

All Souls Book List



Throughout the Church's life, the written word (chiefly the Bible, but also all kinds of other texts) and its power to form individuals has always been an important part of how women and men grow into better lovers of God and neighbor. While it's important to say that reading is most certainly not everything (see James 1:27), the cultivation of a renewed imagination for the world and one's place in it is also not nothing (see Romans 12:2).

However, if you go by the statistics, for a variety of reasons Americans are 1) reading fewer and fewer books each year and 2) publishing more books than ever before.

This means that when we actually do decide to sit down and read, it can be difficult to figure out what to actually pick up! In an attempt to offer some small remedy to this situation, we thought it could be helpful to collect a list of books from a variety of genres that we think will cultivate in anyone an increased love of and desire for the Good, the True, and the Beautiful - that is, love of and desire for God himself.

Of course, this is a working list that is not exhaustive, and is certain to expand and contract periodically! But it is a good place to start if you're looking for direction.

You'll notice that there's a good bit of fiction on this list (there could, and likely will be, even more than we've included!). If fiction isn't your first choice, I'll simply encourage you to take a chance to let a story show you Good, True, and Beautiful things: it is a different mode of thinking, but one that I'm convinced we need to recover to be more faithfully present in our time.

One last note: I've put in BOLD some of my personal favorites. Take them or leave them, of course. But probably take them because they're great.

Happy reading,

Danny+

Adult Fiction

Piranesi, Clarke

Cloud Cuckoo Land, Doerr

Middlemarch, Eliot

Silence, Endo

Peace Like a River, Enger

In this House of Brede, Godden

The Princess Bride, Goldman

The Power and the Glory, Greene

Klara and the Sun, Ishiguro

The Space Trilogy, Lewis

Deacon King Kong, McBride

Father Elijah, O'Brian

Collected Short Stories, O'Connor

Hamnet, O'Farrell

Bel Canto, Patchett

The Moviegoer, Percy

My Name is Asher Lev, Potok

Crossing to Safety, Stegner

East of Eden, Steinbeck

A Gentleman in Moscow, Towles

Laurus, Vodolazkin

Grief

This Beautiful Truth, Clarkson

The Doors of the Sea, Hart

A Grief Observed, Lewis

Prayer in the Night, Warren

Lament for a Son, Wolterstorff

Children's Lit

Peepo, Albergh

A Place to Hang the Moon, Albus

Anna Hibiscus, Atinkue

Henry and Ribsy, Cleary

Miss Rumphius, Cooney

Little Excavator, Dewdney

Ten Little Fingers, Fox

The Seven Silly Eaters, Hoberman

Alfie Series, Hughes

Dogger, Hughes

The Garden and the Curtain and the

Cross, Laferton and Echeverri

Betsy-Tacy, Lovelace

All the Places to Love, McLaughlen

Let's Go Home, Rylant

Corgiville Fair, Tudor

The Circus Ship, Van Dusen

Catechesis Books Board Book Collection

Sacramental Life

On the Incarnation, St. Athanasius

Eucharistic Participation, Boersma

Heavenly Participation, Boersma

Liturgical Theology, Chan

Blessed are the Hungry, Leithart

The Baptized Body, Leithart

For the Life of the World, Schmemmann

Christian Basics

Confessions, St. Augustine

Telling the Truth, Buechner

The Lord's Prayer, Hill

How to Think, Jacobs

The Ten Commandments, Leithart

Mere Christianity, Lewis

The Anglican Way, Mackenzie

The Way of the Disciple, Merikakis

The Apostles' Creed, Meyers

Lost in the Cosmos, Percy

Being Christian, Williams

Where God Happens, Williams

Simply Christian, Wright

Surprised by Hope, Wright

Church History

The Apostolic Fathers, Holmes

The Celtic Way of Evangelism, Hunter

Biography of the Book of Common Prayer, Jacobs

A History of the Church in the Middle Ages, Logan

The Christian Tradition (vols. 1-5), Pelikan

The First Thousand Years, Wilken

The Spirit of Early Christian Thought, Wilken

Daily Spirituality

At the Still Point, Arthur

Real Love for Real Life, Ashworth

Liturgy of the Ordinary, Warren

Into the Silent Land, Laird

Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies, McIntyre

Quotidian Mysteries, Norris

The Monkhood of All Believers, Peters

Domestic Monastery, Rolheiser

Advent, Rutledge

The Crucifixion, Rutledge

On the Road with Augustine, Smith

Becoming Friends of Time, Swinton

The Book of Common Prayer (1979 or 2019)

Poetry

A Timbered Choir, Berry

The Rag and Bone Shop of the Heart, Hillman (et. al.)

Essentials, Whyte

My Bright Abyss, Wiman

Survival is a Style, Wiman

Justice + Mercy

The Unsettling of America, Berry

Being Consumed, Cavanaugh

Migrations of the Holy, Cavanaugh

Torture and Eucharist, Cavanaugh

Evicted, Desmond

Jesus and John Wayne, Du Mez

After the Last Border, Goudeau

Washed and Waiting, Hill

The Beautiful Community, Ince

Reading While Black, McCaulley

Liberation & Reconciliation, Roberts

Just Mercy, Stevenson

Reparations, Thompson/Kwon

The Warmth of Other Suns, Wilkerson

Hospitality

An Everlasting Meal, Adler

A Pattern Language, Alexander, et. al.

The Supper of the Lamb, Capon

Tools for Conviviality, Illich

Death and Life of Great American

Cities, Jacobs

Making Room, Pohl

Art

God in the Modern Wing, Anderson

Faithful Artist, Anderson

Hidden Art, Schaffer

Essential Theology

Heavenly Participation, Boersma

The Moral Vision of the New Testament,

Hayes

To Change the World, Hunter

Discerning the Mystery, Louth

A Little Manual for Knowing, Meek

Proper Confidence, Newbigin

Foolishness to the Greeks, Newbigin

Creation: A Guide for the Perplexed, Oliver

The Ethics of Beauty, Patitsas

For the Life of the World, Schmemmann

Desiring the Kingdom, Smith

Icons of Christ, Witt

Old Testament Ethics for the People of

God, Wright

Encountering the Living God in Scripture, Wright

Memoir

Telling the Truth, Buechner

Now and Then, Buechner

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Dillard

The Seven Storey Mountain, Merton

Work

Shop Class as Soul Craft, Crawford

To Change the World, Hunter

Every Good Endeavor, Keller

The Sound of Life's Unspeakable Beauty,

Schleske

People to read without (much) reservation

St. Anselm

St. Augustine

Wendell Berry

Hans Boersma

Fredrick Buechner

William T. Cavanaugh

Annie Dillard

Leif Enger

Graham Greene

David Bentley Hart

Richard Hayes

Wes Hill

St. Irenaeus

Alan Jacobs

Esau McCaulley

Erasmus Leiva-Merikakis

CS Lewis

Leslie Newbigin

Flannery O'Connor

Walker Percy

Pope John Paul II

Deotis Roberts

Flemming Rutledge

Alexander Schmemmann

John Swinton

St. Thomas Aquinas

Tish Harrison Warren

Robert Louis Wilken

Rowan Williams

NT Wright