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Frankfurt 2016
Religion
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Le prophète de l’Islam en images
Petite histoire d’une désinformation
by François Boespflug

Against misinformation about the figure of Mahomet in the history of Islam

About the author
François Boespflug is a theologian and a historian of religions, specialized in religious iconography. Professor in Strasbourg University’s theology faculty, visiting Professor at Tübingen University in Germany, his books include Dieu et ses images, and Caricaturer Dieu?

Outstanding features
› A controversial and burning subject
› The author’s reputation and his “politically incorrect” point of view, although scientifically well-founded
› An iconographic booklet of the Prophet’s main representations

Content
In this thorough and meticulous book, François Boespflug treats a polemic subject, even taboo: the origin of the supposed proscription of images in Islam, in particular those representing the Prophet. Inherited from the Ten Commandments, the interdiction of images representing God is nowhere to be found in the Koran! The author suggests we make a distinction between the Koran’s banning of pre-Islamic idols and those of images in general. The ban on ‘living images’ (representing living beings) is mostly post-Koranic. Yet the fatwas formulated by theologians did not prevent the development of a history of the image in the Islamic world; and the ban on representations of the Prophet is not unanimously accepted by Muslims; we find representations as early as the 10th century. The figure of the Prophet appears in the illustrations of many historical manuscripts, intended for the courts of caliphs and sultans. Very often we see a full-length portrayal, a figure in action, accompanied by others. François Boespflug brings tangible, historical and iconographic proof of the representation of the Prophet throughout history. He denounces today’s black-out, which is not at all faithful to the tradition, especially Shiite.
Religions, les mots pour en parler
by François Boespflug, Thierry Legrand and Anne-Laure Zwilling
In coedition with Labor et Fides

Words, mysteries, beliefs... how should one interpret, decipher and teach religions in today's world?

About the authors
François Boespflug is a religious historian and professor at the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the Marc Bloch University in Strasbourg. Of particular interest among his books is Dieu et ses images (Bayard). Thierry Legrand is senior lecturer in religious history at the Strasbourg Faculty of Protestant Theology, specialising in Judaism and Biblical writings. Anne-Laure Zwilling is a research engineer at the CNRS, a specialist of religious minorities and the author of contemporary studies of Biblical texts.

Outstanding Features
> An original semantic manual of the history of religions.
> How to avoid pitfalls and amalgams and get to know the main differences between the various religions, and the foundations of a history of religions.
> Current debates about the teaching of religion.

Contents
This book was conceived as a simple and handy working tool for teachers and students who have to present or study some particular aspect of religious history in the context of the national education dept. curriculum. But this ‘manual’ also addresses a wider public keen to find definitions and other illuminating points of reference. A panoramic vision, a guided visit.
Here, the aim is to provide an introduction to the history of religions by presenting, in a systematic fashion, what this discipline entails, the vocabulary it employs and the questions it poses. What exactly is the history of religions? Can we define the thing we call a religion? How can we study the history of religions without becoming lost in the labyrinth of all things religious? What does its sporadic and fragmentary inclusion in the school curriculum of secular France signify? This work furnishes the necessary parameters to properly differentiate between terms such as sacred, icon, divine, idol, soul, sacrifice, etc. It tackles issues of belonging and belief with numerous examples cited from religions all over the world. With indexes of major ideas and of the authors quoted.
Traversée du Christianisme
by Jean-Daniel Causse and Élian Cuvillier

Christianity explained to those who have lost track...

About the author
Jean-Daniel Causse is a Professor at the Paul Valéry University in Montpellier. He has published many studies and essays on Christianity and ethics.
Élian Cuvillier is a Professor of the New Testament at the Protestant Institute of Theology in Montpellier and the author of many biblical studies. He contributed to the Nouveau Testament commenté (Bayard, 2012).

Outstanding features:
- An extremely clear and accessible overview
- 2 complementary points of view: a philosopher and psychoanalyst and an exegete specialist of the New Testament

Content
How should we interpret and understand the major theological and anthropological formulations of Christianity today? Is that ancient heritage still receivable in our times, and can it open up the prospect of a creative philosophy?
The two authors engage in an intense and informative dialogue on Christianity today: its claims, its rites, its morals, its heritage and so on. Incarnation, Creation, Trinity, Sin, Resurrection... all the great Christian themes are explored in the light of contemporary thinking and culture. Inviting each reader to renew their intelligence of religion, this book also provides the indispensable keys to understanding its history, development and destiny.
The book is organized around major issues: Creation, Body and Incarnation, Language and Sacrament, Death and Resurrection, The Last Judgement.
Les fêtes de Dieu, Yahweh, Allah
Collective work

An interreligious dictionary designed for a wide public

About the authors

Philippe Haddad is a rabbi in Ulis, in the suburbs of Paris, after having been rabbi in Nîmes and in the city of Paris. He teaches at the École laïque des religions and has written several books, including Paroles de rabbin (Le Seuil).

Rachid Benzine is an Islamologist who teaches at the Institut d’études politiques in Aix en Provence. His books are frequently published by Editions Albin Michel where he is also editorial manager of a series.

Nicolas Senèze is in charge of a department at the French daily La Croix. His specialist area of study is the crisis of fundamentalism. Bayard published his book La crise intégriste in 2008.

Outstanding Features

➢ The authors’ reputation.
➢ An original and attractive book.
➢ The popularity of interreligious works today.

Content

After a long introduction, each author presents the great celebrations of his own religion in alphabetical order developing the historical, theological and societal facets.

For a wide public, this book adopts an original presentation that makes it an attractive object and easy to use.
Dictionnaire contemporain des pères de l’Eglise
Prefaced by Christian Salenson

More than 100 entries, 150 biographical files, 300 works quoted: an exceptional introduction to the thoughts of the Fathers of the Church and their heritage today

About the author
Marie-Christine Hazaël-Massieux is a linguist, professor at the University of Provence (Aix-en-Provence) and an international specialist of Creole languages as well as a theologian and specialist of Patristics. Christian Salenson is a theologian, director of the Institut de science et de théologie des religions in Marseille.

Outstanding Features
> A unique dictionary, both linguistic and theological.
> The thoughts of the Fathers of the Church are still relevant today.
> This dictionary is an original testimony to their heritage.

Contents
From A for Abandon or Abraham, to W for Wine, taking in such words as God, Hunger, Woman, Martyr and Medicine, Rock, Surprise, Temptation and Translation...
The author gives the necessary information for each selected word: etymological, linguistic and semantic, as well as references and quotations from the works of the most important Church Fathers that reveal the implications of their words and ideas today. The originality of this book is that it permits the thoughts of the Fathers to enlighten the history of Christian theology, even up to the most contemporary authors. The selected texts are meticulously presented and commented. Each article has cross-references to further studies.

3 indexes allow readers to navigate throughout the book with ease: one is thematic, one index of authors and works quoted, and one of the Scriptures, Old and New Testaments.

There is a bibliography for each author quoted
À l’aube du christianisme
by Daniel Marguerat

A unique reference book on the advent of Christianity

About the author
Daniel Marguerat is a teacher of the New Testament at the University of Lausanne. An international specialist on early Christianity, he contributed to the films by Mordillat and Prieur shown on Arte.

Outstanding Features
> An author who is a reference in this genre
> Topicality of debates on the origins of religions

Content
This book assembles Daniel Marguerat’s most important studies on the origins of Christianity, from Jesus of Nazareth to the first Christian communities.

