

Msgr. Daniel Trapp's Book List

Patristic

St. Augustine. The Confessions. Image, 1960.

St. Benedict, The Rule

St. Gregory the Great. Pastoral Care. Ancient Christian Writers, v. 11, Paulist, 1950/1978.

Waddell, Helen. The Desert Fathers

Ward, Benedicta. The Sayings of the Desert Fathers.

Middle Ages

St. Aelred of Rievaulx. Spiritual Friendship.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux. On the Song of Songs. Cistercian Publications, 1976. *Good for spousal celibacy*

St. Catherine of Siena. The Dialogue.

Tridentine through 19th century

Caussade, Jean Pierre de. Abandonment to Divine Providence. Image Books, 1975.

_____. The Sacrament of the Present Moment. Collins, 1981.

St. Francis de Sales. Introduction to the Devout Life. Doubleday, 1972

_____. Treatise on the Love of God.

St. Ignatius Loyola. The Spiritual Exercises.

St. John of the Cross. The Collected Works of St. John of the Cross. *For those who are more advanced*

St. John Fisher. Sermons on the Penitential Psalms.

Lawrence, Brother. The Practice of the Presence of God. Image Books.

St. Louis de Monfort, True Devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Newman, John Henry. Apologia Pro Vita Sua.

_____. Meditations and Devotions. *An editor's collection of prayers and meditations for daily and seasonal use, prepared by the Cardinal for his own private devotions)*

_____. Parochial and Plain Sermons. *Newman, always offers solid doctrine in its application to the life of Christian holiness -- an exemplar for overcoming the divorce of dogmatic theology and spirituality.*

St. Teresa. Autobiography. The Interior Castle, The Way of Perfection

St. Therese. Story of a Soul.

Trochu, St. John Vianney

Twentieth Century

Arminjon, Blaise. The Cantata of Love. Ignatius Press, *Commentary on the Song of Songs*

Aschenbrenner, George, SJ. A God for a Dark Journey. Dimension Books, 1984. *Useful for understanding trends in spirituality*

Balthasar, Hans Urs von. The Christian State of Life. *A thorough and profoundly insightful explanation of the nature of the Christian vocation, and the specific differences between various states of life.*

_____. Prayer

_____. You Crown the Year. *Meditations on the feasts and seasons of the Liturgical Year.*

_____. You Have the Words of Eternal Life. *Mediations on select passages of the New Testament.*

Barry and Connolly, SJ. The Practice of Spiritual Direction. Seabury Press, 1982. *Good for spiritual direction.*

Bloom, Anthony. Beginning to Pray. Paulist Press, 1970. *Good for beginners and proficients.*

Burrows, Ruth, OCM. Before the Living God. Dimension Books

_____. Ascent of Love. Dayton, Longman and Todd, *An insightful reading of St. John of the Cross.*

_____. Guidelines for Mystical Prayer. Dimension Books, 1980. *For more experienced people in prayer.*

Cantalamesa, Raniero. Virginity for the Sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. *An eminently accessible explanation of the Christian meaning of virginity and celibacy, as presented in the Sacred Scripture.*

Clark, Keith. Being Sexual, Being Celibate. Ave Maria, 1986.

Dubay, Thomas, S.M., ["... And You Are Christ's"](#) The Charism of Virginity and the Celibate Life

Gratton, Carolyn. Guidelines for Spiritual Direction. Dimension, 1980

Green, Thomas, SJ. When the Well Runs Dry. Ave Maria, 1979. *Good for dryness and more advanced prayer.*

_____. Darkness in the Marketplace. Ave Maria, 1981. *Good for looking at relation between action and contemplation.*

_____. Weeds Among the Wheat. Ave Maria, 1984. *Discernment of spirits and God's will.*

Groeschel, Benedict. The Courage to be Chaste. Paulist Press, 1985 *growing in chastity.*

_____. Spiritual Passages. Crossroads, 1985. *Psychology of spiritual development.*

Guardini, Romano. The Art of Praying. Sophia Institute Press, 1994. *A good introduction.*

_____. Learning the Virtues that Lead You to God. Sophia Institute Press, 1998.

_____. The Lord. Henry Regnery Co., 1954 *Reflections/meditations on the events of the gospels,*

excellent for use as a help to the "imaginative contemplations" recommended by St. Ignatius. Virtue. Conferences given to university students, each treats a particular virtue, explains its nature, and give advice on how to cultivate it.

