

ESS SUMMER READING LIST



www.everysacredsunday.com

Christie's Picks

Christie Peters is co-founder of ESS
as well as an artist & educator.



SEARCHING FOR & MAINTAINING PEACE

Father Jacques Phillippe

This little book packs quite the punch. I find myself coming back to it again and again. Restlessness, busyness and anxiety have become so common in our culture - even to the point of being a badge of honor. Father Jacques Phillippe invites us into the peace of heart that comes from regular communion with & contemplation of the Father. His easy writing and common sense examples provide a profound blueprint for spiritual growth and continual pursuit of God's peace.

ESSENTIALISM

Greg McKeown

Practical wisdom and easily applicable - Kassie and I read this book together a few years ago and it provided valuable insight that we still use today in our decision making process and daily procedures. McKeown's simple but specific pursuit of less offers freedom & clarity within our choices and the ability to focus on the things that matter the most. In a loud world where many things ask for our attention, this book has helped me to discern my time and choices - both personally & professionally - through this simple yet effective approach.



JESUS & THE JEWISH ROOTS OF MARY

Brant Pitre

This book is a wonder and changed my relationship with the Blessed Mother. It is a beautiful illumination of her precious role in salvation history and the biblical case for many Catholic teachings. Reading about Mary, as the new Eve, and her story woven throughout the New & Old Testaments has given me a new lens in my own scripture reading. Whether you want to more deeply understand the Catholic teachings on Mary or increase your own personal devotion, this book has so much to offer.

Kassie's Picks

Kassie Manning is co-founder of ESS and enjoys coordinating our production, shipping, and behind-the-scenes logistics.



ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Lucy Maud Montgomery

Potentially unpopular opinion - Judge a book by its cover. Really. And especially if it's fiction. My enjoyment of a book is exponentially increased by the specific experience of reading it, and a beautiful cover on a small little book gives me the warm fuzzies. Plus it's so much easier to dive into the fictional world of a childhood classic when it's so pretty! With just a glance at this quaint blue cover (it's a Macmillan edition for those wondering) I can almost smell the cherry blossoms in Avonlea.



HOW TO BREAK UP WITH YOUR PHONE

Catherine Price

Is it just me, or do you also have a love-hate relationship with your phone? I wanted to create more intentionality around my phone usage and this book has been the spark I needed to get started. It's a quick read and I've liked that the first half is motivating (plus eye-opening about how addictive our phones are!) and the second half is full of actionable tips.

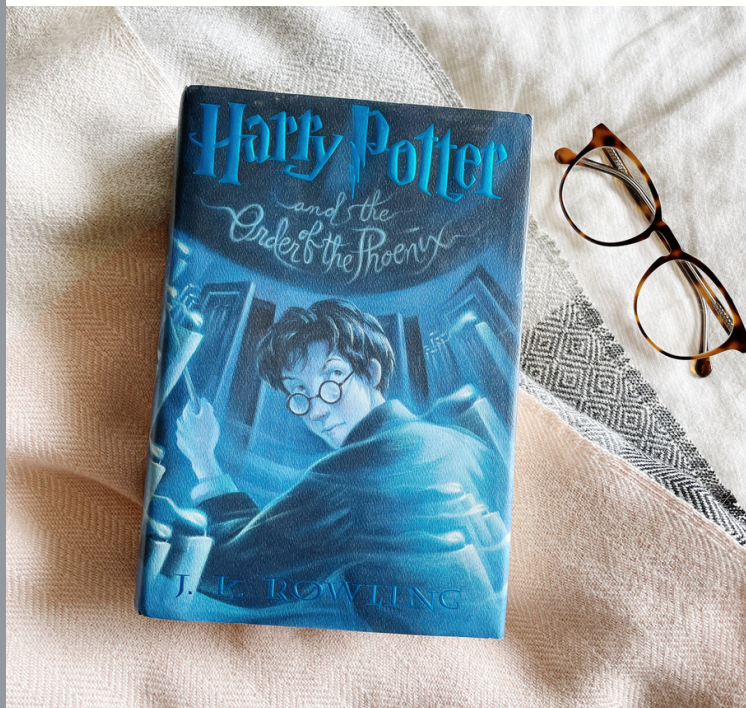
PRAYER VOL. 01

Strahan Coleman

This little book of poetry was the perfect fit for me during the early days postpartum. My natural tendency is to read quickly, skim, or even skip ahead. However, during a time where I have been learning to embrace going slower, poetry has felt like a better match. If you want to see some of Strahan's other work, he also publishes poems on Instagram at [Commoners Communion](#).

Perpetua's Picks

Perpetua Charles works as a book publicist in Boston, Massachusetts and is a regular contributor to our ESS Sunday Series & blogs.



HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX

JK Rowling

This is my favorite in the series because of the risk J.K. Rowling takes with Harry – she takes the protagonist of this hugely popular story and makes him moody, angsty, and frustratingly impulsive for over half the book! Harry is constantly questioned and misunderstood, oftentimes by the people who love and usually understand him the most. He has to decide for himself if he can trust his instincts and his friends, all while navigating the perils of an impending wizarding war and the growing pains of being 15. I'm twice as old as he is and the experience is still completely relatable!

7 SECRETS OF CONFESSION

Vinny Flynn

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be a challenging mystery to wrap one's heart and mind around. I love that 7 Secrets of Confession demystifies the sacrament in a way that is smart, moving, humorous, and relatable. I return to this book every couple of years and when I finish, I am reinvigorated to visit the well of mercy that our Lord has provided for us. If you're like me, when you get to the 7th secret, you'll cry your eyes out.

WHITE NEGROES

Lauren Michele Jackson

This collection of essays is written by Lauren Michele Jackson, a professor and contributor at the The New Yorker. Jackson is one of the pithiest writers I've ever read, which makes for very entertaining reading when learning about the societal implications of cultural appropriation of Black ideas and innovation in the last several decades. This book will make you squirm, cheer, gasp, and will encourage you to be mindful of how you engage with the next popular wave of cultural phenomena.