Ignatius of Loyola & Early Modern Catholicism

1. Ignatius of Loyola & the Early Jesuits: Texts & Translations
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1. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA & THE EARLY JESUITS: TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

Texts
The standard critical edition of the works of Ignatius of Loyola and the early Jesuits is the 150+ volumes of the Monumenta Historica Societatis Jesu (MHSI), that was published in Madrid in the 1890s and is currently being published by the Jesuit Historical Institute in Rome.

Translations
George Ganss, ed., Ignatius of Loyola: Spiritual Exercises and Selected Works, Classics of Western Spirituality (New York: Paulist Press, 1991). This volume, translated by some of the top Jesuit historians, offers Ignatius’ Autobiography, which details his conversion and the formation of the early Jesuits. Ignatius’ other classic, The Spiritual Exercises, should not really be read; properly speaking, it is an instruction manual for spiritual directors to guide people through a 30-day spiritual retreat. This volume has some good excerpts from Ignatius’ little-known letters and his Constitutions.


Edmond C. Murphy & Martin E. Palmer, trans., *The Spiritual Writings of Pierre Favre: The Memoriale and Selected Letters and Instructions*, Jesuit Primary Sources in Translations 1, 16 (St. Louis: Institute of Jesuit Sources, 1997).


2. IGNATIUS & THE EARLY JESUITS: SURVEYS & REFERENCE WORKS

John O’Malley, *The First Jesuits* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1993). This is *must* reading and the place to start any study. It marks such an advance that most previous studies look woefully out-of-date. O’Malley’s gift is not just the balance of his historical judgment and the lucidity of his prose, but his ability to put things in context—to see the forest for the trees.


3. IGNATIUS & THE EARLY JESUITS: STUDIES


4. **COUNCIL OF TRENT & EARLY MODERN CATHOLICISM**

**Texts**


**Studies**

John O’Malley, John, *Trent: What Happened at the Council* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press / Harvard University Press, 2013) paperback, $28. NEW. The classic studies of the Council of Trent were done back in the 1950s and 60s by Hubert Jedin. This new study marks a significant revision and a wide-ranging set of new perspectives on the council by one of the leading historians of the early modern Catholicism.

historical prejudices that have caused historians to read Catholic developments in
terms of Protestant ones, rather than seeing 16th-century Catholicism for what it
was: a complex, many-sided Church with reformist elements, with backward looking
ones, with evolving trends in piety and the intellectual life. Lucid and pungent.

David Luebke, ed., *The Counter Reformation: The Essential Readings*, Essential Readings in
History (New York: Blackwell, 1999). The title is misleading: this is *not* a collection of
original sources, but rather of interpretations of the Counter-Reformation by leading
historians.

Robert Bireley, *The Refashioning of Catholicism, 1450-1700: A Reassessment of the Counter

Giorgio Caravale, *Forbidden Prayer: Church Censorship and Devotional Literature in Renaissance Italy,
Catholic Christendom, 1300-1700* (Ashgate, 2012).

Karen E. Carter, *Creating Catholics: Catechism and Primary Education in Early Modern France


James Corkery and Thomas Worchester, eds., *The Papacy Since 1500: From Italian Prince to
Universal Pastor* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).

Arthur G. Dickens, *The Counter Reformation*, Library of World Civilization (New York: W.W.

Barbara B. Diefendorf, *From Penitence to Charity: Pious Women and the Catholic Reformation in

Outram Evennett, *The Spirit of the Counter-Reformation*, ed. John Bossy (Notre Dame:


Gigliola Fragnito, ed., *Church, Censorship and Culture in Early Modern Italy*, Cambridge Studies in
Italian History and Culture (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001)

R. Po-Chia Hsia, *World of Catholic Renewal, 1540-1770*, New Approaches to European History

Martin D.W. Jones, *The Counter Reformation: Religion and Society in Early Modern Europe,

Laurence Lux-Sterritt, *Redefining Female Religious Life: French Ursulines and English Ladies in


Thomas F. Mayer, *The Roman Inquisition on the Stage of Italy, c. 1590-1640*, Haney Foundation
Series (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014) hardcover, $80. NEW.


### 5. TERESA of AVILA & JOHN of the CROSS & EARLY MODERN CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY: TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

#### Texts


#### Translations

Kieran Kavanaugh & Otilio Rodriguez, ed. and trans., *Teresa of Avila: The Interior Castle*, Classics of Western Spirituality (New York: Paulist Press, 1979). Teresa is warm and chatty, but is a shrewd analyst of the interior life. This is perhaps her best work.
Kieran Kavanaugh, ed. and trans. *John of the Cross: Selected Writings*, Classics of Western Spirituality (New York: Paulist Press, 1987). John is perhaps the greatest and most austere analyst of mysticism in the Catholic tradition. His paradoxical language can be baffling and easily misunderstood by one unfamiliar with the tradition of ‘negative theology.’


6. TERESA of AVILA & JOHN of the CROSS & EARLY MODERN CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY: STUDIES


