

Saint John the XXIII Catholic Church

Recommended reading list

A Great Place for Beginners ...

Spirituality

Called to be Holy by Archbishop Timothy Dolan (Our Sunday Visitor) This book deals with the real challenge for us all, the call to holiness. It is a challenge to virtue, sanctity, and perfection and is the only path to real happiness. 224pp

Finding God's Will for You by St. Francis De Sales (Sophia Institute Press) "Which path should I take in my life?" St. Francis will show you how God reveals His will for your life and how to tell if your heart conforms to His will. 160pp

The Practice of the Love of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus Ligouri (Ligouri publications) St. Alphonsus, in his unique, eye opening way, breaks open the meaning of 1st Corinthians chapter 13 "Love is patient...." A life-changing book. 256pp

An Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis De Sales (Tan Books) A beginners guide to the Spiritual life. Written in an easy read style with short chapters and useful advice. 318pp

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius by St. Ignatius of Loyola (Tan Books) offers an examination of your life in order to direct you on your path to heaven. 568pp

The Fire Within by Fr. Thomas Dubay, S.M. (Ignatius Press) Masterful, yet easy to follow, instruction on prayer as taught by St. Theresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, and Sacred Scripture. 366pp

Biographies

Story of a Soul by Thérèse of Lisieux (ICS publications) written as she was dying this autobiography illustrates the formation of the spirituality she called "The Little Way." 299pp

Treasures in Clay by Fulton J. Sheen (Ignatius Press) wonderful reflections, anecdotes and stories from his life as a child to his life as a bishop. 366pp

Life of Christ By Fulton Sheen (Ignatius Press) a deeply devotional retelling of the life of Jesus Christ and meditation on his sacred humanity. 448 pp

Orthodoxy by GK Chesterton Chesterton found that orthodoxy is the only satisfactory answer to the mystery of life as he himself embraced the Christian faith. 168pp

Surprised by Truth by Patrick Madrid (Basilica press) Eleven personal conversion stories each woven with glimpses of the Truth of the Catholic Church whose beauty surprised and delighted these authors endowed with the grace to see them and to share them with us. 280pp

The novels of Louis De Wohl
Set All Afire -St. Francis Xavier 280pp
The Quiet Light - St. Thomas Aquinas 377pp
Lay Siege to Heaven -St. Catharine of Siena 361pp
The Restless Flame - St. Augustine 303pp
The Joyful Beggar - St. Francis of Assisi 374pp
Citadel of God - St. Benedict 345pp
St. Joan, The Girl Soldier -St. Joan of Arc 176pp
The Golden Thread -St. Ignatius Loyola 315pp

Or for More Advanced Reading Choices...

Spirituality

Self Abandonment to Divine Providence by Jean Pierre de Caussade (Tan Books) Part one, Fr. Caussade teaches us about self abandonment to the will of God. Part two, we find the letters he wrote to his spiritual children. Practical helps to becoming happy and holy. 449pp

Interior Castle by St. Theresa of Avila (Tan) St. Theresa describes the dwelling places in your soul which she compares to a castle made entirely out of a Diamond as she guides you through them to the King, who dwells in the center. 196pp

The Collected works of St. John of the Cross by John of the Cross(ICS publications) The poetry and writings of the great 16th century Carmelite Spanish mystic and doctor of the Church is an excellent guide to a deeper, fuller life of prayer and contemplation. It is not an easy read but is more than worth the effort. 814pp

St. Benedict and St. Therese the Little Rule and the Little Way by Dwight Longenecker (OSV) The Little Rule and the Little Way demonstrates the Gospel spirituality of both saints. Longenecker offers practical application of the principles of “the rule” and “the way” for our own spiritual direction.

Biography

St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Francis of Assisi by G. K. Chesterton (Ignatius Press) Two unique biographies that consider how to reform a corrupt culture and the problem of disordered minds. 320pp

The Confessions: St. Augustine of Hippo (Ignatius critical edition) by St. Augustine (Ignatius Press) This new translation by Sister Maria Boulding, O.S.B. masterfully captures the experience of St. Augustine in an elegant modern style and includes four critical essays by four scholars. A delightful read. 522pp

Theology

The Evidential Power of Beauty by Thomas Dubay (Ignatius Press) 365pp
The theology of beauty. Fr. Dubay shows us that we can recognize truth by it's beauty. According to the most eminent physicists, beauty is the primary standard for scientific truth. In this fascinating book, science and theology meet. 320pp

Lectio Divina Bible Study : the Creed in Scripture by Stephan J. Binz (Our Sunday Visitor) an exceptional combination of an ancient form of Scripture study with historical, theological, and biblical perspectives on the Creed. The author leads us on a journey of enlightenment and appreciation. 192 pages.

You can find these and other excellent Catholic Books at these locations :

[Ignatius press \(www.ignatius.com\)](http://www.ignatius.com)

[Tan Books \(www.tanbooks.com\)](http://www.tanbooks.com)

[Sophia Institute press \(www.sophiainstitute.com\)](http://www.sophiainstitute.com)

[Leaflet missal \(www.leafletonline.com\)](http://www.leafletonline.com)

Amazon.com

Or visit your nearest Catholic bookstore