

Leadership Books

THE 5 LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP: Proven Steps to Maximize Your Potential by John C. Maxwell (Center Street Publishers, 2011). Maxwell looks at the five levels of leadership; Position, Permission, Production, People Development and The Pinnacle. He points out we build on the previous level to go to the next level. He gives us a way to evaluate what level we are in our life and the steps to move to the next level. A very practical read to help each one of us.

OFF BALANCE: Getting Beyond the Work-Life Balance Myth to Personal and Professional Satisfaction by Matthew Kelly (Hudson Street Press, 2011). Matthew Kelly who visited our diocese at the Leadership Convocation in 2011 writes how the work-life balance myth is not helpful in leadership, but rather focuses on the importance of satisfaction. He uses some of his insight he shared in **Rediscovering Catholicism** in this book as well. An easy read that looks at the level of satisfaction in our lives.

LEAD LIKE JESUS: Lessons from the Greatest Leadership Role Model of All Time by Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2005). Blanchard known for his **One Minute Manager** books on leadership works with Hodges to present the heart, head, hands and habits of a servant leader based on the life of Jesus Christ. Their web site www.YeshuaLeader.com has helpful tools to set the attitude and behavior of a servant leader.

THE CATHOLIC VISION FOR LEADING LIKE JESUS: Introduction S3 Leadership by Owen Phelps (Our Sunday Visitor, 2009). Our diocesan parish leadership committee encourages this approach to leadership in our diocese. The S3 leadership is servant, steward, and shepherd. Phelps worked with Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges in their **Lead Like Jesus** book and seminars. Phelps brings that insight with a Catholic perspective. A great focus for leaders and parishes in our diocese.

CHRISTIAN REFLECTIONS ON THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE edited by James Kouzes and Barry Posner (Jossey-Bass Publishers, 2004). This book is a Christian Reflection on the famous **The Leadership Challenge** book written by Kouzes and Posner that identifies five practices of leadership; model the way, inspire a shared vision, challenge the process enable others to act and encourage the heart. It is a helpful approach to value those who have been great leaders for us and for us to reflect and grow as leaders in our present situation for all of us our leaders.

212: The Extra Degree by Sam Parker and Mac Anderson (Simple Truths, 2006) and **212 LEADERSHIP: The 10 Rules for Highly Effective Leadership** by Mac Anderson (Simple Truths, 2011). Did you know at 211 degrees, water is hot and at 212 degrees, it boils? And with boiling water, comes steam? And steam can power a locomotive? The principle of the two books is doing that “extra degree” makes all the difference. A great book for us, our staff and/or parishes to apply that extra degree for the Lord. Do the “extra degree” and read these books.

LEADERSHIP QUOTES compiled by Mac Anderson (Simple Truths, 2011). Quotes can be inspiring! Let’s find a book with inspirational quotes on leadership that can help us and our staff. I suggest this one as a possibility.

THE RIGHT TO LEAD: Learning Leadership Through Character and Courage by John C. Maxwell (Simple Truths, 2009). Maxwell uses quotes and short chapters to give us lessons in leadership. A simple read but packed with inspiration and practical tools for all of us.

THE ESSENCE OF LEADERSHIP by Mac Anderson (Simple Truths, 2005). Anderson uses 26 short stories to give us 26 lessons on leadership. All we have to do is find one and apply it. It may lead us to remember other stories on leadership in our own lives.

THE MAXWELL DAILY LEADERS: 365 Days of Insight to Develop the Leader within You and Influence Those Around You by John C. Maxwell (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2007). Are you ready to take a class for a year on leadership? Sit down with this book and take a daily insight from Maxwell from his many writings that are used in this book. It is an easy way for us to take a little bit of wisdom each day and build some great habits as leaders.

