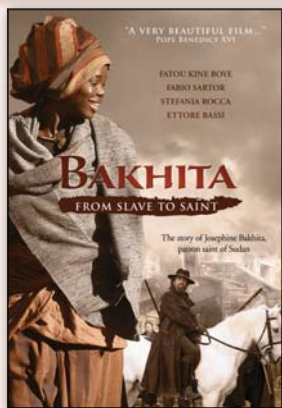
social justice issues in the global world. The winds of change were in full force. Again, many sisters updated and answered the challenge.

By the time of the interviews, a more mature group of women are sharing their unique experience in a diverse panorama of backgrounds, personalities, talents and spiritualities! Yet with the bonding of their lives in the American congregations, four essentials emerge in bril-



Habits of Change
by Carole Garibaldi Rogers
Oxford University Press
\$27.95, 344 pages
ISBN 978-0199757060

POWERFUL CATHOLIC FILMS



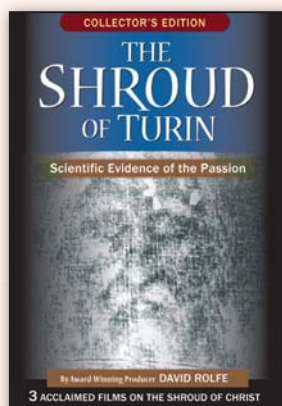
■ BAKHITA - From Slave to Saint

The powerful true story of a woman who was born in Sudan, kidnapped as a girl by slavers, and later sold to an Italian merchant who brought her to Italy where her life changed dramatically. Bakhita became the nanny of his children. Though initially treated with prejudice by her new neighbors, her deep charity and humility won them over. Bakhita also learned about Christ and she fully embraced Catholicism, requesting to join the order of Canossian sisters. It takes a dramatic & emotional court case to decide Bakhita's ultimate fate about possibly becoming a Catholic nun. John Paul II declared her a saint in 2000.

Italian with English subtitles.

Includes a 16 page Collector's booklet.

DVD BAK-M . . . 190 min, \$24.95



■ THE SHROUD OF TURIN

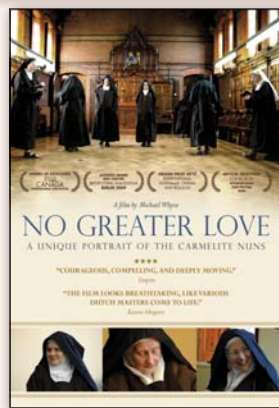
This is the definitive collection of three stunning films on the Shroud of Turin that spans 32 years of award-winning filmmaking on the Shroud by acclaimed British film producer & director David Rolfe. These films use the latest scientific, historical, medical and archaeological research on the Shroud to reveal the amazing evidence for the very strong possibility of the authenticity of it as the burial cloth of Christ. Many of the foremost experts worldwide on the Shroud were involved with the making of these films.

THE SILENT WITNESS: 53 min.

SHROUD OF TURIN: 59 min., English

SHROUD: 48 min., In 7 languages - English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Russian

DVD SHROUD-M . . . 160 min, \$29.95

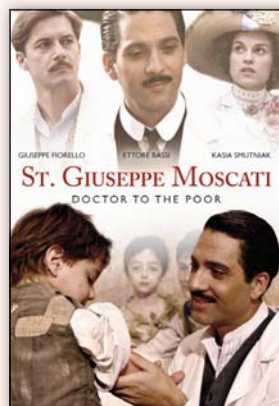


■ NO GREATER LOVE

A Unique Portrait of the Carmelites

This award-winning documentary gives an in-depth, unique insight into the hidden world of cloistered Carmelite nuns where the modern world's materialism is rejected for the love of God. The film beautifully interweaves a year in the life of the Most Holy Trinity monastery (London) with the daily rhythms of Divine Office, liturgy, play and work. Though mainly a lovely meditational film, there are interviews with various nuns that offer moving insights into their lives, faith, moments of doubt and their deep belief in the power of prayer. Includes 16 page Collector's Booklet.

DVD NOGL-M . . . 100 min, \$19.95



■ ST. GIUSEPPE MOSCATI

Doctor to the Poor

Giuseppe Moscati, "the holy physician of Naples," was a medical doctor and layman in the early 20th century who came from an aristocratic family and devoted his medical career to serving the poor. He was also a medical school professor and a pioneer in the field of biochemistry whose research led to the discovery of insulin as a cure for diabetes. Moscati regarded his medical practice as a lay apostolate, a ministry to his suffering fellowmen. Before examining a patient or engaging in research he would place himself in the presence of God. He encouraged his patients to receive the sacraments. He also served beyond the call of duty during the 1911 cholera epidemic and treated some 3,000 soldiers during World War I.

DVD SGMO-M . . . 177 min., \$24.95

liant fashion: contemplative prayer, community bonds, commitment to the “under served” and grounding in the Gospel. With these essentials, they journey on, ever serving, made resilient by change, and loving their Church deeply. Now finding themselves in a Vatican investigation to discern the “quality of their lives” and caught in the cross hairs of pre- and post-Vatican theology, theirs is a steady confidence that religious life will continue. What form is unknown.

Reference is made in the prologue to an exhibit traveling in the U.S.A. entitled “Women and the Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America.” Sponsored by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, it records the 300 years of the sisters’ service to the American republic since the Ursuline Sisters first landed in New Orleans in 1727.

In “Habits of Change,” those interviewed stand on the shoulders of those who went before. They have written the amazing tale of their lives of service. As the author so aptly says in her parting sentence, “Nuns may have put away their chalk and erasers, but they are still teaching.”

This is an excellent read for one interested in the personal witness of women religious and how their

lives of service are intricately woven into the past and present dynamics of the American Catholic Church.

Sister Rosemary Skelley is an Ursuline of the Roman Union. She teaches Theology and chairs the Theology Department at St. Teresa High School in Decatur, Illinois.

Author engages readers in difficult topic everyone must ultimately confront

Reviewed by Nancy L. Roberts, CNS

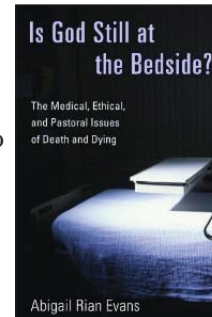
In our death-defying culture, the subject of death and dying may not immediately beckon. But “Is God Still at the Bedside?” is hard to put down. Its tapestry of engaging personal stories, interviews, research and analysis easily propels the reader through several hundred pages.

