

Guide For Liturgy Of The Hours 2014

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Bibliographic Guide to Music New York Public Library. Music Division 1994

Being Mindful, Being Christian Joanna Collicutt 2016-11-18 What is mindfulness? And should we as Christians be mindful? Mindfulness programmes are increasingly being used for issues as wide-ranging as depression, pain, employee engagement, and character development, and many Christians are wondering what to make of all this. In this book, experienced psychologists explain what is meant by "being mindful", help readers to view mindfulness more broadly than the context of Buddhism in which it is often framed, and profile the rich Christian tradition of mindful-like practice. By bringing a Christ-centred approach to mindful awareness, the authors demonstrate how to apply this practice to discipleship and spiritual growth. Readers are equipped to decide the extent to which they wish to learn and practice mindfulness, to approach it without fear, and to draw on the good within it to develop their relationship with Jesus. *The Little Oratory* David Clayton 2014-04-25 Keeping a faithful prayer life with your family isn't easy. From herding distracted children to managing the seemingly endless litany of prayers and devotions, our spiritual life all too often feels frantic and burdensome. This isn't the way it should be. Our prayer life, our family life, and our work life should — and can! — be in harmony. When they are, our family is a powerhouse of grace, and Our Lord transforms our home into a little Eden — a little bit of heaven on earth. With simplicity and holy wisdom, authors David Clayton and Leila Marie Lawler show you how to bring peace to your home by integrating your family into the calm, truly joyful way of Mother Church. Her feasts and seasons, prayers and devotions are gifts that draw us closer to God and unfold before us His marvelous plan of salvation. To help you live the liturgical life of the Church more fully, David and Leila reclaim here an almost lost tradition that families used for centuries to build a beautiful bridge between home and church: the little oratory. Consisting of a modest table and icons, the little oratory is a visible sign of spiritual awareness and devotion. It extends the Eucharistic worship of the Mass into the heart of your home, spiritually nourishing your family and preparing them to transform the world through prayer and charity. Building your own little oratory is simple, and in these pages you'll discover just how easy it is. In fact, you likely have most of the pieces in your home already except, perhaps, the sacred art. That's why we've included here seven full-colored icons that are ready for framing, enabling you to get started right away! By following the wise advice in this book, you'll discover the peace and love that flows from a home that is focused on Christ. You'll also learn . . . How to use sacred art to strengthen your prayer life. How to extend Catholic beliefs and devotions into every room of the house. Why the Liturgy of the Hours is important and how it can make your family holy. How to pray the Rosary with children and keep the rowdiest of them calm and reverent. The active role children can and should play in the prayer life of the family. What to do when only one parent takes the spiritual life seriously. How to overcome the feeling that you're too busy to pray. Practical ways to extend the liturgical life into your workplace. And countless other tips to help you practice your faith in the heart of your home. Scott Hahn "This is one of the most beautiful books I've ever seen. How I wish I'd had it when I first became a Catholic, not just for myself, as a husband and father, but for my family, too. If one book has the potential to transform the Catholic family (and society), this is it." Thomas Howard "This book is a rare treasure." Christopher West "A superb guide to making that encounter of thirsts a lived experience in the home." Daria Sockey, author of *The Everyday Catholic's Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours* "The Little Oratory will help you discover a pattern of daily prayer that truly fits your family life while creating a place of beauty in the heart of your home." Andreas Widmer, author of *The Pope and the CEO* "An indispensable resource for anyone seeking to make their home a breeding ground for holiness." Elizabeth Foss, Founder, *In the Heart of My Home* "Leila Lawler and David Clayton offer wisdom and grace to Catholics seeking to make their homes a holy shelter." Joseph Pearce, Editor of *The St. Austin Review* "Wonderful, inspiring, and deeply practical." Stratford Caldecott, an Editor of *Magnificat UK* "A great blessing to Catholic families." Father Robert Reed, President, CatholicTV Network "A perfect guide for any family who strives to make their home a place to experience the majesty and beauty of the Divine." **Liturgy of the Hours Guide-2014 Large Print** Cbpc 2013-09-01

Companion Prayer Book to the Liturgy of the Hours Georges-Albert Boissinot 2010-10 This book is meant to help all clergy, religious, and lay people to share more fully in the Prayer of the Church through inspirational prayers and reflections centered on the celebration of the Hours.

