

MAURICE J. NUTT

THEA BOWMAN



Thea Bowman: Faithful and Free

by Maurice J. Nutt (152 pages with customized discussion guide)

Before I started reading *Thea Bowman: Faithful and Free*, a new biography by Maurice J. Nutt, the number of facts I knew about Sister Thea could be counted on one hand: I knew that she had worked for the greater inclusion of Black Catholics, that she had died of cancer in the 1990's, and that there is talk of considering her for sainthood. After reading Nutt's book, I am in awe of this woman who had such a phenomenal impact on the church she loved.

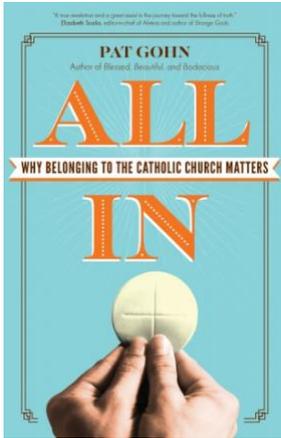
The book chronicles one woman's journey from being Bertha Bowman, a curious little girl growing up in Canton, Mississippi, to Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration Thea Bowman, beloved teacher, preacher, friend, and advocate for racial justice who, as Nutt writes, "was like no other person—and certainly no other nun—you would ever meet!" It is a must-read for anyone interested in the Black Catholic experience or in learning more about this role model in faith and love.

—*Emily Sanna, managing editor, U.S. Catholic*

Liturgical Press says get to know the passion and prayer, the mission and ministry of one of American Catholicism's most inspiring figures.

Paperback: \$16.95

Available at bookstores or from Liturgical Press at 1-(800) 858-5450 or litpress.org



All In: Why Belonging to the Catholic Church Matters

By Pat Gohn (183 pages; use standard book club questions)

Review: If someone were to ask you what one thing defines your life, what would you say? For Pat Gohn, author of the book, *All In: Why Belonging to the Catholic Church Matters*, the answer is simple: her Catholic faith. Gohn writes with convincing authority and vigor how Church teachings have made a deep impact on her life and driven her to be “all in” when it comes to the Catholic Church.

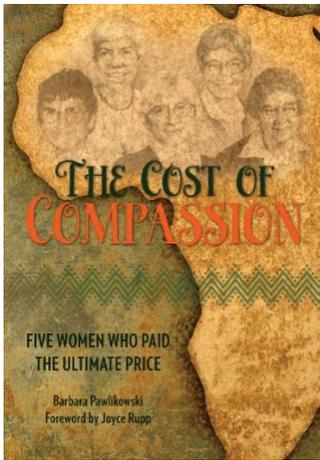
Gohn invites readers with intimate and relatable language. She even includes resources at the end of each section encouraging prayer and further learning. *All In* is an enjoyable read no matter where you are on your spiritual journey.

—*Rosie McCarty, assistant editor, U.S. Catholic*

Ave Maria Press says Pat Gohn invites you to become more confident in the power of the Catholic faith to transform your life as well.

Paperback: \$15.95

Available at bookstores or from Ave Maria Press at 800-282-1865 or avemariapress.com



The Cost of Compassion: Five Women Who Paid the Ultimate Price

by Barbara Ann Pawlikowski (354 pages; requested discussion questions)

In 1992, five American women religious, all in their 50's and 60's and living in Liberia, were killed. They were shot outside of their convent by rebel guerrilla forces during a civil war that lasted 14 years and killed more than 250,000 people.

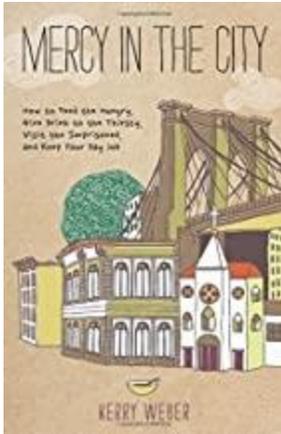
In her new book, *The Cost of Compassion*, Barbara Ann Pawlikowski brings to life these ordinary women. Her book paints a picture of them not just as glorified martyrs to the faith, but as real-life women who cared deeply about their vocations and the people with whom they worked. These women were heroes not because they were willing to die, but because they were drawn by their faith to minister to those who needed it most, despite the danger and personal sacrifice required. This well-researched and powerful book is a must-read for anyone who wants to learn more about these little-known women.

—*Emily Sanna, associate editor, U.S. Catholic*

ACTA says the inspirational story of five American women religious who displayed courage, competence, and commitment to their missionary calling to Liberia, Africa, and paid the ultimate price for their compassion.

Paperback: \$14.95

Available at bookstores or from ACTA Publishing at 1-(800) 397-2282 or actapublications.com



Mercy in the City **How to Feed the Hungry, Give Drink to the Thirsty, Visit the Imprisoned, and Keep Your Day Job**

By Kerry Weber (160 pages / Q&A included)

Review: *I will start volunteering as soon as I finish getting the house clean.* If you've ever used a similar excuse, Kerry Weber's *Mercy in the City* belongs on your nightstand. In her honest, funny, and incredibly down-to-earth book, Weber—a young, single New Yorker—recounts her attempt to complete all seven Corporal Works of Mercy in 40 days (while acknowledging that life would be easier if she could instead achieve spiritual enlightenment by abstaining from ice cream).

