



Books For the Mind, Heart and Soul

The smallest bookstore still contains more ideas of worth than have been presented in the entire history of television. ~Andrew Ross

Once again we present our annual Booklist which we hope will provide information, inspiration and motivation. Consider purchases as gifts to students, high school/college libraries, clergy, opinion molders, etc. You can request a book from your public library, and if it is not available, the library will order it for you. CMF does not stock and sell these books. Although we highly recommend these books, we cannot vouch for every word, chapter or verse!

FAITH

MY BROTHER, THE POPE by Fr. George Ratzinger (Ignatius, 2011). Father George Ratzinger did not always live in the shadow of his younger brother. An accomplished musician, he directed the famous *Regensburger Domspatzen* boys' choir. For the first time, he writes of the close friendship that united the brothers for over 80 years. His book is a unique window on the extraordinary German family that produced two men of God during the trying times of Hitler's National Socialism.

BETWEEN HEAVEN AND MIRTH: WHY JOY, HUMOR AND LAUGHTER ARE AT THE HEART OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE by Fr. James Martin (HarperOne, 2011). Doctors and others have long contended that laughter is the best medicine. Father Martin provocatively demonstrates that it is also the formula for a deeper and richer spiritual life. He firmly believes that holy people are joyful people. To prove this, he paints countless portraits of saints and future saints experiencing random moments of pure joy.

ADAM AND EVE AND THE PILL: PARADOXES OF THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION by Mary Eberstadt (Ignatius, 2012). Eberstadt contends that sexual freedom has ironically not produced romantic bliss, but mostly social discontent. She elaborates that in America's inverted culture, taboos - once reserved for sex and pornography - have now been levied on food and cigarettes.

BAD RELIGION: HOW WE BECAME A NATION OF HERETICS by Ross Douthat (Free Press, 2012). Heresy is a word that has virtually lost its meaning in the 21st century. Both a conservative and a Catholic, Douthat's use of it is as anomalous as is his position at the *New York Times*. His book argues that America's problem is not too much religion or even an intolerant secularism but what he calls *bad religion*. By this he means the gradual collapse of traditional religion and its replacement by a variety of pseudo-religious beliefs that have neither substance nor any hope of longevity. These *heresies* do nothing more than encourage people's worst instincts, indulge their follies and stroke their egos while instilling a false sense of eternal security.

WHY CATHOLICISM MATTERS: HOW CATHOLIC VIRTUES CAN RESHAPE SOCIETY IN THE 21ST CENTURY by William Donohue (Image, 2012). The president of the Catholic League hits the mark

with his scholarly and devout rendition of the Church's four cardinal virtues - prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. In a dynamic way he applies these traditional self-disciplines to the major problems confronting American Catholics today, including social justice, feminism, embryonic stem cell research, conscience, sexual morality and many more.

INDIVISIBLE: RESTORING FAITH, FAMILY AND FREEDOM BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE by James Robison and Jay Richards (Ignatius, 2012). While many books have been written about the breakdown of American society, this book uniquely explains the fundamental principles Americans must understand and practice if they are to restore cultural and economic sanity to this country.

HISTORY

FDR GOES TO WAR: HOW EXPANDED EXECUTIVE POWER, SPIRALING NATIONAL DEBT, AND RESTRICTED CIVIL LIBERTIES SHAPED WARTIME AMERICA by Burton and Anita Folsom (Threshold, 2011). In what may be construed as a sequel to their seminal work *The New Deal or Raw Deal*, the Folsoms expose the chicanery that ushered America into a costly war that had severe post-war consequences for half of Christian Europe. They make a compelling case that FDR's presidency led to evasive and self-serving wartime politics. The Folsoms also contradict the standard historical belief that the economy boomed during the war, citing the debilitating side effects of a huge debt, runaway inflation and a post-war recession.

SUICIDE OF A SUPERPOWER: WILL AMERICA SURVIVE TO 2025? by Patrick Buchanan (St. Martin's Press, 2011). Buchanan bemoans the deterioration of traditional America with its constitutional foundations, profound belief in God, moral fiber, love of the traditional family and patriotic rituals that instilled a sense of national unity and respect for America's past and its hope for the world. Echoing the thoughts of James Burnham more than 50 years ago, who warned of an *ideology of Western suicide*, Buchanan lays the blame on the doorstep of a government that has failed to protect America's borders, balance its budgets and win its wars. He predicts that this scenario cannot continue if America is to survive until its next generation.