Abigail Rian Evans, a retired Princeton Theological Seminary professor and scholar-in-residence at the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Medical Center, has given us a comprehensive study that engages at every level. It reflects the wisdom she has garnered in 25 years of teach-

ing courses about death and dying, and covers such topics as contemporary attitudes toward death, legal questions (i.e., definitions of death), organ donation, hospice, the role of clergy in ministering to the dying and their families, suicide and physician-assisted suicide, Christian funerals, and grief and bereavement.

Her motivation? “Because death will come to everyone and often will be accompanied by painful and difficult choices,” she writes in the preface. “As we struggle with these choices, we look for guidance, hope and insight as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death.”

Throughout, the author’s thoughtful Christian perspective informs the narrative. For instance, in a section dealing with the experience of dying, she poses the important question: “Is suffering sent, permitted or used by God?” She then explores how various theologians and bioethicists have tried to answer it.



Is God Still at the Bedside?
by Abigail Rian Evans
Wm. B. Eerdmans
\$29.99, 478 pages
ISBN 978-0802827234

Ultimately, she rejects Rabbi Harold S. Kushner’s suggestion in “When Bad Things Happen to Good People” that “suffering is a sign of God’s absence from the world.” Rather, Evans writes, the story of Job shows us that “suffering is a mystery, but God’s goodness ultimately triumphs.” Here it is essential to recognize that “God is with us in our suffering,” she continues. Like the Rev. Martin Marty in his book “A Cry of Absence,” Evans believes “that we cannot escape the winter of the heart that is at the core of the believer’s struggle.”

“Is God Still at the Bedside?” is a compassionate, wise and practical guide that will help families, nurses, doctors and pastors. Evans covers a lot of ground, drawing from the fields of medicine, law, theology and ethics, but organizing and presenting the information so clearly that it always remains accessible. This is no small achievement, given such a complex and interdisciplinary subject.

One of the most fascinating chapters reports on the author’s research interviews with palliative care staff (hospital chaplains, hospice nurses, pastors, physicians, social workers and others). They reported that they found their

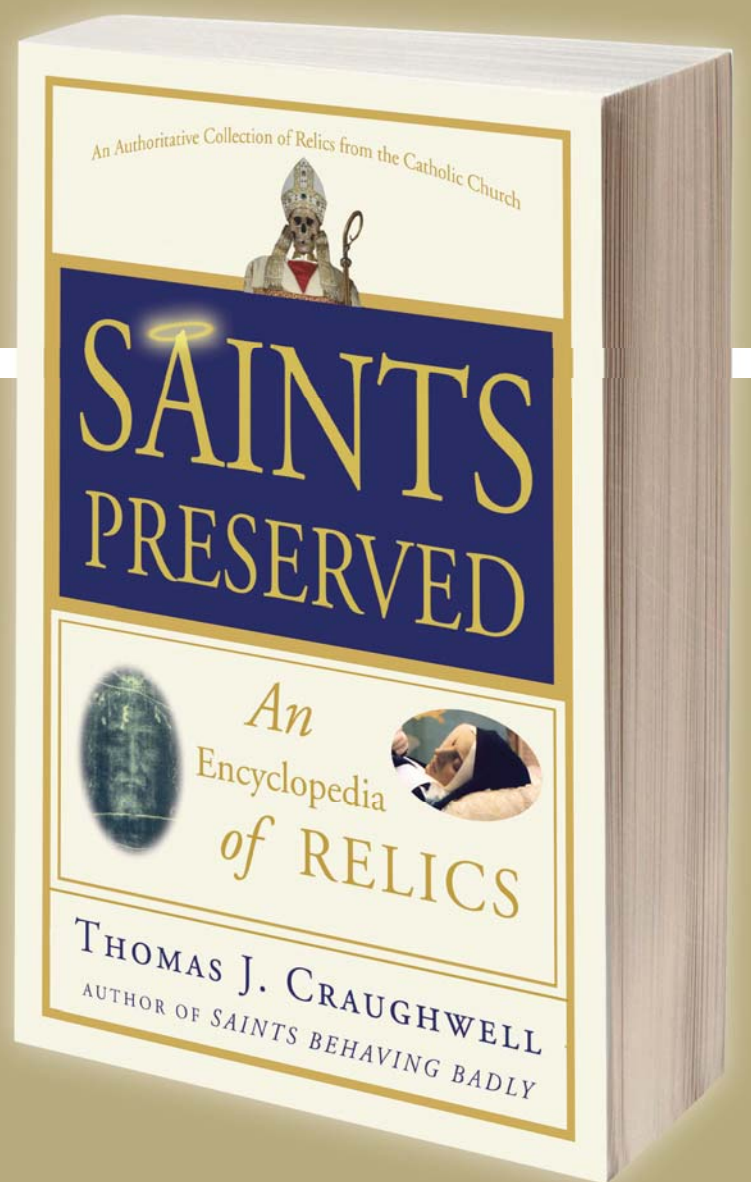
Continued on page 8...

From extraordinary to bizarre learn about the relics of the Catholic Church.

Saints Preserved: An Encyclopedia of Relics is an exhilarating journey through the life and death of more than three hundred saints, enlightening readers to the sometimes strange bits and pieces that they left behind. Including entries on the famous (Saint Francis) and the not so famous (Saint Foy), the book also features information on such notable relics as the Crown of Thorns and the seven places that claim to possess the head of Saint John the Baptist.

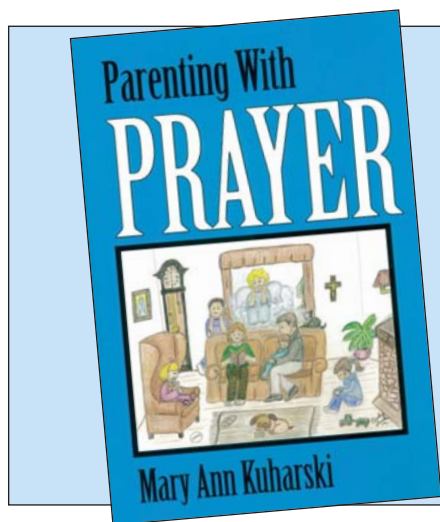
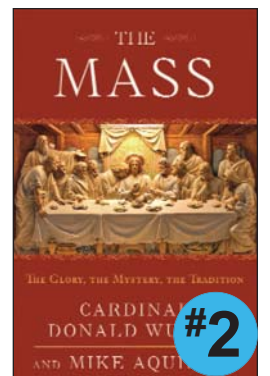
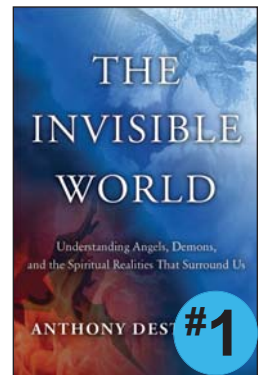
For more information or to read an excerpt, visit ImageCatholicBooks.com