The author presents a wide range of fascinating questions raised by contemporary research: Jesus and history, the importance and the contribution of Paul, the narrative of the first communities, the anti-Jewish feelings of the first Christians...
Great importance is given to the figure of Jesus, which still remains a founding enigma after all the historical sources have been identified.
But the book also treats more original subjects, such as the question of wearing the veil and women in the first communities, or the cult of the family.

Daniel Marguerat is probably the finest French-speaking connoisseur of the gradual historical emergence of Christianity.
This book is the fruit of 30 years’ work and research.
La Bible, quelles histoires
by Thomas Römer
Interview with Estelle Villeneuve

How modern-day historical and architectural discovery has radically altered our concept of the Bible and its God

About the authors
Professor Thomas Römer holds the chair of Biblical Studies at the Collège de France in Paris, and is a Professor of the Hebrew Bible at Lausanne University. As a biblical scholar, historian and theologian, he is the greatest living French-speaking specialist on the Bible, in particular its origins, the history of its formation and the Pentateuch. Estelle Villeneuve is an archaeologist, specialist of the ancient Near East, and a journalist for Le Monde de la Bible.

Outstanding Features
➢ Renown of the author and reputation of his works on biblical history.
➢ This first book in the form of an interview gives readers a global view of his research. Of great interest to specialists as well as a wider public who want to know more about the history of this great book.
➢ The success of books concerning the history and origins of the Bible (La Bible dévoilée, Israël Finkelstein, Bayard).

Content
The person at the origin of the unique biblical God was an ostrich tamer... This is just one of the countless discoveries made by biblical science research, whose spectacular results are revealed here by one of the subject’s finest current-day specialists, Thomas Römer. Others include the construction of the patriarchal legends, Moses and Egypt, the divine Tetragrammaton, the kingdom of David and Solomon, and so on.
How did Yhwh become the God of Israel? Why was the idea of the one God never imposed before the Persian Empire? Römer also treats the biblical enigmas of Yhwh and his ‘Asherah’, his feminine representation; the question of the banning of images; taboos and transgressions in ancient Israel...

T. Römer’s vision is free of all the ideological blinkers of the past, so producing surprises on the scale of Finkelstein’s La Bible dévoilée (Bayard, 2002). He explains very clearly how advances in literary methods and archaeology have led us to question the traditional construction of biblical chronology and historiography.
An interview that retraces, in a lively and instructive manner and without bias, the great adventure of the God of the Bible.
History of Religions

50 clés pour comprendre

A series that offers an introduction on general questions about the great religions, written by specialists

100 personnages clés pour comprendre la Bible
100 Characters to understand the Bible
by Albéric de Palmaert and Joëlle Chabert

Adam and Eve, Abraham, Joseph and his brothers, the Prophets, David and Solomon, Job, Samson and Delilah, Judith... And Jesus, the twelve disciples, the women in the Gospel, Paul, the first Christians... 100 detailed, illustrated presentations recount the characters in a lively and enjoyable style providing the key facts - cultural and artistic. The notices follow the characters’ order of appearance in the Bible, Old and New.

Jésus en 50 clés
50 Keys to Jesus
by Frédéric Mounier, Philippe Gruson, exegete, Michel Quesnel

A highly illustrated book, 100 pictures for a wide public. The unfailing success of books about Jesus.
A pedagogical and accessible book with illustrations, boxed features, maps, documents... All the questions we can ask about Jesus presented in 50 keys. Historical questions: What do we know about the man Jesus? Why didn’t he write anything? What do the Gospels tell us? When was he born? Did he have brothers and sisters? Why was he put to death? What is the resurrection? Is the Turin shroud a fake? And many more. But there are also answers to questions relating to faith: How should we pray with Jesus?

Les Sacrements en 50 clés
50 Keys to The sacraments
by Frédéric Mounier and Jacques Nieuviarts

All the Christian sacraments presented in 50 keys: to understanding Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, Matrimony. Readers will also find responses to difficult issues: remarriage after divorce, the celibacy of priests...
A unique work – no other book destined for the general public offers such a comprehensive and global panorama.

Technical specifications
Format: 160 x 220 mm
Pages: 120
Retail price: 16€

3 titles available

Coming soon:
50 questions on God
Brève histoire de l’islam à l’usage de tous
by Antoine Sfeir

The first pedagogical guide to Islam from its origins to our times

About the author

Antoine Sfeir, born in 1948 in Beirut (Lebanon), is a writer, political analyst and Lebanese journalist who lives in France. He is the editor of the Cahiers de l’Orient and president of the Centre d’études et de réflexions sur le Proche-Orient. From 1968 to 1976, he co-directed the foreign desk of L’Orient-Le Jour, the only French-speaking daily in the Near and Middle-East.

Bibliography:
50 clés sur l’Islam, Bayard 2006
Al-Qaida menace la France, Le Cherche-Midi, 2007

Outstanding Features

› The author’s reputation and credentials.
› The success of L’Islam en 50 clés : 11,000 copies sold.
› Suitable for a wide readership.

Contents

This book fills the tragic dearth of quality popular works on Islam for teachers. It was constructed with the help of teachers and approved by teachers.

In a lively and informed manner, the author recounts the history of Islam while following a timeline, and explains the cultural and geo-strategic stakes in its development.

Following a simple chronological plan, he covers large periods from the birth of the prophet up to the most recent events. The layout was designed to create various different reading levels and provide easy navigation within the text: boxes, a short bibliography for each subject treated, systematic references for the Muslim source documents to avoid all contention, maps...

This book establishes a clear distinction between historical facts, beliefs, myths and imagination: to help overcome preconceived ideas, ideological interpretations as well as many Muslims’ ignorance about Islam.
Le Déni
An enquiry into sexual inequality in the Church
by Maud Amandier and Alice Chablis -
Prefaced by Father Joseph Moingt

‘The Magisterium ought to see this book as a sign of the times.’ Father Joseph Moingt

About the author
Maud Amandier and Alice Chablis are the pseudonyms of two lay Catholic women engaged in the life of the Church. Maud Amandier is a journalist and worked for many years in Christian and social publications. Alice Chablis is a visual artist, teacher and Bible scholar, who was chaplain in France’s ‘grandes écoles’ and a university. Joseph Moingt, a Jesuit, is one of France’s most distinguished theologians.

Outstanding Features
> A thorough and implacable investigation into the patriarchal system and the organisation of power at work in the Catholic Church.
> A book that is sure to stir up controversy, but whose aims are constructive: it dismantles a system so that we may feel impelled to reconstruct it.
> The commitment of Father J. Moingt, who regards this book as an event ‘that makes fundamental revisions mandatory’.

Contents
This book is indeed an event, as Father Moingt insists in his preface... It is a detailed investigation into the symbolic representations of the sexes and power in Biblical texts, in the Magisterium of the Catholic Church and in the history of Christianity and society. It is also an uncompromising study of the inner workings of the patriarchal hierarchy and their often dramatic impact on people’s lives. No stone has been left unturned: denial, the practice of secrecy and scandals are pitilessly explained and denounced.
This extremely well-conducted investigation dismantles the patriarchal system defended by the Church, which is still socially active. Not only does this system perpetuate the injustice of the domination of male over female, but it is based upon a general denial of sexuality and tragic representations of the genders that are often the cause of distressing scandals at the very core of the institution itself.
L’avenir du communisme
by Maurice Bellet

Can humanity survive without rediscovering the meaning and the necessity of sharing?

