

Christ Church Grosse Pointe  
Purple Perspective

present

**FAITH AND POLITICS**  
**Suggested Readings**  
from The Cloister Bookshop

The following titles offer you the opportunity to expand your thinking about the Purple Perspective topic, *Faith and Politics: How the two intersect in Media and Culture*. This is not an exhaustive list, but intended as a catalyst to further reading and study. Commentary has been provided by the publisher. All books are available through the Cloister Bookshop or through the Virtual Bookshop. Follow this link to order your books: <http://www.christchurchgp.org/cloisterbooks05.html>

**The Mighty and the Almighty**

*Madeleine Albright*

Secretary of State under President Clinton, Albright tackles the thorny subject of the role of faith in international relations and rejects the notion that a “clash of civilizations” is in progress.

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**Thy Kingdom Come**

*Randall Balmer*

A discussion of the role religions plays in our belief in the First Amendment, our desire to embrace a diverse society and our confusion over the government’s responsibilities.

**Evangelicals in the Public Square**

*J. Budziszewski*

An examination of evangelical political thought over the past fifty years through four key figures -- Carl F. H. Henry, Abraham Kuyper, Francis Schaeffer, and John Howard Yoder -- to argue that in addition to Scripture, the evangelical political movement should be informed by the tradition of natural law.

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**Faith and Politics**

*John Danforth*

Danforth is a Missouri Republican as well as a lawyer and Episcopal priest, a three term U. S.. Senator, Ambassador to the United Nations, a peace envoy to the



Sudan. Danforth presents arguments for creating peace both nationally and internationally. In addition, Danforth believes that Christian Conservatives have insinuated the government into areas over which it has no jurisdiction.

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### **Founding Brothers**

*Joseph J. Ellis*

Ellis concentrates on six incidents involving seven contemporary American patriots and includes slavery, the national debt, the location of the national capital and the controversies created by John Adams.

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### **Applebee's America**

*Ron Fournier and others*

The book focuses on Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush; Lloyd Hill, founder of Applebee's restaurant chain; and Rick Warren, founder of a mega church in California and author of *The Purpose Driven Church* (1995). All of the success stories have in common the elements of desire to help community, make connections with clients, and find a higher purpose in life.

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### **Culture Shift**

*David Henderson*

A map of today's cultural landscape, guiding Christians toward more effective communication within the post modern world.

### **God and Country**

*Sheila Kennedy*

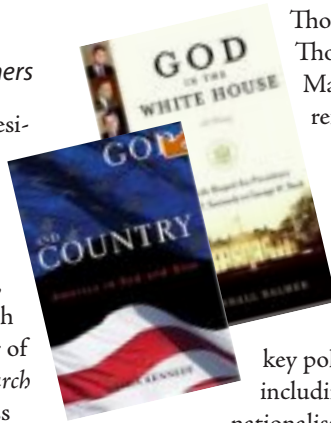
This book is a discussion of what divides us in America. It also is a source of principled and practical suggestions for helping us bridge those divides. Her suggestions are aimed at creating an environment where we discuss and debate our differences in ways that are more informed, honest, and charitable.

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### **Revolutionary Spirit**

*Gary Kowalski*

This book offers portraits of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Paine, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison as both religious reformers and political rebels.



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### **Political Visions and Illusions**

*David Koyzis*

David Koyzis surveys the key political ideologies of our era, including liberalism, conservatism, nationalism, democracy, and socialism and offers a plan for Christians working in the public square.

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### **Tempting Faith**

*David Kuo*

David Kuo came to Washington wanting to use his Christian faith to end abortion, strengthen marriage, and help the poor. ...[It was] the chance to fuse his politics and his faith, and an opportunity for Christians not just to gain a seat at the proverbial table but also to plan the entire meal. ... [Kuo's book is a] plea for

a Christian reexamination of political and spiritual priorities.

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### **The Founding Fathers and the Place of Religion in American**

*Frank Lambert*

This book captures the progression from religious conformity to religious freedom in early America.

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### **Piety and Politics**

*Barry Lynn*

As a minister in the United Church of Christ and executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Lynn has a significant stake in the battle for religious freedom, arguing that church-state separation has fostered “religious diversity and vitality,” fundamentalism included. But as a citizen who also respects the sanctity of secular law, he argues against using tax dollars for the imposition of specific religious world views on America’s diverse peoples, whether through tax-funded, faith-based initiatives or abstinence-only sex-education.

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### **The Faiths of the Founding Fathers**

*Alf Mapp*

The religious beliefs of eleven of America’s founding fathers, including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison are presented. Mapp discovers men with religious beliefs as diverse as their

political opinions. These profiles shed light on the lives and times of the revolutionary generation and the role of religion in public life throughout American history.

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### **Faith of My Fathers**

*John McCain*

The Republican senator from Arizona has a remarkable story to tell. The first half of the book concerns his naval forbears: his grandfather commanded an aircraft carrier in the Second World War, while his father presided over all naval forces in the Pacific during the Vietnam War. They were the first father-son admirals in American history. He never became an admiral, but achieved fame another way: as a naval aviator in 1967, he was shot down over North Vietnam and spent several years in POW camps. The book concludes with his release.

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### **The Audacity of Hope**

*Barack Obama*

Barack Obama engages themes raised in his keynote speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, shares personal views on faith and values and offers a vision of the future that involves repairing a “political process that is broken” and restoring a government that has fallen out of touch with the people.

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### **The God That did Not Fail**

*Robert Royal*

Since the Greeks and Romans, as Robert Royal explains, religion has nurtured the development of the individual and of Western culture itself. Christianity

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and Judaism collaborated to create a dialogue between faith and reason that determined the history of the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, and several Enlightenments, including our current post modern moment. Royal concludes that modern democratic societies are intimately tied to a Christian view of the dignity of the human person and the health and survival of free institutions. ....

**A Wing and a Prayer**

*Katharine Jefferts Schori*

Katharine Jefferts Schori, the first female presiding bishop in the 500-year history of Anglicanism, speaks on issues that impact our lives. This book will be the vehicle for introducing Bishop Jefferts Schori and her platform to the wider Church.

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**The Holy Vote**

*Ray Suarez*

*The Holy Vote* examines the way Americans worship, how organized religion and politics intersect in America, and how this powerful collision is transforming the current and future American mind-set.

**Why Politics Needs Religion**

*Brendan Sweetman*

As we witness the clash of religious and secular world views, Sweetman claims that our pluralistic democratic society will be best served when the faith elements of secularism are acknowledged and the rational elements of religious arguments are allowed to inform the momentous debates taking place in the public square.

In fact, Sweetman contends that “politics needs religion if it is to be truly democratic, concerned with fairness among world views, equality and a vigorous public discussion.”

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**The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post-Religious Right America**

*Jim Wallis*

Wallis once again challenges the reader to revisit ideas about social justice and the role of politics and religion in achieving these goals.

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*CHRIST CHURCH GROSSE POINTE*

*61 Grosse Pointe Blvd.*

*Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236*

*313-885-4841*

*[www.christchurchgp.org](http://www.christchurchgp.org)*

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