



## The World of New Books

*A good book on your shelf is a friend that turns its back on you and remains a friend.*

~Author Unknown

### FAITH

**WHY HE IS A SAINT: THE LIFE AND FAITH OF JOHN PAUL II AND THE CASE FOR CANONIZATION** by Slawomir Oder with Saverio Gaeta (Rizzoli 2010). The authors make a compelling case as to why John Paul II should be elevated to the sainthood. They depict his life through vivid and revealing personal anecdotes that capture the essence of the saintly man behind the public pope. Among the book's startling revelations are his thoughts of retirement as his health declined, his medieval practice of self-flagellation and his miracles.

**THE END OF THE BEGINNING: POPE JOHN PAUL II—THE VICTORY OF FREEDOM, THE LAST YEARS, THE LEGACY** by George Weigel (Doubleday 2010). In his long-awaited sequel on the life of John Paul II, the author completes his landmark portrait of the pope who not only left an indelible mark on the Church, but also changed the course of world history. Weigel chronicles the tumultuous final years of the pope, who was often beset by crippling illnesses, the *new world disorder* and revelations about corruption within the Church. This thought-provoking authoritative biography concludes with the probing and comprehensive assessment of his papacy and the man who lived his life as a witness of hope in the service of the Christian ideals he embraced.

**BENEDICT XVI, LIGHT OF THE WORLD: THE POPE, THE CHURCH, AND THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES**—A conversation with Peter Seewald (Ignatius 2010). This rare book-length interview with Pope Benedict is an enlightening exposition of his theological thinking that is much easier to fathom than some of his scholarly theological treatises. It is a timely book that openly discusses many salient issues in the Church, including the clerical sex abuse scandal, abortion, same-sex marriage, the global economic crisis and the *new atheism*.

**CALLED TO LOVE: APPROACHING JOHN PAUL'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY** by Carl Anderson and Jose Granados (Doubleday 2009). Strong strains of Jansenism, Gnosticism and even Manichaeism have long weighed down the history of Christianity with regard to the human body. One of the great innovations of John Paul II's 26-year long papacy was a new integration of man's body and soul into a rational whole

that he called *The Theology of the Body*. The authors present one of the best and clearest discussions of this revolutionary idea, exploring its philosophical and religious significance in language that is both poetic and profound. As the pope explained, the human body reflects and reveals the goodness of the Godhead. It is one of the great gifts that God has bestowed on his creatures. To dismiss it as harboring something evil is an affront to God's perfect goodness.

**JESUS OF NAZARETH: FROM THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM TO THE RESURRECTION** by Pope Benedict XVI (Ignatius 2011). The second of the pope's books on Jesus, this historic book seeks to rescue Jesus from the popular but distorted works that obscure His Biblical authenticity. With scholarly aplomb, the pope has written a compelling biographical work that illuminates the mysteries of Jesus' final week before conquering death.

### HISTORY

**ECONOMICS OF GOOD AND EVIL: THE QUEST FOR ECONOMIC MEANING FROM GILGAMESH TO WALL STREET** by Tomas Sedalcek (Oxford 2011). The author challenges the standard assumptions of economics as a value-free mathematical inquiry. Sedalcek sees the *dismal science* as a cultural story that strives to explain the reality of the world. While expanding his subject's boundaries he opens new horizons for economics into religion, philosophy, psychology, literature and film, in such a manner that it not only teaches profound truths but entertains as well.

**DUPES: HOW AMERICA'S ADVERSARIES HAVE MANIPULATED PROGRESSIVES FOR A CENTURY** by Paul Kengor (ISI Books 2010). Arguably the most captivating book of the year, Kengor answers with candor and voluminous research the *loyalty question* that has troubled many conservatives for generations. Kengor found that most progressives had a utopian mindset that compelled them to seek a humanitarian world without war or poverty. This made them easy prey for the Marxist doctrines of the Soviet Union, which played on those emotional sentiments. The book deals with delicious detail the failure of presidents to understand the Marxists allure from Woodrow Wilson through FDR and Lyndon Johnson through the current president.

**THE COMING REVOLUTION: STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IN THE MIDDLE EAST** by Walid Phares (Threshold 2010). If there is one book which explains the supportive ideas that led to the *Arab Spring* and rocked North Africa earlier this year, this is it. A contributor to Fox News, Phares is quick to emphasize that the western democracies have historically misunderstood the pressures at work in this crucial area of the globe. His book explains the wide variety of forces that have generated the energy of a violent revolution, including the Muslim Brotherhood which is against the democratic spirit that motivates the West. To win the conflict, Phares stresses the West must change its traditional approach and thinking toward this area.