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Hardcover

This Quarter	Last Quarter	Title Author • Publisher • ISBN
1	–	The Invisible World by Anthony DeStefano • Doubleday Religion • 978-0385522236 <i>A guide to understanding the angels, demons, and the spiritual realities that surround us.</i>
2	–	The Mass by D. Wuerl & M. Aquilina • Doubleday Religion • 978-0307718808 <i>Donald Cardinal Wuerl's book on the glory, mystery and the tradition of the Mass.</i>
3	–	Rediscovering Catholicism by Matthew Kelly • Beacon Publishing • 978-1929266081 <i>Reveals the essence of authentic Catholic spirituality and important questions we face today.</i>
4	–	The Dream Manager by Matthew Kelly • Beacon Publishing • 978-1401303709 <i>Companies can only become the best versions of themselves if their employees can realize that same opportunity.</i>
5	–	Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Brant Pitre • Doubleday Religion • 978-0385531849 <i>Shines fresh light on the Last Supper by looking at it through Jewish eyes.</i>
6	–	The Rhythm of Life by Matthew Kelly • Beacon Publishing • 978-0743265102 <i>Synthesizes Christian theology, cognitive psychology and storytelling to unpack the paradox of being happy.</i>
7	–	The Seven Levels of Intimacy by Matthew Kelly • Beacon Publishing • 978-0743265119 <i>Explores the many aspects of the art of loving and the joy of being loved.</i>
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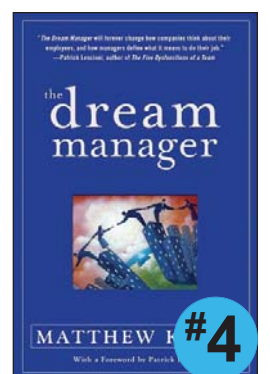
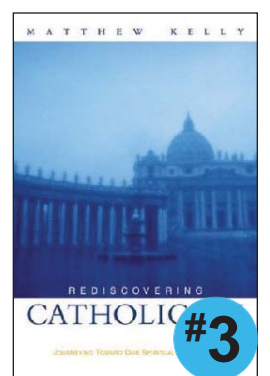
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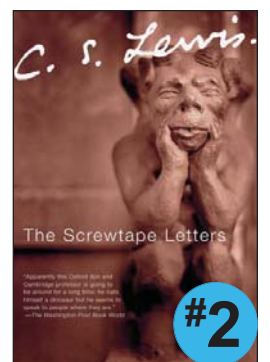
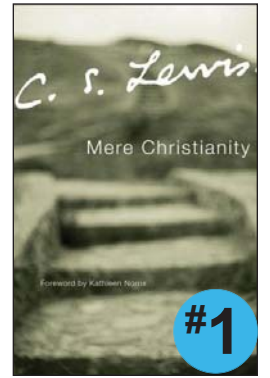
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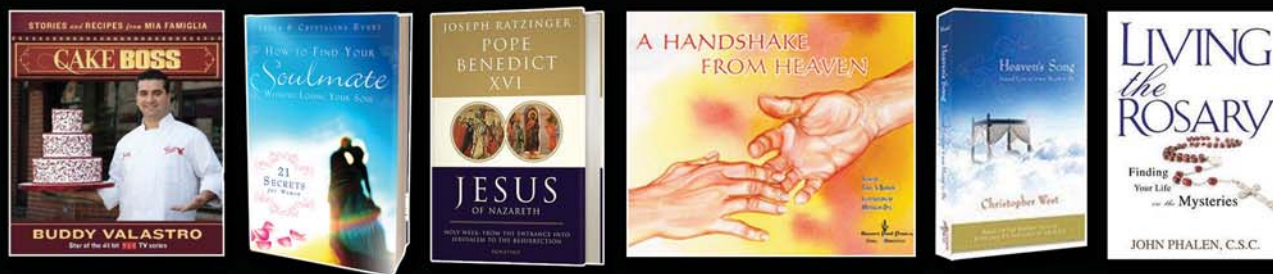


Paperback

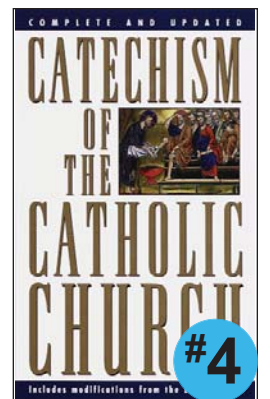
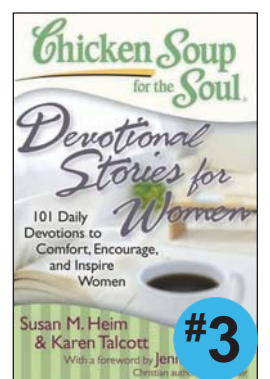
This Quarter	Last Quarter	Title Author • Publisher • ISBN
1	2	Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis • HarperOne • 978-0060652920 <i>Clear, accessible discussion of Christian belief that shows common ground upon which all Christians can stand together.</i>
2	7	The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis • HarperOne • 978-0060652937 <i>A humorous exchange between two devils that delves into moral questions about good vs. evil, temptation and grace.</i>
3	–	Chicken Soup for the Soul: Devotional Stories for Women by S. Heim & K. Talcott • Liguori Publications • 978-1935096481 <i>101 daily devotions to comfort, encourage and inspire women.</i>
4	3	Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition • Image • 978-0385479677 • USCCB • 978-1574551105 <i>The official summary of Catholic belief regarding the Church creeds, sacraments, commandments and prayers.</i>
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17	4	Word of Lord Verbum Domini by Benedict XVI • Pauline Books & Media • 0819854441 <i>Summary of the work done by the Synod of Bishops on the Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church.</i>
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Continued from page 5.

work with dying patients to be extremely meaningful. “Another blessing mentioned was helping the family feel less anxious and scared, thus in some ways reflecting God’s love of the patients and families.”

For their part, Evans discovered that “what the dying consider to be of great importance is giving them space to share their stories and experiences, an opportunity to ask questions, and even to confess and ask forgiveness of estranged family members – which can give them a sense of peace.”

Perhaps surprisingly, she found that the dying don’t spend much time pondering when they will actually expire; there is a seeming disconnect between getting a diagnosis of terminal illness and the fact that one is going to die. In part, this may be a self-protective aspect of the human psyche. Still, it can be extremely helpful and comforting for caretakers to draw out dying patients’ fears, anxieties and wishes about their final days. To this end, Evans offers many practical suggestions about how to approach and how to listen.

