

“Extremely valuable compendium of Bible passages” for the seriously ill.

—Msgr. Ignacio Barreiro, Rome Director, Human Life International

This collection of the favorite 73 Scripture excerpts of the founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Frederick Ozanam, has long and inexplicably been out of print. Help us, please, to keep it very much in print for Catholics in the 21st century who might have fallen out of touch with the Church's traditional teaching on sickness and death.

With a substantial introduction by noted Archdiocese of New York professor, translator and priest Joseph Bruneau, this beautiful cloth-bound volume lends itself to simple spiritual reading—a little each day—or prayerful meditation, just as it was employed by Frederick Ozanam himself in his waning years. Featured:

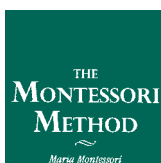
- ♦ All the key Old and New Testament passages on serious illness and suffering
- ♦ Each one itemized in a Table of Contents and briefly described
- ♦ \$19.95 hardcover edition with gold leaf embossing

Sample topics

Origin of suffering & death...Christ will raise up everyone who believeth in him... Job's misfortunes, complaints, hopes, cure... How to accept God's trials for us...Fear not death...Trust in God...Taking consolations in our own past acts of charity...Preparation for the Sacraments...Longing for Heaven in the midst of our suffering...Convalescence... Compassion of Our Lord for the sick... Christ's wondrous cures...He endows his apostles with power to heal the sick... And they do so; passages here rendered... Anointing the sick...Last prayer.

Quotations Divided Into Sections

1. The Foundations of Faith & Hope
2. The Sick in the Old Testament
3. Counsels, Sentiments of Piety, & Prayers
4. The Sick in the New Testament
5. Introduction, invites readers to embrace God's will for them



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The Bible for

The Sick

Frederick Ozanam

What are we supposed to “do” with the “theology of the body”?

A leading Catholic laywoman outlines the right approach—and the wrong approach

From the preface to this important new book by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand, weighty words from a noted Catholic ethicist:

I have read with care this book by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand, and have admired, once again, qualities found in her other works: a depth of thought and clarity joined to simple style; a full understanding of substance joined to beauty of exposition.

To assist the reader, I will briefly note the central themes.

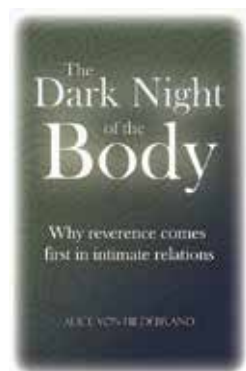
Many pages of this book demonstrate the truth that intimacy reveals the mystery of the person. Intimacy is not what civil law calls “privacy” and canon law calls “non-sacramental internal forum.” It is something deeper. Nowhere in the Christian tradition can I find more profound pages about the intimacy of the person than those written by St. Theresa of Avila in the Interior Castle, as she describes the Seventh Mansion....

Sexuality is particularly linked to the concept of personal intimacy. It is a central theme of the book. These are pages to be read attentively. The essential link between sexuality and intimacy is modesty.

Modesty is clearly explained in the book. I offer a few reflections. Modesty is the non-revelation of the person to eyes that would degrade her, as an object to be used. Tragically, the person herself may consent to be degraded. This, it seems to me, is the deep meaning of Jesus’ words concerning adultery in the heart [Mt. 6:27-28]. The eyes of conjugal love can “see the person” without degrading her. Conjugal love is chaste, while unchaste love is a contradiction in terms.

Dr. von Hildebrand’s book offers a true

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analysis of intimacy and modesty in current Western culture. The author rightly dedicates some pages to pornography, the total violation of personal intimacy, because it reduces a person to a toy, degrades her to the level of an object.

How did we arrive at this indecent exposure of the person? What are the causes? There has been a three-way separation.

The first, and by far the most grave, is the separation of the person and her sexuality. The second is the alienation of eros from love. The third is a fracture of the two ends of sexuality, procreation and the unifying of loving persons. This fracture may take two contrary paths: sterile erotic pleasure versus artificial procreation without unifying effect.

Dr. von Hildebrand does not limit herself to diagnosis. She offers many suggestions also for therapy. I will limit myself to drawing attention to one of these: it is not Christian compassion to accept the error in which a person may have fallen. This has been a constant in the ethical tradition of the Church, expressed in St. Augustine’s famous affirmation: “interficere errorem, amare errantem.” Hate the sin, love the sinner.

I wish every success to this book, for the reader will reap spiritual benefits from it.

+Carlo Cardinal Caffarra
Archbishop of Bologna

Papal Delegate to the Extraordinary Synod on the Family

BOOKS FOR THE POOR

Even before feeding the 5,000, Our Lord taught them. He would never leave them hungry, but he took pity on them, also, for their earnestness (or at least honest ignorance).

BOOKS FOR THE POOR.NET seeks to collect Catholic books, new or used, that have no home—we’ll try to match them up to an eager reader. Can you help us to help them? You can do that in a few ways:

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Dear Friend of Roman Catholic Books,

Here is the latest catalog and on the next page is a letter from the Publisher, Roger A. McCaffrey. I would like to ask your help and prayers.

First, I ask for myself, as I am fighting cancer, that the Good Lord preserves my life for some great work as He chooses. I would be grateful to you. At the moment I am an out-patient at a very fine hospital fairly close to the Washington D.C. area.

