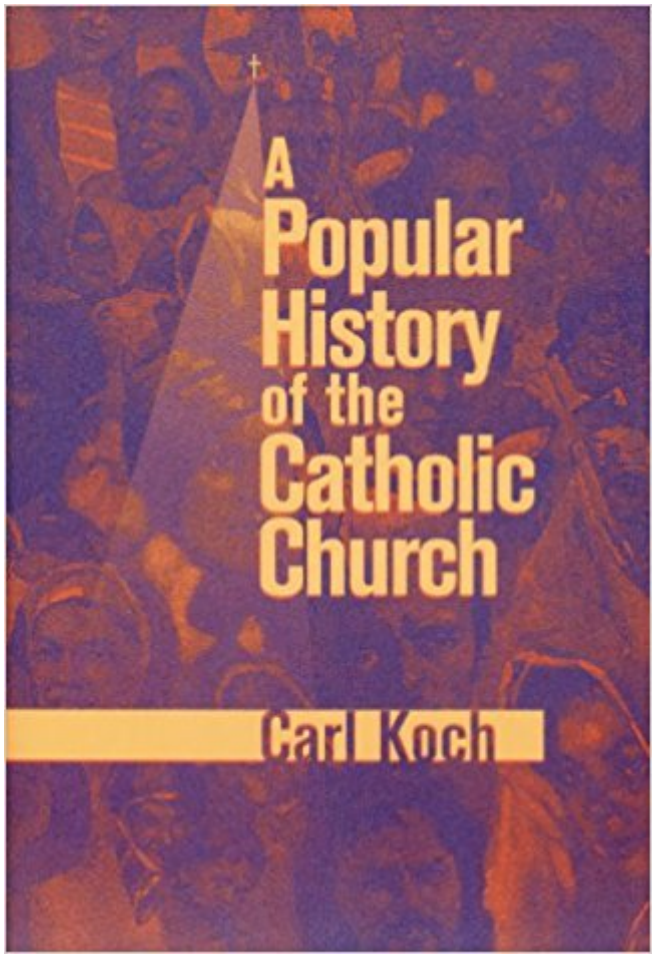
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A Popular History Of The Catholic Church



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Synopsis

Studying the past to gain insight into the present is exactly why exploring the story of the Church can be so important to our faith. This concise history of the Catholic Church tells the story of the two thousand-year relationship between Jesus and the believers who have followed him. It is a story of people: peasants and popes, saints and heretics, martyrs and apostates. Mostly, the story shows how common people throughout the ages have passed on the faith from generation to generation and tried to live the life of Christ. So the story of the Church is also about the Spirit of God who dwells with us always. A Popular History of the Catholic Church offers the reader fifteen timelines, six maps, sixteen pages of full-color Christian art, questions for personal reflection or group discussion at the end of each chapter, and a subject index

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Every Catholic should read this book. It doesn't tell everything but it is a great start.

The content was very boring and unappealing to teenagers. Hardly any visuals to enhance the curiosity.I did like the brief outline of each chapter on right jacket. This helped the students to see the chronolog.ical order of the historical events of the Church

This is an historical primer that summarizes 2000 years of Church history in about 270 pages. If you're looking for a basic timeline and a general understanding of key events, the book is ok.

However, the author bends over backwards to present a balanced interpretation of these key events. Unfortunately, when every side of every issue is presented as equally reasonable, the cumulative effect is that of a very unreasonable point of view. Case in point: I thought portraying Martin Luther as a reasonable middle-of-the roader was a rather peculiar choice, considering Luther is one of the most extreme and controversial characters in all of religious history. I can imagine someone thinking Luther was the greatest thing that ever happened to Christianity. I can imagine someone thinking Luther was the worst thing that ever happened to Christianity. What I have a hard time imagining is someone thinking, "Oh well. The Reformation was just one of those things." But that is exactly the impression I got of how Mr. Koch feels about it. I would look elsewhere for Church history.

Book was as described and arrived on time.

Since today’s teens are more involved with visuals and social medias having more captions or pictures of each time line would make the book more appealing. Since the book lacks visuals within the chapters I have created a project that challenges my students to seek outside resources with visuals about the specific times in history that each of them were assigned.Having a teacher’s guide book could make the course more exciting especially if it has a lot of activities and suggestions on how to apply the Church’s history to the needs of the world today.Since this book will no longer be printed we will have to seek another Church History book for the next school year.

from Criss Cross, No. 5: "a new resource that can help us to remember by becoming more familiar with the varied colorful history of the Catholic Church. . . can be recommended without hesitation for catechists, parents and all persons wishing to remember our Catholic roots. This history helps us to understand why the Catholic Church exists as it does today, while it gives necessary perspectives for envisioning the future."

from The Faith Connection, 7/12/98: "offers readers a journey into the past so they can see the future. Koch makes a good point: we need to see the church with new eyes so that we can advance its mission with wiser minds and hearts."

Unfortunately, I ordered this book thinking that it was the book by the same title, but written by a true historian--Phillip Hughes. Carl Koch, on the other hand is a professor of education, human

development, and English at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Graduate School. If you are looking for a work on the Church by a true historian, look elsewhere. I recommend strongly the works of H. Daniel Rops, Phillip Hughes, and the especially readable Warren Carroll (History of Christendom series is superb).The work itself is the typical liberal-'catholic' dogma. Luther was a great guy that had it right and was wronged by the Church. ..those familiar with liberal garbage can probably guess the rest.

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