



## Bibliophiles This One's for You!



*"A room without books is like a body without a soul." –Cicero*

Each fall, the *Mindszenty Report* publishes a list of books which we believe will be of interest to you. From Communism to faith, family and freedom, over the past years our recommended reading list has grown to many hundreds of books which help our members and their families better understand the problems and challenges of society. Here are our current recommendations for your consideration. Most can be purchased from local booksellers, or direct from the publishers or available from your public library.

### FAITH

- **GOODBYE, GOOD MEN** by Michael Rose (Aquinas Publishing, Ltd. 2002). In this explosive new book, investigative reporter Rose reveals there is deliberate discrimination against traditional orthodox men in many seminaries. He describes seminary gay subculture, unethical psychological testing and counseling, and an artificially contrived "shortage" of priests. He states it is the direct result of liberal policies that have turned the seminary system on its head. A must-read for those who realize—and don't realize—how late it is.
- **UGLY AS SIN** by Michael Rose (Sophia Institute Press 2001). Rose condemns church "renovations" that are aesthetically offensive, architecturally inappropriate and theologically blasphemous. He offers hope and information for a renaissance of sacred architecture and art.
- **CHA: A BIOGRAPHY OF FR. JOE DEVLIN, S.J.** by Fr. Raymond Devlin, S.J. (Nenagh Books 2001). Devlin tells the life story of his saintly missionary brother, affectionately known as "Cha" by his Vietnamese beneficiaries. Marked for death by the Communists, Fr. Devlin selflessly ministered to the suffering, provided spiritual solace, assisted the refugees in their hurried exodus, established a Children's Center and gave Boat People and others eyeglasses, crutches, wheelchairs, personal items, cooking utensils, money and food to survive in refugee camps. (Reviewed in May 2002 *Mindszenty Report*).
- **GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER—HIS LIFE AND FAITH IN HIS OWN WORDS** by William J. Federer (self-published 2002). The amazing story of Dr. George W. Carver, born a slave, Iowa State graduate, Tuskegee Professor, who revolutionized the economy of the South by developing new uses for soybeans, sweet potatoes, and especially peanuts. He also improved methods of farming with crop diversification and fertilization. The book is a compilation of his letters to close friends, revealing his deep faith.
- **IDOLS IN THE HOUSE** by Ted Flynn (Max Kol Communications 2002). The book separates facts from media fiction exploring whether the Lord has removed the "protective hedge" from our nation. The author asks why the greatest nation in the history of the world seems to be on a collision course; yet, he offers a no-nonsense remedy for our country and our families.
- **RESURRECTION OF THE SHROUD** by Mark Antonacci (self-published 2000). Although an agnostic when he began a 20-year examination of the Shroud of Turin, the author presents extensive new medical, scientific, archaeological, historical and impartial evidence that the Shroud is the actual burial cloth of Jesus Christ.
- **TRIUMPH THE POWER AND THE GLORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH—A 2,000-YEAR HISTORY** by H.W. Crocker, III (Prima Publishing Forum 2001). Catholicism is the largest denomination in the world including the United States.

It has shaped global history unequal to any other institution. Until now, Catholics interested in their faith often search to find an accessible, affirmative and exciting history of the Church. **TRIUMPH** is that book and it tells of glories of the Catholic past and stories of its great men and women. William F. Buckley, Jr. says, “Mr. Crocker’s book is engaging, provocative and eminently readable. It should be around for Vatican III.”

## CULTURE

- **WHAT’S SO GREAT ABOUT AMERICA** by Dinesh D’Souza (Regnery Publishing 2002). With an immigrant’s understanding of this country, D’Souza takes on the critics of America and proves them wrong, dissecting multi-culturalism, slavery, colonialism, decadence, and offers solid, well-considered patriotism.
- **NO SPIN ZONE** by Bill O’Reilly (Broadway Books 2001). O’Reilly is unafraid to look truth in the eye: welfare, public education, big government, rock stars, Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson, Hillary Clinton, parental responsibility, and more. They are examined without the usual liberal spin. Even conservatives receive his close scrutiny and criticism.
- **UNCIVIL WARS: THE CONTROVERSY OVER REPARATIONS FOR SLAVERY** by David Horowitz (Encounter Books 2001). In this well-researched book, Horowitz examines the case for reparations and concludes that it is “morally questionable and racially incendiary”. He also reveals a crisis of free speech on college campuses and indicates profound implications of this conflict for American education and culture.
- **WHEN CHARACTER WAS KING** by Peggy Noonan (Viking Press 2001). In this small volume, Noonan captures the essence of Ronald Reagan, showing an understandable appreciation for his communication skills (she was one of his speechwriters) and his character and principles.
- **DEATH OF THE WEST** by Patrick Buchanan (St. Martins Press 2001). Buchanan argues against the overwhelming number of illegal immigrants and related problems, the cultural revolution, and the new elite. He decries the declining Western birth rate and the sickness in America’s soul, yet believes we are still the last best hope of the earth. (Reviewed in February 2002 *Mindszenty Report*).