“Is God Still at the Bedside?” is nothing short of thorough. Detailed appendices give information about resource organizations that address end-of-life issues, advance directives, a patient’s bill of rights, do’s and don’ts for caretakers, and other subjects. Most of all, the book inspires with its demonstration that, “As the words on Carl Jung’s door, and later on his tombstone, declared: ‘Bidden or not bidden God is present.’”

Nancy L. Roberts directs the journalism program at the University at Albany, State University of New York. Her books include “Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker.”

Daily reflections that really hit home

Reviewed by Mark Barry

Over time, I have purchased or received a number of “thought for the day” books and calendars. Some have been spiritually-based, while others were more secular in their approach.

Early on, I am generally faithful to the process, dutifully reading each day’s thought, trying to assess how it might apply to me in my life at that particular point in time. Although some of the thoughts or readings may have been “in the neighborhood,” few typically generate that astonished “Wow!” reaction.

As a result, after a while, the glamour and excitement of the new book or calendar typically wear off.

The book ends up on a shelf or the calendar ends up as scrap paper for reminder notes.

“A Maryknoll Book of Inspiration” is very different.

One example: my wife and I were in the midst of an extremely important life-affecting decision. Somehow, the reading for that specific day spoke clearly and directly to both of us. We knew what we had to do, even though it was not necessarily what we wanted to do.

Granted, this does not occur every day with this book, but the example I shared is not a one-time exception either.

Editors Michael Leach and Doris Goodnough have pulled together an interesting collection of writings, some from widely recognized sources such as Henri Nouwen,

Thomas Merton, Mother Teresa and Oscar Romero. Many of the sources, though, were generally unknown to me prior to working my way through the book.

The editors have included two very helpful tools which further extend the value of the book.

Readers are provided with an index, appearing in the back, which lets you easily find readings by specific sources. The citations for each daily reading also include the titles of the book from which the reading came, should you wish to pursue a more in-depth study of a particular author.

“A Maryknoll Book of Inspirations” is easy to pick up, but, perhaps more important, definitely one to hold onto.

Mark Barry is a “cradle” Catholic, born and raised in Northern Virginia by Boston Irish Catholic parents. He now lives in Tennessee with this wife and son.

Scholarly, general readers can both appreciate book about sex in Bible

Reviewed by Eugene J. Fisher, CNS

The book “Unprotected Texts: The Bible’s Surprising Contradictions About Sex and Desire” is written by a scholar who knows how to write for a general, educated readership, as Jennifer Wright Knust’s witty title indicates.

While footnoted with an extensive bibliography and index, the scholarly apparatus does not intrude on what is basically a good read for anyone interested in better

understanding the Scriptures of Judaism and Christianity. I mention the former because Knust is adept at using rabbinic as well as ancient, medieval and modern Christian interpretations of the passages she interprets so well for the modern reader.

Knust is an American Baptist, so there are some places in which Catholic readers will take Catholic tradition into account in a way she does not. But she is a superb biblical scholar, so readers can rely on her interpretations, and at times multiple interpretations citing ancient and modern commentators, of biblical texts.

Knust argues, convincingly, that the Bible cannot be used as a simple guidebook for sexual conduct. Written over such a long period of time, it reflects the changing mores of vastly different generations and times. The patriarchs of Israel, as depicted in Genesis, practiced polygamy, as did the kings of Israel as depicted in later books. Mere fornication in the Hebrew Scriptures does not cause major disruptions in Israel’s relationship with God, though adultery does. The crime of the people of Sodom was not “sodomy” in its modern understanding, but the violation of hospitality and the crime of rape, as is shown in a parallel story of the rape of the daughter of a Levite. Paul in his time, though, understands homosexual sex as a more serious sin.

Sex in the Bible is at once a divine command, a source of joy and a reflection of divine love between God and Israel and God and humanity, and a powerful desire that, out of control, can disrupt and even

break the covenantal relations between God and the people of God. Knust notes that the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament charge non-Jews and non-Christians with sexual deviance, turning other religions into purveyors of cultic prostitution, when there is no evidence such practices existed. Prostitution in the Hebrew Scriptures and in the New Testament becomes a central metaphor for idolatry.

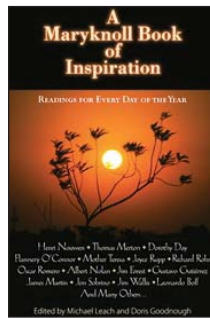
Knust describes the fascination with and abhorrence of the ancient biblical writers of both testaments with the possibility of sexual relations between angels, the “sons of God,” and human women.

In her concluding chapter, she examines the changing theology of circumcision and the emissions of men and

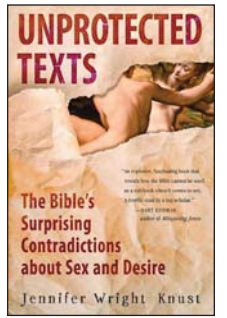
women – semen and the products of a woman’s womb, both menstrual and at childbirth – and how these precluded people from going into the temple to offer sacrifice and, later, Jewish men and women from going to synagogue and Christian men and women from going into churches.

This book will give Catholic readers a new perspective on the Scriptures. It is recommended not only for personal reading but for Catholic-Protestant and Catholic-Jewish dialogue groups.

Eugene J. Fisher is professor of Catholic-Jewish studies at St. Leo University in Florida.



A Maryknoll Book of Inspiration
Edited by Michael Leach and Doris Goodnough
Orbis Books
\$27.95, 244 pages
ISBN 978-1570759017



Unprotected Texts
by Jennifer Wright Knust
HarperOne
\$25.99, 352 pages
ISBN 978-0061725586

Author’s Corner – Leann Thieman

Parish: John XXIII University Parish, Fort Collins, CO

New Book: Chicken Soup for the Soul: Answered Prayers

What is your role in the Chicken Soup books?

I’ve authored 12 titles, including “Chicken Soup for the Soul Living Catholic Faith,” “Christian Woman” and “Miracles.”

What’s the first step for non-practicing Catholics who want to rekindle their faith?

You would expect an author to say, “Read my book!” But indeed I do believe and my mail proves that “Chicken Soup for the Soul, Living Catholic Faith” is a “safe” way for people to re-explore their faith. The book has all that is good and holy about our Church. Another great first step is simple a baby-step... Some people have forgotten to talk to God as a form of daily prayer.

Opening that dialogue with Him and asking Him to show you the way to deepen your faith, is the best start.



THIEMAN

As a nurse, what role does your faith take in patient care?

