

## NEW RELIGIOUS BOOKS BY AUSTRALASIAN AUTHORS

### KEVIN MARK

**Benedict XVI and the Search for Truth; Robert Tilley; St Pauls; PB \$29.95 [9781921032264]; 287pp; 215x140mm; 2007**

Guide to the thought of Pope Benedict XVI, arguing that there is continuity between his prolific theological writings as Joseph Ratzinger and his first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*. The book is based on an adult education course and seeks to be accessible to a wide audience. Focuses on the philosophical principles of Benedict's thought and argues that fundamentally his is a quest for truth. First chapter includes a biographical overview. Endnotes; bibliography. Author received Divinity Honours and Masters degrees, and a PhD, from the University of Sydney. Converted to the Catholic Church in 1997 and is an accredited lecturer in theology at the Sydney College of Divinity and a lecturer in arts, philosophy and religion at Aquinas Academy, Sydney.

**A Cross Too Heavy: Eugenio Pacelli: Politics and the Jews of Europe, 1917-1943 ; Paul O'Shea; Rosenberg Publishing; PB \$35.00 [9781877058714]; 392pp; 225x150mm; 2008**

Australian contribution to the ongoing debate as to whether Pope Pius XII (born Eugenio

Pacelli) did enough to oppose the Nazi persecution of the Jews. Author has undertaken a fresh appraisal of the available documentation, and of Pacelli before his papacy. He concludes that while Pius probably did all he could with regard to acting to assist the Jews, he nonetheless failed to fully understand his duty to make public statements condemning the Nazi regime. Foreword by Michael Phayer, author of *Pius XII, the Holocaust, and the Cold War* (2007). Glossary; bibliography; endnotes; index. Author is a founding member of the Australian Institute of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and is Senior Religious Education Coordinator at St Patrick's College, Strathfield, NSW.

**Life of Jesus in Icons: From the 'Bible of Tbilisi'; commentary by Francis J. Moloney SDB; St Pauls; HB \$39.95 [9781921032738]; 144pp; 245x180mm; 2008**

The Cathedral Church of Mary of the Assumption in Tbilisi, Georgia (Eastern Europe), is adorned with a renowned collection of 130 icons of biblical scenes. This volume contains full-colour, full-page reproductions of 30 of the icons based on the life of Jesus. Each is accompanied by an applicable biblical quo-

tation (NRSV translation), a commentary by Australian biblical scholar Moloney, and then relevant texts from the early Church Fathers. Moloney's commentary covers both the biblical text and the iconography. Preface by Apostolic Administrator of the Caucasus for the Latins, Giuseppe Pasotto. General introduction to icons by Moloney. List of sources of Patristic texts. Moloney was Foundation Professor of Theology at Australian Catholic University and the Katharine Drexel Professor and Dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. His numerous publications include *The Gospel of John* (*Sacra Pagina* series, 1998) and *The Living Voice of the Gospels* (1986/2006).

**Living Vatican II: The 21st Council for the 21st century; Gerald O'Collins SJ; Paulist Press, dist. by Rainbow Book Agencies; PB \$40.95 [9780809142903]; 251pp; 230x150mm; 2006**

Account by an Australian Jesuit, who taught theology for 33 years at the Gregorian University, Rome, of the aftermath of the Second Vatican Council. He examines the reception of its teaching and considers how it should continue to be

received and implemented in the current century. Topics include liturgical renewal, moral theology, relations with other Christians and those of other faiths, and the role of theologians. The concluding chapter presents the author's dreams and hopes for the future Church. Includes some autobiographical material. Appendixes present selected Postconciliar texts; endnotes; select; bibliography; index of names. Author is now research professor at St Mary's University College, Twickenham, England. Among his many books are *Retrieving Fundamental Theology* (1993) and *The Tripersonal God* (2004).

**Not under Bondage: Biblical divorce for abuse, adultery and desertion; Barbara Roberts; Maschil Press (www.notunderbondage.com), dist. by Rainbow Book Agencies; PB \$24.95 [9780980355345]; 190pp; 230x155mm; 2008**

Written within a Protestant perspective, looking for definitive teaching within the biblical texts, this study aims to understand under what circumstances the Bible permits divorce and whether a divorced Christian may remarry. A particular focus is the choices available to those who are Christian victims of marital abuse. Author explains the scriptural dilemmas of abuse victims, examines the scrip-

tures and scholarly research, and argues that the Bible sets victims of abuse free from bondage and guilt. Includes 11 appendices on topics such as Augustine on his parent's marriage; where Jesus agreed and disagreed with Shammai and Hillel; and a brief history of doctrines on divorce and remarriage. Endnotes; bibliography; subject index; scripture index. Author lives in Ballarat, Victoria, and herself experienced an abusive marriage.

**So You're Working for the Catholic Church: A friendly guide to the Catholic tradition; Tony Doherty; John Garratt Publishing; PB \$14.95 [9781920721589]; 56pp; 295x210mm; 2008**

Guide to the fundamental beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church, presented in contemporary language intended to be accessible to adults not previously, or not currently, involved in the Church. This volume is intended for staff in Catholic institutions such as hospitals, schools and social welfare organisations. The book has since been republished with alternative titles, covers and prefaces (but otherwise the same) to reach additional audiences: *So You're Seeking to Renew Your Faith* (ISBN 9781920721671) and *So You're Sending Your Child to a Catholic School* (ISBN 9781920721664). The presentation is somewhat magazine

like, using colour photographs and illustrations throughout. Glossary; collection of quotations from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*; listing of historical facts about the Australian Church. Author is a priest of the Archbishop of Sydney who coordinated the 1995 visit of Pope John Paul II, was Dean of St Mary's Cathedral and Director of the Archdiocese's Adult Education, and is currently a parish priest.

**Taking God to Heart: A living spirituality; Brian Gallagher MSC; St Pauls; PB \$14.95 [9781921032905]; 78pp; 215x140mm; 2008.**

Spirituality text arising from the author's 25 years of ministry in spirituality and spiritual direction. Author sees it as 'a reflection on how God seems to work in people', giving 'a context or framework for deeper appreciation of our experience of God'. Incorporates accounts of the author's own personal spiritual experiences, as well as quotations, some at length, from a wide range of sources. Foreword by Peter Malone MSC. Author is a Missionaries of the Sacred Heart priest and founder of the Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Melbourne, and The Cliffs Retreat in Shoreham, Victoria, where he currently lives. The publication of the book coincided with the 25th anniversary of the foundation of Heart of Life.

*Kevin Mark manages the Australasian information in the Global Books in Print database and is former religious publisher for HarperCollins Publishers.*