About the author

Maurice Bellet is a priest, theologian and psychoanalyst. A prolific author, he strives to reformulate the religious and Christianity at the dawn of the profound anthropological change of modernity.

Outstanding features:

- The author’s reputation
- A provoking essay about the economic crisis and the cultural and anthropological changes to come

Content

Maurice Bellet surprises again. After denouncing ‘Le Dieu pervers’, explaining the necessity of enduring life at its lowest ebb in ‘La traversée de l’en-bas’, profoundly changing our comprehension of Christian tradition, he now takes a shot at the economic crisis that is hitting the Western world, inviting us to consider the virtues of … communism!

There was indeed, he writes, a ‘wretched communism’ but today we are seeing a forceful return of human relations that crush humanity and destroy the bond between individuals. Hence the question of what is common to all, of possible sharing, is posed anew. The conception of the world as a free space and a ‘full market’ is preposterous, and it opposes our memory of human history.

Maurice Bellet blithely breaks down the beliefs and idols of ‘magic’ economic and financial thinking, as well as those of technological marvels. He redefines an anthropology based on what brings humans together, on care and training, and on the comprehension of mutations to be realized.
L’explosion de la religion
By Maurice Bellet

We must be resolute in our desire to change the world. If there is to be an explosion, it will not be that of a bomb going off; it will be dissemination.

About the author
Maurice Bellet is a priest, theologian and psychoanalyst. A prolific author, he strives to talk about religion and Christianity in a radically new way, bearing in mind the anthropological upheavals of modernity.

Outstanding Features
- The author’s reputation.
- Today’s debates on the future of religion.
- Colloquium on the work of Maurice Bellet organised this fall with, among others, the Centre Sèvres (Paris).

Contents
Maurice Bellet’s writings are a vast critical reflection on the future of religion in the contemporary world. He expounds the necessary and radical transformation of religion, the ‘explosion’ and reawakening. In this little book, he asks vital questions: with “What liturgies? What teachings? What social configuration?” can this be done. “How can religion survive its own destruction?” His answer: “By overcoming the fear of loss, which can engender a strange spiritual avidity that surrounds the treasure with protective walls so impenetrable that it becomes sterile, or even rots away.” Maurice Bellet describes the possible stages of that irreversible mutation by revealing the great figures of conversion: the name, the icon, the word, as well the more intimate, affection...
Notre foi en l’humain
By Maurice Bellet

Maurice Bellet’s message testament

About the author

Maurice Bellet is a priest, theologian and psychoanalyst. A prolific author, he strives to talk about religion and Christianity in a radically new way, bearing in mind the anthropological upheavals of modernity.

Outstanding Features

- The author’s fame
- Current debates on the future of religion.
- Colloquium on Maurice Bellet’s writings organised this fall with, among others, the Centre Sèvres (Paris).

Contents

Today, we have every reason to be afraid; to dread anthropological, technical and biological upheavals that are likely to transform humanity in a radical manner. Maurice Bellet has written a sort of post-modern creed (in harmony with another book published at the same time, L’explosion de la religion) in which he claims that faith in humanity can no longer be opposed to faith in God. Man’s destiny and the future of our belief in God are inextricably linked, as they have never been before.

How can we believe in humanity in these times of crisis and upheavals? The author explains that it is precisely at such times that mankind is called upon to question what it means to be human – which should, he believes, be the ultimate mission of religion. In this book, he delivers a radical message in a few pages.
La traversée de l’en-bas
by Maurice Bellet

New edition of one of Maurice Bellet’s most successful books

About the author
Maurice Bellet is a priest, theologian and psychoanalyst. A prolific author, he strives to reformulate the religious and Christianity at the dawn of the profound anthropological change of modernity.

Outstanding features:
> The author’s reputation
> Very good sales of the first edition in 2005

Content
In this book, Maurice Bellet treats the contemporary issue of depression, discontent, the inexpressible, life crushed… What he calls ‘l’en-bas’: the lowest ebb. In each one of us, there are secret and hidden doors that give access to our depths, our terrors and betrayals. The great skill of the author is to let us hear how human these depths are. ‘In these abysses,’ he writes, ‘a creation can take seed and we can become close to one another.’

The only God we can accept is one who is willing to descend to those depths, not one who remains on high. To put a stop to inhumanity, it is necessary to pass through the abysses. And all of our lives are profoundly changed.
Franc-parler
by François Boespflug
Interview with Évelyne Martini

A great theologian shares his private feelings, confessions, criticisms and hopes for Christianity, the Church and faith.

About the authors
For the last 30 years, François Boespflug, a Dominican historian and theologian, has been carrying out unprecedented iconographic research. Professor at the University of Strasbourg, conferencier at the Louvre, he has published many studies of God in art.
Évelyne Martini, agrégée in modern literature, is specialized in the history of religions. She has published several books on the teaching of religion and a personal book about schools (Notre école a-t-elle un cœur? Bayard, 2011).

Outstanding Features
> The importance of debates within the Church: sexuality, celibacy of priests, authority, vocations...
> François Boespflug’s wide renown.

Content
In this book of interviews, François Boespflug tackles some of the difficult questions the Church and Christians have to face today. He begins by evoking his personal itinerary, his vocation as a Dominican, his spiritual experience and the problems he has encountered along the way. But what makes this book truly outstanding is the author’s frankness. He tells of his own painful experiences in youth and in his life as a Dominican: molesting, the discovery of homosexuality among clerics, spiritual depression and doubt, even of the existence of God and his choice of life... Not only does he answer questions raised by the Christian faith, he also tackles those subjects that anger the Church, without circumvention and with great forthrightness: homosexuality, the marriage of priests, paedophilia... Contemporary debates on liturgy, art and blasphemy, vocations, the role of laymen in the Church.... are also discussed.
Au service de la vérité
Dialogue, conversion, communion
by Bruno Chenu

Unpublished writings by Bruno Chenu.
A tribute on the 10th anniversary of his death

About the author
Bruno Chenu (1942–2003) was an Assumptionist and a theologian, specialist of ecumenism and the theologies of the Third World. He was editor-in-chief of the French daily La Croix from 1988 to 1997. Professor, journalist and author, his works on African theology, Negro spirituals and ecumenism are a reference today. Many of his books were published by Editions Bayard.

Outstanding features:
› Release of numerous unpublished texts
› Supported by La Croix and Bayard

Content
Jean-François Petit and Nicolas Taralle, Assumptionists, have assembled most of Bruno Chenu’s unpublished writing (conferences, personal texts, articles, etc.). They divided them into three main parts: B. Chenu as an observer and participant in French ecclesial life; Teaching the mystery of Christian brotherhood; Passing on a vision of the future for the Church. For the most part, these writings have lost nothing of their pertinence. At the end of the book, 4 great testimonies about the heritage of Bruno Chenu’s ideas as a militant theologian and impassioned journalist.
Religion

Lumières, religions et raison commune

by Jean Clair, Axel Kahn, Julia Kristeva and Jean-Luc Marion

4 great French thinkers give their views of religion in contemporary culture.

About the authors

Jean Clair is general curator of the national heritage, an author, essayist who does not shy away from polemic, and a historian of French art. Former director of the Picasso Museum, he is also member of the Académie française.

Axel Kahn is a doctor and a geneticist, research director with INSERM. Well-known to the public for his popular science books and his public stances on ethical and philosophical questions connected to medicine and biotechnologies.