My faith in God’s plan for every person is paramount in my caring for people. I subtly (and sometimes not so subtly!) bring my faith to the bedside and to the workplace. I tell patients I’m praying for them, which opens dialog for holy conversations. I pray with and for my coworkers also.

What words do you live by?

Every morning I begin my day with *Show me Your way oh Lord, teach me Your path, lead me in Your truth and teach me (Psalm 25:5-6)*. Then I add “...because I don’t know what the heck I’m doing!” God thinks that is really funny!

Graphic novel about St. Bernadette illustrates saint's size and devotion

Reviewed by Shelley Braeuner

It sounds like a fairy tale: a young, ignorant peasant girl sees a beautiful lady at the edge of a stream. After following the lady's instructions, the girl is elevated and becomes renown over all the earth.

Only, it isn't a fairy tale. It's the story of St. Bernadette of Lourdes. The magical aspect of the story lends itself well to the graphic novel format.

The novel opens with the arrival of the Commissioner Jacomet in the tiny town of Lourdes. The Emperor has sent the commissioner to investigate the large crowds assembling near the river. A series of flashbacks tell the story of Bernadette's visions and actions.

The most interesting aspect of this graphic novel is that the story is primarily told by skeptics.

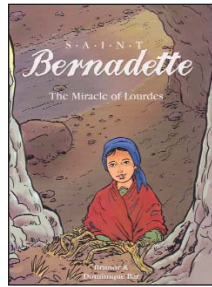
The reader first follows Commissioner Jacomet and then Jean Bap-

tiste Estrade as they investigate and interview 14-year-old Bernadette. As the evidence convinces them, the reader is subtly drawn in as well.

The graphic novel gives the story a new look as readers see Bernadette as the tiny girl that she was. In every picture, the officials tower over her, both figuratively and literally. The reader follows her story as she sees the vision of a lady for the first time.

The illustrator shows Bernadette's concern at telling anyone about her visions. The reader fears for the girl as she stands before the council of commissioners.

Rather than showing the miracles as they occur, again the author and illustrator take a different tact. The reader sees a small girl requesting water from the spring of Lourdes. On the next page, the doc-



Saint Joan of Arc: Quest for Peace
by Brunor and Dominique Bar
Pauline Books & Media
\$8.95, 48 pages
ISBN 978-0819871312

tor testifies to the commissioner and Estrade about all of the healings that have taken place.

Brunor, the illustrator, has completed several graphic novels. He knows how to create tension through static images. He mixes up the panel size to move the story along. Several small panels come together in fast-paced sections of the story, while wide panels with lots of action give the reader plenty to look at during slower parts of the tale.

The graphic novel ends with the conversion of Estrade, the later biographer of St. Bernadette.

The reader is certainly left with the impression that everyone lived happily ever after. The notes at the end of the book tell of Bernadette's adult life, death and incorruptible form.

While the story has plenty of action, there is very little violence. This is a great book to read with younger children. They have plenty of pictures to explore as the adult reads the text. Older children will also enjoy this book on their own.

Shellie Braeuner M.Ed is a freelance writer and author of "The Great Dog Wash."

New Releases

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By John J. Piantedosi
New City Press
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Introduces preschool and middle-school-aged children to Jesus through his teachings, prayers and the major events in his life.

We Learn About Mary and Her Feast Days

By Ann Therese Chaput, BVM
Liturgical Training Publications
\$2.50 • 48 pages • ISBN 978-1568549774

Children are introduced to the solemnities, feast days, and memorials on the universal calendar, cultural feasts and devotion to Mary, and Marian prayers.

St. Joseph Turn & Learn Saints

By Rev. Thomas J. Donaghy
Catholic Book Publishing
\$4.95 • 12 pages • ISBN 978-0899425542

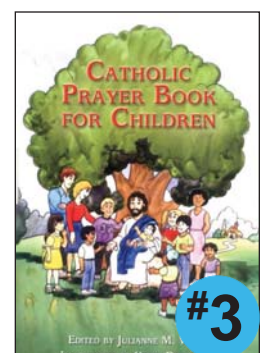
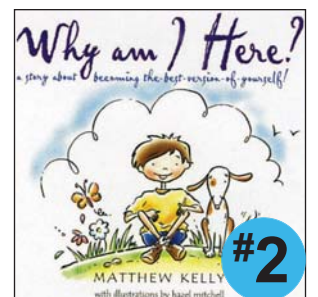
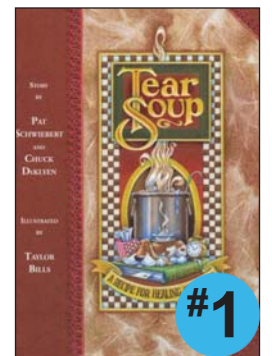
This board book introduces youngsters to Saints while gently challenging them to connect images in the book and on the wheel they can turn.

Catholic Best Sellers

Association of Catholic Publishers, Inc.

Children & Young People

This Quarter	Last Quarter	Title Author • Publisher • ISBN
1	1	Tear Soup by P. Schwiebert & C. DeKlyen • ACTA Publications/Griefwatch • 978-0961519766 <i>Winner the 2001 Theologos Book Award, this book helps youngsters grieve and cope with the loss of a loved one.</i>
2	-	Why Am I Here? by Matthew Kelly & Hazel Mitchell • Beacon Publishing • 978-0984131808 <i>A story about becoming the-best-version-of-yourself.</i>
3	-	Catholic Prayer Book for Children by Julianne M. Will (paperback) • Our Sunday Visitor • 978-1592760473 <i>Helps children ages 6 to 10 discover the beauty of prayer and encourages them to form the lifelong habit of praying.</i>
4	4	Totally Lent! A Kid's Journey to Easter 2011 by Alice Ann Pfeifer, CSA • Pflaum Publishing Group • 978-1935042464 <i>For students in grades 4-6 – engaging activities and pencil puzzles and games help develop and reinforce season concept.</i>
5	3	Totally Lent! A Child's Journey to Easter 2011 by Jean Larkin • Pflaum Publishing Group • 978-1935042457 <i>For students in grades K-3 – engaging activities and pencil puzzles and games help develop and reinforce season concept.</i>
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Music News & Reviews

Dion's light memoir acknowledges rehab and rediscovery of Catholic faith

Reviewed by John Skelley

In Lou Reed's forward, he says he is "flooded with memories" whenever he hears Dion's voice. Well, "Ruby, Ruby, when will you be mine?" has been spinning in my brain at 45 rpm ever since I picked up this book. Popular music can become the soundtrack of our lives but the sincere emotion of that experience isn't always a reflection of the lives of the performers.