Second, for the continuation of the apostolate of Roman Catholic Books Publishing through a 34th year. As a part of Catholic Media Apostolate, which was founded in the late 1970s by Fr. Vincent P. Miceli, SJ, and Dr. William Marra of Fordham University, this book publishing apostolate has broken ground in many areas, for example:

- . The first to publish and re-print serious studies about the End Times, as you will see in these pages
- . The first to do nationally-syndicated radio programs outside the scope of (very useful) Prayer programs like the Sacred Heart program and the anodyne diocesan programs done here and there
- . The first to bring out serious treatments of the Islamic threat and of real Holy Land history

Many of these titles are still available but many are not, because Roman Catholic Books can no longer afford to keep all its nearly-300 titles in print. The Web is no substitute for print! A recent study in England, for example, shows that students retain 35% less of what they have just read when they read it online versus print.

I can recall Mr. McCaffrey telling me of the gentle mockery he heard from good-natured others in the Catholic publishing industry about re-printing old books as hardcovers when "nobody would buy them as used softcovers."

Of course, the naysayers were wrong. And some of them are now also trying to bring back old books themselves.

But they still do not seem to have Roger McCaffrey's ability to choose titles that still have life yet are ignored.

- ✓ One such title has this year been brought back by him, thanks to your support, and it is on page 1, *The Bible for the Sick*, which everyone simply must have in his library, large or small.
- ✓ Another is again new in the past 12 months--Dr. Alice von Hildebrand's collection of essays that Roman Catholic Books has titled, *"The Dark Night of the Body."*
- ✓ RC Books was also the first publisher to bring out a priestly look at the famed pilgrimage to the Camino de Santiago--and after that two other books and a Catholic film have emerged in the past two years! Before the Roman Catholic Books edition of Fr. Greg Markey's book, *Discovering the Camino de Santiago*, the only other title like it was 60 years old.

Please, friend, continue to support the extremely valuable work of Roman Catholic Books as we face a new Dark Age in the Church and the world. Let us be frank and courageous: we face a bleak future and we have only tepid support from many in authority (unless you include television appearances as "support," which I do not).

Please purchase their many fine titles for yourself or friends...loved ones...the local parish library...the local school if possible.

Please pray for Roman Catholic Books and its non-profit "parent," Catholic Media Apostolate.

And please donate your tax-deductible dollars as generously as you can, as soon as you can, remembering Catholic Media Apostolate in your Last Will if at all possible.

Most sincerely in Christ,



Msgr. Ignacio Barreiro

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Dear Friend in Christ,

Another difficult year for now-34-year-old Roman Catholic Books//Catholic Media Apostolate is drawing to a close--but with a significant list of accomplishments mingling with the hardships. On the plus-side:

1. We have brought back into print half a dozen classic Catholic titles.
2. We have published three new ones and are in discussions with superb authors about two others.
3. We have kept alive our Books for the Poor.net plans.

And, we have drawn up ambitious plans as 2015 approaches--so please help! At least nine titles will be brought back into print, with demand actually increasing for them. For example:

- . *Learning to Serve*, the best book available for altar boys
- . *On the Proper Use of Time*, for those of us who need a refresher
- . *Loyola and the Educational System of the Jesuits*
- . *Some Rare Virtues*, Fr. Plus on bringing out our natural best traits
- . *A Confederacy of Evil*, Newman and Fr. Miceli on the End Times

Although we will begin to offer some titles as "PDFs" or Ebooks, Roman Catholic Books won't ever become an E-Book publisher. I think E-books are a useful but defective way to spread the Faith. The screen by nature is a distraction. (If you wanted to have a good retreat, would you find one that serves your meals with wide-screen TVs on? Hardly.)

Cautiously, we're planning for 2015 the revival, on an annual basis, of *The Traditionalist* magazine, which will cover topics like how to understand the *limits* of papal authority and how Blessed John Cardinal Newman did...how the new pontificate plans to deal with Catholics who believe in traditional moral teaching...and Catholics like us who also believe Catholic moral teachings are undermined by those who insist they need "updating" to take account of the sensibilities of professional sinners in the West. Stay tuned. And please send financial help so we can accomplish these goals, and get through this year whole!

God bless you and yours this Christmas,



Roger A. McCaffrey
President
Catholic Media Apostolate
& *Roman Catholic Books*

P.S. Nine brand new titles are on the front burner for the upcoming new year--again, thank you, because without you we'd be unable to publish them!

Our most promising one: *A Latin-English Missal for Children*. So, once again: thank you. Masses are offered regularly for our benefactors, rest assured.

Editorial Office: P.O. Box 1209 • Ridgefield, CT 06877

After 30 years, *still* the best treatment of the subject in the back of everyone's mind

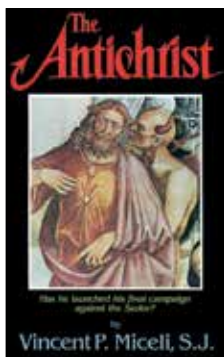
"[Pope John Paul II] is driven by his foreboding that the world is heading toward a moral apocalypse."—*Newsweek*, 1979

The late pope's preoccupation came as no surprise to readers of Fr. Vincent Miceli's timeless book, which masterfully summarized Church teaching on the End Times. Fr. Miceli keynotes his investigation of the last days with this quote from John Paul II:

"I do not think the wide circles of American society or the wide circles of the Christian community realize...we are now facing the final confrontation between the Church and the Anti-Church."

