Synopsis

It contains the answers you need. It is a readable and concise summary of commonly misunderstood Catholic beliefs—the teachings and practices that often don’t get much attention in Sunday sermons and in religious education.

Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages
Publisher: Servant Books; As stated, 5th printing edition (October 9, 2002)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0892831812
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.2 x 7.8 inches
Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces
Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (73 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

Though it is sometimes a little bit too theological for the average non-Catholic, "Catholic and Christian" is a nice beginning book for those interested in the Church and her members. I converted to Catholicism in 2000, and I accepted the majority of the Church’s beliefs on a Biblical and rational basis. Some of the beliefs, however, had to be accepted based on Catholic Tradition and faith. This is where things get tricky. Schreck attempts to explain the major aspects of Catholicism to his readers using solid Biblical references. Most Protestants should find this very helpful in digesting some of the beliefs of the Church since I’m assuming that many of them attend Bible-based churches. Schreck makes a strong case for the belief in the Pope, quoting and referencing scriptures that many Protestants (as I once did) used against the Church. His argument for the Eucharist and the transubstantiation of it is brilliant, as he adds Biblical strength to an already strong, though tough to understand for most Protestants, argument. When Schreck tackles touchier subjects such as the Communion of Saints and, the literal Mother of them all, Mary, he has to rely heavier on Catholic Tradition. This does make it a little easier for non-Catholics to refute these beliefs, but Schreck delivers his stance with ease and care. In other words, he states that his faith and reliance on the wisdom of the Church’s elders kicks in. That’s hard to argue with, and in the
end, Schreck makes it clear that he isn't trying to convert anyone into becoming Catholic. Instead, he is merely stating his beliefs and the general beliefs of the Church as a whole in order to make non-Catholics a little more accepting of Catholics.

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