

SOCIETY of APOSTOLIC EXECUTIVES

REFERENCE MATERIAL on BUSINESS ETHICS, SPIRITUALITY, and LEADERSHIP IN THE WORKPLACE

Gene Ahner, **“Business Ethics, Making a Life, Not Just a Living.”** Orbis Books, Maryknoll, New York, 2007. \$25, 249-page book. “From an author with thirty years’ experience as an executive and corporate officer, his book addresses those engaged in business to help them understand their work as an integral form of human development as well as an authentic Christian vocation.”

Ken Costa, **“God at Work.”** Continuum, London, England, 2007. \$16.95, 193-page book. Ken Costa is Vice-Chairman of UBS Investment Bank, where he advises international corporations, and has been involved in many high-profile transactions. “There is a widespread view that God and business simply don’t mix: the competitive, cut-throat demands of the marketplace are seen as the obvious enemy of Christian compassion and love. But I have found that the God who created and sustains the world is also the God of the workplace.” (From Ken Costa’s introduction) Chapters include: Ambition and Life Choices, How to Make Tough Decisions, Work-Life Balance, Stress, Money and Giving, and Failure, Disappointment and Hope.

William Droel, **“Pope John Paul II’s Gospel of Work, with Introduction and Commentary.”** Twenty-Third Publications, New London, Connecticut, 2008. \$16.95, 112-page book. William Droel is an instructor of Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, Illinois, Pastoral Associate at Sacred Heart Church in Palos Hills, and is a founder of the National Center for the Laity in Chicago. In his book he helps us to see our work as more than a “job” or a Salary.” He looks to the writings of Pope John Paul II for guidance and inspiration—and finds it abundantly. Drawing on excerpts from the Pope’s talks, statements, and poems and on his complete encyclical “On Human Work” (*Laborem Exercens*), he invites us to look at our work as a contribution to the world, a source of personal satisfaction, and above all as a vocation.

Alexander Hill, **“Just Business, Christian Ethics for the Marketplace.”** InterVarsity Press, Downey, Illinois, 2008 Second Edition. \$24.95, 276-page book. Alexander Hill, who formerly taught in the school of Business and Economics at Seattle Pacific University, is president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA based in Madison, Wisconsin. He explores the foundational Christian concepts of holiness, justice and love and how some common responses to business ethics fall short of a fully Christian response. Finally he turns to case studies on such topics as employer-employee relations, discrimination and affirmative action, and environmental damage to demonstrate how to apply Christian ethics in the marketplace.

Chris Lowney, **“Heroic Leadership, Best Practices from a 450 - Year – Old Company That Changes the World.”** Loyola Press, A Jesuit Ministry, Chicago Illinois, 2003. \$16.95, 330-page book. Chris Lowney is a former Jesuit who worked for J.P Morgan for seventeen years as a managing director. He currently is a consultant for the Catholic Medical Mission Board. In his book, Chris Lowney reveals the leadership principles that have guided the Jesuits for more than 450 years: self awareness, ingenuity, love and Heroism. He shows how these same principles can make each of us a dynamic Christian leader in the twenty-first century.

Charles C. Manz, Ph.D., **“The Leadership Wisdom of Jesus, Practical Lessons for Today.”** Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc., San Francisco, California, 1998. \$20, 178-page book. Dr. Manz, the Nirenberg Professor of Business Leadership in the School of Management at the University of Massachusetts, is a speaker, consultant, and business author. His book focuses on a constructive and compassionate approach to leadership based on positive spiritual principles contained in the teachings of Jesus. He explores themes, such as: the advantage of forgiveness over judgment, the importance of love and service, and the wisdom of recognizing the deeper value of every person.

Dr. Joan Marques, Dr. Satinder Dhiman, and Dr. Richard King, **“The Workplace and Spirituality.”** SkyLight Paths Publishing, Woodstock Vermont, 2009. \$29.99, 236-page book. This book is a collaborative effort of twenty-four contributors who are business leaders, teachers, speakers or writers. “This practical anthology of leading experts on workplace spirituality, from around the world, will help you make your workplace a more meaningful and successful one.” Editors, Dr. Marquez, Dr. Dhiman, and Dr. King, have arranged the contributors works in a sequence that first reviews “Work at the Personal Level” and then “Work at the Organizational Level. The editors’ goal in producing this book is to “. . . suggest new alternatives for a spiritual approach to work; and to remind leaders of the simplest but most important competent of work: *meaning and advancement of the human community as a whole.*”

Gregory F. A. Pierce, **“Spirituality at Work, 10 Ways to Balance Your Life on the Job.”** Loyola Press, A Jesuit Ministry, Chicago, Illinois, 2001. \$14.95, 157-page book. Mr. Pierce is co-publisher of ACTA Publications, a former president of the National Center for the Laity, and a founder of Business Executives for Economic Justice. In his “Introduction” Mr. Pierce states “I am not comfortable with displays of religiosity, especially in the workplace, . . . you will not find here a pious approach to the spirituality of work.” This book investigates “how the reality that we call God can be accessed in the midst of the hustle and bustle of our daily work lives.”

