



Course Syllabus for “The Betrothed”
by Alessandro Manzoni
Tuesday Book Study
with Fr. Chance at St. Paul Parish

The book can be divided up into four to five chapters per week. This should be a very easy and comfortable pace for everyone. Each week we will discuss a particular theological virtue or vice, or combination of them. Bring your own ideas and thoughts, highlight the areas that you wish to talk about and specifically look for examples of moral examples, dilemmas and theological conundrums that we can see in our own lives illustrated so beautifully within this book. Every virtue and vice is covered in this book: prudence, justice, love, fortitude, temperance, faith, chastity, generosity, brotherly love, meekness, humility, pride, vainglory, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath, and sloth. The great thing is that all of these are depicted as characters and each person is very easy to identify with. The brilliance of Alessandro’s writing is the beauty, the insight and the simplicity of his character development.

If you have the same edition of the book — *published by Everyman’s Library* — it is helpful so we can follow the same pages. I think this is one of the best translations but there are *many* translations. Penguin Classics also has a decent translation of the book from Tuscan Italian to English.

Reading Schedule Dates:

July 6: Read the Introduction through Chapter 4, pages 3 to 65

July 13: Read Chapters 5 through 8, pages 66 to 131

July 20: Read Chapters 9 through 13, pages 132 to 216

July 27: Read Chapters 14 through 18, pages 217 to 277



August 3: Read Chapters 19 through 22, pages 278 to 344

August 10: Read Chapters 23 through 27, pages 345 to 428

August 17: Read Chapters 28 through 33, pages 429 to 528

August 24: Read Chapters 34 through 38, pages 529 to 610

The End