



DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

Discernment Resources

**RECOMMENDED BY THE COM OF THE DIOCESE OF
SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA (2025)**

BOOKS

- *Showings*, by Julian of Norwich
- *Interior Castle*, by Teresa of Avila
- *The Cloud of Unknowing*
- *Praying with the Earth*, by John Phillip Newell
- *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*, by Parker J. Palmer
- *The Spiritual Trilogy*, by Henri Nouwen, published posthumously from his writing sand journals:
 - Volume 1: *Spiritual Direction* (about living the questions of the spiritual life)
 - Volume 2: *Spiritual Formation* (about following the movements of the Spirit)
 - Volume 3: *Discernment* (about reading the signs of God in daily life-books, nature, people, events...)
- *Listening Hearts: Discerning Call in Community*, by Suzanne G. Farnham, Joseph P. Gill, R. Taylor McLean, Susan M. Ward
- *Listening Hearts: Discernment for Group Deliberations*, by Suzanne G. Farnham, Joseph P. Gill, R. Taylor McLean, Susan M. Ward
- *Hearing with the Heart: A Gentle Guide to Discerning God's Will for Your Life*, by Debra K. Farrington

BOOKS

- *Ears to Hear: Recognizing and Responding to God's Call*, by Edward S. Little
- *Callings*, by William Placher
- *Called to Community: The Life Jesus Wants for His People*, edited by Charles E. Moore
- *The Nearness of God: Parish Ministry as Spiritual Practice*, by Julia Gatta
- *An Introduction to Ministry*, by Ian Markham and Oran Warder
- *A Vocation to Risk*, by John H. Snow (out of print)
- *Pursuing God's Will Together: A Discernment Practice for Leadership Groups*, by Ruth Haley Barton
- *Braving Difficult Decisions: What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do*, by Angela Gorrell
- *The Spiritual Journey Trilogy*, by David G. Benner:
 - *Surrender to Love: Discovering the Heart of Christian Spirituality*
 - *The Gift of Being Yourself: The Sacred Call to Self-Discovery*
 - *Desiring God's Will: Aligning Our Hearts with the Heart of God*

PODCASTS

- Reality Based Leadership Podcast