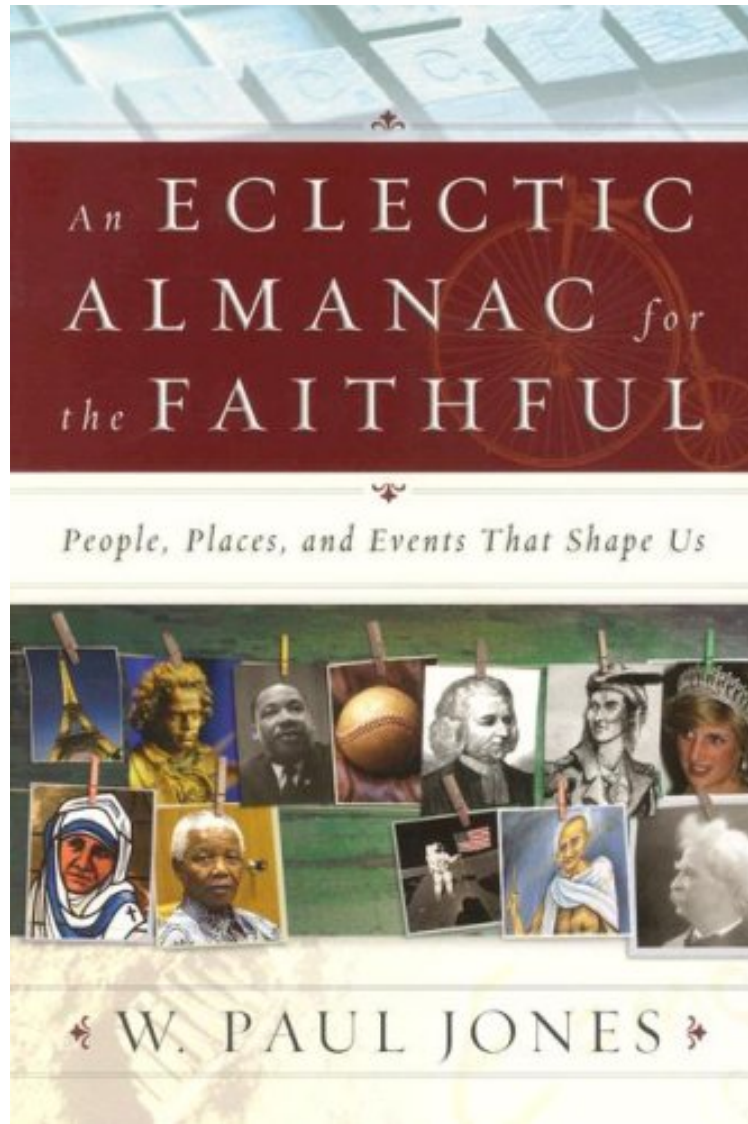


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## An Eclectic Almanac for the Faithful: People, Places, and Events that Shape Us

W. Paul Jones

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**W. Paul Jones : An Eclectic Almanac for the Faithful: People, Places, and Events that Shape Us** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Eclectic Almanac for the Faithful: People, Places, and Events that Shape Us:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Eclectic Almanac By DAVID A. CORNIA Interesting read, each day filled with info on Martyrs and others of faith. Protestant and Catholic alike. Also has space for journal or

additional personal notes. Refreshing approach! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Enlightening and enriching  
By Susan W. Hassinger Because I had previously found the book to be very enriching, I bought the copy for a friend, and she very much has appreciated it as well.

You are not alone. A dazzling cloud of witnesses hovers nearby to encourage and remind us that God uses real people - ancestors of the spirit or ""saints"" - to achieve the divine purpose in surprising ways every day. This is a ""saints book"" like no other. W. Paul Jones regains the biblical idea of sainthood - God works through baffled, blemished people and events to bring news of joy, creativity and awe to a world in pain. An Eclectic Almanac for the Faithful is an exuberant month-by-month guide, describing saints ancient and modern in short, lively summaries. But Jones stretches beyond official church saints to include personalities from the world of contemporary politics and the arts. Gods hand is at work in the life of Martin Luther King Jr., George Orwell, Mahalia Jackson, Thurgood Marshall, George Frederick Handel, Anne Frank, Tecumseh, Thomas Merton and Maggie Kuhn, co-founder of the Gray Panthers. Jones goes even further, listing spirit-shaking events, some somber, others playful - Earth Day, the Oklahoma City bombing, global warming, April Fools Day. No human endeavor or sorrow is beyond the reach of God. Each days roster ends in a prayer of passion and zest. One declares: ""God, put me to your will, rank me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal."" His eclectic collection includes space to write down the names of mentors and luminaries in your own life. Enjoy this rousing roll call of heroes, who are blessed by a God who specializes, Jones says, in making us instruments of the divine vision ""in spite of ourselves.

About the Author W. Paul Jones was born into a Methodist family, became a Trappist monk in 1989 and took his life vows for the priesthood in 1992. Retired as a professor of theology at St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, his social justice work centers on the rural poor and prisoners on death row. He directs the Hermitage Spiritual Retreat Center and describes himself as ""having a Protestant mind and a Catholic heart.