Julia Kristeva is a philosopher, psychoanalyst, feminist and French author of Bulgarian origin. She is Emeritus Professor at Paris Diderot University.

Jean-Luc Marion is a philosopher and member of the Académie française, disciple of the theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar. He specializes in Descartes and phenomenology.

Outstanding Features

➢ The authors’ renown.
➢ Today’s debates on the place religions should occupy in our cultural, political and scientific environment.
➢ The success of the ‘Court of the gentiles’: to optimize the dialogue between the Catholic Church and contemporary culture.

Content

Contemporary art, the new bio-technologies and scientific discoveries, contemporary history and philosophy, psychoanalysis... How can we maintain a dialogue with our culture’s religious heritage? What common values and reasoning are likely to unite them today? The 4 authors, brought together exceptionally in this book, brilliantly discuss the necessity to create an open, demanding dialogue. What kind of humanism is still possible and foreseeable? Are faith and the Christian tradition still capable of questioning the ethical future of our world?
50 grands maîtres du BOUDDHISME CHINOIS

By Christian Cochini

The great spiritual and cultural history of Mahayana Buddhism through 50 biographies of its most renowned monks.

About the author

Christian Cochini is a Jesuit theologian and author of Guide des temples bouddhistes de Chine (2008). For many years, he has been living in China where he teaches French. He has long been involved in interreligious dialogue with communities of Chinese Buddhists.

Outstanding Features

- The success of Mahayana Buddhism in Europe.
- The first book for a wide public about Buddhist monks in China from the origins to our times.
- 50 biographies with maps allow readers to visualize the spiritual zeniths and monasteries.

Contents

The author, a Jesuit and specialist of Buddhism in China, presents the greatest figures of Chinese Buddhism, which is now attracting a large number of Europeans. All great masters, they are considered to be the founding fathers of Buddhism in China, Korea and Japan from the origins until the 20th century. Most of them have played an important role in the development of a ‘humanist Buddhism’, so popular in the West today. These great spiritual masters have often radiated great religious, cultural and political influence. With great flair, the author recounts their lives and their philosophy, thus depicting the saga of monastic life in China. Christian Cochini’s most original book is extremely useful to those seeking to understand the history and the role of Buddhism in modern and contemporary China.
Croire
Guide de la foi chrétienne
Collective work, foreword by Mgr Hippolyte Simon

After the success of the fact files in the parishes, all the answers to the main questions about faith and Christian life in one book

About the author
Sophie de Villeneuve, Charles-Éric Hauguel, Jean-Pierre Rosa, Christophe Henning, Mgr. Carré, all regular or occasional contributors to the Croire cahiers and the Internet site Croire.com.

Outstanding features:
> The success of the Croire fact files, not only with the prescribers – the vicars who bought them – but also with the anonymous believers who read and apprised them
> A product from a homogeneous range with great reputation, both for its seriousness and its wide distribution

Content
Who is Jesus? How should we pray? What is the Bible? And the Gospels? Is ‘priest’ a profession? Why go to mass on Sunday? Why do evil and suffering exist? Where do people go when they die? …
To answer the countless questions people ask, the Croire magazine created fact files, extremely simple, to be distributed in the parishes. They were an immediate success, in France and abroad. In just a few years, a huge variety of fact files, more than 10 million, have been made available, most often in churches.

In this way, a stock of simply expressed and open-minded answers to the many questions about life and faith was built up. The editorial committee of the Croire magazine classified them, favouring the most universal and vital questions, those that take us to the very heart of Christian faith. After harmonisation and rewriting, a coherent ensemble was elaborated that responds to the key questions, following the structure of a systematic exposé of faith. But the fresh spontaneity of the texts, written with the intention of being accessible to the widest possible public, has been carefully preserved. This little book aims to give people bearings, and, if possible, provide ‘answers to your questions’ as the slogan on the fact file presentation display promises.
Être catholique aujourd’hui
Ce qui change avec le pape François
By Mgr Joseph Doré

A call for Christian responsibility today

About the author

Mgr Joseph Doré is Archbishop Emeritus of Strasbourg. An internationally renowned theologian, he has authored many books including the very successful À cause de Jésus! (Plon, 2011), and, with Bayard, Peut-on vraiment rester catholique? (2012).

Outstanding Features

➢ The author’s renown and the excellent sales of his books.
➢ Joseph Doré speaks to the public for the first time since the election of Pope Francis.
➢ Many conferences and speeches are planned for the author.

Contents

In this new and extremely readable little book, the theologian first explains why he has remained a Christian and a Catholic. He then goes on to expound the necessity of the Christian faith, especially today. To believe is useful... and to believe in Jesus Christ is to believe in an original manner, in history and in our private, community and social lives. The author recounts how the pastoral teaching of the new pope, and his actions, stress the usefulness of faith and the force of Christ’s love in society and in humanity. An intimate little book, yet it is a powerful reminder that the Christian faith is also a proposal to take action: to serve the world and one’s brothers and sisters in humanity, to help the most vulnerable, to nourish the exhausted and to give the strength of hope to the discouraged. Isn’t that what we so badly need today?
Méditations du monde
À l’écoute des grands maîtres des sagesses
Directed by Isabelle Fougère

A superb book, the reference on meditation and the finest of the great masters’ writings

About the author
Isabelle Fougère is a journalist, writer-reporter, passionately interested in spirituality. She has travelled in many countries. She contributes to a number of national magazines (Pèlerin, Géo...) and produces documentaries (for Arte in particular).

Outstanding features:
> A major event in publishing: a reference coffee table book on the subject
> The success of books about spirituality and well-being
> A clear and concise presentation, with a complete overview of the different universes of spirituality
> The richness and beauty of the texts presented “to meditate”

Content
Meditation, neither a belief nor a religion, is the search for inner awareness, a path leading to a degree of consciousness. There are numerous techniques of meditation, from all the continents and cultures: Vipassana, Zazen, the active meditations of Osho, tantric, Buddhist, the Christian meditation of the Desert Fathers, shamanic meditation...
There are 8 chapters in this book corresponding to those traditions, each one with: an introduction, presentations of the great masters and their practice, and, assembled by theme (joy, silence, serenity, breathing...) the most beautiful and significant texts that can be used as vehicles for meditation. This book is as much an invitation to cultural discovery as a guide for those who wish to practice meditation.
Dieu, le pape, les chrétiens
500 histoires drôles
by Sylvain Gasser

A new, enriched edition of the book that proves that Christians have a sense of humour!

About the author
Sylvain Gasser is a writer, journalist and musicologist. An Assumptionist priest in his forties, he works for the press, musical and general, and authors a column in La Croix every week.

Outstanding features:
- Very good sales of the first edition
- Great success, 10 years ago, of the bible of Jewish humour
- The originality of the work
- A book that goes against the preconceived ideas of Christianism

Content
After a fine introduction on the theological meaning of humour, defending the idea that there is indeed a 'Christian sense of humour' (especially since Jewish humour is widely recognized), this book presents 500 funny stories, divided into about ten thematic chapters (paradise, hell, the parish, saints, the Pope, Jesus...).
There are some classics but also some original stories in reference to topical events. A selection of the best Christian funny stories.
Quand les peintres lisaient la Bible
L’exégèse des peintres du Cinquecento

By Pierre Gibert

From Michelangelo to Tintoretto, Renaissance painting revolutionized how we read and see the Bible

About the author

Pierre Gibert, Jesuit, Biblicist and historian, has authored many books on the history of the Bible and biblical exegesis, now a reference in their domain. He is also the author of a book on Tocqueville.