Fr. Miceli doesn't pretend to know who the Antichrist is, where he'll appear, or when. But he does line up the signs of the times—linking these signs with the prophecies in Daniel, the New Testament, the early Church Fathers—and prophetic modern voices like Newman, Solzhenitsyn, Pius XII. Some of his insights are jolting:

- ♦ Role of Islam and Judaism in the end times
- ♦ 6 key features of the modern world that correspond alarmingly with apocalyptic prophecy
- ♦ To whom does God give the gift of prophecy? How should we look upon modern-day evangelists who claim the gift? Rules for recognizing false prophets
- ♦ 3 stages in the evolution of evil as it prepares man to receive and worship Antichrist. How far have we proceeded?
- ♦ The Antichrist and the New Christianity. Five marks of the latter, all dissected
- ♦ How Western—especially American—society's war against religion in public life corresponds to key apocalyptic prophecies
- ♦ Antichrist's precursors: how to identify
- ♦ One reliable sign of the Antichrist. Five things we know about him. Will he be different from Satan? One man or many? For answers, Fr. Miceli turns to Scripture and the early Fathers
- ♦ Valuable bibliography that points you to *reliable* books on apocalyptic themes



**Cardinal Newman
on the Antichrist in
two pivotal chapters**

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- ♦ 10 features of Antichrist's religion, according to Church Fathers. Where will he rise? How he will persecute the Church.
- ♦ Common misconceptions about the Antichrist spread by televangelists and popular books

Fr. Miceli avoids the extravagant speculation that mars many popular books on apocalyptic themes, including some Catholic ones. Which may explain this enthusiastic note from the late theologian of the Papal Household, Cardinal L. Ciappi: "The theme is so appropriate...may it have a large and influential reception."

"Passionate...founded on sound scholarship...among the very few to be prized in the plethora of modern apocalyptic literature."
—Paul Hallett, *National Catholic Register*

"The havoc that has been made on the devil's behalf among Catholics and in their Church is so drastic and widespread as to leave an outsider like myself baffled and bewildered....The examples given in this vein by Fr. Miceli are hair-raising, and it is greatly to his credit that he has the courage and integrity to cite them....In war it is necessary, not just to have adequate forces for attack and defence, but also to study the enemy's past and present strategy and tactics. This is staff work, for which, in the everlasting Holy War against the Devil, The Antichrist is a masterly textbook....I thank God that there are priests and teachers like Fr. Miceli to act as His intelligence officer."
—Malcolm Muggeridge in his Foreword

"Heart-pounding...valuable...can be interrupted only with pain....It is indeed refreshing to see the words of Scripture taken seriously."
—Rev. R. W. Gilsdorf,
Homiletic & Pastoral Review

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How America's collapsing fortunes are linked to the decline of Christianity—and to the Catholic Church's crisis

“A fascinating read...will stir a major controversy.”—Sean Hannity

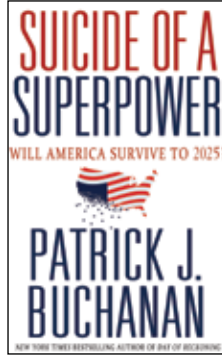
The most enduring conservative figure of the past 40 years, this side of Ronald Reagan? Pat Buchanan.

In his newest contribution to the study of American history (and collapse) over half a century, Pat Buchanan has penned an unapologetic *tour de force*, explaining *and connecting*:

• The Passing of a Superpower • The Death of a Christian America • The Crisis of Catholicism • The End of White America • Demographic Winter • Equality or Freedom? • The Diversity Cult • The Triumph of Tribalism • ‘The White Party’ • The Long Retreat • The Last Chance

“For two millennia,” Buchanan notes, “Christianity was the immune system of Western man.” With its near-collapse as a force outside the Republican Party (and there marginalized) have come a host of secondary detonations...

- ♦ Why “the age of Obama” marks the advent of post-Christian America... and how Obama “denied the primacy of Christianity”—explicitly, with carefully chosen words and deeds of key people, himself included
- ♦ “The statistics of Christian decline,” laid out in overwhelmingly plain detail
- ♦ “The less religious an electorate, the more Democratic” the voters. The poll numbers
- ♦ Wipeout of American industry in 20 years: how it mirrors the jobs debacle. 8 startling data points say it all



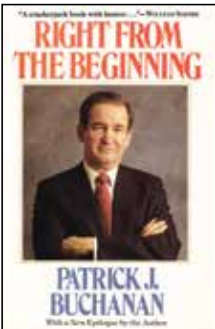
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- ♦ Chronology of “socialist America.” Buchanan’s arresting summary (one your children and grandchildren need to see)
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- ♦ Numbers today: growth, or lack thereof, of Jews, Christians, atheists—and how our young, poisoned by no-prayer public education and pagan culture, tend to see things
- ♦ The “historic” dilution of Christian doctrine in America, and where it’s most manifest
- ♦ Is a major crisis for Evangelical Christians, still seemingly healthy today, coming?
- ♦ Disturbing comeback of the occult, especially among young
- ♦ Seeds of hope, more and more clearly evident—including, asserts the realist Buchanan, the tug “even in a secular age, [of] the search for God and salvation, [which] captivates the heart.”



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Eventually exiled by MSNBC’s president, who declared that Buchanan discussed ideas that should not be bandied about in polite (ahem: leftist) society, Pat Buchanan grew up just like a lot of us. In one of his earliest books, an autobiography penned just after Pat served as Ronald Reagan’s chief of communications, Buchanan laid out the facts of his Catholic upbringing in the 1940s and 50s...explained how he was schooled and what it was like being trained by the nuns and then the Jesuits...and much else.