DEFENDING THE FREE MARKET: THE MORAL CASE FOR A FREE ECONOMY by Fr. Robert Sirico (Regnery, 2012). Father Sirico

answers the vital questions about capitalism and human morality. Secular humanists, liberal politicians and many members of the clergy on the left, as well as some on the right, have consistently condemned capitalism as nothing more than an economic application of Herbert Spencer's *survival of the fittest*, which is a complete denial of the Gospels. A former associate of leftist Jane Fonda, Father Sirico shows how a free economy, which includes private property, contracts, interest rates and prices agreed to by free individuals, is the best and only workable way to meet society's material needs, from health care technology to basic nutrition. He firmly believes that activists on the left who seek to expand the role of government risk killing the goose that laid this golden egg.

AFTER AMERICA: GET READY FOR ARMAGEDDON by Mark Steyn (Regnery, 2011). In his earlier book, *America Alone*, Rush Limbaugh's frequent substitute radio host predicted the collapse of Western Europe. Now he sees that America has caught up to its European forebears and is quickly following their formula for self-destruction. He sees this not as a gradual process but one replete with violence, social disruption and moral chaos.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES: WHY EVERYTHING YOU'VE BEEN TOLD ABOUT THE ECONOMY IS WRONG by Edward Conard (Portfolio/Penguin, 2012). Conard believes that the conventional wisdom on the 2008-09 financial collapse masks the real causes of America's economic disruptions and puts the country at a greater risk from a host of unintended and possibly catastrophic consequences.

GOVERNMENT

NO HIGHER POWER: OBAMA'S WAR ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM by Phyllis Schlafly and George Neumayr (Regnery, 2012). For four years Barack Obama has waged an unparalleled attack - largely undocumented by the mainstream media - on religious liberty in the United States. In their comprehensive book, veteran conservative activist Schlafly and journalist Neumayr form a conservative *dream team* whose book runs the gamut of the culture war from abortion to women's health. Never before has an administration been more convinced that there is no higher power than itself. The Obama administration's overreaching and pervasive secularist policies represent the greatest government-directed assault on religious freedom in American history. The president's blatant disregard for the Constitution threatens to enshrine him as an imperial ruler if not thwarted at the November polls.

MONEY, GREED AND GOD: WHY CAPITALISM IS THE SOLUTION AND NOT THE PROBLEM by Jay Richards (HarperOne, 2009). In the face of not only the Marxist assault upon capitalism, the driving engine of the U. S. economy, but also assaults from many of the nation's religious institutions, Richards proves conclusively that nowhere in history has any nation prospered under anything but capitalism. His spirited defense of capitalism will enlighten as much as it educates.

THROW THEM ALL OUT: HOW POLITICIANS AND THEIR FRIENDS GET RICH OFF INSIDER STOCK TIPS, LAND DEALS AND CRONYISM THAT WOULD SEND THE REST OF US TO PRISON by Peter Schweizer (Houghton Mifflin, 2011). The book's

subtitle summarizes its content perfectly while the author explains in greater detail how the advent of *crony capitalism* has perverted the balance between government and business, making a new construct that has more in common with fascism than with the free markets of supply-side economics.

THE NEW LEVIATHAN: HOW THE LEFT-WING MONEY MACHINE SHAPES AMERICAN POLITICS AND THREATENS AMERICA'S POWER by David Horowitz and Jacob Laskin (Crown Forum, 2012). In this powerful book, the authors overturn some basic myths in America's political culture. They prove that the Democratic Party is not the party of the poor, the workingman and the middle class. In truth the party is a power-crazed juggernaut that is fueled by a near trillion-dollar treasury in America's oldest and largest tax-exempt foundations, allowing them to outspend conservatives by a 7-1 margin. They dramatically demonstrate how these foundations, whose conservative founders were replaced by their leftist heirs, underwrote the political career of Barack Obama and how their massive funding advantages have disenfranchised American voters and shifted the national policy debate far to the left.

THE AMATEUR: BARACK OBAMA IN THE WHITE HOUSE by Edward Klein (Regnery, 2012). In this stunning exposé, the author successfully pulls back the curtain on one of the most opaque administrations in American history. In discussing President Obama's woeful preparation and lack of presidential timber, Klein's greatest contribution to the political debate is his clear and concise picture of Obama's political thinking. Obama appears as a callow, thin-skinned amateur whose messianic dreams of grandeur have created a disastrous record of mismanagement, economic disruption and international disrespect. Klein clearly shows how Obama's core beliefs are in direct contrast to the American values to which he barely gives lip service. *The Amateur* is an insider's book that is buttressed by the recollections of over 200 intimates who provide many of the missing pieces in this president's portrait.

