2019 Catholic Reading Challenge

Listed here are a few of the categories in Hannah's 2019 Reading Challenge. The arrows (➔) indicate which books we have available by donation at the Pastoral Centre. Many of the other books are available in our sign-out library.

A Book by a Catholic Novelist:
The Power and the Glory by Graham Greene
Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waug
Memento Mori by Muriel Spark
Silence by Shusaku Endo
Love in the Ruins by Walker Percy
Diary of a Country Priest by George Bernanos
Lord of the World by Robert Hugh Benson
➔ *Gunnar's Daughter* by Sigrid Undset
Kristen Lavransdatter by Sigrid Undset

A Book or Encyclical by a Pope:
Laudato Si by Pope Francis
Veratatis Splendor by Pope St. John Paul II
Jesus of Nazareth by Pope Benedict XVI
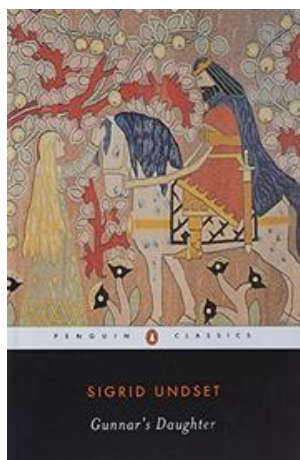
A Book by Scott Hahn:
Angels and Saints
The Lamb's Supper
➔ *Rome Sweet Home*
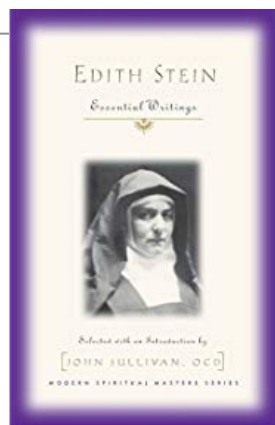
A Book by a Catholic Woman:
The Reed of God by Caryll Houselander
➔ *Essential Writings* by Edith Stein
➔ *The Privilege of Being a Woman* by Alice von Hildebrand
Revelations of Divine Love by Lady Julian of Norwich

"Unlike most of the Viking-inspired art of its period, Gunnar's Daughter is not a historical romance. It is a skillful conversation between two historical moments about questions as troublesome in Undset's own time – and in ours – as they were in the Saga Age: rape and revenge, civil and domestic violence, a troubled marriage, and children made victims of their parents' problems. Whether modern readers know Undset's saga models or not, they meet these themes in Gunnar's Daughter with a shock of recognition."
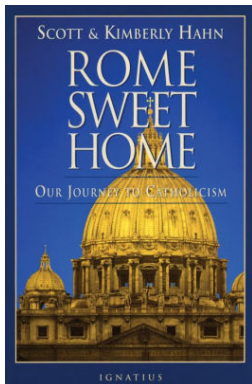– *Scott Hahn*

Edith Stein … was one of the most intriguing Catholics of the twentieth century. A Jewish convert, an eminent philosopher, educator, and advocate for women, she became a Discalced Carmelite nun, sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She was arrested by the Nazis and died in Auschwitz in 1942. This volume highlights the extraordinary features of her spirituality – a vision that integrated her philosophical training, her affinity for Carmelite mysticism, and her personal identification with the way of the Cross. *Edith Stein* provides a wonderful introduction to an extraordinary mind.
– taken from back cover

The well-known and very popular Catholic couple, Scott and Kimberly Hahn, have spoken all over the world about their conversion to the Catholic Church. This book tells the full story of their incredible spiritual journey that led them to embrace Catholicism.

Scott Hahn was a Presbyterian minister, the top student in his seminary class, a brilliant Scripture scholar, and militantly anti-Catholic … until he reluctantly began to discover that his "enemy" had all the right answers. Kimberly, also a top-notch theology student in the seminary, is the daughter of a well-known Protestant minister, and went through a tremendous "dark night of the soul" after Scott converted to Catholicism.

Written with simplicity, charity, grace and wit, the Hahns' deep love and knowledge of Christ and of Scripture is evident and contagious throughout their story. Their love of truth and of neighbor is equally evident and their theological focus on the great importance of the family, both biological and spiritual, will be a source of inspiration for all readers.
– taken from back cover

Arguing the superiority of men in strength, power, success and creativity through the ages, [Dr. Alice von Hildebrand] shows that feminism's attempts to gain equality with men by imitation of men is unnatural, foolish, destructive and self-defeating. With beauty and erudition she elaborates the privilege women have in being naturally more capable of human concerns, self-gift, sensitivity, dignity, loveliness, heroic sacrifice, and a great ability to awaken what is best in men through their very weakness and tenderness.

Above all the Blessed Mother's role in the Incarnation points to the true privilege of being a woman.
– taken from back cover