Outstanding Features

> An extremely beautiful book in 4 colours with more than 80 reproductions of artworks.
> Pierre Gibert’s renown (L’invention critique de la Bible, Gallimard).
> An art book that will interest art historians as much as Bible readers

Contents

A great biblical historian, Pierre Gibert brings us a very beautiful book about art and history. We plunge into the Cinquecento, when the Bible is being translated, printed, diffused and read all over Europe and historians, theologians and philosophers are debating its authenticity and the very nature of the Scriptures. This ‘modern invention’ of the Bible exerts considerable influence on Renaissance art. Painters and sculptors are able to represent bible stories as readers and interpreters, they move away from allegory and legend and venture into the credibility of their ever-more audacious representations, inviting us to ‘see the text’ in our mind’s eye.

Pierre Gibert retraces this aesthetic and spiritual adventure of the Cinquecento painters’ Bible. The Humanism of the Renaissance will radically alter the codes of artistic representation and the way men look at things. Pierre Gibert discovers the exceptional influence of the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola on artists like Bassano or Tintoretto and explores the results of the Council of Trent on artistic freedom in representations of the Bible.

The pictorial history of a revolution in our way of seeing and reading, a challenge to the Bible.
Religion

Le dialogue à la portée de tous... ou presque
by Dennis Gira

Religions, politics, cultures: learning to dialogue with others

About the author
Dennis Gira is a specialist of Buddhism, former deputy-director of the Institut de science et de théologie des religions, a department of the Institut catholique de Paris. He has written many books about Buddhism and Christianity, including *Le bouddhisme à l’usage de mes filles* (2000, Le Seuil), *Le lotus ou la croix, les raisons d’un choix* (2003, Bayard) and *Jésus, Bouddha: quelle rencontre possible?* (2006, Bayard).

Outstanding Features

- The author’s success in the bookshops. This is his most personal book so far.
- This book responds to the needs of a growing number of people today, in situations (religious, political, cultural or affective) where dialogue is essential.

Content
Dennis Gira spent many years studying, and above all practicing, interreligious dialogue. In this new book, Dennis Gira makes his highly original experience available to all of us. The dialogue may be interreligious, intercultural (the author hails from several cultures and religions, and speaks several languages), or even political, philosophical, or in a couple, between friends, and many more situations. He is not simply proposing a method; the book starts out from precise examples encountered by the author to make it easier for readers to enter into an original approach to dialogue with others. The author gives 5 golden rules to construct authentic exchange; he points out the 5 enemies of dialogue and introduces 5 friends that facilitate and enrich our discussion with others.
Le lotus ou la croix
Les raisons d’un choix

By Dennis Gira

A reference work on the relationship and dialogue between Christianity and Buddhism.

About the author

Dennis Gira is a theologian, honorary professor at the Institut catholique in Paris and a specialist of interreligious dialogue and Buddhism. He has written many books, the most recent being *Le dialogue à la portée de tous... (ou presque)* (Bayard, 2012).

Outstanding Features

- The outstanding commercial success of the previous editions.
- ‘A book that you can’t put down until you’ve reached the last page!’ ([Esprit et Vie](https://www.esprit-vie.fr)).

Contents

In this book, which has been a reference on the subject since its publication in 2003, Dennis Gira lists the reasons that led him to choose Christianity over Buddhism. Drawing on his own experience, he offers a profound reflection on the concepts of divinity, the spiritual path, resurrection and reincarnation.

This volume is an authentic example of dialogue in practice, based on mutual respect, curiosity and personal development.

Through an in-depth examination of the specific features of these two religions, two pathways, he leads us to a choice – his choice – which hinges on the paramount importance allotted by Christianity to interpersonal relationships, love of one’s fellow man and the meaning of forgiveness.
Dictionnaire de psychologie et psychopathologie des religions
Edited by Stéphane Gumpper and Franklin Rausky

A publishing event! The first dictionary entirely devoted to the psychological exploration of religious and mystical phenomena

About the author
Franklin Rausky is a psychologist, assistant professor of clinical psychology and psychopathology at the University Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg. He is a specialist of Jewish mysticism. Stéphane Gumpper is a clinical psychologist and the author of many books on the links between mysticism and madness. He is a researcher with the University of Strasbourg.

Outstanding Features
➢ 70 distinguished contributors. To name but a few: Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prizewinner; psychoanalysts Claude Escande, Sophie de Mijolla-Mellor, Jean-Pierre Winter; theologians and philosophers François Marxer, Guy Petitdemange; ethnologists, a large number of psychiatrists, clinicians and historians.
➢ 350 fascinating entries, words such as body, soul, yoga, shamanism, ecstasy, possession and exorcism, visions...
➢ 1,200 pages and more than 70 illustrations: exceptional photographs, portraits, sketches... With an index and a general bibliography.

Content
This dictionary is devoted to the key concepts and major figures of the psychology and psychopathology of religions. It offers a panorama - exceptional in Europe - of clinical experiments and discoveries in the fields of links between mysticism and madness, the psychic bases of religious feeling, corporal phenomena such as trances, ecstasy, stigmata and convulsions... But it also investigates collective experiences, such as Saint Vitus’ dance, tarantism and epidemics of possession. It offers a precise and accessible overview of ideas, scientific and religious knowledge, medical and psychiatric interpretations of religious phenomenology.

All the religions of the world come under study, as do piousness, devotion and delirium, as well as the different forms of dementia. It presents the great intellectual controversies between clinical studies and spiritual and theological interpretations, covering the ensemble of the world’s religions and spiritual experiences over more than five centuries.
After a long introduction which retraces the birth and development of psychopathological research, from the Enlightenment to our times, Part 1 - about a hundred thematic and conceptual entries - helps us situate many notions, experiences and phenomena. In this first part, we see the paths of some major figures appear - people who have lived or testified to unique experiences - such as Mansur al-Hallaj, Ibn Arabî, Francis of Assisi, Teresa of Ávila, Ramakrishna Paramahamsa...

Part 2 contains 250 biographical entries, covering authors, well or little-known; alienists, theologians, neurologists, psychoanalysts, philosophers, anthropologists and historians, but also hypnotists, magnetic therapists, etc. (Karl Abraham, Georges Bataille, Henri Bremond, Alexis Carrel, Carlos Castaneda, Jean Delay, Jean-Étienne Esquirol, Sandor Ferenczi, Sigmund Freud, Aldous Huxley, Jung, Wilhelm Reich, Leopold Szondi...). The reader will learn of the research conducted by many authors about certain religious figures who were confronted with morbid spiritual ordeals (Jean-Joseph Surin) or cases of mystic delirium (Gilles de Rais, François Ravaillac, Sabbataï Tsevi, Jacob Frank, Anton Unternährer, Karl-Wilhelm Naundorff, Eugène Vintras, Daniel-Paul Schreber, Madeleine Lebouc, Antonin Arthaud...).
Petit parcours de foi
by Michel Kubler
In coedition with Croire.com

The Christian faith and theology for all to understand

About the author

Michel Kubler is an Assumptionist father, a theologian and former chief religious editor on La Croix. Nowadays, he is the director of a centre for ecumenical meetings and studies in Bucharest. He has written and contributed to several books, including Dieu, Yahvé, Allah (Bayard Jeunesse) and La grâce de vivre, a book of interviews with Mgr. Joseph Doré (Bayard). For many years, he appeared in the France 5 TV programme C’est dans l’air.