THE GREAT DESTROYER: BARACK OBAMA'S WAR ON THE REPUBLIC by David Limbaugh (Regnery, 2012). Essentially a sequel to his prior book *Crimes Against Liberty*, Limbaugh religiously documents Obama's relentless crusade to transform America into a divided nation where government regulations control the minutiae of everyday life, crony capitalism has replaced free markets and America's public discourse has vanished into an Orwellian time warp. Like many of his colleagues, Limbaugh wonders out loud if America can survive much longer without the strong national defense and sound economic practices threatened by the growing appetite of government.

CULTURE

SOCRATES IN THE CITY: CONVERSATIONS ON LIFE, GOD AND OTHER SMALL TOPICS by Eric Metaxas (Dutton, 2011). Faithful to his Greek roots, Eric Metaxas has created a conservative symposium to discuss the eschatological questions of human life in the heart of liberal New York City. His intellectually engaging book is the result. *Socrates* is perfect for seekers of truth and those whose imagination conjures the infinite possibilities of the human spirit. His intellectual luminaries from all fields of endeavor

broach the real questions on suffering, life, death, the existence of God and the proper role of science.

PLANNED BULLYHOOD: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PLANNED PARENTHOOD FUNDING BATTLE WITH SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE by Karen Handel (Howard Books, 2012). The author details her work with the Komen Foundation and how Planned Parenthood schemed to infiltrate and undermine the fight to eliminate breast cancer. Handel deftly removes the covers, exposing the unscrupulous methods this organization will use to extend its abortion agenda.

AMERITOPIA by Mark Levin (Threshold, 2012). The keystone of the liberal faith is the delusive and harmful belief in establishing a perfect world on earth in the near future. Levin deftly traces the origins of this utopian belief through its forebears from Plato and St. Thomas More through Hobbes and Karl Marx.

HOLLYWOOD HYPOCRITES: THE DEVASTATING TRUTH ABOUT OBAMA'S BIGGEST BACKERS by Jason Mattered (Threshold, 2012). Journalist Jason Mattered rips the mask off the Hollywood elite who pride themselves on mouthing respect for the environment while lavishly exempting themselves from the countless sacrifices they expect and demand from the common people. They are the same political ignoramuses who spent millions to elect Barack Obama so he could protect their sordid lifestyles from a condemning public. Mattered challenges people of the heartland to recognize the innate power of Hollywood and turn the spotlight on these false image-makers before they succeed like they did in 2008.

TYRANNY OF CLICHÉS: HOW LIBERALS CHEAT IN THE WAR OF IDEAS by Jonah Goldberg (Sentinel, 2012). Like the devil in C. S. Lewis's *Screwtape Letters*, Goldberg explores the left's nefarious strategy of euphemistic clichés to soften the harsh truth of the consequences of their ideological principles and policies. Part of the problem of America's moral decline is its virtual acceptance of such bromides as *diversity is strength*, or *better ten guilty men go free than one innocent man suffer*. A nation that feeds on such insidious statements from its educated elite is doomed to end up on the ash heap of history.

COMING APART: THE STATE OF WHITE AMERICA 1960-2010 by Charles Murray (Crown Forum, 2012). Murray explores class distinctions in a novel way, concluding that America has devolved into a new upper and lower class whose values are so distinct that they can barely recognize their American kinship. This divergence, Murray found, has little to do with income inequality or race and has grown in both good and bad times.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

HOLY MEN AND WOMEN: OF THE MIDDLE AGES AND BEYOND by Pope Benedict XVI (Ignatius, 2012). Another book of timeless wisdom from the most prolific of pontiffs.

DIVINE LOVE MADE FLESH: THE HOLY EUCHARIST AS THE SACRAMENT OF CHARITY by Cardinal Raymond Burke (Ignatius, 2012). A brilliant rendition of the beauty and power of the Blessed Sacrament in light of the teachings of Popes Benedict XVI and John Paul II.

A TRAVEL GUIDE TO HEAVEN by Anthony Destefano (Image, 2003). Always fresh and enchanting, this whimsical vision of Heaven will not only entertain but also enlighten as to the glorious things that God has in store for the faithful.