Guide for Servers, Second Edition Corinna Laughlin 2021-07-10 The work of the sacristan is extremely important, for without their preparations, the Mass cannot begin. Sacristans work behind the scenes to help ensure proper celebration of the liturgy, setting out the books, the vestments, the vessels, the bread, and the wine. Grounded in Church doctrine and liturgical practice, this updated guide provides newly formed and experienced sacristans with the skills and theological insights to help them fulfill these crucial tasks. This guide includes: Theological and historical reflections on the liturgy and the ministry; Practical skill-building and advice for serving in this role; Ways to deepen your spirituality and call to discipleship; Answers to frequently asked questions; Recommended resources; A glossary; Questions for discussion and reflection

The Everyday Catholic's Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours Daria Sockey 2013-02-22 You don't live in a cloister or a monastery, but you take your prayer life seriously and want to explore ways to pray regularly and better. The Liturgy of the Hours is one of those ways—but for those of us who find it a little intimidating, Daria Sockey provides a solid overview to this ancient prayer practice. The *Everyday Catholic's Guide to the Liturgy of the Hours* will answer questions like: What is the history of the Liturgy of the Hours? How can the Liturgy of the Hours fit into a busy schedule? Why is the Liturgy of the Hours relevant today? Print or online resources: Which is better? There is a rhythm of prayer, not just throughout the day, but throughout the year. Sockey explores the spiritual riches of the seasons, the saints, and special feast days, which add depth and variety to prayer. She also addresses the practice of praying the Scriptures, especially the psalms, and helps the reader to appreciate the universal beauty of these ancient prayers. Don't let concerns about "what page am I supposed to be on?" scare you away. Sockey will be your guide to answer common questions and overcome common fears. Your prayer life will never be the same!

Liturgy of the Hours International Commission on English in the Liturgy 1986-06 Each volume in this series is liturgically accurate, magnificently printed, and beautifully bound as befits its use for the Prayer of the Church. You will find this set ideal for both your private and your communal daily prayer.

Context and Text Kevin W. Irwin 2018-07-12 One of the most influential works in the debate over the concept and definitions of liturgical theology, *Context and Text* by Monsignor Kevin W. Irwin is now available in a completely rewritten, new edition. In light of the historical, theological, and pastoral mandates of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Context and Text* is both a proposal for and an example of an investigation of the Church's liturgical praxis from a liturgical-theological perspective. This second edition, which includes an expanded introduction, covers: · new liturgical and ecclesial contexts resulting from newly promulgated liturgies · further research in method for liturgical studies · consideration for changes in the cultural contexts in which people celebrate the liturgy. Besides brand-new chapters on time and sacramentality, and additions to the chapter on the arts, this edition also considers the "ongoing 'texts and contexts' of the liturgy as always a new event in the life and ongoing discussion of liturgical theology within Christianity.

Tackling Trauma Paul A. Barker 2019-03-14 Trauma is a universal phenomenon that can be caused by international catastrophes or individual, personal tragedy. Trauma is also a severely neglected topic in Christian literature, and while it can challenge someone's faith in Christ, God and the ministry of his Word is central to dealing with the emotional and psychological impact of trauma. By his Spirit, through his Word, and through his church, God is available to minister to people suffering from trauma and bring transformation to their lives. In this book, a team of experienced and informed Christian professionals from around the world promote a deep biblical response to trauma through clinical and theological wisdom and their first-hand experience of witnessing and experiencing trauma. The contributions provide practical responses to people's trauma, rather than mere descriptions of the problems, making it an ideal resource for pastors, counsellors, humanitarian workers and students.

Behold the Man Harold Burke-Sivers 2015-09-22 Lucid and inspiring, *Behold the Man* is a unique exploration of Catholic spirituality for men. Much of the literature written for Catholic men focuses on

topical issues such as fatherhood and sexuality. While this book does not exclude these subjects, it is the first to present a comprehensive picture of Catholic male spirituality. What is authentic male Catholic spirituality? What distinguishes it from Protestant male spirituality? How does masculine spirituality complement feminine spirituality? These questions and many more are answered in this book. Drawing from Scripture and Church teaching, the author roots Catholic male spirituality in a covenant relationship with God and the cross of Jesus Christ. He demonstrates that when a man embraces the cross he is truly able to be himself—the man that God created and calls him to be. Behold the Man can deepen a man's experience of Christ and help him to know the Lord more intimately.