Outstanding Features

➢ An author who is well-known in Christian training and support circles.
➢ A catechism of initiation and discovery.

Contents

Michel Kubler has drawn up an astonishingly clear, synthetic and exhaustive description of the Christian faith. It is presented in 4 main parts: faith clarified (the Credo and the dogmata), faith celebrated (the liturgy and the sacraments), faith in practice (Christian action) and the living faith (prayer and spiritual life).

He presents an elaboration of the Christian doctrine, its expressions, the origin and function of its sacraments, the great Christian and Biblical messages that dictate Christian action and commitment, the different stages of a spiritual life...

He also defines the most important landmarks of Christian history. A book for all readers, as an initiation or a guide for ‘recommençants’, those wishing to renew their faith. It is also an invaluable handbook of Christian theology, accessible to all.

Technical specifications
Format: 120 x 170 mm
Pages: 150 pages
Retail price: 13 €

Rights sold
Romania
Chercher Dieu et veiller sur l’homme
by Xavier Lacroix
Interviews with Loup Besmond de Senneville

Today’s urgent combats in defence of the human being

About the author

Xavier Lacroix, philosopher and theologian, is a member of the Comité consultatif national d’éthique, a French governmental advisory council on bioethics, and the author of well-received books on the couple and the family, the body and sexuality, and Christian ethics.

Loup Besmond de Senneville is a journalist in the Religion dept. of the French daily La Croix.

Outstanding Features

› A critical assessment of today’s essential moral and ethical questions.
› This is the first book of interviews from the author, a member of the Comité d’éthique and a reference on this subject.
› Current debates on assisted reproductive technology, filiation, surrogacy, the status of the embryo, the augmented human being.

Contents

For the first time, the great Catholic theologian Xavier Lacroix, who specializes in ethics, has agreed to answer a journalist’s questions. This fascinating yet accessible book covers the key issues we face today – in development, society and morals - with great lucidity: the status of the embryo, reproductive techniques, filiation and types of union, sexual differentiation, new biotechnological resources and euthanasia...

What is at stake in the projected evolutions? What stance should we adopt in the face of possible developments? How should we interpret the Church’s position? What vision of the human being should we adhere to?

The author also speaks of his personal career and, at the end of the book, answers questions of a spiritual nature: his own meditation, his spiritual readings, etc.
Le corps retrouvé
by Xavier Lacroix

Reconciliation with the body: one of contemporary culture’s major challenges and one to which Christianity must rise.

About the author
Xavier Lacroix, philosopher and theologian, is a member of the Comité consultatif national d’éthique and the author of several books about the couple and the family which were favourably received. He is a professor at the Catholic University Lyon II.

Outstanding Features
> The author is well-known and a contemporary moralist.
> At the heart of today’s debates about gender studies, new models of parenthood and transhumanist utopias.

Content
A remarkable reflection on the place we attribute to the body in contemporary culture and society. The body is apparently present everywhere, displayed and exalted; yet in truth, the body is hidden, in denial, even lost.
“Western culture,” writes the author, “valorises a relationship with the body which seems to emanate from loss or denial”. Xavier Lacroix denounces the new dualisms of science and techniques, the bio-technical utopias, the negations of difference between the sexes... which, in his opinion, bear witness to the loss of the body. He suggests that we try to revise Christian errors concerning the flesh and sex, and trace a path of reconciliation between the flesh and the Word, the body, the subject and the Word.
This polemic essay by a philosopher and a theologian presents the Christian revelation as “the gospel of the presence of absolute life in sensitive life”.

Technical specifications
Format: 145 x 190 mm
Pages: 350
Retail Price: 22 €
Chemin d’Assise, l’aventure intérieure

by Olivier Lemire

In coedition with the Éditions franciscaines

In the footsteps of Saint Francis, rediscovering the path from Vézelay to Assisi

About the author

Olivier Lemire is a trekker, author and photographer who has traversed France several times on foot. He has published his rambler’s logs, notably Celui qui marche (Cherche-Midi, 2008) and L’esprit du chemin (Transboréal, 2011).

Outstanding Features

➢ The popularity of trekking and pilgrimage narratives.
➢ Over fifty colour photographs illustrating the different stages of his journey.
➢ Franciscan sites are very much in vogue with the new pope Francis.
➢ With precise information about Franciscan spirituality, an itinerary (map) and the life of Saint Francis.

Contents

'This is the story of a journey that I never imagined making, an account of a path whose every kilometre transformed me. Rather than fortifying me, every day made me weaker. However, I sensed that this weakness was also a new blessing...'

Olivier Lemire, journalist and travel writer, has criss-crossed France on foot for the past five years. This time, he sets off for the town of Francis of Assisi, following a new itinerary from Burgundy across the Alps to Tuscany and Umbria, an intense adventure for the trekker -cum-pilgrim who rediscovers his Christian roots with each step. Everyone has heard of the road to Santiago de Compostela; but few know that an equally long and marvellous itinerary now exists between Vézelay, in Burgundy, and Assisi, in Italy.

Chemin d’Assise recounts this remarkable adventure, stage by stage, and describes the author’s many moving and unexpected encounters along the way. The most beautiful photos taken en route illustrate the book. 1,500 kilometres and two and a half months later, the author tells of his personal inner experience and how the journey to Assisi has transformed him.
«Venez, vous verrez»
by Alain Marchadour

New commentary of St. John Gospel

About the author
Alain Marchadour is an Assumptionist and former dean of the Toulouse Faculty of Theology. A Biblicist, specialising in the Gospel of St. John (which he co-translated with Florence Delay in the *Nouvelle traduction de la Bible*), he spent ten years living in Jerusalem and has published numerous books, including *L’Évangile au feu de la critique* and *La terre, la bible et l’histoire* (Bayard).

Outstanding Features
- An accessible commentary that presents the latest interpretations of John’s Gospel.
- An author who is well-known and greatly enjoyed by Bible readers.

Content
Even today, the last Gospel lives up to its reputation for being enigmatic. Questions still arise regarding its history, the various stages in its setting down in writing, its acceptance by the Church and the identity of its author. Alain Marchadour offers a step by step reading of the text, like a spiritual adventure which solicits both "the reader’s heart and mind".
An indispensable volume for all Gospel readers (reading or prayer groups... Bible groups) and all those who want to learn about the origins of Christianity and the great texts of wisdom.
Croire ou rêver
by André Miquel

About the author
André Miquel returns to the tradition of the great Christian writers in France. Born in 1929, he is a historian and a specialist of the Arab world, culture and Arabic. He held the Classical Arabic language and literature chair at the Collège de France, where he was also Administrateur général after having held the same position in the Bibliothèque nationale. He also directed the Institut du Monde arabe. He has written many books about the Arab world, and co-translated One Thousand and One Nights.

Content
‘I don’t know if I believe, all I know is that I want to believe.’

André Miquel has been through the ordeal of losing a child. The remaining scar lies at the origin of this intimate little book, in which he describes the importance of faith in his life. It is made up of brief personal meditations on the words of faith, the Christian mysteries and lastly, little secrets shared with the readers.
Psaumes pour tous les temps
by Jean-Pierre Prévost

A reference and an accessible guide to understand the prayers of the Psalms in today’s world.