**THE ROOTS OF OBAMA'S RAGE** by Dinesh D'Souza (Regnery 2010). The author conjures a new theory in explaining the motivations behind the extreme policies of President Obama. D'Souza is convinced that Obama has been motivated by an inherited rage from his father, who was a dissident Kenyan and despised the Western colonialism that had oppressed his people. According to the author this is behind Obama's class envy and his disdain for American exceptionalism. D'Souza finds this radical theory of psychological interpretation that would have made Freud proud in the tea leaves left from Obama's best selling book, *Dreams from my Father*.

**WHERE'S THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE: THE CASE THAT BARACK OBAMA IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE PRESIDENT** by Jerome Corsi (WND Books 2011). Somewhat outdated by President Obama's release of his long form birth certificate last spring, this book provides many other details of the enigmatic president's past and that of his parents, especially his peripatetic mother. It is a valuable resource in cracking the Rubik's Cube of complexity and darkness that shrouds this president.

### GOVERNMENT

**DEMONIC: HOW THE LIBERAL MOB IS ENDANGERING AMERICA** by Ann Coulter (Crown Forum 2011). Probably her best book, Coulter utilizes history to her great advantage in exposing the violent roots of modern liberalism, which she traces from the bloody carnage of the French Revolution in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Focusing on the *mob* as the avatar of liberal ideas, she explains how liberals exhibit all the psychological traits of a mob, fitting Benjamin Franklin's apt description of a mob as *a monster with many heads and no brain*. Coulter uncovered the psychology of the mob in the writings of Gustave Le Bon and Jean Jacques Rousseau whose concept of the *general will* was used and still is used to justify the liberal assault on Western Civilization, especially the Church. The roots are all here, replete with liberal myths, character assassination, intimidation and the destruction of traditional morality.

**DECONSTRUCTING OBAMA: THE LIFE, LOVES AND LETTERS OF AMERICA'S FIRST POST-MODERN PRESIDENT** by Jack Cashill (Threshold 2011). Cashill provides a novel approach which reasonably establishes that Obama was most likely not the author of his two best-selling

books, *Dreams from my Father* and *The Audacity of Hope*. Using scientific means to establish similarities in expression and syntax, Cashill concludes that radical Bill Ayers probably wrote *Dreams* and Obama's speechwriter Jon Favreau was responsible for *Audacity*. Cashill's book again adds uncertainty and mystery to the growing canon of presidential literature about the nation's most mysterious and secretive president.

**RADICAL-IN-CHIEF: BARACK OBAMA AND THE UNTOLD STORY OF AMERICAN SOCIALISM** by Stanley Kurtz (Threshold 2010) The last line in Kurtz's book is the most telling: *The president of the United States is a socialist*. All else is prologue. This book is an exhaustive exposé of the president's biggest secret—the socialist convictions and tactical ruthlessness long hidden. The author details his early ties to socialist fronts, such as ACORN, the Midwest Academy and the Socialist Scholars Conference. It is at the latter where Obama learned of the radical strategy of socialists Richard Cloward and Frances Piven. They believed the best way to collapse capitalism was to overburden it with a world of debt through entitlements and welfare. The events of the past three years convincingly prove Kurtz's case.

**A SIMPLE GOVERNMENT: TWELVE THINGS WE REALLY NEED FROM WASHINGTON (and a Trillion that we don't!)** by Mike Huckabee (Sentinel 2011). What the former governor's book lacks in *Realpolitik* it makes up for in a deep commitment to the values and spirit of his Christian faith. Huckabee tends to see good in everything even President Obama. He says all the right things about taxes, big government, debt, health care and foreign foes but his faith in human nature blinds him to the reality of America's political situation.

**DEATH BY LIBERALISM: THE FATAL OUTCOME OF WELL-MEANING LIBERAL POLICIES** by J. R. Dunn (Broadside 2011). The author removes the sordid mask from a liberalism that pretends its benign compassion for the common people, that makes it a rational approach to the human condition. Dunn documents how the poisonous philosophy of liberalism has permeated virtually every avenue of American culture including religion, education, economics and politics with fatal consequences for traditional institutions and culture. He says that liberalism's death total from abortion and euthanasia is staggering, making it the operating engine of the *Culture of Death*.