JESUS CEO: USING ANCIENT WISDOM FOR VISIONARY LEADERSHIP by Laurie Beth Jones (Hyperion, 1996). Jesus gave his disciples a vision of something larger than themselves. The world is changing at almost breakneck speed, and the leaders who succeed will be those who can marshal their most powerful resources in the most effective ways. With principles embedded in spirituality, ethics and strength, acclaimed motivator Laurie Beth Jones brings us "Jesus, CEO" -- a bold yet sensitive inspirational guide for leadership success. After years in business, Jones was struck by the notion that Jesus' leadership approach ran counter to most of today's management styles. In "Jesus, CEO," she explains that by harnessing the three strengths behind Jesus' leadership techniques (the strengths of self-mastery, action, and relationships), we can become the empowered leaders that the next millennium will require. Following the example of Jesus -- a "CEO" who took a disorganized "staff" of twelve and built a thriving "enterprise" -- "Jesus, CEO" details a simple, profound, fresh, and often humor-filled approach to motivating and managing others.

THE HOLY LONGING: THE SEARCH FOR A CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY by Ron Rolheiser, O.M.I. (Doubleday, 1999). This book is for those searching to understand what Christian spirituality means and how to apply it to their own lives. Rolheiser explains the nonnegotiables--the importance of community worship, the imperatives surrounding social action, the centrality of the Incarnation, the sustenance of the spiritual life--and how spirituality necessarily impacts every aspect of human experience. At the core of this readable, deeply revealing book is an explanation of God and the Church in a world that more often than not doubts the credibility of both.

FALLING UPWARD by Fr. Richard Rohr (Jossey-Bass, 2011). In *Falling Upward*, Fr. Richard Rohr seeks to help readers understand the tasks of the two halves of life and to show them that those who have fallen, failed, or "gone down" are the only ones who understand "up." Most of us tend to think of the second half of life as largely about getting old, dealing with health issues, and letting go of life, but the whole thesis of this book is exactly the opposite. What looks like falling down can largely be experienced as "falling upward." In fact, it is not a loss but somehow actually a gain, as we have all seen with elders who have come to their fullness.

GROWING AN ENGAGED CHURCH by Albert Winseman, D.Min. (The Gallup Organization, 2006). What would a church look like if members of its congregation were 13 times more likely to have invited someone to participate in the church in the past month? Or if they were three times as satisfied with their lives, or spent two hours per week serving the community? Based on solid research by The Gallup Organization, *Growing an Engaged Church* appeals to both Protestant and Catholic clergy and lay leaders who are looking to create this kind of change -- a way to be the church instead of just "doing church."

TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? by Archbishop Timothy Dolan (Our Sunday Visitor, 2008). To be a Christian today, to follow Our Lord and accept His call to discipleship, demands heroic courage. It takes deep faith to live the particular - special, unique - vocation that's yours alone. Heaven knows it isn't easy. St. Peter knows it, too. He's well aware that even the most enthusiastic and committed Christian can become frightened and unsure, can make mistakes and betray a loved one, can seek and receive forgiveness, can begin again and - with an even stronger faith - can go on to face life's most difficult challenges. *To Whom Shall We Go?* presents the words and actions of St. Peter as it clearly shows how his life - his strengths, weaknesses, joys, and sorrows - offers an example for all of us. How it offers hope for each of us.

PRIESTS FOR THE THIRD MILLENNIUM by Archbishop Timothy Dolan (Our Sunday Visitor, 2000). Priesthood begins with God's invitation, but it develops out of man's response. What does it take to respond enthusiastically, wholeheartedly and faithfully to the call to serve? Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan provides answers in *Priests for the Third Millennium*. Pastoral, practical, and thoroughly Catholic, *Priests for the Third Millennium* will renew the joy of being Catholic in the hearts of seminarians, priests, and the people they serve.

BE THOU MY VISION: MEDITATIONS ON THE PRIESTHOOD by Bishop David L. Ricken (IPF Publications, 2009). Bishop David Ricken leads priests on a contemplative journey to the core of priesthood in his new book. *Be Thou My Vision: Meditations on the Priesthood* will deepen and renew a priest's love of his own vocation. In a series of short meditations, Bishop Ricken invites the reader not only into a clearer image of priesthood but into a deeper perception of how these images open the mind to healing and prayer. All priests will benefit from prayerfully spending time with Bishop Ricken's spiritual and practical insights on priestly commitment, prayer, and parish life. At a time when Pope Benedict XVI has called upon all priests to become contemplative pastors, *Be Thou My Vision* shows how this call can be fulfilled.

