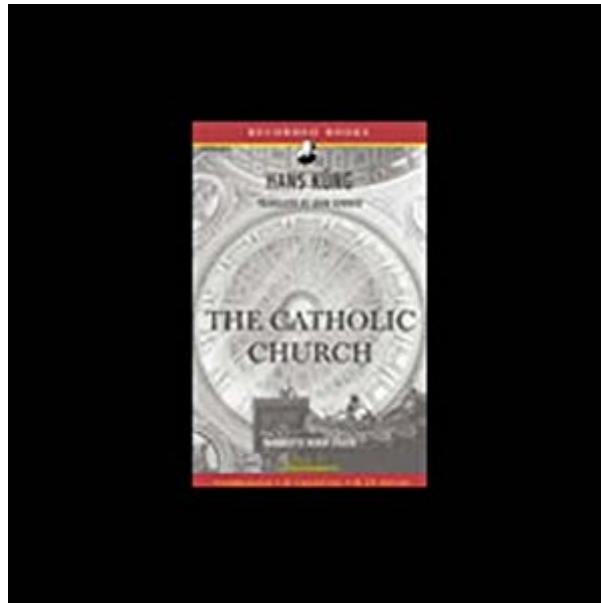


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The Catholic Church [Modern Library Chronicles]



Synopsis

Hans Kung describes the history of the Roman Catholic Church from its origins in St Paul's Rome, through the disputes of the medieval era to the modern world. He examines the historic tension in the Church between pluralism and exclusivity; how the role of the Pope has changed; the motivations of the great reforming pontiffs; the evolving functions of the bishops and cardinals; the church's enthusiasm for missionary activity; the origins of the Marian cult; and how the shock waves of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation can still be felt today. The book concludes with a searching assessment of how the Catholic faith confronts the immense challenges - from science, from the empowerment of women, from those seeking reform of the Church's strictures against abortion and contraception - in the new millennium. 'The sweep is vast and the tale told with pace and passion' Financial Times --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Very interesting read, and informative.

Kung's history of the Catholic Church pulls no punches. He lays bare the all too human political and dynastic manouvering that has helped shape its history. The author's problems with the papal machinery are well known, and this book is really a history of the papacy more than of the church. It is illuminating, and quite damning, in its tracing of the evolution of the over-centralism that marks the present day Catholic Church. But as a history of the Church, it is too short on outlining the many "good things" that also are a part of the story. For all its limitations it is a recommended read!

Fr. Kung presents a refreshing look at the institutional Catholic church with a clear historical view on how certain views developed, such as papal infallibility and the primacy of the Bishop of Rome. This should be required reading matter for all Roman Catholics.

After visiting the Vatican, I had a lot of questions regarding the rise of the papacy and the evolution of the Roman Catholic church. While a Catholic scholar, Kung's book is an informative and balanced treatment. I highly recommend the book for all students of Church history.

This is an enlightening read for fellow Catholics who are interested in our true history... good and bad. Not recommended for strict adherents to the "Baltimore Catechism". Hans Kung has been and remains the premier Christian theologian of our times.

a very new and neat book indeed

I received all Hans Kung books in good condition, I have started to read them. Thank you.

As expected from this genius thinker of 20th century - excellent. Especially every catholic should read ! John

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