This is the book that laid the groundwork for Buchanan’s first two presidential runs, one of which shocked the complacent Bush (41) Administration, the other steamrolled the entire GOP establishment and nearly toppled Bob Dole, who lost to Pat in New Hampshire in 1996.

A month of walking through Spain?

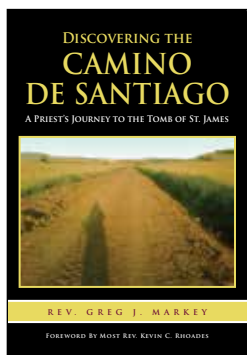
But no ordinary month—this was the fabled pilgrimage to the Tomb of St. James.

If Fr. Gregory Markey can do it, well, you can too. At least from your armchair.

A priest-pastor chronicles the month-long life and times of a pilgrim, in a delightful yet sober account, as he endures, and enjoys, the much-celebrated Camino de Santiago.

This peaceful journey—web-free, phone-free, and TV-free—generated an astonishing array of brief but meaty spiritual reflections. Roman Catholic Books asked Fr. Markey to put the writings into this book.

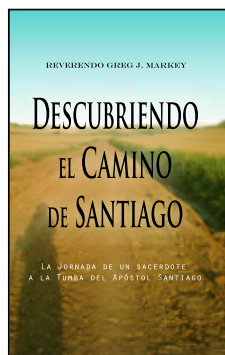
Throughout his long journey Fr. Markey, displaying both a keen mind and a pastoral heart, found spiritual lessons for himself and his flock, to whom he wrote.



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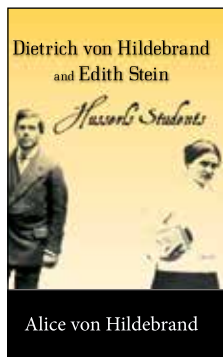
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“Enjoyable, insightful, enriching journey...The beautiful universal insights and lessons in this gem help us all realize how to live a blessed pilgrimage in life’s journey too.”—*National Catholic Register*

“...von Hildebrand will be most prominent...” —Benedict XVI

“When the intellectual history of the Catholic Church in the twentieth century is written,” said Pope Benedict XVI, “the name of Dietrich von Hildebrand will be most prominent among the figures of our time.” Edith Stein was, said Time magazine, “One of the most remarkable women of her time.”

Born two years apart, both were converts to Catholicism and students of Edmund Husserl, the noted 20th century philosopher. Although they met during their lives, they only knew



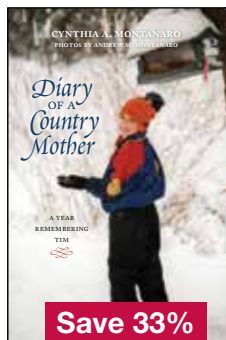
each other casually. Yet there were major similarities in their lives.

Noted Catholic author, lecturer and philosopher Alice von Hildebrand has taken on the task of briefly profiling these two great 20th century Catholics, using as her point of reference the memoirs of each.

*Dietrich von Hildebrand and
Edith Stein: Husserl's Students
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“A beautiful book.” —Kimberly Hahn

“I have just this minute put down the last page of *Diary of a Country Mother*. My word, what can one say? Cynthia Montanaro has given us the story of a splendidly faithful Catholic household....The word ‘contemplative’ is the key to this amazing memoir, and the quiet pace belongs to its essence. Every chapter (or meditation) entails some concrete, softly-textured, domestic narrative, all bespeaking both Tim’s inner man and the household in which the Lord placed him to pass his brief time on this earth. Every episode has its keen point, and the combination of the domestic with the use of hymns,



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Country Mother
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Scripture, the liturgy, Catholic writings, and Cynthia’s own reflections, produce the richness the reader will find here.”

—Thomas Howard, Ph.D., Author of *Hallowed Be This House; Lead Kindly Light; Chance or the Dance, The Dove Descending*

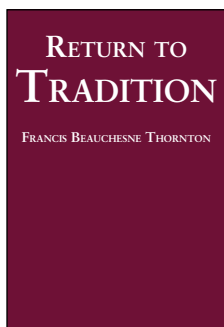
“Cynthia Montanaro is an excellent writer and this is a beautiful book. She demonstrates how the liturgical year provides the framework for embracing the joys and difficulties of family.”—Kimberly Hahn, Co-author with Scott Hahn of *Rome Sweet Home*

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Shouldn't you know more about the Catholic renewal in high gear 50 years ago? Shouldn't your children and grandchildren?

Sample the finest Catholic writing of the past two centuries in this massive anthology, now back in print. Amid the present decline of Catholic life and letters it seems astonishing to recall that in 1948, when this magnificent treasury was published, the Church was enjoying a great literary and intellectual revival that had been going on since the early 1800s. But secular publishers and critics paid little heed, creating the need for a comprehensive collection that would chart the Catholic Revival by anthologizing its leading lights. Fr. Francis Thornton's wonderful treasury quickly became a standard in better Catholic high schools and colleges—then fell out of favor after the Council. Now, Roman Catholic Books makes it available again in handsome, long-lasting hardcover.

Fr. Thornton divides his survey into five expansive sections: "The English Revival" (including works by Newman, Frederick Faber, Robert Hugh Benson, Belloc, Chesterton, Knox, Sheed, and Waugh)... "The French Influence" (works by Claudel, Gheon, Mauriac, Gilson, Bernanos, Maritain, et al)... "The Irish Revival" (Padraic Colum, James Clarence Mangan,



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Canon Sheehan)... "The American Revival" (Orestes Brownson, John La Farge, Joyce Kilmer, William Thomas Walsh, Fulton Sheen)... and "The Liturgical Revival" (not to be confused with the upheaval after Vatican II, and including works by Karl Adam, Pius Parsch, Romano Guardini, and Virgil Michel).