Acknowledging a previous memoir, Dion hopes this book offers a "mature and considered reflection" as he documents his return to the Catholic Church. Despite non-chronological digressions, there is a feel for anecdote that gives a flow to the reading.

Dion speaks alternately with affection and frustration about his parents. Due to their constant arguing, he gravitated to the streets of the Bronx. The petty theft and vandalism of gang life gave him identity and a sense of purpose. But two other influences also made their presence felt: music and religion.

At ten years old Dion heard Hank Williams on the radio for the first time. He started saving his money for records and his parents bought him a guitar. Concurrently the pastor of his local Catholic church (where his family attended infrequently) reached out to him from the doorstep of the church, challenging him with philosophical questions about virtue and prudence. From yet another side, a young, female social worker gets under his skin, injecting religious instruction into her discussions with the gangs. Music won the day.

Dion's guitar skills found opportunity at local events. One such gig was for a play at an all-girls high school where a certain Susan Butterfield attended. It was a crush to last a lifetime.

Becoming a millionaire before he was twenty-one, Dion collected hit records and addictions.

Susan and Dion married in 1963 and when she later became pregnant, it prompted the star to quit heroin, though his addictions to pills and alcohol continued.

With the waning of Dion's fame in the late sixties, inclinations to responsible behavior asserted

themselves. Once sober, he became active in pursuing a religious (Catholic) orientation while also cultivating relationships in the Italian-American community.

Dion comments on influences both positive and negative, famous and not, including Jack Butterfield (his father-in-law), Yogi Berra, and John Lennon among others. His critiques of them and their work in the light of his understanding of religion are for the most part simple, dogmatic and spirited. His observations are reminiscent of the proverbial man with one watch, who always knows what time it is.

John Skelley is a layman and a proud brother of Sister Rosemary Skelley, O.S.U.

L'Angélus to Perform at 2011 World Youth Day

The four siblings that comprise the Catholic music group L'Angélus (pronounced lawn-JAY-loose) will perform twice in Madrid at World Youth Day August 16-21.

The Nashville-based group combines Cajun fiddle tunes, saxophone driven swamppop, and New Orleans influenced R&B with inspirational lyrics. The performances in Madrid will be the highlight of a six-week European tour to Ireland, Norway, France and Spain.

Read more and listen at www.langelus.info.

Michael James Mette Records National Catholic Youth Day Anthem

The song "Called to Glory" has been selected as the anthem at the National Catholic Youth Conference November 17-19 in Indianapolis. The Rock Anthem version was recorded by Michael James Mette and produced by David C. Smith.

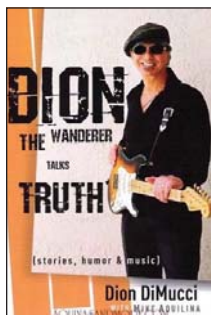
Mette, based in St. Louis, infuses an energetic rock style to his music to speak directly to the "Guitar Hero" generation. Mette also offers his "Prepare Me" presentation to youth rallies, parish concerts and school assemblies to help increase students' Catholic identity. Read more and listen at www.michaeljamesmette.com/presentations.

New Music

Manuka Honey by Ceili Rain
Label: Mima Rekidz

Instruments at Prayer, Vol. 1 & 2 A Celebration of the Music of David Haas by Various Artists
Label: GIA

Castle of the Soul – Songs of Contemplation and Consolation by Liam Lawton and Tony Alonso
Label: GIA



Dion the Wanderer Talks Truth
by Dion DiMucci and Mike Aquilina
St. Anthony Messenger Press
\$16.99, 144 pages
ISBN 978-0867169997

BOOKS THAT INSPIRE

■ YOUCAT

Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church
Edited by Cardinal Christoph Schonborn
Foreword by Pope Benedict XVI

YOUCAT, short for *Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church*, is the inspiring new catechism approved for use for World Youth Day. Equally important, it is also meant to be used by all young Catholics for their own personal study, or in any group study setting. Written for teenagers and young adults, *YOUCAT* is an accessible, contemporary expression of the Catholic Faith.

The popular format includes • **Questions & Answers** • **Highly-readable commentary** • **Many color pictures & illustrations** • **Summary definitions of key terms** • **Numerous Bible citations** • **Quotes from the Saints & great teachers**. What's more, *YOUCAT* is keyed to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, so young people can go deeper.

It explains:

- What Catholics believe (doctrine)
- How we celebrate the mysteries of the faith (sacraments)
- How Catholics are to live (moral life)
- How we should pray (prayer and spirituality)

The questions are direct, honest and thought-provoking; the answers are clear, relevant, and compelling. After the Bible, *YOUCAT* will become the "go-to" place for young people to learn all the beautiful, inspiring truths about the Catholic faith. Pope Benedict XVI wrote the Foreword; Cardinal Christoph Schonborn, the editor of *YOUCAT* and the Archbishop of Vienna, Austria, wrote the Afterword. *Lavishly Illustrated*.

YOUCAT-H . . . Sewn Softcover, \$19.95

■ UNPLANNED - Abby Johnson

Abby Johnson quit her job in October 2009. That simple act became a national news story because Abby was the director of a Planned Parenthood clinic in Texas who, after participating in her first actual abortion procedure, walked across the road to join the Coalition for Life.

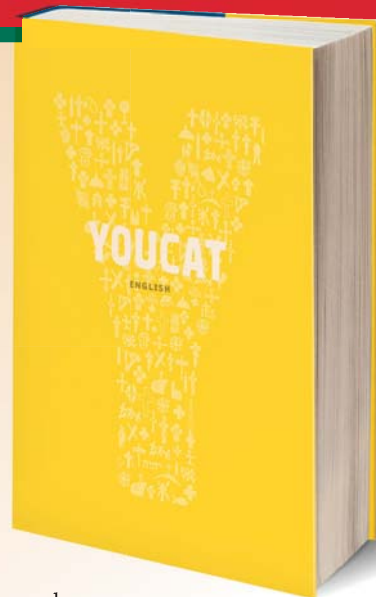
Unplanned is a heart stopping personal drama of life-and-death encounters, a courtroom battle, and spiritual transformation that speaks hope and compassion into the political controversy that surrounds this issue. Telling Abby's story from both sides of the abortion clinic property line, this book is a must-read for anyone who cares about the life versus rights debate and helping women who face crisis pregnancies. *UNP-H* . . . Sewn Hardcover, \$22.99

