

PDF LIFE ISSUES MEDICAL CHOICES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR CATHOLICS

Life Issues, Medical Choices

Complex Issues. Thoughtful Answers. When is it right to remove a feeding tube from a patient? Are health care workers entitled to conscience protections? Should contraceptives be used for medical purposes? Is medical marijuana ever OK? Medical and technological advances have left millions of Catholics grappling with tough issues--dilemmas that will only multiply as technology and medicine continue to develop at an ever-faster pace. In this updated and expanded edition of *Life Issues, Medical Choices*, two noted bioethicists explore fundamental principles of Catholic thought--in accessible, easy-to-understand language--to help you make decisions about complex medical and life issues.

Life Issues, Medical Choices

Janet E. Smith has been among the world's preeminent voices in the study of the issues raised by Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical letter *Humanae vitae*. *Self-Gift: Essays on Humanae Vitae and the Thought of John Paul II* presents Smith's critical collection of essays on the vocation of marriage, human sexuality, contraception, and more. Her groundbreaking scholarship touches on all the areas implicated in *Humanae vitae*: from natural family planning to parenthood and natural law to personalism. This collection not only includes Smith's English translation of the encyclical from the original Latin text, but also helpful background on the development and release of this authoritative magisterial document. With a particular emphasis on the personalist and Thomistic philosophy of Pope St. John Paul II and how it illuminates the two-millennia tradition of Catholic teaching on human sexuality, *Self-Gift* delivers crucial insight into the Creator's plan for human sexuality and our full flourishing in Christ.

Life Issues, Medical Choices

With the many medical options available for ourselves and loved ones, how do we make informed decisions which draw upon our Catholic tradition and so respect our human dignity and the dignity of others? This small book, using question-answer format, addresses topics that touch: On the beginning of human life medical responses to infertility, stem cell research, etc. On life "in between" organ donation, genetic testing, experimental treatment, etc. On the end of life pain management, euthanasia, withdrawing life support, cremation, etc. "In "Life, Death, and Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews," Revs. Black and O'Neil bring professional training in Catholic ethics into dialogue with questions that people in the pews must face. Using precise language they help us understand the core values of respect for life and human dignity that are the heart of moral analysis and pastoral theological reflection. Fr. Kevin O'Neil, C.Ss.R., coauthor of "50 Questions from the Pews: Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices," was interviewed by Fr. Dave Dwyer on The Busted Halo Show (Sirius Satellite Radio) on April 26, 2011. <http://www.bustedhalo.com/videoandaudio/interview-father-kevin-oneil-co-author-life-death-and-catholic-medical-choices-50-questions-from-the-pews> View sample pages. "Paperback"

Self-Gift: Essays on Humanae Vitae and the Thought of John Paul II

The Contraception Deception: Catholic Teaching on Birth Control by author Patrick Coffin is a comprehensive assessment of the Church's sexual ethic. In this expanded revised edition of *Sex Au Naturel: What It is and Why It's Good for Your Marriage*, Coffin demonstrates how the rejection of *Humanae Vitae* impacts more than just our national birthrates. With relevant insight into the development and reception of Paul VI's landmark 1968 encyclical, Coffin explains why *Humanae Vitae* is more timely than ever. In *The Contraception Deception*, you'll learn where exactly the Bible teaches against birth control, the differences between contraception and natural family planning (hint: they're more profound than you think), why other reproductive technologies fall short of God's vision for marriage and family, and—most importantly—how to rely on the ever-present grace of God rather than your own strength in faithfully following this challenging, life-giving aspect of Christian discipleship.

Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices

Many people today believe that the traditional Catholic view of sex is antiquated, unrealistic, and potentially harmful. In *Catholic Sexual Morality*, Dr. Robert Fastiggi asks whether the permissive sexual attitude of today's culture is really contributing to deeper love, better relationships, and true happiness for men, women, children, and families. He begins with the example of St. Augustine who recognized he was a slave to lust and in need of true freedom. Fastiggi then examines the foundations for Catholic sexual morality in Scripture, reason, and human experience. The hope is that people will realize that the Catholic Church is not "against sex" but sees sexual intimacy as something so beautiful and life-giving that it requires the stability of marriage for its true and rightful expression. *Catholic Sexual Morality* is grounded in the belief that the church's teachings on sex correspond to God's plan for human happiness. These teachings are challenging, and the church understands how easy it is to fail in sexual matters. God's mercy, however, is more powerful than human weakness and sin. This book explains the reasons why the Catholic Church teaches as she does on matters such as pornography, masturbation, fornication, adultery, contraception, divorce, and homosexual acts. It presents these teachings in a realistic way with full recognition of the reasons why people reject them. The ultimate desire is to help people understand that Catholic sexual morality is not a creation of church leaders but a response to what God has made known to us in Sacred Scripture and the natural law. In a world filled with infidelity, divorce, wounded children, and broken hearts, the wisdom of traditional Catholic sexual morality deserves a more sympathetic view--not just because it is Catholic but because it is true.

Handbook on Critical Life Issues

"Paul VI's genius proved prophetic: he had the courage to stand against the majority, to defend moral discipline, to exercise a 'brake' on the culture, to oppose present and future neo-Malthusianism." — Pope Francis "Of all the paradoxical fallout from the Pill, perhaps the least understood today is this: the most unfashionable, unwanted, and ubiquitously deplored moral teaching on earth is also the most thoroughly vindicated by the accumulation of secular, empirical, post-revolutionary fact. The document in question is of course, *Humanae vitae*." — Mary Eberstadt, Author, *Adam and Eve after the Pill* After half a century, how has the teaching of Pope Paul VI on marriage and birth control, presented in his encyclical *Humanae vitae* (On Human Life), held up? Very well, says philosopher Janet Smith and her colleagues in *Why Humanae Vitae Is Still Right*. A sequel to Smith's classic *Why Humanae Vitae Was Right*, this new volume shows how the ethical, theological, spiritual, and sociological case for Paul VI's controversial document remains strong—indeed, how it's in some ways even stronger today, following Pope John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* and in light of the problems caused by the sexual revolution. In addition to essays by Dr. Smith herself, the book features contributions by other renowned experts and scholars such as Mary Eberstadt (author of the best-selling *Adam and Eve after the Pill*), George Weigel, Therese Scarpelli Corey, Michael Waldstein, Christopher West, Obianuju Ekeocha (author of the best-selling *Target Africa*), Maria Fedoryka, Deborah Savage, Derek Doroski, Angela LaFranchi, William Newton, Joseph Atkinson, Michele M. Schumacher, and Peter Colosi. *Why Humanae Vitae Is Still Right* includes the Krakow Document composed under the supervision of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla (later, Pope John Paul II), which provided research by moral theologians and other experts that helped to shape *Humanae vitae* to be a more personalistic document.

The Contraception Deception: Catholic Teaching on Birth Control

How can the Catholic faith help not only Catholics, but all people, build a just and flourishing society? The Catholic Church contributes first and foremost to the common good by forming the consciences of the faithful. Faith helps reason achieve an understanding of the common good and guides individuals in living justly and harmoniously. In this book, J. Brian Benestad provides a detailed, accessible introduction to Catholic social doctrine (CSD), the Church's teachings on the human person, the family, society, political life, charity, justice, and social justice. *Church, State, and Society* explains the nuanced understanding of human dignity and the common good found in the Catholic intellectual tradition. It makes the case that liberal-arts education is an essential part of the common good because it helps people understand their dignity and all that justice requires. The author shows the influence of ancient and modern political philosophy and examines St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, papal social encyclicals, Vatican Council II, and postconciliar magisterial teaching. Benestad highlights the teachings of popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI that the attainment of the common good depends on the practice of the virtues by citizens and leaders alike. In addition to discussing the tension between CSD and liberal democracy, the book takes an in-depth look at: –Key themes of social life: the dignity of the human person, human rights, natural law, and the common good –Three principal mediating institutions of civil society: family, Church, and Catholic university –The economy, work, poverty, immigration, and the environment –The international community and just war principles “Excellent . . . The best treatment of Catholic Social Doctrine as a whole and a precious reminder of the intrinsically problematic character of modern democracy.” —*Perspectives on Political Science*