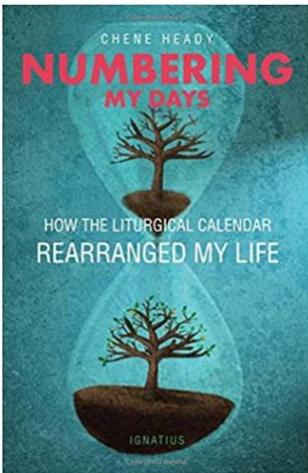
Despite its “how-to” tagline, *Mercy in the City* isn't a manual. Acts of mercy, we discover, can't be rote or simplified. Instead, even the smallest actions are often laden with intent and meaning. Weber's encouraging and insightful journey shows that when it comes to answering the call of faith, there are many ways to say yes.

—Sarah Butler, Assistant Editor, U.S. Catholic

Loyola Press says: A modern, young woman lives a "regular" life amid the daily pressures of New York City while also living a life devoted to service and practicing real works of mercy in a meaningful manner.

Available at bookstores or from Loyola Press at 800-621-1008 or www.loyolapress.com

Order now from Loyola Press



Numbering my Days—How the Liturgical Calendar Rearranged my Life

By *Chene Heady* (224 pages; use standard book club questions)

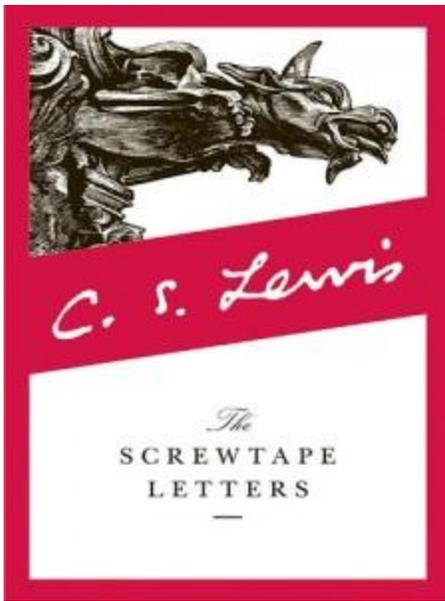
Chene Heady was a believing Catholic whose daily concerns were shaped primarily by forces other than his faith--career demands, financial decisions, scheduling conflicts, etc. He worked long hours and had limited regular interaction with his wife, also a busy professional, and his young daughter. He was the typical overextended and anonymous modern Catholic man.

Then he tried an experiment that dramatically rearranged his life. After reading about the importance of the Church's liturgical year, Heady took up the challenge to live as though the Church's calendar, not the secular one, stood at the center of his life. Every day for a year, he observed the Church's seasons and feasts, and meditated on the Church's daily readings. As he did so, he found that his life, and his relationships, became more meaningful and fruitful.

Numbering My Days tells the story of one man's renewal, and it offers an authentic model of spiritual development for anyone.

Ignatious Press 16.95

1.800.651.1531 ior www.ignatiouspress.com



The Screwtape Letters

By C. S. Lewis (209 pages; discussion questions provided)

A milestone in the history of popular theology, *The Screwtape Letters* is an iconic classic on spiritual warfare and the dynamics of temptation. This profound and striking narrative takes the form of a series of letters from Screwtape, a devil high in the Infernal Civil Service, to his nephew Wormwood, a junior colleague engaged in his first mission on earth, trying to secure the damnation of a young man who has just become a Christian. Although the young man initially looks to be a willing victim, he changes his ways and is “lost” to the young devil.

Dedicated to Lewis’s friend and colleague J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Screwtape Letters* is a timeless classic on spiritual conflict and the psychology of temptation which are part of our religious experience. (source Amazon)

St. Thomas Book Club

(Discussion times to be determined after analyzing the completed questionnaires)

The St. Thomas Book Club is scheduled to read six books during the academic year written by noted Catholic authors, or books that broadly deal with spiritual or religious topics. Informal discussions are planned to last about an hour. All are welcome. The only prerequisite is the ability to enjoy some good books that you probably otherwise would not have chosen.

Each person orders their own book. You can participate one time and then take time off if you are not interested in the book the following month. We will not meet in person, but questions for thought will be provided for reflection as you read.

Schedule for the 2020-2021 academic year selections:

Sept - October

Thea Bowman Faithful & Free

Author: Maurice J. Nutt

November - December

All In: Why belonging to the Catholic Church Matters

Author: Pat Gohn

January 2021 – February 14, 2021

The Cost of Compassion: Five Women Who Paid the Ultimate Price

Author: Barbara Ann Pawlikowski

February 15, 2021- March 31, 2021 (Octave of Easter)

Mercy in the City:

How to Feed the Hungry, Give Drink to the Thirsty, Visit the Imprisoned, and Keep Your Day Job

Author: Kerry Weber

April 1, 2021 – May 19, 2021 (Pentecost)

Numbering my Days—How the Liturgical Calendar Rearranged my Life

Author: Chene Heady

May 19, 2021- June 26, 2021

The Screwtape Letters

Author: CS Lewis