About the author
Jean-Pierre Prévost is an exegete, a translator of the Hebrew language and a specialist of the Old Testament and the Psalms. For many years, he taught exegesis at Saint-Paul University in Ottawa. He has written many books, notably Petit dictionnaire des psaumes and Pour lire les prophètes (Editions du Cerf). He co-edited Bayard’s new translation of the Bible (2001).

Outstanding Features
- Excellent sales of Bible-reading guides.
- Originality of this book: discover what the Psalms can bring to your particular life situation and your prayer times.
- For Bible reading groups, prayer groups and readers of books on the history of the Bible.

Contents
In the first part, Jean-Pierre Prévost resumes the essence of what we should know today about this book of the Bible. The origins of the biblical psalm, the composition of the Book of Psalms, the history of its reception in Judaism, Christianity and Church liturgy. In a particularly rich second part, the author makes a presentation of the psalms arranged under the great existential themes - psalms for the happy days, for times of trial, psalms expressing contentment or insecurity... Several psalms are quoted, studied, read.

The author guides us not only in our reading of the psalms, but also in prayer using the words and expressions they contain.
Fiches Croire

An indispensable pastoral aid to help answer today’s questions.

57 files divided into 6 themes: Prayer, Family, The Sacraments, Bearings
For Belief, Suffering and Mourning, the Christian Life.
Written in simple, accessible language, these files will accompany,
explain and awaken their readers.

Outstanding features

Who are they written for?
› All those who enter into your church, your reception area or your community during celebrations, meetings, liturgical events...
› Those who are simply passing by,
› Those who are seeking contact or answers to their questions,
› The faithful of your parish, and seasonal visitors during the holiday periods,
› Your own parishioners or visitors who may diffuse them to friends.

Who writes them?
› They are written by specialized journalists in the Catholic milieu in France. The files have been read and approved by experts – theologians or Biblicists – to guarantee the doctrinal conformity of the content.

Room for customisation
› A place has been reserved on the last page for the parishes to personalize each file.

Multiple uses
› The display stand, placed in your church, makes the files available to the faithful. But they may also be:
› Used by discussion groups at parish or community level,
› Offered as gifts to those requesting sacraments, or at a time of spiritual exchange,
› Distributed during awareness campaigns on one theme, or during visits to parishioners and when receiving visitors,
› Sent by mail as ‘thank you’ notes to those who have made a contribution to church funds
› Put on sale during pastoral or local events.

Technical specifications

The series
Les fiches Croire
57 files available to date
+ 4 junior files
Large Display panel: 150 x 57 cm
Small Display panel: 40 x 32 cm

Rights Sold
Italy, Germany, Slovenia, The Netherlands, Belgium
57 files in 6 themes

**Bearings for Belief**
- Who is Jesus?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- Is Jesus really God?
- The Bible, a treasure to discover
- Why should we read Saint Paul?
- What can we ask the Saints?

**Family**
- Expecting a baby
- Problems in the couple
- Divorced: How can I rebuild my life?
- Living one’s sexuality
- What place for pleasure?

**Suffering and Mourning**
- To die in dignity
- Why do evil and suffering exist?
- How can I overcome depression?
- Praying in a state of distress
- Experiencing the ordeal of sickness
- The child facing distress in the family
- When death leaves us in shock
- Alcoholism: learn to face up to it
- How should we pray for the dead?
- Suicide, what can we do?

**The Christian Life**
- Why is it important to go to Church on Sundays?
- Secrets to joy
- Christmas, a great celebration
- Sign your child up for Sunday School, why not?
- It is good to believe
- Easter: Jesus is alive
- I have lost faith
- Advice to live your life as a Christian
- WYD, what are they for?
- Leave for a pilgrimage
- I give to Church
- Be a pilgrim in a sanctuary
- Places of Christian faith

**Prayer**
- How to say the Our Father
- Eucharistic adoration
- How should I pray?
- The Christian’s prayers
- The gesture of prayer
- The most beautiful prayers to the Virgin
- Theresa of Lisieux, giant steps to holiness
- Saint Francis, the poor man of Assisi
- What can we ask the Saints?

**The Sacraments**
- Why baptise young children?
- What if I become a Christian?
- What if I go to confession?
- The Eucharist, a great mystery!
- Are you ready for marriage?
Fiches Croire Junior

Starting from children questions or worries, this file offers a small catechesis based on Jesus’ gesture or word - With everyday advice to face life’s small and big difficulties.

6 files about Life

I am scared
Everyone is scared, even the adults! During the storm, Jesus calmed everybody down and said, «peace, be still!»

Where do we go when we die?
When someone we love die, we ask ourselves lots of questions... Jesus’ resurrection offers a beautiful start to answer them.

How do I stop being angry?
Learn to know yourself is the key to calming down and make others understand what you really feel. Less anger, more happiness!

Why are there bad people?
Sometimes, one can choose to do evil, everyone is free after all. Jesus knew bad guys too and he found the solution: do good in every situation.

My parents don’t love each other anymore
It happens sometimes... What if love was fragile? What if it was not your fault? What if we were to try and do good anyway? With Jesus on your side, anything is possible!

I am jealous
Jealousy is a terrible thing that bothers everyone. What can we do? Let Jesus comfort you. After all, he’s the one who helped Martha with her jealousy!

6 files on God

Is God really helping us?
Sometimes you can wonder, there is so much misery in the world! And though Jesus said one day «I will not leave you all alone»...

Does God see everything I do?
God is not a terrible person that judges every little bad thing we do! He does not spy on us, he just watches over us.

Why did God fail to cure my friend?
I prayed, but my friend did not heal. Why? It is unfair! Jesus does not really have an answer, but he says: you will understand later. And he also gives a piece of advice: pray, and you will see great things...

Why do I have to go to Mass?
It is really boring, and I don’t understand anything... Mass is Jesus’ favourite time and place; it is a chance to feel closer to him!

What is sin?
Sometimes, I feel like what I do is sin... but I can’t help it, it is stronger than me. Jesus can show you how to recognise true sin, the one that can stop him from loving you...

Why did we kill Jesus?
That is a big question! How can we know what men thought at that time? Jesus was kind, he did not like violence nor hate, but the important thing is that we now know he did not die in vain.
Le prêtre et l’imam
by Tareq Oubrou, Jean-Christophe Roucou and Jean-Louis Tauran

Christians are becoming increasingly Islamophobic: we must promote interreligious dialogue!

About the authors

Jean-Christophe Roucou has been a priest with the Mission de France since 1980. Graduate of the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI), he lived for nine years in Egypt. Since 2006, he has been Director of the Conférence des évêques de France’s National Service for Relations with Islam (SRI). His published works include La foi à l’épreuve de la mondialisation (L’Atelier, 1997).

Tareq Oubrou is the imam of Bordeaux. A theologian, he has been living in France for thirty years. A member of the Union des organisations islamiques de France (UOIF). He published Profession Imam (Albin Michel) in 2009 and in 2012, Un imam en colère (Bayard).

Jean-Louis Tauran. Cardinal, President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, and Pope John-Paul II’s former minister of foreign affairs, he took part in the last papal conclave. It was he who announced: ‘Habemus papam, cardinalem Bergoglio’.

Outstanding features:

› The author’s reputation
› A topical and important subject: relations with Islam are constantly present in the media
› The relevance of a dialogue that is happening now, explained by leading figures of each religion

Content

Over the last two or three years, Islamophobia among Christians has been on the increase.

Working from this observation, Christophe Roucou, Tareq Oubrou and Jean-Louis Tauran explore the things that unite and those that divide Christians and Muslims.