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Guide to Reference Books Rita G. Keckeissen 1986

A Christian Survival Guide Ed Czewski 2014-06-23 No one ever plans to fail in their faith. We all think we'll be the kind of Christian who follows the straight and narrow, ending our days with the relief of knowing we were ultimately a good and faithful servant. So why do so many leave that road? What enables some to survive as Christians when so many others have faltered? With *A Christian Survival Guide*, Ed Czewski steps up to be your trail guide and provide some possible answers. He addresses some of the biggest, toughest questions in Christianity, including: - Disturbing Bible stories - Hell and what it means - Does the Bible have to be "true"? - The question of evil- Money and the church- Evangelizing when no one wants to listen Candid and wry, Czewski deals with the tension of hard questions without resorting to empty answers, clichés, relativism, or the smug certainty that can so often drive seekers and strugglers further away. This popular blogger also has a knack of making long-ago biblical figures absolutely recognizable in today's issues. This survival guide is not meant to be a "one size fits all" handbook. It is a first step to confronting the big issues and challenges of a life of faith—even the ones that Christians fear most. Czewski writes for those who both care and question deeply, and offers survival tips to help readers move from living on the edge to a place of health and life.

The Liturgy Documents, Volume Four Mark E. Wedig, OP 2014-07-22 Nothing provided

The Essential Guide to Catholic Terms Mary Kathleen Glavich 2014-01-08 Catholicism has a deep, rich history that dates back centuries upon centuries. But sometimes it's hard to keep all that information straight. *The Essential Guide to Catholic Terms* is a handy, thorough, complete reference for all things Catholic. Written in simple, direct language appropriate for children of various stages of faith formation, *The Essential Guide to Catholic Terms* offers the detail-rich stories and phrases that we use to teach and understand our faith. A handy resource for parents and teachers, every Catholic home and classroom would not be complete without this fundamental resource.

The Divine Office in Anglo-Saxon England, 597-c.1000 Jesse D. Billett 2014 No description available.

The Divine Office for Dodos Madeline Pecora Nugent 2008-07 Book that will help Catholics pray the Liturgy of the Hours completely and correctly

Practicing Pilgrimage Brett Webb-Mitchell 2016-11-09 *Practicing Pilgrimage: On Being and Becoming God's Pilgrim People* explores both the theological, cultural, and spiritual roots of Christian pilgrimage, and is a "how-to" book on doing pilgrimage in our suburban backyards, city streets, rural roads, churches, retreat centers, and our everyday life. Brett Webb-Mitchell takes the ancient practice of Christian pilgrimage and applies it to our contemporary lives. .embed-container { position: relative; padding-bottom: 56.25%; height: 0; overflow: hidden; max-width: 100%; } .embed-container iframe, .embed-container object, .embed-container embed { position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; width: 100%; height: 100%; }

Guide for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Corinna Laughlin 2014-03-03 This second edition is appropriate for training new extraordinary ministers or for updating experienced ones, this book may be used by individuals or groups. It conveys the latest teachings of the Church, gives sound advice for dealing with the practical everyday challenges of parish liturgies, and nurtures spiritual growth in the minister. In addition to practical, theological, and spiritual instruction, you'll find frequently asked questions, advice for responding to unusual or difficult circumstances, a resource list, glossary, questions for reflection or discussion, and prayers.

Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2014: The Almanac for Pastoral Liturgy 2013

The Liturgy of the Hours in East and West Robert F. Taft 1986 The origins and development of the Divine Office are traced through both Eastern and Western branches of the Church, providing a wealth of historical and liturgical information. From the small beginnings of a few Christians in New Testament Jerusalem, the prayer of the Church spread, changing and evolving as it met and was assimilated by different cultures. This classic study is a major resource for the liturgical scholar.

The Christian Liturgical Papyri: An Introduction Ágnes T. Mihálykó 2019-06-18 Liturgical papyri are prime witnesses to the history of liturgy and the religious and theological currents in late antique Egypt. These items from the third to ninth century preserve hundreds of Greek and Coptic hymns, prayers, and acclamations, most otherwise unknown but some still recited by the Coptic Church. Agnes T. Mihalyko offers the first extensive introduction to the liturgical papyri, facilitating the reader's access to them with a detailed inventory of edited manuscripts and an extensive discussion of their date and provenance. She also examines liturgical papyri as the first preserved liturgical manuscripts, describing their material features, the ways they were used, the early history of the liturgical books, and their languages. She reveals how liturgical texts were written down and transmitted and locates these important manuscripts in the book culture of late antique Egypt.

