Becoming Catholic Even If You Happen To Be One

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christopher sparks asked facebook friends to finish the question how can you still be catholic when the replies came swiftly and forcefully with that sparks went to work here is the result in this book he addresses the biggest issues people grapple with when they think about the catholic church the inquisition the crusades the church s role in a state homosexuality the role of women in the church and many others for skeptics and non catholics this book is an invitation to understanding the faith a way for outsiders to hear one contemporary catholic s worldview and to see through catholic eyes even if they remain unconvinced for catholics this book is an introduction to an array of answers and resources for delving more deeply into and defending the faith

a comprehensive challenging overview of the basic tenets teachings and practices of the catholic faith an excellent book for group discussion and adult education programs

this book offers a clearly written informative and fair critique of roman catholicism in defense of the catholic faith two leading evangelical thinkers in church history and philosophy summarize the major points of contention between protestants and catholics honestly acknowledging real differences while conveying mutual respect and charity the authors address key historical theological and philosophical issues as they consider what remains at stake five hundred years after the reformation they also present a hopeful way forward for future ecumenical relations showing how protestants and catholics can participate in a common witness to the world

the essays within beyond catholicism trace the interconnections of belief heresy and mysticism in italian culture from the middle ages to today in particular they explore how religious discourse has unfolded within italian culture in the context of shifting paradigms of rationality authority time good and evil and human collectivities

this book argues that the development of catholicism in asia was closely connected with globalization since the 16th century catholicism has contributed significantly to global connectivity while at the same time the church s global expansion has transformed the church s own global consciousness casanova and phan adopt a framework of three distinct phases of the development of catholicism in asia and oceania early modern 16th to 18th centuries modern western hegemony 1780s to the 1960s and the contemporary after western hegemony with this framework contributors discuss the development of catholicism in all major countries of the region including china japan korea the philippines vietnam india and australia except for the philippines and timor leste catholicism in asia is and is likely to remain a minority religion for the foreseeable future for that reason however it can serve as a unique prism through which to look at the processes of globalization in asia precisely because the historical processes through which catholicism took roots in the entire region and became inculturated as an asian religion are so intimately connected with the processes of globalization

contemporary thought is marked by heated debates about the character purpose and form of religious thinking and its relation to a range of ideals spiritual moral aesthetic political and ecological to name the obvious this book addresses the interrelation between theological thinking and the complex and diverse realms of human ideals what are the ideals appropriate to our moment in human history and how do these ideals derive from or relate to theological reflection in our time in theological reflection and the pursuit of ideals internationally renowned scholars from a range of disciplines physics art literary studies ethics comparative religion history of ideas and theology engage with these crucial questions with the intention of articulating a new and historically appropriate vision of theological reflection and the pursuit of ideals for our global times

making full use of the new code of canon law recent conciliar documents and pertinent ecclesiastical directives this work brings together into one handy volume a wealth of information along with authorized norms whereby priests and aspirants to the ministry may be safely guided in the lawful and reverential celebration of the sacraments the author is a recognized expert in the area of pastoral theology and canon law and as such brings to this book the qualifications which promise to make it a standard reference work in its field

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