



Spiritual Reading for Lent

Diocese of Madison Office of Worship
(608) 821-3080 | worship@straphael.org
www.madisondiocese.org/worship

A Crucified Christ in Holy Week.

Rev. Raymond E. Brown.
Liturgical Press.

Scripture scholar Fr. Raymond Brown shares reflections on the Passion Gospels. This short book is very accessible and offers wise insights into the Gospels of Holy Week.

Daily Lenten Meditations: Prayerful Reflections from (Saint) John Paul II.

Liturgy Training Publications.

Daily meditations from Saint Pope John Paul's writings, talks and homilies provide a way to enter more deeply into the season of Lent.

Lent & Easter with the Church Fathers.

Marco Pappalardo.
Libreria Editrice Vaticana / USCCB Publishing.

This book aims "to present with great simplicity the thoughts and meditations of some of the Church Fathers writings" as a source of reflection during Lent and Easter. Each day has a brief (250-300 word) reflection from the writings of the early saints of the Church.

Mother Teresa: Her Essential Wisdom.

Edited by Carol Kelly-Gangi.
Barnes & Noble.

This book is a collection of hundreds of inspiring quotations from (Saint) Mother Teresa. The selections in this book are drawn largely from her spoken words and are both simple and profound in the wisdom and truth. *(Description adapted from book jacket)*

Pope Benedict XVI: The Word of God.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Pope Benedict XVI is one of the world's great theologians and scholars. In this book, however, he reminds

the reader that "one should not read Scripture in an academic way, but with prayers, saying to the Lord, 'Help me understand your Word, what is it that you want to tell me in this passage.'" This book, compiled of short quotes from many homilies, talks and writings, is very readable and teaches ways of reading Scripture to Catholics.

The Name of God is Mercy.

Pope Francis. Random House.

In this conversation with Vatican reporter Andrea Tornielli, Francis explains—through memories from his youth and moving anecdotes from his experiences as a pastor—why "mercy is the first attribute of God." God "does not want anyone to be lost. His mercy is infinitely greater than our sins," he writes. As well, the Church cannot close the door on anyone, Francis asserts—on the contrary, its duty is to go out into the world to find its way into the consciousness of people so that they can assume responsibility for, and move away from, the bad things they have done. *(Description from Amazon.com)*

The Road of Hope: A Gospel from Prison.

Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận.
Pauline Books & Media.

Vietnamese Cardinal Thuận (1928-2002) was named the Coadjutor Archbishop of Saigon on April 23, 1975, less than a week before it fell to North Vietnamese forces, ending 20 years of war. He and many others were sent to "re-education camps" where he spent the next nine years, often in isolation. The Archbishop knew that he could not give up, so a young boy who visited him everyday smuggled out his messages of hope and encouragement which were circulated among the people. This book is a collection of these messages.