IN DEFENSE OF SANITY: THE BEST ESSAYS OF G. K. CHESTERTON by G. K. Chesterton (Ignatius, 2012). In an ever more insane world, the tested and true words of one of the greatest Catholic thinkers of the last century still prevent the tide of panic from distracting the Christian soul.

MEN, WOMEN AND THE MYSTERY OF LOVE: PRACTICAL INSIGHTS FROM JOHN PAUL II'S LOVE AND RESPONSIBILITY by Edward Sri (Servant, 2007). Sri offers several practical insights into Pope John Paul II's historic book *Love and Responsibility* that established his *Theology of the Body*.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR BEGINNERS by Christopher West (Ascension Press, 2008). The reputed leading expert on this subject, West provides an introduction to Pope John Paul's revolutionary teachings on the sexual revolution which serves as the perfect summary of his esoteric writings on one of the most important aspects of the culture war.

THE WARRIOR'S HEART by Eric Greitens (Houghton-Mifflin 2012). Navy SEAL Greitens has penned this rewriting of his memoirs (*The Heart and The Fist*) especially for young readers 12 and up, packing in details about the hardships of SEAL training, his service in Iraq and his humanitarian work. He urges youngsters to make the right choices as they march through life.



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Tributes to Mindszenty



On September 21, 2012, an international conference and exhibition was dedicated to the life of Cardinal József Mindszenty, Prince Primate of Hungary, marking the 120th anniversary of his birth.

In his opening speech, President of Hungary János Áder stressed that the late Cardinal József Mindszenty had always spoken out for freedom and truth; he had made every effort to help the outcast and underprivileged, and never faltered when it came to defending the honour of Hungary. His personal example and intellectual and moral legacy deserve to be held among the most serious moral landmarks of the nation, Áder added.

Deputy Prime Minister and Christian Democratic Party leader Zsolt Semjén also paid homage to the cardinal and, on behalf of the government, urged his beatification.

In his speech, Apostolic Nuncio Alberto Bottari de Castello stated:

As Archbishop and Primate of Hungary, József Mindszenty was called upon to suffer imprisonment, torture and exile, in defence of his Church, and of his faith.

József Mindszenty was always a serious and conscientious priest, thoroughly committed to the fostering of the Christian faith, and protecting the spiritual welfare of the Hungarian people, whom Almighty God, through the Church, entrusted to his pastoral care.

Today, still, József Cardinal Mindszenty continues to speak to us as a pastor of his people, and as a churchman; as a defender of his own faith and of his people's faith, and of their Church. He shows that love of one's Church, adherence to one's faith, and patriotic love for one's country do not conflict, but on the contrary, they nourish each other.

...József Cardinal Mindszenty provides an example for us of a great European Christian. He was a man whose struggle for his faith served both the Church and Europe. ...It is my wish that the people of Hungary, and the peoples of Europe today, will look to him for hope and inspiration, and take courage from his life and example!

Did you Know?

A U.S. military chaplain is considered a noncombatant and is never armed, though he is protected by a guard. If captured, chaplains are considered detained personnel rather than prisoners of war.

Thanksgiving To God

George Washington advised Americans to set aside a day of public Thanksgiving to God for the great favors He has bestowed on our nation. On October 3, 1789, Washington proclaimed the first Thanksgiving Day - the first of a long series of presidential orders that have remained part of American life down to the present:*

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint committee requested me "to commend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness," now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next, to be devoted to the service of that great and glorious Being, Who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or will be.

*George Washington
President of the United States*

*In President Obama's November 2011 Thanksgiving address, he made no mention of God.

Mindszenty Report Reprints

A ROSEBUD MOMENT: THE ROOTS OF PRESIDENT OBAMA'S DRIVING AMBITION. This report probes the motivating forces behind Barack Obama's ideology. Ask for 10/12

NO HIGHER POWER: Obama's War on Religious Freedom. A question and answer format excerpted from one of our *Dangers of Apathy* radio interviews with Phyllis Schlafly. Her in-depth responses reveal President Obama's war on religious freedom. As told in her new book *No Higher Power*, Obama continues to violate or ignore the U.S. Constitution. Ask for 9/12

THE MEXICAN KULTURKAMPF: THE CHRISTEROS AND THE CRUSADE FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD. Mexico's history at the turn of the century was rife with anti-Catholicism. Laws and persecutions were used to make the Church subservient to the then-socialist government. The Christeros' long fight to regain their Catholic heritage is vividly described. Ask for 8/12

1 copy	\$.75	100 copies	\$23.00
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