The bounty here is nearly overwhelming—no fewer than 128 authors, generously represented across 955 large-format, two-column pages. Shorter works, such as poems and essays, are presented unabridged; longer ones, such as novels and biographies, are represented by chapter-length highlights. The variety, as one reviewer noted, is nothing short of "amazing".

"Amazing variety: expertly chosen excerpts from work which grew organically out of the great Catholic Revival. ...Father Thornton gives us apologetics, history and fiction, poetry, biography and the essay—all richly sampled with brief but discerning biographical sketches of the authors. ...An incredible sum of instruction and delight."

—The Sign

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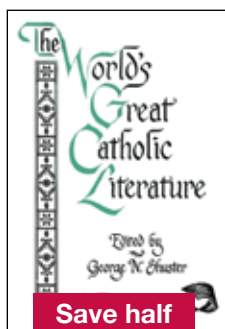
Traditional Catholics busy with life often neglect good reading. Sometimes, they're less acquainted with their Catholic heritage than with the very enemies of the Church who concern them.

A thriving Catholic publishing industry once produced hundreds of meaty books annually—and few as good as this popular collection, first published in 1942. 208 selections from 103 different authors and classic works.

Here you'll find the writings of the Church's greatest saints and martyrs, Fathers and Doctors, mystics, popes, poets, essayists, historians and novelists. You'll feast on sermons, prayers, stories, historical accounts, biographical portraits, fables, satires and more.

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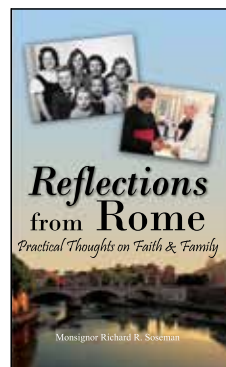
Msgr. Robert Hugh Benson ♦ Joyce Kilmer ♦ Gerard Manley Hopkins ♦ Francis Thompson ♦ Leon Bloy ♦ Wilfred Ward ♦ G.K. Chesterton

A priest's *practical* thoughts on faith & family

“Like Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, for whose Cause of Beatification and Canonization he has labored, Monsignor Richard Soseman has sought to use modern means of communication in the service of the new evangelization. In these reflections, originally written as web blogs, he draws on his experiences as a priest both in rural Illinois and in Rome to convey the truths of the Catholic faith in an accessible and appealing manner. May those who read the present collection of reflections be inspired and encouraged in their daily living of the Catholic faith.”

—Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

Msgr. Richard Soseman is an official of the Holy See's Congregation for the Clergy. He holds master's degrees from Marquette University and Mount St. Mary's Seminary, and a licentiate from the Pontifical Lateran University. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois, in 1992.



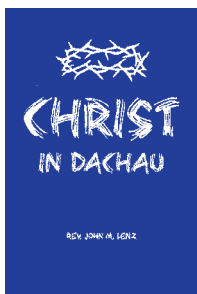
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Forgotten Priests in a Nazi Hellhole

Dachau concentration camp held the largest number of Catholic priests—more than 2400—in the Nazi camp system. They came from two dozen countries, from every background—parish priests and prelates, monks and friars, teachers and missionaries. Over one-third were killed. Among the survivors was Fr. Johannes Lenz, who was asked by his superiors to write an account of what he saw. Catholic reviewers and churchmen alike were awestruck:

“Soberly, with deep feeling he shows the Catholic Church the only steadfast fighter against the Nazis....tells of heroism which never has come to our ears; the agony and martyrdom of Catholic priests, the physical and mental torture, the little things—and the tremendous. ...Tells of unspeakable things and of goodness....These men and women, those who were murdered by the thousands in Dachau, and those who survived, were, as it were, missionaries in Hell.”—*World Mission*

“The most shattering but at the same time uplifting book I have read in my life”—*Archbishop Michael Buchberger of Regensburg (1960)*

Writes Fr. Lenz: “Christ in Dachau aims to answer in the light of faith the countless vital questions with which we were constantly faced in Dachau....It is a book about life, about priests in the service of God.”

A very small sampling of the story and lessons:

- ♦ “Fall out, Jews and priests!”: special treatment for “the scum of the camp”
- ♦ The many peculiar “reasons” priests were sent to Dachau: works of Christian charity—but crimes in the eyes of the Nazis
- ♦ Preparing to face martyrdom: “Would I bear it holily? When would it end and how?”
- ♦ “To break a man spiritually you must first break him physically”: how this Nazi doctrine was put into practice
- ♦ Two priests sent to Dachau for refusing to give the Hitler salute to Hermann Göring—and how they died
- ♦ The small group of leading Austrian Catholics that quickly became “an active center of spiritual power” within the camp
- ♦ “Sister Pia”: the female Nazi—and ex-Catholic—who tried to convert the Dachau priests to Hitler's creed
- ♦ Defending the Faith to a drunken SS officer. “That took guts!” commented the communists who witnessed the exchange
- ♦ “Unless you have known what hunger in a concentration camp is like, you cannot know what real hunger means”
- ♦ How communist and atheist fellow-prisoners “conspired to make our life a Hell”
- ♦ How the worst treatment of priests was reserved for Sundays and Feast Days, particularly Feasts of Our Lady
- ♦ The Dachau townspeople: “Hitler's willing executioners”? Quite the opposite: how many of them risked their own lives

“The priest has no need for permission from the Apostolic See or from his Ordinary” to celebrate Mass with the 1962 Latin Missal.