Catholic Sexual Morality

"Experts representing a variety of disciplines including history, culture, theology, medicine, law, and psychology reflect upon the Catholic Church's teachings on marriage and licit methods for the regulation of births, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the papal document *Humanae vitae*. Includes selected bibliography"--

Why Humanae Vitae Is Still Right

Sex Au Naturel: What It Is and Why It's Good For Your Marriage by radio host Patrick Coffin is a bracing ride across the landscape of the Catholic sexual ethic. If you're looking for intellectual ammo with which to defend and explain the teaching of *Humanae Vitae*, or if you reject it altogether, you'll agree that Coffin approaches the topic from a wide array of new and persuasive angles. With humor and enthusiasm and a total absence of moralizing you'll learn: Why Paul VI's landmark 1968 encyclical was widely rejected a generation ago and why it's gaining new respectability now Where exactly the Bible teaches against birth control The differences between contraception and natural family planning (hint: they're more profound than you think) The meaning of the natural law and how it applies to birth control How the dogma of the Blessed Trinity implicitly condemns birth control That every single Protestant denomination rejected birth control until 1930 Why the myth of overpopulation is used against the Church, and how to answer it How faithful adherence to the teaching of *Humanae Vitae* is causally related to marital happiness and longevity Why it's not too late to start over, even if you've been sterilized How to rely on the ever-present grace of God rather than your own strength in faithfully following this challenging, life-giving aspect of Christian discipleship Much, much more!

Church, State, and Society

A practical guide for Catholics through the controversial field of bioethics Lay people today need to be as educated as possible in catholic teaching in bioethics due to their huge civic responsibilities related to the burning issues of our time such as euthanasia, prenatal genetic diagnosis, and so forth. We read about these

issues constantly in the newspapers and see them reported on TV. It can be difficult to keep up to date with developments in these areas, at the same time as staying informed about church teaching regarding them. Bioethics Matters is an essential resource for Catholics who are dealing with these medical and end-of-life issues. This succinct guide clearly sets out catholic teaching on today's most debated issues: stem cell research, reproductive technologies, euthanasia, and much more. By presenting real-life situations, this guide provides readers with examples of catholic ethical decision making in action. The purpose is to show how catholic teaching can help people today navigate their way through tough decisions and choices. The book is divided in to four parts Part 1: Bioethics from a Roman Catholic perspective Part 2: Reproductive technologies Part 3: End-of-life issues Part 4: Catholic teaching on living life until the end

Humanae Vitae, 50 Years Later

Archbishop Jose Gomes, renowned expert on death and dying issues, explains what every Catholic needs to know in order to effectively and morally prepare for the inevitable death of our loved ones and even ourselves. With changing values and modern medical technologies to deal with, this book explains how to approach end-of-life issues and prepare for death in a way consistent with our Catholic faith. You will learn the answers to these important issues and more: What dignified death means to a Catholic. Why euthanasia, even if well intended, is murder. What the culture of life really means. Whether a Catholic should have a living will . Which medical practices are immoral. Pope John Paul II s criteria for ordinary vs. extraordinary means. What is morally mandated for palliative care.

Sex Au Naturel

What the Church teaches and why on issues of euthanasia, invitro fertilization, genetic counseling, assisted suicide, living wills, persistent vegetative state, organ transplants, and more.