■ POOR BANISHED CHILDREN

A Novel - Fiorella De Maria

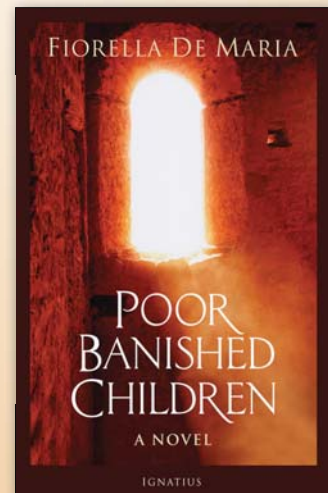
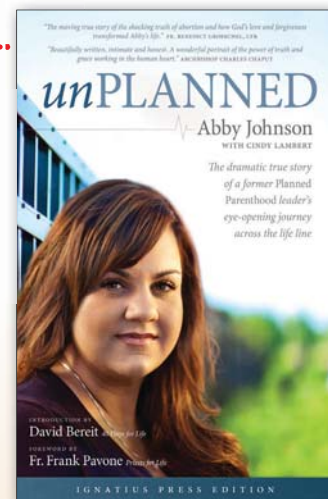
Cast out by her superstitious 17th century Maltese family, young Warda turns to begging and stealing until she is fostered by a kind Catholic priest who teaches her Latin and the healing arts, and prepares her to live as an anchorite. But the raid of a pirate ship dashes that, and Warda is captured and sold into slavery in Muslim North Africa. In the merciless land of Warda's captivity, her wits, nerve, and self-respect are tested daily, as she struggles to survive without submitting to total and permanent enslavement. This historical novel, replete with Corsairs, Barbary pirates, shipwreck, suffering and heroic faith, is the moving tale of a memorable heroine, her momentous choices and relentless search for freedom and redemption.

PBC-H . . . Sewn Hardcover, \$19.95



"Study this Catechism! That is my heartfelt desire. I beg you — study this Catechism with passion and perseverance."

— Pope Benedict XVI,
From the Foreword of *YOUCAT*



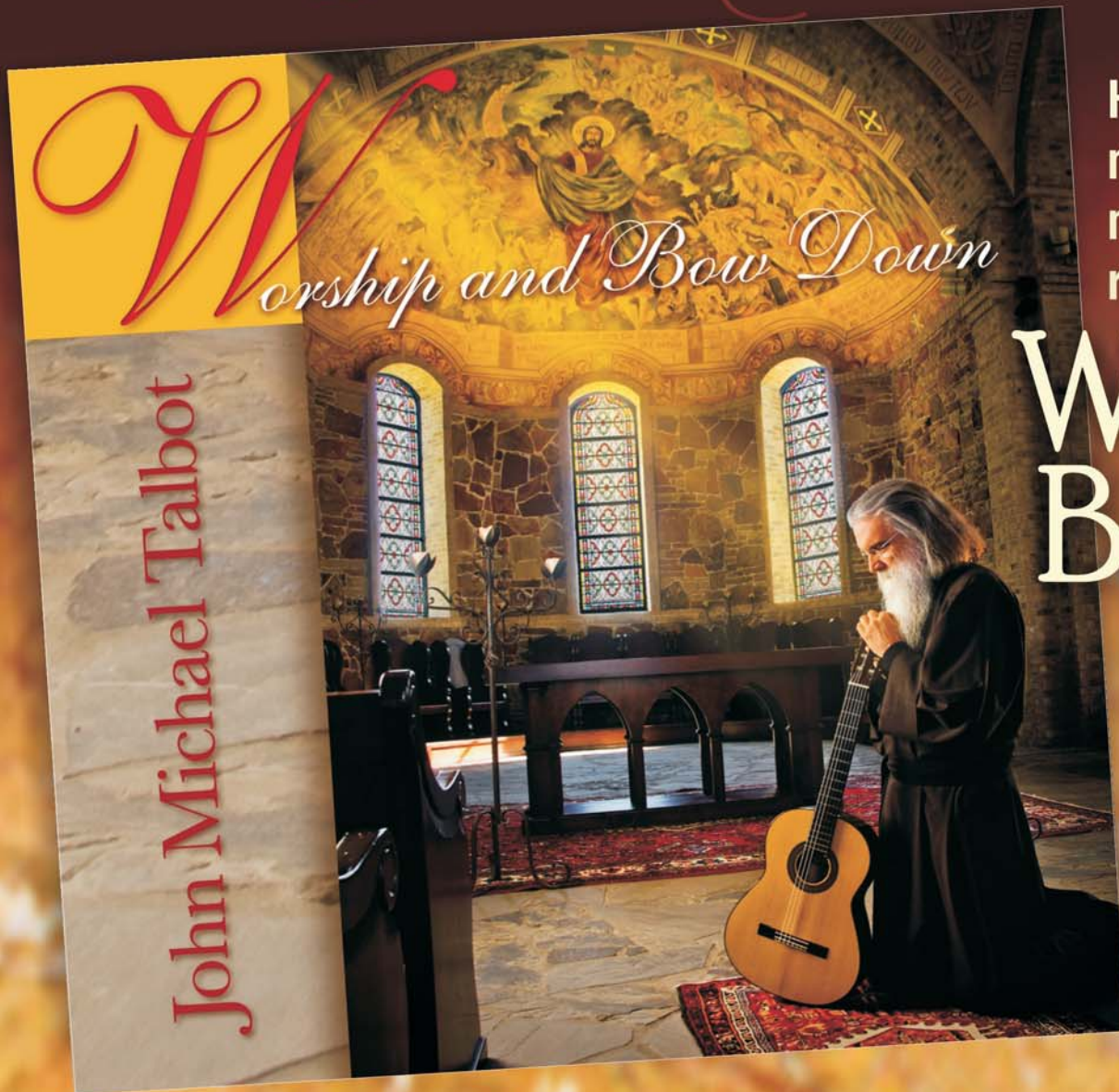
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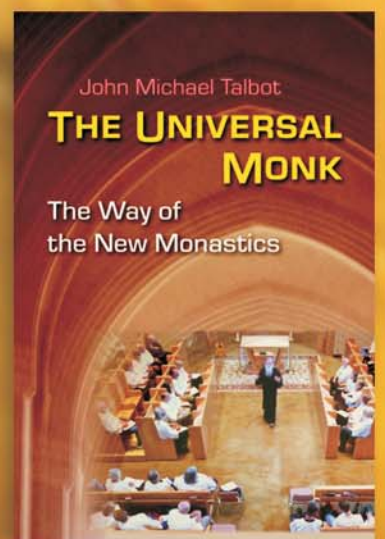
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New Book Also Available

