Spiritual Reading for Lent

The Forty Days of Lent provide an excellent time to read a book to deepen your spirituality.

If you would like to suggest a book, please email pgorman@straphael.org.

**Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of Faith.** Bishop Robert Barron. (Image Publishing; sold by Random House)

Bishop Barron address the heart of Catholicism from a unique perspective—that of beauty. The book contains many interesting stories, biographies and images.

**Faith: The Spiritual Thoughts Series.** Pope Benedict. (USCCB Publishing)

This is one of a series of short and easy-to-read books by Pope Benedict XVI. There are 15 other titles in this wonderful series. Check them out at www.store.usccb.org.

**Lent and Easter with the Church Fathers.** Marco Pappalardo, editor. (available from the USCCB Publishing)

There is a brief reflection for each day of Lent and Easter drawn from the homilies and writings of the great saints of the early Church/

**Pope Francis Wisdom on Love: Practical Advice for Families.** Pope Francis (USCCB Publishing)

Pope Francis frequently speaks about family life in practical and down-to-earth words. This compiles many of his homilies and speeches.

**The Lamb’s Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth.** Scott Hahn. (Doubleday)

An inspiring look at the Mass which will begin to open up the riches of our liturgy.

**The Mystery of the Cross.** Cardinal Basil Hume. (Paraclete Press)

Cardinal Hume offers a series of short reflections for personal devotion.

**The Name of God is Mercy.** Pope Francis. (Random House)

Pope Francis offers reflection on God’s mercy and how we can best accept it with humility.

**The Road of Hope: A Gospel from Prison.** (Venerable) Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan. (Pauline Books and Media)

Cardinal Nguyen was captured and jailed on his way to Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City), where he was to be their Bishop. He lived in deplorable conditions in prison for 13 years, but he never gave up hope. In fact, he found a way to smuggle inspiring messages each day to the Vietnamese people.

**The Simple Wisdom of Pope Francis.** Pope Francis. (USCCB Publishing)

Four short volumes are filled with selections from Pope Francis’ talks at his weekly audiences. You can purchase one volume or all four.