Bioethics Matters

The Roman Catholic Church has long been the target of suspicion and hostility. But how much of this is based on ignorance and prejudice and how much is the fruit of thoughtful consideration of the facts? This book attempts to distinguish between fact and fiction regarding the Catholic Church. All of the current hot-button topics are addressed: faith versus science, the status of women, the clergy abuse scandals, contraception, and same-sex unions. Without excusing or justifying wrongdoing, the author clarifies the official teachings of the Church on these matters. He then demonstrates that much popular opinion about Catholicism has been based on misunderstanding and misinformation. For example, in the minds of many, Catholic opposition to same-sex unions is the result of bigotry and hatred. But is this so? What if the Church's teaching on marriage has nothing to do with hatred and everything to do with love--the exclusive, lifelong, spousal love between a man and a woman, which finds its ultimate fulfillment in the procreation of children? No book can answer everyone's questions, objections, and concerns about the Catholicism, but this work examines seven of the most controversial and most common myths about the Catholic Church.

The Health Care Decision Guide for Catholics, 2nd Ed

The Roman Catholic Church has long been the target of suspicion and hostility. But how much of this is based on ignorance and prejudice and how much is the fruit of thoughtful consideration of the facts? This book separates fact from fiction. Without excusing or justifying wrongdoing, author Christopher Kaczor clarifies official Catholic teaching and demonstrates that much popular opinion about Catholicism is based on misunderstanding and misinformation. He also provides robust and lucid arguments for Catholic belief and practice. No one book can answer everyone's questions or objections about Catholicism, but this work examines seven of the most controversial and most common myths about the Catholic Church. The Seven Myths: The Church Opposes Science: The Myth of Catholic Irrationality The Church Opposes Freedom and

Happiness: The Myth of Catholic Indifference to Earthly Welfare The Church Hates Women: The Myth of Catholic Misogyny Indifferent to Love, the Church Banned Contraception: The Myth of Opposition between Love and Procreation The Church Hates Gays: The Myth of Catholic \"Homophobia\" The Church Opposes Same-Sex Marriage Because of Bigotry: The Myth That There Is No Rational Basis for Limiting Marriage to One Man and One Woman Priestly Celibacy Caused the Crisis of Sexual Abuse of Minors: The Myth of Priestly Pedophilia

A Will to Live

For more information on Extreme Makeover, . Popular radio host Teresa Tomeo knows from experience that the self-image of American women is being distorted by pop culture. With its emphasis on youth, physical beauty, and sexuality, the secular media is encouraging women--and girls--to see themselves primarily as sex objects. A professional TV and radio journalist, Tomeo pulls together the latest research on social behavior and trends in order to demonstrate that women are harming themselves and their chances for true happiness by adopting the thoroughly modern, sexually liberated lifestyle portrayed in magazines and movies. Packed with not only persuasive statistics but also powerful personal testimonies, Extreme Makeover shows that it is not the slogans of the sexual revolution and the women's liberation movement that free and dignify women, but the beautiful teachings of the Catholic Church. So what are women steeped in the Hollywood and Cosmo girl version of reality to do? Undergo Tomeo's Extreme Makeover. With the help of this book, they can shed the toxic messages that objectify and enslave them and embrace the truth about being a beloved daughter of God.

Catholic Bioethics and the Gift of Human Life

Last Rights examines end-of-life decisions in the context of the Roman Catholic tradition, a heritage rich in its teaching about the human person, the value of life, and the moral rights and responsibilities inherent to every human being. Written for Catholics seeking a better understanding of their own tradition, ministers who deal with Catholic patients, those who wish to learn more about the Catholic perspective, and ordinary decision-makers who must face these complex issues, Last Rights includes cross-references, a glossary, and an appendix and bibliography that provide resources for further study and helpful tools for end-of-life decision-making.

The Seven Big Myths about the Catholic Church

Health care is one of the most important challenges of the 21st-century. Medical advances have made it very difficult for health care providers, patients, and their families to keep pace with the ethical problems inherited with new procedures. Ethicists must meet the demands of medical research, government regulations, and Church directives. Among the issues under discussion are embryonic stem cell research, end-of-life care, organ transplants, genetic engineering, and advance health care directives. Making Health Care Decisions is a practical Catholic guide on these issues. It provides an overview of Catholic medical ethics, with references for further reading, discussion questions, and a glossary of medical and ethical terminology. Four topics from this book are also available in booklet form for people with specific needs and questions. Ron Hamel is ethicist at the Catholic Health Association in St. Louis, Missouri. Other contributors include Michael R. Panicola, Mark Miller, Richard C. Sparks, M. Therese Lysaught, Carol Tauer, and Patricia Talone. Paperback

