

Gift to the Church and World

Fifty Years of Joseph Ratzinger's Introduction to Christianity

by Donald Wallenfang and John C. Cavadini

DESCRIPTION:

Few books in theology have faced the twentieth century with all its horrors and yet revoiced the redemptive Christian antidote as convincingly as Joseph Ratzinger's 1968 masterpiece, *Introduction to Christianity*. In *Gift to Church and World*, John Cavadini and Donald Wallenfang present papers from the conference held at the University of Notre Dame to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of this classic book's publication and, through it, Ratzinger's lasting influence on the world of Christian theology. Bishops, priests, and lay men and women set their hands to 'the trowel of tribute,' honoring the legacy of Joseph Ratzinger and the pivotal role he has played in the recent history of the Catholic Church.

Covering Ratzinger's work on fundamental theology, philosophical theology, dogmatic theology, spiritual theology, and pedagogy, the essays gathered here shed new light on Ratzinger's theological genius. Throughout, the authors return to his compelling expression of the divine call to reawaken to our true identity as beloved children of God. Altogether, readers will deepen their appreciation and understanding of the theological contributions of Joseph Ratzinger, and his continued relevance to mission and evangelisation today.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

List of Contributors

Acknowledgments

Introduction by John C. Cavadini

I. Overview and Context

1. Integral Faith Formation in the Spirit of the Second Vatican Council: Joseph Ratzinger's *Introduction to Christianity* (1968), by Most Rev. Rudolf Voderholzer

2. The Articulation of Faith Between Memory and Recollection, by Rev. Richard Schenk, OP

3. The Reception of *Einführung in das Christentum* among the Reviewers, by Tracey Rowland

II. Fundamental Theology

4. The *Introduction to Christianity* in Light of Principles of Catholic Theology, by Cyril O'Regan

5. Ratzinger on Lessing's "Ugly Broad Ditch": Augustinian Ressourcement and Modern Rationalism, by Rev. Aaron Pidel, SJ

6. An Introduction to Tradition in Ratzinger's *Introduction to Christianity*, by Catherine R. Cavadini

7. An Introduction to Scripture in Ratzinger's *Introduction to Christianity*, by Anthony J. Pagliarini

III. Philosophical Theology

8. *Nein und doch*: Ratzinger's Philosophy of Renunciation in an Augustinian Key, by Donald Wallenfang, OCDS

9. "Being for" and Normativity in a Post-Durkheimian Age, by Anthony C. Sciglitan, Jr.

IV. Dogmatic Theology

10. Joseph Ratzinger's "Spiritual Christology", by Rev. Robert P. Imbelli

11. Touching the Void: Ratzinger's Soteriology, by Francesca Murphy

12. The Homelessness of Pneumatology: Ratzinger on the Spirit and the Church in the Modern World, by Patrick X. Gardner

13. Hide and Seek: The Eschatology of *Introduction to Christianity*, by Leonard J. DeLorenzo

14. The Liturgical Metaphysics of Gift in *Introduction to Christianity*, by Timothy P. O'Malley

V. Spiritual Theology

15. On Christian Structures, by Clemens Sedmak

ISBN:

9780227178829 (pb)

9780227178836 (pdf)

PRICE:

\$50.00 (pb)

\$36.00 (pdf)

PUBLICATION DATE:

25 May 2023 (pb)

25 May 2023 (pdf)

BINDING:

Paperback & PDF eBook

PAGES:

366

PUBLISHER:

James Clarke & Co

IMPRINT:

James Clarke & Co

READER INTERESTS:

Religious Studies



16. On the Absenting of Christ: Cruciform Beauty in Ratzinger's Introduction to Christianity, by Jennifer Newsome Martin
Epilogue: "The Pedagogy of Introducing" by John C. Cavadini
Index

CONTRIBUTORS BIOGRAPHIES:

John C. Cavadini is the McGrath-Cavadini Director of the Institute for Church Life and Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author and editor of several books, including Pope Francis and the Event of Encounter and Explorations in the Theology of Benedict XVI.

Donald Wallenfang, OCDS, Emmanuel Mary of the Cross, is Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. He is the author and editor of several books, including Phenomenology: A Basic Introduction in the Light of Jesus Christ and Metaphysics: A Basic Introduction in a Christian Key.