THE 1% SOLUTION by Tom Connellan (Peak Performance Press, 2011). Top sales reps, weight loss champs, blue chip firms, Warren Buffett, Navy SEALs, Olympians, and other winners all understand the power of 1%. Packed with actionable ideas, *The 1% Solution* shows you how to power up your next 30 days and then keep on going at a permanently higher level. Because it's based not upon opinion, but upon solid research that's backed up with real-life examples, this book is for those who want to be better right now.

WHO MOVED MY CHEESE by Spencer Johnson, M.D. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1998). Most people are fearful of change because they don't believe they have any control over how or when it happens to them. Since change happens either to the individual or by the individual, Spencer Johnson shows us that what matters most is the attitude we have about change. The coauthor of the multimillion bestseller *The One Minute Manager* has written a deceptively simple story with a dramatically important message that can radically alter the way we cope with change. *Who Moved My Cheese?* allows for common themes to become topics for discussion and individual interpretation.

SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PEOPLE by Stephen Covey (Free Press, 1989). In *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, author Stephen R. Covey presents a holistic, integrated, principle-centered approach for solving personal and professional problems. With penetrating insights and pointed anecdotes, Covey reveals a step-by-step pathway for living with fairness, integrity, service, and human dignity--principles that give us the security to adapt to change and the wisdom and power to take advantage of the opportunities that change creates.

LEADERSHIP GOLD by John Maxwell (Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2008). A leader among leaders, John Maxwell promised himself early in his career that he wouldn't write this book until he was sixty. And now it's finally here. Leadership Gold took Maxwell a lifetime to write, and it delivers his most valuable lessons from forty years of leading. With his signature style, Maxwell comes alongside like a mentor, candidly taking readers through what feels like a one-on-one leadership program. Leadership Gold offers the best of the best, the tried-and-true lessons that no one but Maxwell can share.

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS by Winseman, Clifton, and Liesveld (Gallup Press, 2003). While millions of people in the U.S. are actively involved in some sort of religious organization, many people feel disengaged from their faith communities. More than half report that they really don't get the opportunity in their congregation to do what they do best. The problem is this: too many people's talents are going unappreciated. But it doesn't have to be this way. *Living Your Strengths* shows readers how to use their innate gifts to enrich their faith communities. The book shows people how to identify and affirm their talents, and how to use them for growth and service. Most importantly, *Living Your Strengths* helps people discover their true callings. The book includes an ID code that gives readers access to StrengthsFinder.com, a personality assessment that reveals the user's top five talents.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP: A JOURNEY INTO THE NATURE OF LEGITIMATE POWER AND GREATNESS 25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION by Robert Greenleaf (Robert Greenleaf Center, Inc., 2002). Twenty-five years ago Robert Greenleaf published these prophetic essays on what he coined servant leadership, a practical philosophy that replaces traditional autocratic leadership with a holistic, ethical approach. This highly influential book has been embraced by cutting edge management everywhere. Yet in these days of Enron and what VISA CEO Dee Hock calls our "era of massive institutional failure," Greenleaf's seminal work must reach the mainstream now more than ever. *Servant Leadership* helps leaders find their true power and moral authority to lead. It helps those served become healthier, wiser, freer, and more autonomous. This book encourages collaboration, trust, listening, and empowerment. It offers long-lasting change, not a temporary fix and extends beyond business for leaders of all types of groups.

LET YOUR LIFE SPEAK: LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF VOCATION by Parker Palmer (John Wiley and Sons, 2000). With wisdom, compassion, and gentle humor, Parker J. Palmer invites us to listen to the inner teacher and follow its leadings toward a sense of meaning and purpose. Telling stories from his own life and the lives of others who have made a difference, he shares insights gained from darkness and depression as well as fulfillment and joy, illuminating a pathway toward vocation for all who seek the true calling of their lives.