SUMMER 2025 READING IDEAS … GIFTS, TOO …
For Children, Young Adults, and Adults

From OSV Catholic Bookstore — https://www.osvcatholicbookstore.com

Michelle Widmer-Schultz, ***The Too-Tall Swiss Guard***. Illustrated by Andrea Pavlat. $18.95. For children.

Lindsay Schlegel, ***God's Little Flowers***. Illustrated by Joy Laforme. $18.95.
"Beautifully illustrated with an uplifting message, *God's Little Flowers* is a wonderful way to show young girls that they are each bestowed with particular gifts from being made in the image and likeness of God. Through this book, every girl may come to rejoice in the glorious reality of God's unending love for her."

Rebecca W. Martin, ***Father Drew, What Do You Do?*** Illustrated by Steliyana Doneva. $18.95.
This book "helps children learn about a priest's role as Father, the many ways the priestly vocation is lived out, what priests do for fun, and how priests administer the sacraments to the faithful. And, as all priests, Father Drew also introduces children to Jesus' love and invites them to consider how God is calling them to share that love with others in their own lives."

Rebecca W. Martin, ***Meet Sister Mary Margaret***. Illustrated by Christopher Tupa. $16.95.
This book "answers the questions that children (but really, everyone!) have when first encountering a religious sister: 'Why do you wear that?'; 'What do you do all day?'; and more. This engaging, informative book with playful illustrations will bring children and families to an awareness of the beautiful role of women religious in the Church and the world."

Gracie Jagla, ***Cuando María da un Sí.*** (***When Mary Said Yes***). Illustrated by Natalia Carcache, translated by Karla Flores Correa. $19.95. For young children.
"Con María como modelo, los niños verán cómo cada sí a Dios los prepara para elegirlo una y otra vez y que toda una vida dándole el sí a Dios lleva a la felicidad eterna con Él en el Cielo."

Sr. Mary Bosco Davis, OSF and Sr. M. Lissette Gettinger, OSF, ***An Adoration Treasury for Young Catholics***. Illustrated by Evie Schwartzhauer. $19.95.
"In this adoration treasury, written by two Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration — a religious order dedicated to perpetual adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament — young Catholics will find a multitude of prayers, hymns, meditations, and ways to pray before the Eucharist, accompanied by beautiful illustrations."

Jesús Colina, ***Pope Leo XIV.*** $18.95
Newly published, "… Jesús Colina is a Spanish journalist based in Rome. He founded two international Catholic news sites, ZENIT in 1997 and Aleteia in 2013. He has served as a Vatican correspondent since 1991 for several U.S., French, and Latin American publications. He was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI for two eight-year terms as a consultor to the Pontifical Council for Social Communications."

Brandon McGinley, editor. ***The Joys and Challenges of Family Life: Catholic Husbands and Fathers Speak Out***. $15.95.
"Eight regular guys share their stories of the tough, crazy, scary, fun, and always humbling aspects of being a husband and dad in the 21st century."

Hosffman Ospino, Ph.D., editor. ***Our Catholic Children: Ministry with Hispanic Youth and Young Adults (Nuestros jóvenes católicos: Pastoral Juvenil Hispana en los Estados Unidos)***. $11.49.
"… a groundbreaking collection of essays, the result of several national conversations, bringing together the best research and analysis available to date on the most urgent realities that shape the lives of Hispanic Catholic young people."

Margaret Rose Really, Obl. OSB, ***Planting With Prayer: The Catholic Gardening Handbook***. Illustrated by Mary Sprague. $27.95.
"This handy, all-encompassing gardener's resource includes traditional garden journal worksheets and prayer journaling pages. It has everything you need to design and maintain a prayer garden, and you can refer to Realy's *A Garden Catechism* (OSV, 2022) for a deeper dive into specific plants and their Christian symbolism."

Mike Aquilina, ***Fathers of the Faith: Saint Augustine*.** $14.95.
A timely choice … "In this volume in the Fathers of Faith series, you'll be introduced to Saint Augustine of Hippo. Who was he? What did he teach? Where and when did he live? Why is he an important figure in the history of the Church?"

Mike Aquilina and Mark W. Sullivan, ***St. Monica and the Power of Persistent Prayer.*** Foreword by Lisa Hendey. $16.95.
"Parents of any age or at any stage can cultivate the same virtues in prayer that Saint Monica discovered during her long wait for God's answer for her child [St. Augustine]. This devotional includes 18 contemporary reflections, meditations taken from the writings of Saint Augustine, and prayers adapted from the liturgy and other ancient sources…"

From Word on Fire Catholic Ministries — https://bookstore.wordonfire.org

Fabiola Garza, ***Princesses of Heaven: The Flowers***. Reduced to $19.96 from $24.95.
"*Princesses of Heaven* is a picture book for young girls ages 3–8 written and illustrated by Disney artist Fabiola Garza. This breathtaking book shares the stories of St. Joan of Arc, St. Josephine Bakhita, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Narcisa de Jesus, St. Lucy Yi Zhenmei, and St. Thérèse of Lisieux, presenting them each as a princess in heaven with a shining crown. Their stories of faith, hope, and love will inspire every girl to become a saint!"
This book is destined to be a classic, much-loved already, a treasure for young girls who reportedly read it over and over, cover to cover. A great gift.