The Seven Big Myths about the Catholic Church

Modern medicine has produced many wonderful technological breakthroughs that have extended the limits of the frail human body. However, much of the focus of this medical research has been on the physical, often reducing the human being to a biological machine to be examined, understood, and controlled. This book begins by asking whether the modern medical milieu has overly objectified the body, unwittingly or not, and

whether current studies in bioethics are up to the task of restoring a fuller understanding of the human person. In response, various authors here suggest that a more theological/religious approach would be helpful, or perhaps even necessary. Presenting specific perspectives from Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the book is divided into three parts: "Understanding the Body," "Respecting the Body," and "The Body at the End of Life." A panel of expert contributors—including philosophers, physicians, and theologians and scholars of religion—answer key questions such as: What is the relationship between body and soul? What are our obligations toward human bodies? How should medicine respond to suffering and death? The resulting text is an interdisciplinary treatise on how medicine can best function in our societies. Offering a new way to approach the medical humanities, this book will be of keen interest to any scholars with an interest in contemporary religious perspectives on medicine and the body.

Extreme Makeover

Why Stay Catholic? is a lively, timely book about the "good stuff" within the Catholic Church today.

Last Rights

Foreword by Robert Bork Janet Smith, well-known philosophy professor and writer, presents a critical look at the meaning of the "right to privacy" that has been so often employed by the Supreme Court in recent times to justify the creation of rights not found in the Constitution by any traditional method of interpreting a legal document. Smith shows how these inventions have led to the legal protection of abortion, assisted suicide, homosexual acts, and more. As Judge Bork says it shows that "morals legislation now seems constitutionally impermissible"

Making Health Care Decisions

Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions is a must read for those seeking to grow in their Catholic identity. Here are just a few of the questions that are covered in this book: Where did the Bible come from? Was Christ or Constantine the founder of the Catholic Church? Was Peter the first Pope? What do Catholics mean by being "born again" and why do they baptize children? Where do Catholics find the seven sacraments in the Bible? Why do Catholics believe in the Eucharist as the Body and Blood of Christ? Why do we need a priest to forgive serious sins? What are indulgences and why are they needed? Where can we find a priest being referred to as "Father" in the Bible? Do Catholics worship saints? What is the communion of saints? Is Mary the Mother of God? Did Jesus have brothers and sisters? Was Mary assumed into heaven? Is there a purgatory? Is there a rapture? Is salvation assured? Are we justified by faith alone, or by faith and works? Do Catholics practice idol worship?

Treating the Body in Medicine and Religion

Many people today believe that the traditional Catholic view of sex is antiquated, unrealistic, and potentially harmful. In Catholic Sexual Morality, Dr. Robert Fastiggi asks whether the permissive sexual attitude of today's culture is really contributing to deeper love, better relationships, and true happiness for men, women, children, and families. He begins with the example of St. Augustine who recognized he was a slave to lust and in need of true freedom. Fastiggi then examines the foundations for Catholic sexual morality in Scripture, reason, and human experience. The hope is that people will realize that the Catholic Church is not "against sex" but sees sexual intimacy as something so beautiful and life-giving that it requires the stability of marriage for its true and rightful expression. Catholic Sexual Morality is grounded in the belief that the church's teachings on sex correspond to God's plan for human happiness. These teachings are challenging, and the church understands how easy it is to fail in sexual matters. God's mercy, however, is more powerful than human weakness and sin. This book explains the reasons why the Catholic Church teaches as she does on matters such as pornography, masturbation, fornication, adultery, contraception, divorce, and homosexual

acts. It presents these teachings in a realistic way with full recognition of the reasons why people reject them. The ultimate desire is to help people understand that Catholic sexual morality is not a creation of church leaders but a response to what God has made known to us in Sacred Scripture and the natural law. In a world filled with infidelity, divorce, wounded children, and broken hearts, the wisdom of traditional Catholic sexual morality deserves a more sympathetic view—not just because it is Catholic but because it is true.

