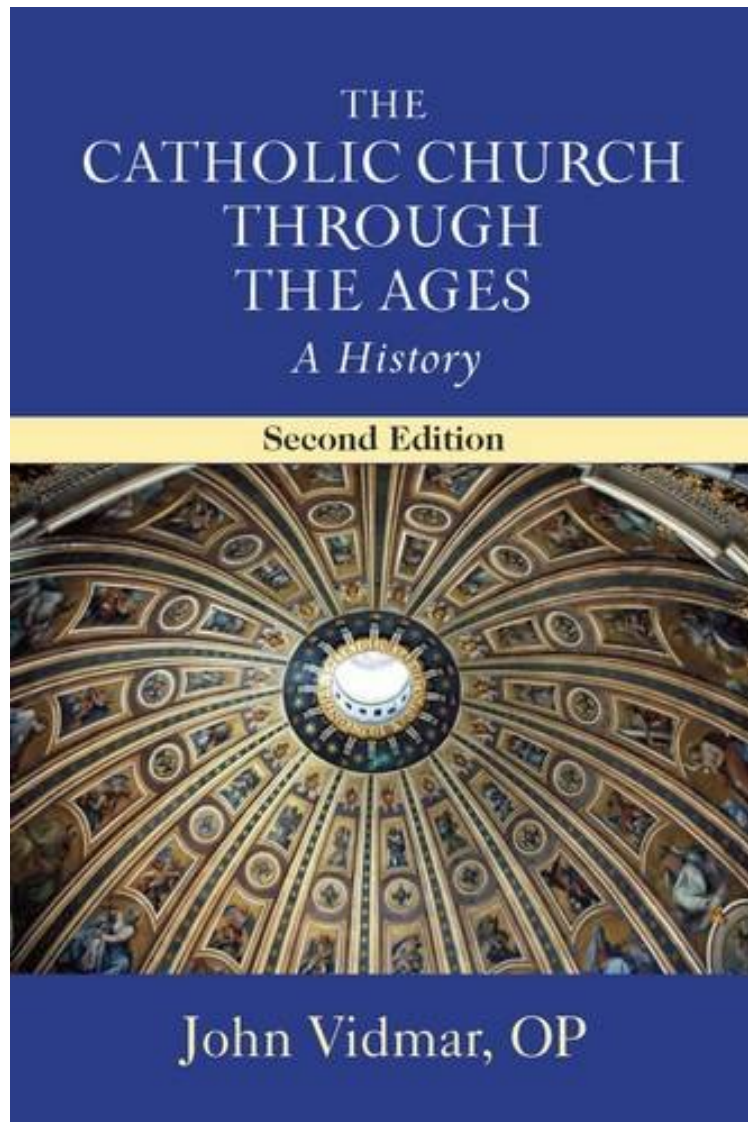


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent startBy Pat QuintThis book is an excellent start to learning the history of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostlic Church. After reading this overview of Church history, one may think how in the world did this institution founded by our Lord survive for just the first few centuries, much

less for approaching 2000 years? "Founded by our Lord" is the key...."and the gates of hell will not prevail." I highly recommend this book as a "jumping off point." It only wetted my appetite for more. The author's list of suggested reading is worth the price of the book.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. easy to read with terrific additional sources at the end ...By Mom of ManyBalanced, easy to read with terrific additional sources at the end of the sections that recommend additional reading and videos, which Father Vidmar rates in terms of ease of use. Perfect for a high school history class.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Catholic Church Through the AgesBy CustomerThis book is great for all persons age twelve and above and persons of all faiths.This book got me excited! In one location with an easy but well documented read, one can get a good overview of the history of the church, which ties together culture, politics, economics, and the spirituality of the times with the development of the Catholic Church.The author also presents a foundation for the Reformation and the intent of Martin Luther. I found all the "people" (apostles, popes,saints,lay people) I thought to be important--and many more people that I had not heard of-- mentioned in this book.This book is an excellent beginner book for church history and a slice of what one might find in a humanities course. The author writes in an easy-to-understand style and supplements the text with pictures, time-lines, charts, and lists. The author divides the history of Christianity into six ages, which helps to organize the information in a way that submerges the reader into a walk with history.This book is appropriate for persons age 12 and beyond. It can easily be read in sections. A thorough list of supplemental materials is given.My sister--who has shown little interest in books of this type--bought her own copy. I think she is more excited than I am!D.B.

The Catholic Church through the Ages, now in its second edition, is a one-volume survey of the history of the Catholic Church from its beginning until (and including) the pontificate of Pope Francis. The book explains the Church's progress by using Christopher Dawson's division of the Church's history into six distinct "ages," or 350-400 year periods of time, each cycle beginning with great enthusiasm and advancement and ending in decline and loss. Writing with the experience of thirty years of teaching, the author has fashioned an ideal text that combines substance with readability.Undergraduates, graduates, and interested lay people have given the author an idea of what topics should be emphasized. As a result, he has emphasized such areas monasticism, the Crusades, medieval theology, the Inquisition, Reformation, French Revolution, the nineteenth century, and the Church in the United States. And he has added material on the Oxford Movement, John Henry Newman s contributions to the Oxford Movement and to the Catholic intellectual tradition, and the Catholic literary revival that took place in several countries in the early twentieth century, as well as on the last three popes.As a supplement to each chapter, the author has included an updated the recommended readings and bibliography, as well as the audio-visual materials.

About the AuthorRev. John Vidmar, OP, is associate professor of history at Providence College in Rhode Island and the archivist for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph. The author of *Praying with the Dominicans* and 101 QA on the Crusades and Inquisition and coauthor of 101 QA on *The Da Vinci Code* and the Catholic Tradition, he holds a doctorate in theology from the University of St. Thomas in Rome and an MPhil in ecclesiastical history from the University of Edinburgh.