Haley Stewart and Clare Sheaf, ***The Catholic Kids' Cookbook: Holy Days and Heavenly Food*.** $27.96, reduced from $34.95.
"This beautiful cookbook is an invitation for families to bring the liturgical year into their homes and grow in their faith. Readers will be introduced to the Church's seasons and holy days with stories of saints and thirty-three recipes. Accompanied by gorgeous photos, sacred art, Scripture, and prayers, this charming cookbook for children ages 6–14 seeks to evangelize with the beauty of the Church's traditions and cultivate the domestic church."

Mark Bradford, ***Let Us Pray: Catholic Prayers for All Abilities***. Foreword by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz. $19.96, reduced from $24.95.
"*Let Us Pray: Catholic Prayers for All Abilities* is a simple guide to prayer, one showing readings how to talk to God and grown in love through gratitude, thanksgiving, forgiveness, and compassion … It was specially designed for adults living with an intellectual disability and uses a custom typeface for dyslexic readers. But everyone will enjoy it as a guide to forming a regular habit of prayer … Featuring a foreword by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, *Let Us Pray* includes the 'big three' Catholic prayers, prayers for daily life and Sunday Mass, and prayers for special times of life … Everyone can pray because God loves everyone, and prayer is as simple as a heart-to-heart conversation with God. So . . . let us pray!"
Mark Bradford was the Serra Club of Philadelphia's September 19, 2023 meeting guest speaker, when he addressed the topic "The Catholic Liberal Arts, Cultural Obstacles, and the Search for Vocations."
Mark is the founding president of the Jerome Lejeune Foundation in the United States, dedicated to research, care, and advocacy for those with Down syndrome. In early 2023, he was appointed Fellow for Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities at the Word on Fire Institute, the international apostolate founded by Bishop Robert Barron, Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota.

From Sophia Institute Press — sophiainstitute.com

David Clayton and William Edmund Fahey, ***Sacred Heart of Jesus Coloring Book***. $7.95. Ages 8 and up.
"By coloring the nearly 20 sacred art images included here, children will be inspired to live a life of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Each image features a prayer as well as a brief reflection that will help children come to a much deeper understanding of God's mercy and unfailing love."

Marigold Hunt, ***St. Patrick's Summer***. $14.95. For ages 8 and up.
"...this is an adventure catechism, so in these pages there's more than talk: Abraham takes the children back in time to watch Moses save the Israelites by parting the Red Sea. St. Patrick lets them see the Druids try to kill him for his Catholic faith. And he takes Michael and Cecilia [children in the story] to Bethlehem, where they stand with the shepherds in adoration of the newborn King…Between catechism lessons taught by saints, the children travel back in time to witness persecuted Catholics risking their lives to attend furtive Masses in Roman days, in Reformation England, and in the Soviet Union just a few decades ago...Through words and witnessing, deeds and doctrine, adventurous Michael and Cecilia learn the central truths of our Catholic Faith and discover how important they are, even today."

Geoffrey Bliss, S.J., ***My Path to Heaven: A Young Person's Guide to the Faith***. Illustrated by Caryll Houselander. $14.95. For ages 9 and up.
"Based on the traditional St. Ignatius retreat (trusted by Catholics for centuries) and adapted for children, this clear, simple, thoughtful presentation of the Faith is invaluable for parents seeking to form their children in holiness. … *My Path to Heaven* covers such essentials of the Faith as God's will, angels, Heaven and Hell, the Fall of man, the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation, the Nativity, the Passion, salvation, the sacraments, faith, hope, love, and contrition, and it teaches children the relevance of these truths in their lives and in the decisions they make."

Robert Royal, ***The Martyrs of the New Millennium***. $24.95.
"Robert Royal chronicles the heartrending stories of heroic priests, religious, and laypeople who are being brutally persecuted, tortured, and martyred today by various groups, including Islamists, criminal gangs, political extremists, and satanic cults. He reveals how thousands more are *right now* living courageously under oppressive regimes facing similar threats and dangers daily."

Matthew Bunson, ***Portrait of an American Pope: Leo XIV.*** $17.95.
Newly published, … "Veteran Catholic journalist and historian Matthew Bunson offers the first authoritative portrait of the new Holy Father. With unmatched access, deep sources in Rome, and a reputation for integrity and insight, Bunson delivers a compelling, richly textured narrative of the new pope's life, beliefs, and improbable journey to the Chair of St. Peter… Accessible, informative, and rooted in journalistic rigor and an intimate understanding of the Church, *Leo XIV: Portrait of the First American Pope* is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the man inside the white cassock—and the moment in which he will reign." A product of EWTN Publishing.

From Ignatius Press — Ignatius.com

Corinna Turner, ***The Boy Who Knew Carlo Acutis*****.** $9.99.
"For ages 13 and up — an introduction to the factual life of Blessed Carlo Acutis through a journey with fictional teenager Daniel, who has been diagnosed with leukemia."

Camille W. De Préveaux, ***Carlo Acutis, Holiness in the Third Millennium*****.** Illustrated by Fabrizio Russo. $16.99.
"A graphic novel for ages 8 and up covering the extraordinary short life of the beloved self-taught computer expert, soccer player, and website builder."

From TAN Books — tanbooks.com

Brian Kennelly, ***To the Heights: A Novel Based on the Life of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati***. $19.95
"This novel on the life of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati is a beautifully written glimpse into the life of one of the modern world's greatest heroes of the faith. Pier Giorgio is so vividly portrayed the reader is constantly caught up in his energy, his zest for living, and his love for God and neighbor. Each chapter of the book is also written like a short story in itself. These windows into the life of a great 'saint-to-be' will enrich your faith and your devotion to this amazing young man."