



From Deacon Mark Miller's Desk

Do you know what the Papal almoner does? He performs charitable acts on the Pope's behalf. He also raises money to pay for them. Cardinal Konrad Krajewski is Pope Francis' almoner. He is nothing if not inventive. In May of 2019, he climbed down a manhole on a Rome street to break a seal and switch on the electricity for a building housing 450 people and volunteered to pay the monthly electrical bill. He created a 30-bed homeless shelter within the Vatican walls. He supports a complex for the homeless where a person can shower, get a haircut, and wash his or her clothes. Over 1700 poor people have received COVID vaccinations at the Vatican; India has received over \$200,000 to help fight against COVID. To help pay for vaccines, he's asked people to donate the cost of a vaccine [\$20] to the Pope's Charitable Fund. Donations can be made via a bankcard at www.elemosineria.va.

Looking for a good book for summer reading? You might try one of these:

The Saint Makers by Joe Drape. The book combines the author's faith journey, a biography of Father [Chaplain] Emil Kapaun, and explains the process behind the investigation for sainthood. Fr. Kapaun was a U.S. Army Chaplain who died in a North Korean prisoner of war camp. He is one of only five priests who have earned the Medal of Honor. Fr. Kapaun's compelling story of heroism and spirituality makes what could have been a dry definition of Vatican operations into an engaging defense of how the church names its saints.

The Pope Benedict XVI Reader, assembled by the Word on Fire Institute, is well worth the time spent reading it. Born in 1927, Joseph Ratzinger saw some of the best and worst that the world could offer. At his birth, Germany was rebuilding after its devastating loss in WW I. The great depression that gripped the world in the 1930s impacted his early school years. To say times were tough is an understatement. As a teenager in Nazi Germany, he held a front-row seat to the horrors man could bring into the world. His early life, observations, and keen intellect combined to drive him to the emerging "return to sources" movement – Scripture and the writings of the early Church fathers. That infused his writing with common sense and a down-to-earth writing style on even the most complex questions. He was a prolific writer as a priest, an Archbishop,

and a Cardinal. This book gathers biographical information from several sources to provide us a careful examination of the events of his life and their influence on his writing. The book also collects some of the best of his writings. You don't have to be a theologian to read/understand Pope Emeritus's writings. This book offers the best and encourages the reader to look more deeply into his larger body of work.

Found: Triumph Over Fear with Grace and Gratitude: The Michelle Corrao Story is an autobiographical account by parishioner Michelle Corrao [assisted by Emily Sutherland]. Michelle's story begins on a Thursday evening, 12 Sep 1996. She was then abducted from her new apartment, hit over the head with enough force to cause lacerations, and stuffed into her trunk. Her's was the fourth such abduction and rape in Fort Wayne that summer. Michelle relates the events of that night with unflinching honesty. Using the texts of the reporters who revealed her ordeal to the public lends a great deal of credibility to her story. She places her readers in the midst of the madness that she experienced. Her faith, and the support it provided, radiates throughout her detailed report. The reader learns that at that place and that time, the emphasis was not on the victim. People approached her to gather evidence, fill out forms, or have her tell her story yet again. No one explained the process; no one seemed concerned for her welfare. She had been brutally attacked then forced to relive the ordeal over and over again. She lays bare the whole ugly story to show us how her faith enabled her recovery. Sharing with us the brutal facts of her experience, she shows us what the power of faith can look like in our own lives.

