Catholic Sacraments: A Rich Source Of Blessings
Using passages of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the official rubrics of sacramental rites as the basis for their writing, this collection of texts highlights the connection between theology, prayer, and ritual. The book is divided into four main parts. The first part, entitled Why the Sacraments? treats the sacraments in general, focusing on the central role they play in the Catholic faith. The remaining parts treat the Sacraments of Initiation (Part 2), the Sacraments of Healing (Part 3), and the Sacraments of Vocation (Part 4). The treatment of each sacrament begins with selected passages from the Catechism of the Catholic Church that offer succinct descriptions of the sacrament and its role in the life of the Church. Second, there is an excerpt from the prayers used in the celebration of that sacrament followed by responses by theologians with expertise in the history and theology of that sacrament. Finally, discussion questions that follow each section are intended to lead the individual or group into a deeper understanding of the sacraments and their role in the life of the Church and daily life.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

This is an excellent little book on the sacraments for those who want a good foundation. I love the pairing of the Catechism segments and the essays. If you teach the Sacraments to new Catholics, use this book, give this book! There is a major concern however, and that is the marriage essay coauthored by Michael Lawler. Although the marriage essay by him is okay in this instance, he is an unrelenting critic of the Church’s teaching on birth control and marriage. Simply having his name associated with the book may make it problematic for use in a parish. He is a signatory to the recent
Wijngaards Statement on the Ethics of Using Contraceptives was set to be presented at a meeting hosted at the United Nations Sept. 20 to encourage the Catholic hierarchy to reverse their stance against so-called "artificial" contraceptives. There are many good writers and thinkers on marriage, so it's unfortunate that the editors didn't give a little more thought to this issue. Hopefully a second edition of this book might swap out the Lawler essay for an equally good or better essay.

Book was acceptable. Informative.

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