Annotated Bibliography

Prepared by

The Voice of Renewal/Lay Education National Working Group
History of the Church


Hans Kung, *Christianity*, (Continuum, 1995). Covers the history through six paradigms: Early Christian apocalyptic; Early Church Hellenistic; Medieval Roman Catholic; Reformation Protestant; Enlightenment Modern; Contemporary Ecumenical. Comprehensive and detailed. Readable, but for the determined reader.


Structures of the Church


Avery Dulles, *Models of the Church: A Critical Assessment of the Church in All Its Aspects*, (Doubleday, 1974). An American theologian examines five models: institution, communion, sacrament, herald, servant. Holds that the institutional model has been too dominant and opts for primacy of the communion model, though all are important.


John R. Quinn, *The Reform of the Papacy: The Costly Call to Christian Unity*, (Crossroads/Herder, 1999). Former Archbishop of San Francisco points out that centralization, hierarchical appointment of bishops, etc., militate against the emphasis of Vatican II on collegiality. Good for discussion groups.

Current Views of the Church

John Allen, *Conclave* (Doubleday, 2003). A fascinating look at the process for electing a new Pope. Takes reader behind the scenes to reveal the issues, parties, and people most likely to determine the outcome.


Andrew Greeley, *The Catholic Imagination*, (University of California, 2000). Draws on sociological analysis to differentiate the Catholic imagination from a Protestant imagination. Shows how we are shaped by our traditions and our cultural imaginations.

Michael Morwood, *Tomorrow's Catholic: Understanding God and Jesus in a New Millennium*, (Twenty-Third Publications, 1999). This short (140 pp.) and very readable book invites to reflect on our contemporary experience to discover the presence of God communicated through Jesus and to re-interpret our traditions.


George Weigel, *The Courage to be Catholic: Crisis, Reform and the Future of the Church* (Basic Books, 2002). Weigel blames the crisis on a “culture of dissent” following Vatican II, creating an internal schism in the Church. He is opposed to a married priesthood and women priests, but makes some positive suggestions for reform.

Garry Wills, *Papal Sin: Structures of Deceit*, (Doubleday, 2000) Traces the history of the papacy, and focuses on the structures that have blinded church leaders from upholding truth. Quite readable.

Garry Wills, *Why I Am A Catholic*, (Houghton Mifflin, 2002). Provides a brief autobiographical story, then turns to the history of the papacy to emphasize the humanness of this office. Though critical of the sinfulness of the papacy and the emphasis on infallibility, he holds for the importance of the papacy as a principle and symbol of unity in the Church.
The Sexual Abuse Scandal

William Bausch, *Breaking Trust: A Priest Looks at the Scandal of Sexual Abuse*, (Twenty Third Publications, 2002). A short volume (188 pp.) designed for groups to explore their anger and reflect on their pain in the face of the sexual abuse scandal.


Jason Berry and Gerald Renner, *Vows of Silence: The Abuse of Power in the Papacy of John Paul II*, (Free Press, 2004). Tells the deeper story of secrecy and clerical culture by focusing on two careers: Fr. Thomas Doyle, O.P., whom we know, and Mexican Fr. Marcial Maciel Degollado. The latter is the founder of the Legion of Christ, and a favorite of Pope John Paul II. He is also credibly accused of sexual abuse by eight of his former seminarians.


Donald Cozzins, *Sacred Silence: Denial and the Crisis in the Church* (Liturgical Press, 2002). This readable and ultimately positive book probes the dynamics that sustains the Church's culture of silence. It promotes prayerful, well-informed, discerning and passionate conversation — in other words, a VOICE instead of silence.


The Priesthood/Ministry

Raymond Brown, *Priest and Bishop*, (Paulist Press, 1970; Society of St. Sulpice, 1999). Biblical reflections on the origins of presbyter/bishops in the early Church. This slim book by the renowned Catholic scripture scholar, is a “must-read” for those interested in understanding how the role of priesthood has changed over time and can continue to change.


Prayer/Spirituality


Thomas Keating, *Open Mind, Open Heart*, Discusses the history of contemplative prayer in the Christian tradition; then explores the step-by-step process of centering prayer.

Michael Morwood, *Praying a New Story*, (Orbis Books, 2003). Offers a way of seeing and praying in the presence of an "everywhere God". Provides some original prayers for various feasts of the year, reflecting the truth that “we live and move and have our being in God.”

Diarmuid O'Murchu, MSC, *Reclaiming Spirituality* (Crossroad, 1997). Attempts to integrate the explosion of diverse “spiritualities” with traditional Christian spirituality. Focuses on the human search for meaning and purpose in life. Grounds the quest in a new understanding of the creative universe in which we find ourselves.

Basil Pennington, *Centered Living: The Way of Centering Prayer*, (Galilee, 1988). Boldly asserts the reality of a loving God and calls the reader to a personal union with that God.

### Jesus/Christology

Raymond Brown, S.S., *Jesus: God and Man*, (Bruce, 1967). Using historical criticism, Brown explores to what extent the Gospels applied the name “God” to Jesus. He also explores the knowledge of Jesus and what Jesus knew of his mission. A good starting place.

Raymond Brown, S.S., *An Introduction to New Testament Christology*, (Paulist Press, 1994). A more scholarly approach (though addressed to the average reader) to answering the question Jesus posed to his disciples, namely: "Who do people say that I am?". A more contemporary follow-up to the previously mentioned book by Brown.

Jacques Duquesne, *Jesus: An Unconventional Biography*, (Triumph Books, 1996). Written to share the joy of discovering the real Jesus -- the Jesus who revealed the true nature of God -- the Jesus who taught his followers to love one another unconditionally, and the Jesus who accepted suffering and death as a risk of his mission.


Luke Timothy Johnson, *The Real Jesus*" (Harper Collins, 1996). Combats the excesses of the Jesus Seminar and the quest for the historical Jesus by presenting Jesus as he who confronts persons of all ages as the resurrected Lord.

John P. Meier, *A Marginal Jew*. (Doubleday, 1991-94). This three volume scholarly work has been called by Raymond Brown, "the best historical Jesus study produced in the twentieth century". A must read for the adventuresome learner.
Theology and Science/Cosmology


Diarmuid O'Murchu, *Quantum Theology: Spiritual Implications of the New Physics*, (Crossroad, 1999). From black holes to holograms, from relativity theory to the discovery of quarks, an original exposition of quantum theory that unravels profound theological questions. And readable by the average reader.

Brian Swimme, *The Universe is a Green Dragon: A Cosmic Creation Story*, (Bear & Co. 1984). This slim volume is a poetic description of the new cosmology by a scientist. It is a highly recommended starting point for this journey.
