

**St. Mary's Library**  
**Featured Reading for Advent and Christmas**

**Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Henri J.M. Nouwen, 2004**

The author guides the reader on a spiritual journey through the Advent and Christmas season. Through daily Advent and Christmas scripture, prayers and activities, Nouwen leads those seeking active spiritual participation in the season and renewal for the coming liturgical year.

**Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, et. al, 2008**

These selections from noted spiritual writers provide inspiration for the most widely celebrated holiday of the year. Writers include Johann Christoph Arnold, C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton, Philip Yancey, Madeleine L'Engle, Henri Nouwen, Kathleen Norris, Annie Dillard, Dorothy Day and others.

**We Light the Candles, Catharine Brandt, 1987**

This booklet of day-by-day family Advent devotions centers around the Advent wreath and its meaning.

**Listen with Love: Meditations for the Advent Season, Helen R. Ferguson, 1992**

Inspirational meditations and prayers for Advent.

**The Far Spent Night, Edward N. West, 1960**

Canon Edward N. West, of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, offers a thoughtful and deep narrative related to Christ's coming and the idea that the Advent season is God's Yes to his people and God's No to all those things that enslave them.

**Let Every Heart Prepare for the Advent and Christmas Season, Rev. Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, 1998**

The author believes that what is heard in poetry and music sinks deeper into the soul than does ordinary prose. Based on beautiful seasonal hymns, Rev. Crafton's daily meditations on faith, prayer, forgiveness, and healing for Advent and Christmas make an excellent companion for the season.

**The Other Wiseman, Henry Van Dyke, 1991 edition**

Written more than a century ago this Christmas story tells the tale of a fourth Wise Man, Artaban, who sells all his possessions to buy three precious jewels to present to the newborn Christ Child. He plans to journey with the three Magi to Bethlehem, but he is delayed and fails to rendezvous with them. Artaban spends his whole life searching for Christ and in the end his quest is fulfilled in unexpected ways.

**From Advent's Alleluia to Easter's Morning Light, Ann Weems, 2010**

Through a collection of poems, organized to follow the liturgical year from Advent through Easter, the author challenges Christians to look past the ongoing distractions of the "busy work" of church meetings and socials, new programs and technology, and inevitable conflict, while reminding readers in her singularly expressive voice that the "institution" of the church is, at heart, quite simply all about Jesus.

**The Twelve Days of Christmas, Curtis G. Almquist, 2008**

While Christmas taps a great need of the soul to give and receive gifts, these reflections explore the soul's need for "more"—the "more" that comes from God, in whose image we are made. Almquist, Episcopal priest and Superior of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, invites readers to go deeper than the tinsel and wrappings to the source of all the good gifts in life: love, forgiveness, joy, hope. These are gifts that, once unwrapped, will last and satisfy our spiritual cravings.

**The Case for Christmas: A Journalist Investigates the Identity of the Child in the Manger, Lee Strobel, 1998**

Consulting experts on the Bible, archaeology, and messianic prophecy, the author searches out the true identity of the child in the manger, examining eyewitness evidence scientific evidence, profile evidence and fingerprint evidence. *The Case for Christmas* invites you to consider why Christmas matters in the first place.

**An Adult Christ at Christmas, Raymond E. Brown, 1978**

This volume samples the study of the infant narratives found in the author's longer and more scholarly *The Birth of the Messiah*. He examines the narratives of the Christmas story found in the books of

Matthew and Luke as they represent a reflection on the origin of Jesus and, in Brown's view, are capsule summaries of the Old Testament, serving as a bridge between God's saving work in Israel and the fullness of the good news in Christ.

**I Wonder as I Wander: The 12 Days of Christmas with Madeline L'Engle, Bruce Epperly, 2018**

How can we recover the radical meaning of the Christmas season? This book offers you a guide through the hectic Christmas season. With quiet times of prayer, scripture, and meditation, you can begin to wonder, to imagine big possibilities, ask important questions, and open your heart to the radical message of Christmas.

**Goodness and Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas, 2015**

The editors of this anthology have chosen selections by 48 beloved writers that will enrich you every day of the season, from Advent to Christmas to Epiphany – and beyond. Authors include Pope Francis, Maya Angelou, Willa Cather, Harper, Thomas Merton, Richard Rohr and many more.

**The First Christmas: The True and Unfamiliar Story, Paul Maier, 1971**

The author strips away the layers of folklore which have obscured its famous beginning to tell "how it really was" in the world of the Nativity. By thoroughly researching the sources, Roman history, Palestinian geography and Jewish culture, Maier uncovers new information and lets the facts themselves tell the moving Christmas Story. Full color and black-and-white photographs include the night sky over Judea, Christmas sites in Palestine, and a color photograph showing all of Palestine taken from Apollo 7.

**On This Holy Night: The Heart of Christmas, 2013**

In this volume six of America's most beloved communicators share their favorite Christmas messages. Each offers a wealth of insight, a penetrating understanding of God's Word, and an extra measure of storytelling skill. Authors include John Maxwell, Bill Hybels, Max Lucado, David Jeremiah, Rick Warren and Jack Hayford.