Kenosis in Theosis Sigurd Lefsrud 2019-12-30 The perennial questions surrounding human identity and meaning have never before been so acute. How we define ourselves is crucial since it determines our conception of society, ethics, sexuality--in short, our very notion of the "good." The traditional Christian teaching of "deification" powerfully addresses this theme by revealing the sacred dignity and purpose of all created life, and providing a comprehensive vision of reality that extends from the individual to the cosmos. Hans Urs von Balthasar is a valuable guide in elucidating the church's teaching on this vital subject. Following the patristic tradition, he focuses his attention on Jesus Christ, whose kenotic descent in his incarnation and passion reveals both the loving character of God and the perfection of humanity. Christ is the "concrete analogy of being" who in his two natures as God and man unites heaven and earth. It is the Trinity, however, that brings to fruition the fullness of the meaning of theosis in Balthasar's theology. The community of divine persons eternally deifies the cosmos by embracing and transforming it into the paradigm of all reality--the imago trinitatis--overcoming the distance between the created and uncreated while maintaining and honoring their difference.

Historical Dictionary of Catholicism William J. Collinge 2021-08-15 *Historical Dictionary of Catholicism, Third Edition* contains a chronology, an introduction, a bibliography, the dictionary has more than 500 cross-referenced entries on themes such as baptism, contraception, labor, church architecture, the sexual abuse crisis, doctrine and theology, spirituality and worship, and church structure.

Common Worship: Times and Seasons President's Edition Common Worship 2013-07-15 This revised, expanded edition of the *Common Worship President's Edition* contains everything to celebrate Holy Communion Order One throughout the church year. It combines relevant material from the original *President's Edition* with Eucharistic material from *Times and Seasons, Festivals and Pastoral Services*, and the *Additional Collects*.

Practical Guide for the Liturgy of the Hours Shirley Sullivan 2008-07-01 Book that offers guidance to help Catholics pray in a rich and meaningful way

Religion in Sixteenth-Century Mexico Cheryl Claassen 2021-12-31 Detailed comparison of Aztec and Spanish religious devotion, examining the melding of practices during the first century of contact 1519-1600.

Spirituality in Nursing Mary Elizabeth O'Brien 2013-04-01 *Spirituality in Nursing: Standing on Holy Ground, Fifth Edition* explores the relationship between spirituality and the practice of nursing from a variety of perspectives, including: * Nursing assessment of patients' spiritual needs * The nurse's role in the provision of spiritual care * The spiritual nature of the nurse-patient relationship * The spiritual history of the nursing profession * Contemporary interest in spirituality within the nursing profession This *Fifth Edition* includes a new chapter titled, "Prayer in Nursing" which includes information on topics such as the

history of prayer in nursing, finding time for prayer in nursing, prayer and nursing practice, and the ethics of praying with patients. A second new chapter titled, "The Spirituality of Caring: A Sacred Covenant Model of Caring for Nursing Practice", explores the history of spirituality in nurse caregiving and spiritual concepts in nursing theories of caring. A concept analysis of nurses' caring as a sacred covenant includes the "Sacred Covenant Model of Caring for Nursing Practice", a model for clinical practice developed by the author.

Lord Teach Us to Pray Rev. Fr. Jeffrey Kirby 2014 Echoing the petition of the disciples, Lord, teach us to pray, this book guides the reader through the challenges of discipleship and the various stages of prayer. Fr. Kirby lovingly and expertly examines this crucial petition, shedding light on its three parts: the call to follow the Lord, to live virtuously, and to pray while laying out a course for growing in discipleship and strengthening the interior life.