### CULTURE

**GOD WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY: FROM SELF-HELP TO GOD'S HELP** by Father Jonathan Morris (HarperOne 2011). The face of the Catholic Church on Fox News, Father Morris' subtitle reveals the theme of his book. Shunning the media gallery of spirituality gurus, Father Morris has written a Christian self-help book that beseeches the *Author of Life* for assistance with the quotidian problems of human living. In doing so he invalidates the fallacious notion that the Church only cares about sin and guilt and not help and healing.

**UNPLANNED: THE DRAMATIC TRUE STORY OF A FORMER PLANNED PARENTHOOD LEADER'S EYE-OPENING JOURNEY ACROSS THE LIFE LINE** by Abby Johnson with Cindy Lambert (Saltriver 2010). This is the true story of a woman's journey along the secular road from the erroneous world of good feelings derived from extricating troubled women from their unwanted pregnancies into the sordid world of the abortion culture. When confronted with the horrible realities of abortion, her humanistic illusions disappeared and the power of life swayed her heart and captured her soul. The predictable reaction of her former *friends* at her Planned Parenthood clinic confirmed the undisputed fact that people involved in evil cannot hide their inner hostility for anyone repelled by what they do behind closed doors.

**RESISTING THE GREEN DRAGON: DOMINION, NOT DEATH** by James Wanliss (Cornwell Alliance 2010). Both a geophysicist and an elder in the Free Church of Scotland, Wanliss provides a fresh approach to green politics. His entry into the *Great Debate* of the 21<sup>st</sup> century was prompted by a course he taught that examined many of the principles of the radical environmentalists. His preparations taught him that the Green Movement was a threat to Christianity. It was the proverbial *green dragon* that threatens to incinerate all Christian thought and morality in a fiery storm of lies, distortions and personal attacks. His book focuses on the valid scientific elements that have been obscured in a barrage of religiously sounding jargon. Wanliss also exposes the Greens' misanthropic intentions, replete with their godless metaphysics, which they offer, not just science but as an alternate to religion.

**WHY CATHOLICS ARE RIGHT** by Michael Coren (McClelland and Stewart 2011). While not strictly a book of scholarly apologetics, WHY is a comprehensive and candid examination of some of the most common attacks on the Catholic Church and its members. Coren goes behind the headlines and explores some of the questions on a variety of subjects such as papal infallibility, the Immaculate Conception, the Bible and more. He demolishes many of the myths about Catholic teachings and in doing so opens a clear window to the nature of the Catholic faith.

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

**PSALTER: A SEQUENCE OF CATHOLIC SONNETS** by William Baer (Truman State University Press 2011), Pb. A book of religiously enchanting sonnets that revisits the familiar stories of the Bible with a fresh and poetic appeal. **WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY: SELF-CONTROL IN AN AGE OF EXCESS** by Daniel Akst (Penguin Press 2011). The author emphasizes that in an age of material excess, those who exercise restraint enjoy better and more productive lives. **THE GRACE EFFECT: HOW THE POWER OF ONE LIFE CAN REVERSE THE CORRUPTION OF UNBELIEF** by Larry Taunton (Thomas Nelson 2011). This book is a powerful response to the aggressions emanating from secular atheism and the forces of evil. The author weaves a captivating narrative which thoroughly demonstrates the culturally enriching and positive power of Christianity. **LIBERTY DEFINED: 50 ESSENTIAL ISSUES THAT AFFECT OUR FREEDOM** by Rep. Ron Paul (Grand Central Publishers 2011). A concise and thought provoking narrative from America's leading *apostle of freedom*. **THE WORLD OF ST. PAUL** by Joseph Callewaert (Ignatius 2011). An engaging work that reads like a novel. In trying to absorb the spirit of the era, the author has St. Paul in his proper perspective without falling prey to secular revisions of Christian history. **THE HEART AND THE FIST: THE EDUCATION OF A HUMANITARIAN, THE MAKING OF A NAVY SEAL** by Eric Greitens (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2011). The author gives the training that made him a humanitarian culminating in leading "The Mission Continues", an organization which helps wounded warriors. His training as a Navy Seal stresses the importance of our Special Forces. **THE WOW FACTOR** by Rev. William O'Malley, S.J. (Orbis Books 2011). The author makes a heroic attempt to offset the reality that young adults have lost their sense of wonder about their faith in God and the universe.



