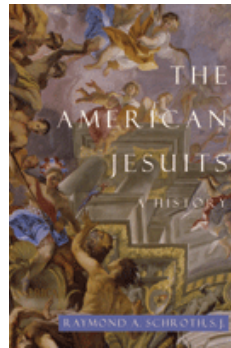


A Jesuit Education Reader is a collection of the best contemporary writing on the mission, challenge, and state of Jesuit

education. The thirty-five offerings are conveniently organized by theme. **George W. Traub, SJ**, provides an introduction, suggested further readings, and a short glossary of key terms and concepts for each section. The selections compiled here are written by a veritable Who's Who of educators and writers (including John W. O'Malley, SJ; Howard Gray, SJ; Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, SJ; Parker J. Palmer; and many others). The entries are sure to enlighten and inspire anyone involved in Jesuit education faculty, administrators, staff, and trustees. Together, these valuable and often hard-to-find articles bear witness to the strength and vitality of Jesuit education in the past and present, while looking ahead to the vast potential this form of education holds. *George W. Traub, SJ, A Jesuit Education Reader* (Loyola Press, 2008)



Raymond Schroth SJ, a professor of humanities at St. Peter's College in Jersey City, N.J., tells the story of the Society of Jesus' presence in North America in this account that begins with a martyrdom on the coast of Florida in 1566. From humble beginnings as missionaries bent on convert-

ing Native Americans, the society grew over nearly five centuries on this continent into an organization best known today for its work in education and social activism. In between, members have served as war chaplains and antiwar protesters, high school and college educators, and writers and editors addressing church and societal issues through the community's influential magazine *America*. Blending history and analysis, Schroth chronicles the society's weaknesses and failures, too, including its foot-dragging on racial issues, ranging from its involvement in slavery in the 19th century to slowness in integrating its schools in the 20th. Schroth also discusses the community's decline in numbers, but he ends on a hopeful note, quoting the late Karl Rahner: "There will always be men who... pass by all the idols of this world and dare to give themselves unconditionally to the incomprehensibility of God, seen as love and mercy." This is absorbing reading for those with an interest in the Jesuits.



Raymond Schroth SJ, The American Jesuits: A History (NYU Press, 2007)



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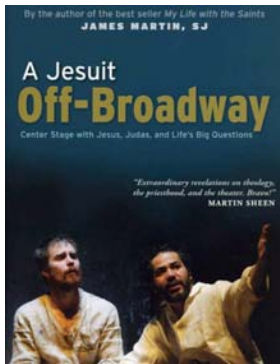
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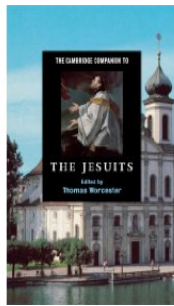
Recent Books about the Jesuits



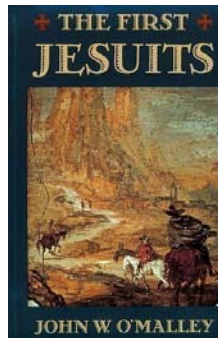
James Martin SJ begins his fascinating account of the making of Stephen Adly Guirgis' play *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, from conception to closing night, by admitting he began not knowing much about the theater. Guirgis

recruited him in October 2004 to provide some background about Jesus and life in first-century Palestine. At the time, Guirgis was knee-deep in the play, which was soon to be produced off-Broadway at the acclaimed Public Theater. During the next few months, Martin got enmeshed in the collaborative process, providing information and moral support to Guirgis, befriending the actors, and engaging director Philip Seymour Hoffman in thorny theological discussions—all the while taking notes about the changes play, ensemble, and he were going through. His fly-on-the-wall account offers clear-eyed insight into contemporary American theater such as only a passionate outsider could provide. Martin, an ordained Jesuit priest after all, leavens the discussion with his research into biblical history and the various current controversies swirling around all accounts of Jesus, his followers, and his era.

James Martin, SJ, A Jesuit Off-Broadway (Loyola Press, 2007)



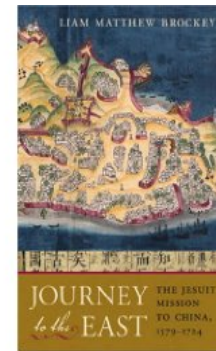
Thomas Worcester writes that, until the mid-1700s, the Jesuits were active in many parts of Europe and far beyond. Gaining both friends and enemies in response to their work as teachers, scholars, writers, preachers, missionaries and spiritual directors, the Jesuits were formally suppressed by Pope Clement XIV in 1773 and restored by Pope Pius VII in 1814. The Society of Jesus then grew until the 1960s; it has more recently experienced declining membership in Europe and North America, but expansion in other parts of the world. This Companion examines the religious and cultural significance of the Jesuits. *Thomas Worcester, The Cambridge Companion to the Jesuits* (Cambridge University Press, 2008)



John O'Malley SJ gives us the most comprehensive account ever written of the Society of Jesus in its founding years, one that heightens and transforms our understanding of the Jesuits in history and today. Following the Society from 1540 through 1565, O'Malley shows how this sense of mission evolved. He looks at everything--the Jesuits' teaching,

their preaching, their casuistry, their work with orphans and prostitutes, their attitudes toward Jews and "New Christians," and their relationship to the Reformation. All are taken in by the sweep of O'Malley's story as he details the Society's manifold activities in Europe, Brazil, and India.

John O'Malley SJ, The First Jesuits (Harvard University Press, 2008) (New paperback edition)



Liam Brockey's Journey to the East is an absorbing and strongly researched book. The nature and durability of this seventeenth-century expansion of the Jesuit mission in China are explored in the first half of Brockey's book and he brings many less-known missionaries into his story, broadening the canvas dramatically, and also giving serious attention to the problems the missionaries faced from hostile Chinese literati and senior officials. There will be few who do not find important new materials in the second half of *Journey to the East*, which draws on a rich range of original sources to deepen our sense of Chinese society and the attempted Jesuit impact upon it. Liam Brockey has written a



challenging book. Even those who would still like to cling to the fact that many of these Jesuit pioneers in China were truly remarkable men, with enormous mental resources, have to realize that he has changed the ground rules of the

debate. It is clear that the Chinese Catholics themselves were much more in charge of their own destinies than we had suspected. And with that knowledge in place, we can no longer tell the same old stories in the same old way.

Liam Brockey, Journey to the East: The Jesuit Mission to China 1579-1724 (Belknap Press, 2008) (New paperback edition)