—Pope Benedict XVI, July 2007



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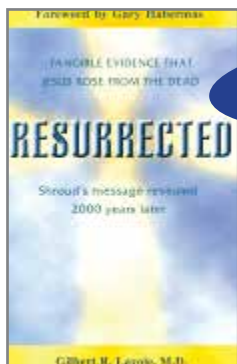
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Revered occult expert's book revived, as American culture increasingly glamorizes bloodlust and vampires

*All about “paranormal” phenomena—by the theologian
whose definitive study has never been surpassed*

As the rapid spread of New Age beliefs, magic and the glamorization of vampires have led to widespread fascination with the occult, some Catholics have mistakenly met the challenge by promoting a simplistic Protestant view of the subject—i.e., that all “paranormal” phenomena are either fraudulent or of the devil. But as Abbott Alois Wiesinger demonstrated half a century ago, Catholic teaching on the occult is far more complex—and interesting—than that. Now his groundbreaking study is back in print. He explores the entire range of paranormal phenomena, including:

Clairvoyance ~ “Prophetic” dreams and visions
~ Extra-sensory perception (ESP) ~ Ghosts and hauntings ~ Telekinesis (movement of objects)
~ Telepathy (“mind-reading”) ~ Teleacoustic phenomena (e.g., ghostly rapping) ~ Spiritualism (communication with the dead) ~ Fortune-tellers
~ Somnambulists ~ Levitation of objects ~ Materializations ~ Healings ~ Hypnosis ~ Mental suggestion ~ Prophecy ~ Speaking in tongues ~ Transmission of dreams ~ Crystal-gazing

Which of these phenomena are—or may be—genuine? How can they best be explained in the light of Catholic theology? *How might they attest to the existence of God, and of other spiritual realities taught or implied by Catholic doctrine?* Some of Abbott Wiesinger’s fascinating answers:

- ◆ Links between the action of pure spirits and the results of occult phenomena

- Helpful summaries begin chapters
- Glossary of occult/scientific terms

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- ◆ St. Thomas on the higher powers of the soul when it is “partly freed” from the body
- ◆ How the soul’s vestigial powers can, in certain extraordinary circumstances, act directly on matter
- ◆ How dreams or visions may accurately foretell certain events. How this differs from genuine prophecy
- ◆ Powers and characteristics of the human soul after it has become separated from the body in death
- ◆ Why Catholics must admit the possibility of ghosts, but reject the claims of spiritualists to summon the spirits of the dead
- ◆ How the Catholic concept of “spirit,” and Catholic explanations for occult phenomena, differs from pagan
- ◆ False approaches to the spiritual—e.g., yoga and astrology
- ◆ How paranormal gifts differ from true mysticism. Why they should *never* be deliberately cultivated

“Citing numerous well-documented cases, this book is an intriguing attempt to relate modern psychological and psychic research to Catholic theology.” —*The Catholic Answer*

The book that inspired our Pope —and the entire Church, for centuries

“Remarkable for its discretion and its clarity.”—St. Gregory the Great

It was 594 when Pope St. Gregory the Great—himself a Benedictine—wrote this tribute to the little book which had shaped his life, and stands today as one of the cornerstones of religious life.

By being moderate and flexible in day-to-day concerns, but uncompromising in spiritual matters, St. Benedict’s Rule has endured for 1500 years as a living code, a guiding light that has shown untold numbers of religious men and women the path to holiness. No rectory, no religious house, and no Catholic family, should be without a copy of this seminal work.

Steps on the path to perfection

- ◆ 72 good works that show our love for God
- ◆ 12 steps of humility
- ◆ Why the first stage of humility is prompt obedience
- ◆ The importance of silence
- ◆ How to show proper reverence in the presence of God
- ◆ How the Divine Office ought to be said
- ◆ Prayer—why shorter is better
- ◆ Why the choir is “the world of God”
- ◆ What monks should read
- ◆ What monks may eat and drink
- ◆ Observing Lent
- ◆ Discipline for monks who have fallen into grave sin
- ◆ Whether monks can own anything
- ◆ Why daily manual labor is good for the soul
- ◆ How to care for the elderly, the sick, and the young
- ◆ Why one must accept any assigned task, no matter how hard

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Rare is the book that comes with a pope's endorsement

And rarer still in Pope Benedict XV's day. Yet the Holy Father even waxed enthusiastic over this title—perhaps because Benedict beheld, for the first time, a book of St. Thomas' teaching that was arranged for Catholics with no theology or philosophy training. Wrote His Holiness in his Preface:

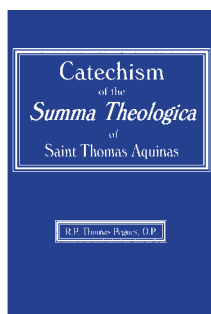
"It was fitting that the singular wisdom of the Holy Doctor should be made accessible not only to the clergy but to the faithful in general."