Handbook on Critical Life Issues

Dietzen shows what the official church teachings are and are not.

The Seven Big Myths About the Catholic Church

"Good Care, Painful Choices surveys the ethical decisions that must be made by ordinary people who deal with medicine today - ranging from beginning-life issues such as test-tube babies and surrogate motherhood to end-of-life issues such as advance directives, patient refusal of treatment, and physician-assisted suicide. This third edition gives special attention to partial-birth abortion and to recent discoveries in genetics involving stem cells, cloning, and eugenics." "The strength of the book comes from its foundation in basic moral principles that stress personhood, moral decision making, and conscience. Decidedly Christian, the book gives special emphasis to the Roman Catholic tradition. It will be welcomed by Catholics, by Christians of all denominations, and by anyone interested in a careful overview of contemporary medical ethics."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Why Stay Catholic?

What it means to be a man or a woman is questioned today like never before. While traditional gender roles have been eroding for decades, now the very categories of male and female are being discarded with reckless abandon. How does one act like a gentleman in such confusing times? The Catholic Gentleman is a solid and practical guide to virtuous manhood. It turns to the timeless wisdom of the Catholic Church to answer the important questions men are currently asking. In short, easy-to-read chapters, the author offers pithy insights on a variety of topics, including • How to know you are an authentic man • Why our bodies matter • The value of tradition • The purpose of courtesy • What real holiness is and how to achieve it • How to deal with failure in the spiritual life

The Right to Privacy

Don't worry-almost everyone is. Either we think the subject is too impolite, or we don't want to be branded an intolerant fanatic, or we worry that we won't represent the pro-life side well enough. You can overcome this fear, says Trent Horn in his new book, *Persuasive Pro-Life*. With a little knowledge and a few proven techniques, you can become a bold and effective apologist for the unborn. Drawing on over a decade as a pro-life activist Horn helps you cut through the diversions and obfuscations of the "pro-choice" side in order to accurately frame the legal, historical, and medical issues. Using vivid real-life examples, he drives home the critical importance of charity-no matter how loud the debate gets. For we must be not just warriors for the pro-life cause, he says, but ambassadors for it. Then Horn leads you on a guided tour of the many types of pro-abortion opponent or inquirer ("the pragmatist" "the skeptic," "the conflicted"), along with more true stories from the field. In each case he teaches you specific approaches-what to say, what not to say, and how to bear yourself-that are custom-tailored to every situation. The struggle over abortion has never been hotter, and the stakes could not be higher. Read *Persuasive Pro-Life* today and never again be afraid to speak up for the precious and fundamental right to life. Book jacket.

Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions

We Are the Lord's is a succinct, quick-reference guide to difficult end-of-life questions, framed by divine wisdom and Church teaching. Its easy-to-read chapters and question-and-answer format can be a welcomed help to any person or family who are searching for answers during a difficult and traumatic time

Catholic Sexual Morality

Discover the profound wisdom and timeless teachings of Catholicism with The Catholicism Answer Book. This authoritative and accessible guide presents the answers to the 300 most commonly asked questions about the Catholic faith, making it the ultimate resource for both believers and seekers. Readers will discover: 300 Thoughtfully Selected Questions: Delve into the heart of Catholicism as this book addresses a wide array of questions that encompass theology, history, traditions, practices, and more. Expertly Crafted Answers: Written by seasoned scholars and theologians, the responses provide accurate, reliable, and well-researched information. Easy-to-Navigate Format: Organized in a user-friendly Q&A format, locating answers to specific inquiries has never been easier. Inclusivity and Relevance: The book caters to both long-standing believers seeking to deepen their understanding and newcomers in search of a clear introduction to Catholicism. Rich Historical Insights: Explore the fascinating history and development of the Catholic Church, from its early roots to its modern-day significance. Contemporary Application: Learn how Catholic teachings remain relevant in today's world, addressing current moral, ethical, and spiritual challenges. Why Choose The Catholicism Answer Book? Comprehensive and Trustworthy: Unravel the complexities of Catholicism with confidence, knowing you have accurate information at your fingertips. Accessible to All: Whether you are a devout Catholic or someone curious about the faith, this book welcomes everyone on their spiritual quest. Perfect Gift: An ideal present for family, friends, or colleagues exploring their faith or seeking to gain a deeper understanding of Catholic beliefs. Ideal for Study and Discussion: Enhance group discussions, Bible studies, and catechism classes with this invaluable resource. Unlock the depths of Catholicism and immerse yourself in the timeless wisdom, traditions, and teachings that have guided countless believers for centuries.