Gunzel, Raymond. Celibacy: Renewing the Gift, Releasing the Power. Sheed & Ward, 1988.

Huddleston, Mary Ann, IHM. (editor) Celibate Loving. *celibacy and sexual integration*.

Knox, Ronald. Hidden Streams. Scepter, 1995. *Apologetical conferences for his Oxford students*.

_____. Lightning Meditations. Sheed and Ward, 1959. *A collection of two page sermons*.

Kraft, William. Sexual Dimensions of Celibate Life: Andrews and McMeel, 1979. *Celibacy and sexual integration*.

Lewis, C.S. A Grief Observed. *For those who have lost a loved one*.

_____. The Screwtape Letters

Lynn, Dennis and Matthew. Healing Life's Hurts. *Healing of memories*.

Maloney, George. Mary, the Womb of God. Dimension Books, 1976. *Good for fostering devotion to Mary*.

Margerie, Bertrand de. Theological Retreat. *A working out of St. Ignatius's Exercises within a perspective of systematic theology*

Marmion, Columba. Christ in His Mysteries. *Spiritual conferences on the mysteries of Christ life, from a master of the spiritual life -- expounds the spiritual meaning of the Scriptures*. Christ - The Ideal of the Priest. *Conferences from a retreat for priests*.

Christ - The Life of the Soul. *More spiritual conferences, typically offering the spiritual meaning of the Scriptures, in a style reminiscent of the Fathers*.

May, Gerald. Care of Mind/Care of Spirit. Harper and Row, 1982

Merton, Thomas. New Seeds of Contemplation. New Directions, 1961.

Pennington, Basil. Centering Prayer. Doubleday

Powell, John, SJ. Why Am I Afraid to Tell You Who I Am? Why Am I Afraid to Love?, Unconditional Love, Fully Human, Fully Alive, The Christian Vision, Argus Communications.

Riordan, Brendan. (editor) Anger, Affirmation Books, 1985. *Good at understanding and responding to anger*.

Tyrell, Thomas J. Urgent Longings: Reflections on the Experience of Infatuation. Affirmation Books, 1980.

Undset. Sigrid. Stages on the Road. Knopf, 1934. *Four short biographies of saints and two essays*.

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Novels, literature

- Bernanos, Georges. Diary of a Country Priest.
- Caldwell, Taylor. Grandmother and the Priests.
- Cather, Willa. Death Comes for the Archbishop, Shadows on the Rock.
- Greene, Graham. The Power and the Glory, Monsignor Quixote
- Hansen, Ron. Atticus, et alia
- Hassler, John. North of Hope, et alia
- Hurnard, Hannah. Hinds Feet on High Places. *Allegory about the spiritual life*.
- Lewis, C.S. The Chronicles of Narnia, et alia
- Mauriac, Francois, Woman of the Pharisees, et alia
- O'Connor, Flannery. Wise Blood, et alia
- Percy, Walker. Thanatos Syndrome, Love in the Ruins, et alia
- Powers, JF. How Fish Live, Lions, Harts and Leaping Does and Other Stories.
_____. Mort d'Urban. *Novel about a priest*
_____. The Prince of Darkness and Other Stories, Wheat that Springeth Green.
Novel about a priest.
- Moore, Brian. Catholics, Blackrobe.
- O'Brien, Michael. Father Elijah et alia
- Tolkien, J.R. The Hobbit et alia
- Undset, Sigrid. Kristin Lavransdatter, A Trilogy. Bantam, Knopf, 1955. *Novel of a long life in the shadow of sins of pride and lust, covered by grace*.
_____. The Master of Hestviken, A Tetralogy. Plume, 1978 (one volume) *Novel of life under an unrepented sin of murder*.
- Williams, Charles. All Hallows Eve, et alia