Fr. Pegues takes two classic works—the *Summa* and the catechism—and blends them into one of the most remarkable catechetical titles of the 20th century: The basic questions and tenets of the Faith—and after each question, the answers *from the great St. Thomas himself*. The hundreds of topics include some of the most widely misunderstood or distorted Church teachings today. A tiny sampling:

- ♦ Miracles: what they are, why they happen
- ♦ Guardian angels (they're real, and scriptural—and logical)
- ♦ What Heaven and Hell will be like. Why Purgatory is part of God's plan
- ♦ Why and how devils go about their work of destruction
- ♦ The difference between mortal and venial sin
- ♦ Happiness, and how we can acquire it
- ♦ Grace and the Holy Spirit, and how God works in our souls

- ♦ At the last judgment, will the lives of both saved and damned be revealed to all?
- ♦ What are the cardinal virtues and their counterparts; how is each practiced?
- ♦ Prayer and devotions, and why they are both rational and "necessary"
- ♦ Explained, line by line: the Credo and the Ten Commandments
- ♦ Our Lord: denied by moderns, or twisted into a nice but harmless man. Aquinas plainly outlines who Christ was, explains His incarnation, His knowledge and powers
- ♦ Why can't unbaptized infants enter heaven itself? How does God welcome them?
- ♦ The different kinds of laws that bind us, which ones may be broken, and why
- ♦ How we know God exists and loves each of us
- ♦ Mary: St. Thomas' long-forgotten thoughts

In all, well over 1,000 simple questions are answered by the master theologian in a book designed, as Pope Benedict XV noted, to "bring many souls to a sound knowledge of Christian doctrine."



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No less than biological life, spiritual life has its iron laws, ordained by God. Fr. José Trevino unfolds those laws and shows how to employ them to make spiritual progress.

Fr. Trevino devotes a full chapter to each of the 18 basic rules, and details their corollaries. Some of what you'll learn:

- ♦ Aquinas on the "chief duty of beginners" in spiritual life
- ♦ The single greatest obstacle on everyone's road to perfection. But surmountable for those who know how
- ♦ Common misconceptions about holiness, some dangerous. The proper Catholic understanding
- ♦ Spiritual setbacks: how they can actually be the basis for even greater progress
- ♦ Do you pray enough? Ways to make sure that you do, every day. Some barriers to prayer; how to get past them
- ♦ 4 kinds of adversity in prayer, and how they can be turned to spiritual *profit*
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- ♦ The degrees of charity—each a step in the steep climb to sanctity
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- ♦ Losing one's "first fervor": a great danger for those trying to become holy. How to overcome it
- ♦ 4 steps in rooting out venial sin—a must before spiritual progress can proceed. How to find the "dominant fault" that causes that affection
- ♦ The sometimes overlooked "small beginnings" which can get you started on the road to perfection. How some great saints got started
- ♦ What are the authentic signs of spiritual progress—or of going backward? Some that can be easily misread

"A practical handbook of simply-stated directives....
The 18 Rules are brief, clear, definitive and practical."

—Catholic World

Common fallacies about Purgatory

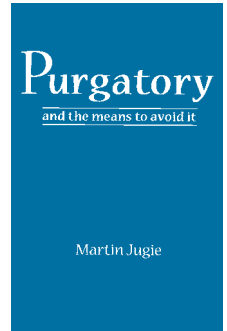
They're cleared up, in a book that liberated many a struggling Catholic over half a century ago

In 1949, this English translation of Fr. Martin Jugie's acclaimed book—which had gone through seven editions in France—was greeted as a much-needed corrective to popular fallacies about Purgatory, which continue to cloud the faith of Catholics.

Chief among those fallacies, writes Fr. Jugie, is that Purgatory is a kind of “temporary” Hell, its pains differing only in duration. From this follows many other errors that can lead us seriously astray in our conduct and in our prayer lives. Some of the vitally important truths he imparts:

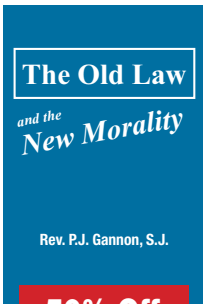
- ♦ Why a balanced view of Purgatory must consider the joy—not just the suffering—of the Holy Souls
- ♦ Too often neglected: Why Purgatory is a consoling doctrine
- ♦ The radical difference between suffering in Purgatory and the torments of Hell
- ♦ The “new mode of knowledge” with which separated souls are endowed—far more rapid than ordinary thinking
- ♦ The “special way” that souls in Purgatory know those who have been their relations, friends and contemporaries on earth
- ♦ Key distinction: the place vs. the state of Purgatory

- ♦ The duration of Purgatory. What is the measure of time for the separated soul?
- ♦ Two things that can shorten the pains of Purgatory
- ♦ Eight ways of avoiding Purgatory that draw their efficacy from the Sacraments. The surest one of all
- ♦ Five practices to cultivate the necessary “spirit of penance”
- ♦ How best to understand the “fire” of Purgatory?
- ♦ Can angels and saints pay visits of consolation to the holy souls?
- ♦ How the intercession of saints can help souls in Purgatory
- ♦ May we pray to the souls in Purgatory? Can they intercede for us? St. Thomas's view



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whose catastrophic consequences are just beginning to be felt. Yes, there is hope. But the hour is even later than when P.J. Gannon, SJ, spelled out our stark choices some 65 years ago:

“Humanity has really two courses open to it—to get back to clear thinking and right moral principles, or to continue its perilous drift.”

Those “right moral principles” derive from the very Decalogue spurned by Shaw & Co, argues Fr. Gannon, who was one of Ireland's foremost preachers and delivered these essays as sermons to packed Dublin churches in the 1930s. He shows how the Commandments, as interpreted by the Church, provide solid answers to a wide

Who said this? “The Ten Commandments are mere lumber nowadays...unsuited and inadequate to modern needs.”