Catholic Q and A

Straightforward answers about Roman Catholicism for a Protestant audience. The Roman Catholic faith is one of the world's most widespread religious traditions, yet the unique aspects of Roman Catholicism elicit perennial questions from adherents and outsiders alike. Such questions tend to fall into three major categories: historical backgrounds, theological matters, and personal relationships. Using Catholic Church documents and the writings of Catholic scholars, Baptist systematic theologian Gregg R. Allison distills the teachings of Catholicism around forty common questions about Catholic foundations, beliefs, and practices. The accessible question-and-answer format guides readers to the areas of interest, including: Where do Roman Catholic and Protestant beliefs differ? What happens during a Roman Catholic Mass? How does Roman Catholicism understand the biblical teaching about Mary? Who are the saints and what is their role? How can my Roman Catholic loved ones and I talk about the gospel? 40 Questions About Roman Catholicism explores theology and practice, doctrine and liturgy, sacraments and Mariology, contributions and scandals, and many other things, clarifying both real and perceived differences and similarities with other Christian traditions.

Good Care, Painful Choice

The Catholic church has always opposed abortion, but -- contrary to popular belief -- not always for the same reasons. This tightly argued, historically grounded study sets out to demonstrate that a \"pro-choice\" stance, now held by a significant minority of Catholics, is as fully justified by Catholic thought as an anti-abortion view, and may even be more compatible with Catholic tradition than the current opposition to abortion espoused by many Catholics and most Catholic leaders. A Brief, Liberal, Catholic Defense of Abortion argues that the current Catholic anti-abortion stance is justified neither by modern embryology nor by ancient church teachings. Combining up-to-date information on fetal development with a thorough grasp of the

works of the church's early thinkers, Daniel A. Dombrowski and Robert Deltete expose crucial contradictions between the early and the modern church's views of abortion. Returning to the writings of two pillars of early Christian thought, Sts. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, the authors show that abortion was originally condemned by the church on the grounds of perversity, since it nullified the only permissible reason for sexual relations: procreation. Only in more recent times has the view arisen of abortion as indefensible on the ontological grounds that human personhood begins at the moment of conception. The authors demonstrate that the early church's view of fetal development -- delayed hominization, in which the fetus is endowed with a human soul only when it achieves a physical human body -- is diametrically opposed to the current anti-abortion stance. In fact, the authors show, the insistence on immediate hominization that provides the foundation for the current \"pro-life\" view stems from two seventeenth-century scientific misconceptions -- preformationism and the homunculus -- that have since been thoroughly discredited. By considering the history of Catholic thought in its relation to the history of science, Dombrowski and Deltete bring a new level of detail and focus to the abortion debate. Their thoughtful, measured argument provides a fresh perspective that will benefit participants on all sides of the controversy.

Catholic Health Restrictions Updated

Janet E. Smith presents a comprehensive review of this issue from a philosophical and theological perspective. Tracing the emergence of the debate from the mid-1960s and reviewing the documents from the Special Papal Commission established to advise Pope Paul VI, Smith also examines the Catholic Church's position on marriage, which provides context for its condemnation of contraception.

The Catholic Gentleman

A Catholic Guide to End-Of-Life Decisions