Silent Rosary Addison Hodges Hart 2021-07-09 The twenty mysteries of the rosary are a circular "gallery," a matrix of theology and spirituality. They can inspire us profoundly. For those seeking a deeper encounter in faith, these mysteries have the power to move us toward contemplation. A lengthy Introduction explains in detail the meaning of the term "mystery" in Christian thought, provides a brief history of the rosary, explains the significance of Mary in the mysteries, explores the importance of "beholding" in the Scriptures and in our spirituality, and explores Christian iconography. The centerpiece of the book is the "gallery" of the mysteries as illuminated by the iconography of Solrunn Nes, each image supplemented with explanatory commentaries by Addison Hodges Hart. The latter incorporate biblical exegesis, pertinent historical details, and insights from classical spiritual writers. The aim is to provide insight into the symbolism and typology of each mystery and to lead the reader into contemplative prayer and action. Throughout, the book unites an outward "beholding" of the mysteries of the rosary with the inner practice of the work of silence.

Sing of Mary Stephanie Budwey 2014-11-14 Throughout the history of Christianity, Mary has been a beacon of hope to many who look to her. While Christians have always prayed to Mary, they have also sung to her in times of joy and sorrow. Sing of Mary analyzes Marian hymnody throughout Christianity—and particularly in the Roman Catholic Church in the United States from 1854 to today—focusing not only on the texts and music but also on the contexts out of which these hymns came. By using a holistic methodology—drawing from anthropology, history, liturgy, musicology, psychology, sociology, and theology—this study takes an interdisciplinary approach toward studying Marian theology and devotion through the lens of hymnody. This volume, accessible to both laypeople and academics, provides readers with a clear and full understanding of Marian hymnody by looking at many examples throughout the history of Christianity up through the present, thus shedding light on the history of Marian devotion and theology. The work concludes by providing hope for the future of Marian congregational song, particularly by exploring how the Magnificat can help Marian congregational song be meaningful to a wide range of Christians.

The Oxford Handbook of Byzantine Literature Stratis Papaioannou 2021-05-18 This volume, the first ever of its kind in English, introduces and surveys Greek literature in Byzantium (330 - 1453 CE). In twenty-five chapters composed by leading specialists, The Oxford Handbook of Byzantine Literature surveys the immense body of Greek literature produced from the fourth to the fifteenth century CE and advances a nuanced understanding of what "literature" was in Byzantium. This volume is structured in four sections. The first, "Materials, Norms, Codes," presents basic structures for understanding the history of Byzantine literature like language, manuscript book culture, theories of literature, and systems of textual memory. The second, "Forms," deals with the how Byzantine literature works: oral discourse and "text"; storytelling; rhetoric; re-writing; verse; and song. The third section ("Agents") focuses on the creators of Byzantine literature, both its producers and its recipients. The final section, entitled "Translation, Transmission, Edition," surveys the three main ways by which we access Byzantine Greek literature today: translations into other Byzantine languages during Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages; Byzantine and post-Byzantine manuscripts; and modern printed editions. The volume concludes with an essay that offers a view of the recent past—as well as the likely future—of Byzantine literary studies.

The Bloomsbury Handbook to Studying Christians George D. Chryssides 2022-01-27 Drawing on a range of methodologies, editors George D. Chryssides and Stephen E. Gregg shift attention from normative textual and doctrinal matters to issues of materiality and everyday life in Christianity. This handbook is structured in four parts, which include coverage of the following aspects of Christianity: sacred space and objects, cyber-Christianity, food, prayer, education, family life, fundamentalism and sexuality. In addition, issues of gender, race and ethnicity are treated throughout. The international team of contributors provide in-depth analysis that highlight the current state of academic study in the field and explores areas in which future research might develop. Clearly organised to help users quickly locate key information and analysis, the book includes an A to Z of key terms, extensive guides to further resources, a comprehensive bibliography and a chronology of landmark events, making it a unique resource to upper-level students and researchers.

Education and Religion in Late Antique Christianity Peter Gemeinhardt 2016-03-31 This book studies the complex attitude of late ancient Christians towards classical education. In recent years, the different theoretical positions that can be found among the Church Fathers have received particular attention: their

statements ranged from enthusiastic assimilation to outright rejection, the latter sometimes masking implicit adoption. Shifting attention away from such explicit statements, this volume focuses on a series of lesser-known texts in order to study the impact of specific literary and social contexts on late ancient educational views and practices. By moving attention from statements to strategies this volume wishes to enrich our understanding of the creative engagement with classical ideals of education. The multi-faceted approach adopted here illuminates the close connection between specific educational purposes on the one hand, and the possibilities and limitations offered by specific genres and contexts on the other. Instead of seeing attitudes towards education in late antique texts as applications of theoretical positions, it reads them as complex negotiations between authorial intent, the limitations of genre, and the context of performance.