## GOVERNMENT

- **SLANDER: LIBERAL LIES ABOUT THE AMERICAN RIGHT** by Ann Coulter (Random House 2002). The author labels politics a nasty sport and says it is all the fault of liberals. With meticulous research, Coulter examines events, personalities and news dissemination in a refreshingly honest and unerringly timely manner.
- **THE FINAL DAYS: THE LAST DESPERATE ABUSES OF POWER BY THE CLINTON WHITE HOUSE** by Barbara Olson (Regnery Press 2001). Barbara Olson was a prominent Washington attorney and author who completed this book a week before she was killed September 11 on the hijacked plane that crashed into the Pentagon. She documents the looting of White House furniture, the wholesale pardons of criminals, and a scathing indictment of one of the most corrupt First Families ever to occupy the White House.
- **LET FREEDOM RING** by Sean Hannity (Human Events Book Service 2002). The popular talk show host, Sean Hannity, comes out swinging, showing why liberalism is wrong on: terrorism, border security, the economy, environmentalism, education, faith, character, the family and more. He challenges liberal arguments exposing the fallacies and provides clear, hard-to-refute comebacks. Rush Limbaugh says “Sean Hannity writes with a vigor and clarity that inspires. Just start this one and you’ll soon be turning pages like mad.”
- **BASIC ECONOMICS: A CITIZEN’S GUIDE TO THE ECONOMY** by Thomas Sowell (Basic Books 2001). Using logic and common sense, Sowell provides clear and concise explanations of how economics applies to the real world. He takes us through the thorny issues involving taxation, international trade, risks, incentives, government intervention and much more and points to pre-packaged ideas and mass communication as creating image that trumps substance.
- **BREAKDOWN** by Bill Gertz (Human Events Book Service 2001). An astonishing piece of investigative reporting. Gertz reveals how liberals ravaged the FBI and CIA until they both were incapable of effective operations. He also uncovers extensive evidence of how the Clinton Administration mismanaged our military and intelligence operations. Gertz tells us who knew what—and how our military intelligence agencies and officials had information that could have prevented September 11.

- **JAMES BURNHAM And The Struggle For The World** by Daniel Kelly (Human Events Book Service 2002). James Burnham (1905–1987) was one of the most influential anticommunist figures of the Cold War era, as this fascinating biography makes clear. Burnham first started on the other side: the revolutionary Left, becoming a dedicated follower of Leon Trotsky and a leading organizer of various communist political parties. Eventually he made a slow journey to the Right and became founding editor at *National Review*. This is a remarkable life story of an American intellectual's odyssey in the twentieth century. It recounts the seven decade global struggle between totalitarianism and democracy and makes for fascinating reading.
- **THE AQUINAS PRESCRIPTION St. Thomas' Path to A Discerning Heart, A Sane Society, And A Holy Church** by Gerald Vann, O.P. (Sophia Institute Press 2000). According to Rev. Gerald Vann, a wise Dominican priest, only St. Thomas' unique synthesis of reason and faith can heal the spiritual agony and barrenness of our broken modern age. Only Aquinas, says Vann, holds the key to ultimately reconciling the rational West and the mystical East, and to resolving a surprisingly large number of the psychological and spiritual conflicts that currently convulse our society. In the bargain, his wisdom can open the door for you to a richer and more fully integrated spiritual and intellectual life than you've ever experienced.

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## R.I.P. Reverend Alexander Ratiu

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**COUNCIL MEMBER REV. ALEXANDER RATIU** died August 25, 2002 at age 86 at home in Aurora, IL. As a young man, Fr. Ratiu was sent to Rome for study at the Romanian seminary, received his doctorate in theology and was ordained there in July 1941 for the diocese of Oradea in Transylvania.



As a young priest, he opposed the Communist persecution of the Catholic Church, and he refused to renounce his Faith. He was arrested by the Communists and imprisoned for sixteen years, eighteen months in solitary confinement in the infamous Romanian prison of Sighet.

After his release, he eventually returned to America in 1971 with his brother's family. He served in the Joliet Diocese from 1974 until retirement. He continually worked for the freedom of the Church in the Romanian catacombs.

Fr. Ratiu became a member of the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation in 1977, and for 25 years served on the Board of Directors, participated in the CMF Conferences in St. Louis, Kankakee and Chicago and gave many talks. An abridged edition of his book, *Stolen Church* was a CMF Christmas gift to members. Fr. Ratiu was a fearless fighter for freedom and truth. In 1983 the Polish Freedom Fighters bestowed upon him the *Solidarity Freedom Award*.

In 1996, after Communism was faltering in Romania, Father returned for a triumphal visit to witness the rebirth of the Catholic Church. He preached to large crowds of the faithful as parishes reopened, and attended the consecration of several new bishops for the Byzantine Rite. His heart filled with joy as he recalled that when Communists sealed the Cathedral doors, a Catholic observer remarked, "They sealed the tomb of Jesus, but on the third day He rose." The Church dies and rises with her Savior.

Fr. Ratiu was generous in his friendship and financial support for countless persons in Romania seeking to immigrate to America. He helped establish a Romanian mission church in Chicago, and his aptitudes for languages—he spoke eight fluently—led him to learn Spanish to celebrate Mass for Mexican migrant workers.

On his deathbed Father said, "Spiritual freedom gives us courage, the courage to preach. So I preached freely and defended the faith when the persecution began, and I rejoiced when I was arrested."

You may send your condolences to:

The Ratiu Family  
1420 Star Avenue  
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