The Universal Monk

The Way of the New Monastics

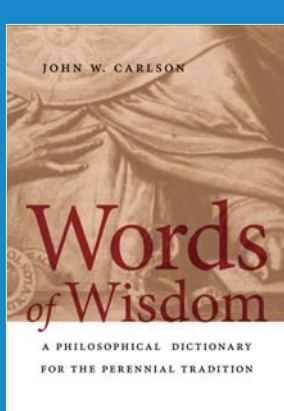
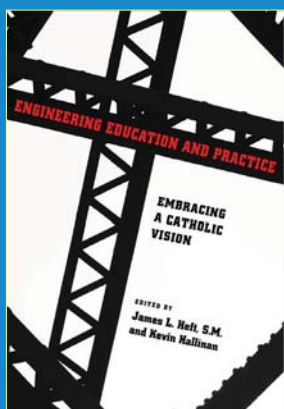
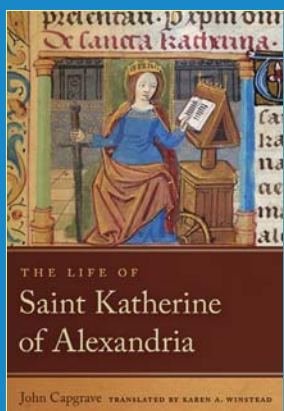
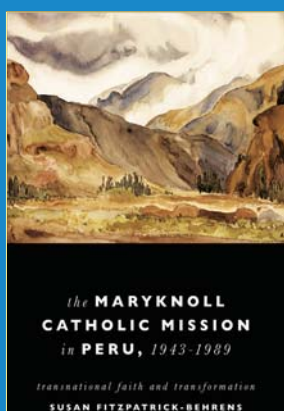
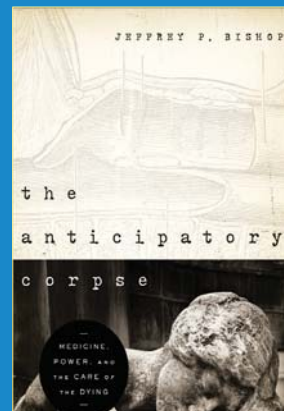
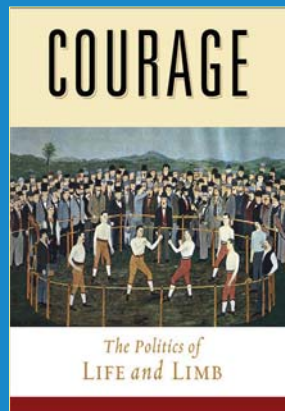
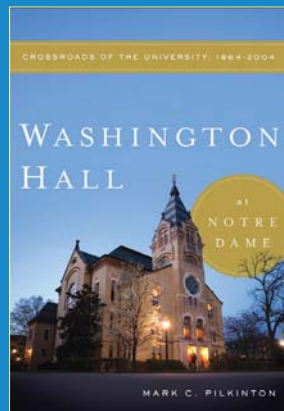
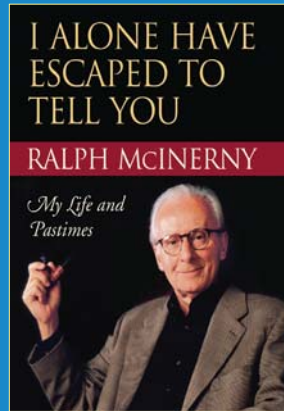
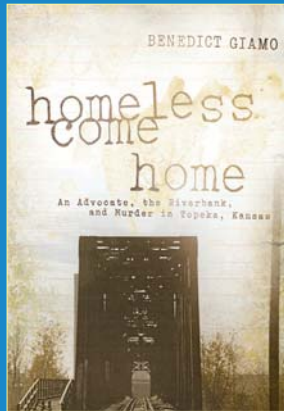
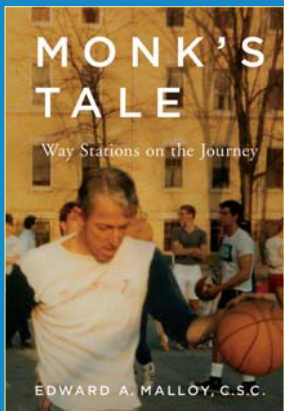
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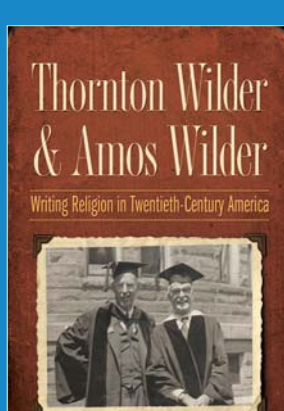
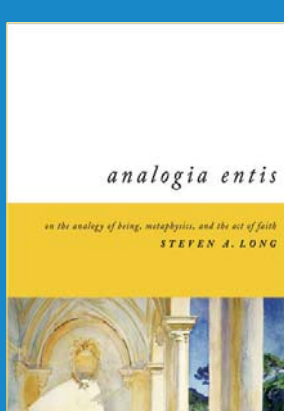
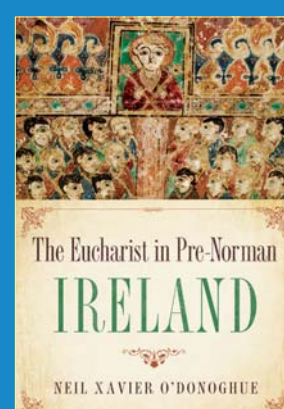
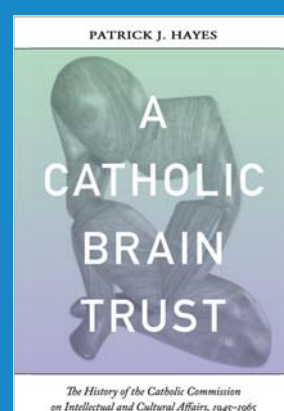
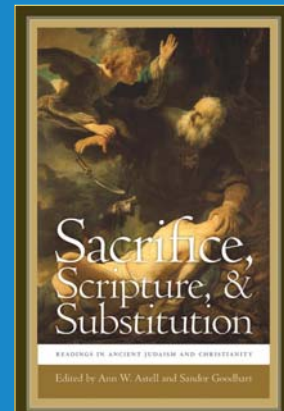
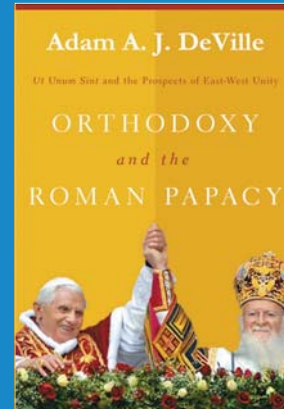
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