Kurt Senske, **“Executive Values, A Christian Approach to Organizational Leadership.”** Augsburg Books, Minneapolis, MN, 2003. \$24.50, 166-page book. Dr. Senske draws on his experience as president and CEO of a \$70 million company, corporate attorney, political consultant and university administrator to educate “Christian organizational leaders on how to systematically incorporate their values into their professional lives.” (from the preface) The book’s seven chapters, “follow the golden rule of leadership,” “create and effective organizational culture,” “do the right thing,” “values-based strategic planning,” “develop and mentor a leadership team,” balancing family and professional life,” and “lead a life of significance,” incorporate Christian values with effective business practices.

John White, **“Excellence in Leadership, Reaching Goals with Prayer, Courage & Determination.”** InterVarsity, Downey, Illinois, 1986. \$17, 132-page book. Until his death in 2002 Mr. White worked with Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Vancouver, British Columbia. Following the example of Nehemiah of The Old Testament, Mr. White shows how the modern Christian business leader can be action-oriented and prayer-oriented, a firm leader and a servant, a realist and a visionary. Some of the books chapters are “The Leader & Organization,” “The Leader & Opposition,” “The Leader & Opposition from Within,” “The Leader & Endurance,” “The Leader & the Work,” and “The Leader & Prayer.”

Business Leaders for Excellence, Ethics and Justice (BEEJ), **“Not Just a Just Wage, A Conversation with Four Popes about the ‘Living’ or ‘Family’ Wage.”** ACTA Publications, Chicago, Illinois 2003. \$5.95, 61-page position paper. The BEEJ is a group of mostly Catholic Chicago-area business and professional managers formed in response to the U.S. Catholic bishops’ pastoral letter, Economic Justice for all. They dialogue with each other and with clergy and other church professionals about issues facing the business leader. The position paper commences with a “virtual dialogue” with four popes. They are Leo XIII, Pius XI, John XXIII, and John Paul II. In this “virtual dialogue” BEEJ members respond to the popes’ statements taken from their extensive papal teaching on the subject of a just wage.

This is followed with responses to this “virtual dialogue” from business, labor, and academe as well as their own reflections on wages, justice, faith and the contemporary American economy. Finally, the BEEJ offers a contemporized definition of a just wage, five criteria that a Christian employer ought to consider in determining if a wage is just, and reflection questions.

Business Executives for Economic Justice (also BEEJ), **“Beyond the Balance Sheet: The Integration of Work, Personal and Family Life.”** ACTA Publications, Chicago, Illinois 1994. \$3.95, 38-page position paper.

The position paper reflects “on how we as managers can help ourselves and our employees integrate work, personal and family lives in a manner that is consistent both with our Christian beliefs and what we have found to be sound business practices.” (from Part I: Introduction)

BEEJ, **“On the Firing Line: The Manager’s Perspective on the Issue of Terminations and Layoffs in the Light of Catholic Social Teaching.”** ACTA Publications, Chicago, Illinois 1990 \$3.95, 32-page position paper. “Our Christian faith holds us to a high standard on this issue (terminations and layoffs of workers) and our employees have a right to certain expectations of us as employers who have been challenged by Catholic social teaching. This paper seeks to address the specific issue of terminations and layoffs by discussing both the problems that we are encountering and some solutions we are discovering.” (from page 6)

BEEJ, **“The Buck Stops Here: Perspectives on Stewardship from Business and Professional Managers.”** ACTA Publications, Chicago, Illinois 1992. \$3.95, 28-page position paper. “Stewardship makes each of us responsible for ensuring the best, most productive, and most equitable use of the resources that we own or for which we have responsibility; . . . that includes our private resources as well as the corporate or institutional resources we manage.” (from the “Introduction”) Topics in the position paper include “Stewardship of People,” “Stewardship of Products and Services,” “Stewardship of the Community,” and “Stewardship of the Environment.”

CATHOLIC REFERENCE MATERIAL

“Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition.” Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Citta del Vaticano. English translation 1994.

“Compendium/Catechism of the Catholic Church.” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2006

“United States Catholic Catechism for Adults.” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2006

Papal encyclicals, writings and homilies:

- **“Rerun Novarum,”** Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII on Capital and Labor, May 15, 1891.”
- **“Laborem Exercens,”** Encyclical of Pope John Paul II, September 14, 1981.”
- **“Centesimus Annus,”** Encyclical of Pope John Paul II on the hundredth anniversary of Rerun Novarum, May 1, 1991.”
- **“Jubilee of Workers,”** Homily of John Paul II, May 1 2000.”

Charles E. Curran and Richard A. McCormick, S.J. editors **“Readings in Moral Theology No. 5, Official Catholic Social Teaching.”** Paulist Press, Mahwah, New Jersey, 1986. \$9.95, 459 page book. The editors have compiled commentaries on official Catholic social teaching. “Official Catholic social teaching refers to that body of documents containing the teaching of recent Popes and the Catholic bishops of the world. . . . This book is divided into three parts. The first part treats the historical development of this social teaching beginning with the background to *Rerum novarum* and including discussions of the contributions of the different Popes down to Pope Paul VI. The second part presents overviews which point out the developments that have occurred within this teaching and the contemporary discussions dealing especially with the approach of Pope John Paul II. The third part contains commentaries on this body of teaching from many different perspectives—Protestant, Marxist, third world, labor, conservative, liberal, feminist, and liberationist.” Forward page x.