The answer is George Bernard Shaw—but it could have been any number of 20th-century skeptics.

Today, their once “shocking” views are held by countless millions, and sustained by unceasing propaganda from Hollywood, public schools and the government. Result? A widespread moral meltdown

range of moral and social questions – and why the widespread flouting of any one of them brings disastrous results for the whole of society . . .

♦ *How some famous critics of the Commandments betray a messianic ambition to be “a new Moses to mankind”* ♦ *How modern morality makes sins virtuous, and virtues sinful* ♦ *How the Reformation and Enlightenment undermined the “sanity and clarity of the European mind,” opening it to gross error* ♦ *How atheism permeates most of today's art and literature* ♦ *How the modern dethronement of God robs man of the basis of his sanity, his self-respect, and his hopes* ♦ *Why dogma and ethics are inseparable, making it impossible to reject Church moral teachings and still claim to be Catholic* ♦ *Proof from history: How societies that exalt unfettered personal freedom inevitably degenerate into tyrannies* ♦ *Why the Sixth Commandment forbids divorce and contraception, no less than adultery* ♦ *Why all deliberate seeking of sexual pleasure outside marriage—even in thought—is mortal sin* ♦ *The varieties of “bearing false witness”: lying, calumny, defamation, detraction, gossip, perjury.*

Books on the Beach

To: Ladies of a Certain Age

From: Priscilla McCaffrey

Dear Ladies,

Will you please consider joining a small group of escapees from the frigid north who will gather with us in Florida the last weekend of January (1/30 to 2/2)?

This year we will meet in St. Augustine, Florida—the real First City in America, settled before Plymouth or Jamestown—where America's first recorded Mass was celebrated 500 years ago by a Spanish priest who did not know he was politically-incorrect. (A commemorative chapel is still there, and during one of our many breaks, we'll visit that.)

Here's our schedule:

- Thursday evening and Friday, plan to arrive. We'll pick you up at the airport.
- Friday afternoon we'll have a Patio Reception
- Friday evening we'll have dinner and opening remarks—and our first and second book discussions (see book list below)
- Saturday morning you'll have continental breakfast with us if you wish
- Saturday after breakfast we'll discuss our third and fourth books
- Saturday lunch will be on your own. We'll provide a ride into the heart of St. Augustine for some Catholic (and otherwise) sightseeing
- Saturday dinner is part of the program and will be followed immediately by our fifth book discussion
- Sunday we'll go to Mass in the Extraordinary Form, then have brunch, after which we'll discuss book six
- Sunday lunch is on your own, and we'll provide another ride into the heart of town if you wish, but do get back for dinner with us

Your price of \$975, which does not include airfare, does include:

- 2 receptions, 2 light breakfasts, 3 dinners, lodging for 3 nights
- We will have daily Latin Mass
- A ride to and from Jacksonville Airport if you choose not to rent a car
- Probably warmer weather than you are used to in February

The Book List

- *Viper's Tangle*, by Francois Mauriac
- *The Death of Ivan Ilych*, by Tolstoy
- *Ida Elizabeth*, by Sigrid Undset
- *Essay on the Widow*, by St. Ambrose
- *Gaudy Night*, by Dorothy Sayers
- *The Great Divorce*, by C.S. Lewis

Girls under 45 are also welcome. Husbands may accompany you (mine will!) but our discussions are for the ladies and husbands (is it not ever thus?) cost extra at our receptions and meals. Our book discussions are in the manner of a book group, informal rather than classroom-style. We can arrange for you to stay longer than the three nights if you wish to do so; just ask us the cost. I know I will stay for five!

Love,

Priscilla

For Further Information (not book orders!)
please contact us at CXPeditor@gmail.com
or call us and leave a voicemail at 203.417.3022

Charming illustrations that capture Christmas for your little ones—and a message for older children and adults on the real meaning of Christmas from one of the 20th century's best speakers: Fulton J. Sheen.

“The purpose of God’s coming to man was not to make us nice people, but to make us new creatures.”

“There were only two classes of people who heard the cry that night; shepherds and wise men. Shepherds: those who know they know nothing. Wise men: those who know they do not know everything. Only the very simple and the very learned discovered God...”

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There are ways to find out, and Catholic methods to strengthen it

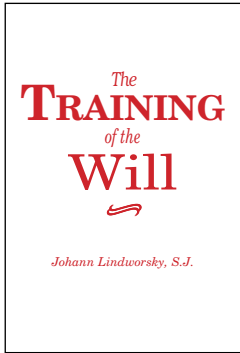
What's the difference between saints, heroes, other great achievers—and the rest of us? Not their natural gifts, but their acquired ability to focus their wills toward high aims, writes the distinguished psychologist (of the old school), Jesuit Johann Lindworsky.

A pioneer in the psychology of the will, Fr. Lindworsky penned many scholarly works, but nothing for the average layman until this popular book was written in 1929.

But he had a second, vital purpose: to counteract dangerous writings in psychology that were luring Catholics into error. Grounded in sound science and Catholic principles, Fr. Lindworsky's wisdom is as timeless and effective as most modern "self-help" books are faddish and misleading.

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- ♦ Overcoming sensual passions. How even the weakest person can succeed
- ♦ First rule for overcoming faults

Does Fr. Lindworsky's method work?

"My means are infallible," he stated boldly when the book first appeared in 1929, but, "I cannot just hand them over to you. I can only say: Here, beneath this surface rock, gold is hidden; dig for it, doing your level best."

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