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NOTA BENE: Please note on p. 1, right-hand column, second paragraph of the [Mindszenty Report](#) for August 2011 the meaningful title for the Blessed Mother should be Mediatrix not Matrix.

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## News and Notes

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**Pro-life:** According to the Republican National Committee for Life, 2011 has been a record year for pro-life legislation in the states. Nineteen states enacted new laws restricting abortion. At least eight states were successful in partially or fully defunding Planned Parenthood. (RNCL Report, Summer 2011).

**Genocide:** Since South Sudan declared independence on July 9th, the Khartoum Islamic regime has conducted a full assault on the South with indiscriminate bombing of more than 50 towns, displacing half-million civilians. Episcopal Bishop Andudu Elnail says, “We are facing the nightmare of genocide of our people in a final attempt to erase our culture and society from the face of the earth.” (excerpted from World, July 15, 2011). (Ed. Note: where is the UN sponsored Genocide Treaty?)

**Repeal of 2007 Energy Law:** Twenty-seven U.S. Congressmen are calling for repeal of the 2007 energy law mandating the complete replacement of Edison’s incandescent light bulbs with the more expensive high efficiency bulbs, chief among them the compact fluorescent lamp, or CFL. Representative Jim DeMint (R-SC) says, “When Congress can dictate which light bulbs folks must buy, the nanny mentality has gotten out of control in Washington.” (excerpted from World and The New American)

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## Rally for the Heartbeat Bill

Help pass the pro-life Heartbeat Bill (House Bill 125) to protect unborn babies from the time their heartbeats are detectable.

If you live in the Columbus, Ohio area, please attend the “Rally for the Heartbeat Bill” on Tues., Sept. 20, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Ohio Statehouse Atrium-1 Capitol Square, Columbus, OH. RSVP o 614-395-8404 & Wear RED!

Speakers include: Joe Scheidler, National Dir. of the Pro-Life Action League and Dr. Jack Wilke, Founder of National Right to Life & Ohio RTL.

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## GOOD NEWS

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### The New Hungarian Constitution

In the Summer 2011 issue of Human Life International’s FrontLines Magazine, Interim President Msgr. Ignacio Barreiro-Carámbula, S.T.D., stated “First and foremost we have to thank the Lord and many good men and women in Hungary for their **New Constitution**, which was ratified just after Easter 2011. This constitution reasserts the right to Life from conception. This is grounded on the fundamental affirmation of the Christian roots of Hungary.”

“Hungary’s pro-life constitution completely removes abortion and is the first European country to make the complete change from abortion on demand to protecting life from conception.” (excerpted from FrontLines, Summer 2011)

“Hungary is now following in the footsteps of Poland which cast off its Cold War abortion law. Other nations in the region, like Slovakia, Lithuania and Croatia, could follow this excellent example soon.” (excerpted from FrontLines, Summer 2011).

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## Mindszenty Report Reprints

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**THE GRAMSCI STRATAGEM: THE BLESSED MOTHER AND THE FEMINIST ATTACK ON WOMEN.** The Marxist philosophy of Italian communist Antonio Gramsci and of today’s feminist authors supply the formula for destroying the West through a cultural war on women and the family. The Blessed Virgin Mary’s vital role in the Divine Plan and her great power over all devils provide an antidote for modern feminism.

Ask for 8/11

**AMERICAN HUBRIS: COMMUNISM AND THE MANIPULATION OF THE AMERICAN LEFT.** Reveals the ideological successes of the progressives in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It led to communism’s false rhetoric, duping many, such as educators and political leaders. We are still being duped by present-day leaders who violate the U.S. Constitution in the name of social justice.

Ask for 7/11

**A WHITE HOUSE NURSERY RHYME: PRESIDENT OBAMA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** This Report shows President Obama’s lack of experience in foreign affairs, especially his predisposition toward the Arab world and his uncritical stance regarding Islamic organizations such as the Muslim Brotherhood.

Ask for 6/11

1 copy	\$ .50	100 copies	\$20.00
20 copies	\$5.00	500 copies	\$85.00
50 copies	\$11.00	1000 copies	\$160.00

ST. PAUL, 2 COR. 2:13:11

*“Rejoice, strive for perfection and live in peace, and the God of peace and love will be with you.”*