Liturgy and Devotion in the Crusader States Iris Shagrir 2020-05-21 Examining liturgy as historical evidence has, in recent years, developed into a flourishing field of research. The chapters in this volume offer innovative discussion of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem from the perspective of 'liturgy in history'. They demonstrate how the total liturgical experience, which was visual, emotional, motile, olfactory, and aural, can be analysed to understand the messages that liturgy was intended to convey. The chapters reveal how combining narrative sources with liturgical documents can help decode political circumstances and inter-group relations and decipher the core ideals of the community of Outremer. Moreover, understanding the Latins' liturgical activities in the Holy Land has much to contribute to our understanding of the crusade as an institution, how crusade spirituality was practised on the ground in the Latin East, and how people engaged with the crusading movement. This volume brings together eight original studies, forwarded by the editors' introduction, on the liturgy of Jerusalem, spanning the immediate pre-Crusade and Crusade period (11th-13th centuries). It demonstrates the richness of a focus on the liturgy in illuminating the social, religious, and intellectual history of this critical period of ecclesiastical self-assertion, as well as conceptions of the sacred in this time and place. This book was originally published as a special issue of the Journal of Medieval History.

Guide for Cantors, Second Edition Paul Turner 2014-03-03 Nothing provided

Interreligious Relations and the Negotiation of Ritual Boundaries Marianne Moyaert 2019-08-05 This volume explores the ways in which interreligious encounters happen ritually. Drawing upon theology, philosophy, political sciences, anthropology, sociology, and liturgical studies, the contributors examine different concrete cases of interterritoriality. After an introductory chapter explaining the phenomenon of interterritoriality, readers learn about government-sponsored public events in Spain, the ritual life of mixed families in China and the UK. We meet Buddhist and Christian monks in Kentucky and are introduced to rituals of protest in Jerusalem. Other chapters take us to shared pilgrimage sites in the Mediterranean and explore the ritual challenges of Israeli tour guides of Christian pilgrims. The authors challenge readers to consider scriptural reasoning as a liturgical practice and to inquire into the (in)felicitous nature of rituals of reconciliation. This volume demonstrates the importance of understanding the many contexts in which interterritoriality happens and shows how ritual boundaries are perpetually under negotiation.

Praying the Liturgy of the Hours Timothy M. Gallagher 2014-09-01 Father Timothy Gallagher, loved for his popular guides to Ignatian spirituality, shares in this informative, inspiring volume his own experiences and insights into the daily prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, which he has prayed daily for the last 40 years. All around the world, everyday, for hundreds of years, Catholics pray the psalms, and readings from the bible and from tradition, in a formal way called the Liturgy of the Hours. And like in any meditative practice there are blissful days and others that are just a dry challenge. What does it all mean? Can the Liturgy of the Hours, with its hymns, psalms, readings, and intercessions, become the prayer of every Christian—priest, religious, and layperson? Can it bring new energy into our spiritual lives? Fr. Tim shares his experiences praying the Liturgy of the Hours for the last four decades and invites the reader into the beauty and possibilities of this simple way of praying.

Handbook of Dutch Church History Herman J. Selderhuis 2014-12-10 Herman Selderhuis as editor of this volume has brought together a team of experts, resulting in a unique approach since each chapter is co-written by a catholic and a protestant author, who have all integrated the latest research results. Each section begins with a brief historiographical overview. The same time, ecclesiastical events are always set within a greater framework of political, social, and cultural developments for which reason each author has taken the liberty to describe its own method. The user will find in this book tables, diagrams, and illustrations. Also many source texts are integrated in the narration. These texts are intended to bring the described events and people closer to the reader and, as it were, to let them speak the words. The name of the book as "Handbook of the church history of the Netherlands" immediately brings to mind three problematic complexes which are relevant to its user. First, there is the nature of a handbook, that is intended to be a good tool but also has its limitations: it stimulates and necessitates the use of further books. Second, the area. The Netherlands is a plurality and that is also noticeable in its church history, for each region, town, and village has its own church history. Third, the history of the church for sure is the most important aspect, but this history can only be understood if it is described in the context of political and social developments.