(Is their God the same? How should we express our own identity without becoming antagonistic? What anxieties come to the surface? How can we deal with them...?)

Today, Islam is a source of concern, for this religion is often seen as being incompatible with modernity and with democracy. How can we ensure that anxiety is not distilled into hatred and that living together becomes an opportunity?

Reflecting together on this question, the authors show why dialogue is more necessary than ever today.
Moïse en version originale

By Thomas Römer

This captivating essay will totally revise our way of looking at one of the greatest figures of religious history

About the author

Thomas Römer holds the Milieux bibliques chair at the Collège de France. He is one of the greatest specialists of the formation and history of the Hebrew Bible and the author of many books, including recently La Bible, quelles histoires! (Bayard) and L'invention de Dieu (Seuil).

Outstanding Features

> Major Moses Exhibition in Paris at the Musée d’art et d’histoire du judaïsme (October–March).
> Success of Thomas Römer’s books (good sales of La Bible, quelles histoires! Bayard, 2014).
> A book in a category of its own: accessible presentation, well documented with the most recent theses on the character Moses

Contents

Who was Moses? There are many possible answers to that question, as explained here by Thomas Römer, one of the most distinguished specialists of Exodus and the Pentateuch. Prophet, law maker, intercessor, liberator... Moses didn’t hesitate to kill with his own hands those who rebelled against the laws he had passed down in the name of his God. He freed his people from slavery; was the first person to receive the name of God... He belongs to several cultures. Freud was to say ‘Moses invented the Jew’. Without Moses, there would be no Judaism, no Christianity, no Islam!
In this essay, Thomas Römer initiates us to reading the mysteries of his character by following the narrative in the Book of Exodus, of which he provides his personal and original translation.
With great talent, the author presents and discusses the most recent theses and hypotheses from Biblicists, historians and archaeologists. He conveys an authentic culture of the biblical Moses as perceived in the Hebrew texts, as well as archaeological, historical, artistic and philosophical sources.
The story of the liberation of his people in Egypt is the object of a special study, with new interpretations.
Vous avez dit vocation ?
by Christoph Theobald

About the author
Christoph Theobald, born in Cologne, Germany, is a Jesuit and professor of fundamental and dogmatic theology at the Jesuit faculties in Paris (Centre Sèvres), editor-in-chief of the review 'Recherches de science religieuse'. Specialized in the history of modern theology, systematic theology and the practice of aesthetics, his books include Transmettre un évangile de liberté (Bayard, 2007) and Le Christianisme comme style (Cerf, 2007)

Contents
What does it mean to seek one’s vocation? What should we understand by this term?

What does it mean, to be ‘called’? Who is called? What does vocation mean today? Christoph Theobald invites us to rethink in depth what we mean by ‘vocation’ in Christian terms. Vocation is the fundamental experience of faith, the reception of God’s call. All of us must experience the call of vocation. Beyond pastoral quarrels, or questions of religious sociology; everyone is called.

Starting out from Bible readings, this book seeks to help us understand the dimension of God’s call in the Bible and tradition; then provides precise bearings to identify the diverse vocations in human community and in the precariousness of today’s Christian communities.

This book is both an original reflection on the meaning of vocation and a practical guide to identify vocations.

“We must consider all specific vocations as an expression of the baptismal vocation, and as a service of human vocation, always utterly unique.”

Technical Specifications
Format: 145 x 195 mm
Pages: 300
Retail price: 19€

Rights sold
Italy, Poland
Ne nous oubliez pas!
Le S.O.S du patriarche des chrétiens d’Irak
by Mgr. Louis Raphael Sako

A moving appeal for help from the patriarch of Chaldean Christians in Iraq

About the authors
Since 2014, Mgr. Louis Raphael Sako has been the Patriarch of the Chaldean Christians. Born in Zakho in Iraq, ordained priest in Mossoul in 1974 and bishop of Kirkouk in 2002, he is the man who recently alerted the world to the tragic situation of Christians of the Eastern Orthodox Church in Iraq since the attacks of the Islamic State.

Laurence Desjoyaux is a journalist (La Vie, Pèlerin) who specializes in the Eastern Orthodox Church, especially in Iraq where she frequently stays. She has known Mgr. Sako personally for several years.

Outstanding Features
- The tragic situation in Iraq is news, underlined by the involvement of the Western coalition in the war against IS.
- The author’s reputation; he has spoken on a wide selection of media. Some members of the EU parliament have nominated him as a candidate for the Sakharov prize.
- An exceptional testimony: his first book is a veritable cry from the heart.

Contents
It was to Laurence Desjoyaux, a young woman journalist specialized in the Eastern Church (and a close acquaintance) that Mgr. Sako chose to entrust his appeal for help. The Chaldean Patriarch recounts the atrocities without concessions, in plain language: the suffering and the horrific ordeals of Christians in Iraq, especially since the arrival of the ‘Islamic State’. He writes: ‘What I have seen, and what I have heard, is beyond anyone’s imagination.’

He makes an appeal for our help. If we do nothing to help the Christians in this land, he will be the ‘last patriarch’...
His well-presented, precise testimony provides undisputable proof of an intolerable situation. He describes what form international mobilisation might take, concerning all peoples, all churches, all religions.
Le roi, le prophète et la femme

By André Wénin

The astonishing story of kings in the Bible to be rediscovered in the great founding stories of David and Solomon

About the author

André Wénin is one of the most distinguished French Biblicists, Doctor of Biblical Science (Institut biblique de Rome) and a specialist of the Old Testament.

He teaches the exegesis of the Old Testament and biblical languages at the theology department of the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve. He is also a visiting lecturer at the Gregorian University in Rome where he teaches the biblical theology of the Pentateuch.

Outstanding Features

> A book that will interest Bible readers as much as fervent history enthusiasts.

> André Wénin’s reputation in Biblical circles.

Contents

André Wénin presents an exegetic reading of the great Bible stories of royalty in Israel, and dynamic studies of the great figures of that group. This founding period spans from the conquest of the land to the exile of the last king of Judah. The author adopts a narrative reading of the texts (Samuel and Kings) in order to reveal the literary construction of the tragic saga. The people aspire to be like other nations and warlike empires, so they claim a king. It is Samuel, the prophet, who – in spite of his own doubts – will be given the task of ‘recognizing’ and anointing the first king of Israel, Saul. David and Solomon follow. Women – Bathsheba, or the ‘many wives’ of Solomon – are key figures in this story which unfolds like a Shakespearian tragedy about power, desire and ambition. André Wénin also decodes the signs of royalty, those that construct the messianic royalty in Christianity, and the regal institution of the Western world.
La Bible de Lucile
By Pierre-Marie Beaude

How my uncle and I fulfilled our pledge to read the Bible together...
An amazing challenge: the entire Bible as you’ve never heard it told before.

About the author
Pierre-Marie Beaude is a theologian and Professor Emeritus at the Paul-Verlaine University in Metz. He has published many books of exegesis, history and biblical hermeneutics, as well as novels and literary essays. He is also a famous children’s author with Gallimard jeunesse and Bayard. His books have received many literary prizes.

Outstanding Features
- An outstanding work: 1 300 fascinating and easy-to-read pages to discover the Bible.
- The only author who can combine immense biblical and historical erudition with great story-telling skills.
- In the same vein as best-sellers such as Sophie’s World and Theo’s Odyssey.

Contents
Many of us have wanted and attempted to read the Bible from cover to cover – and many of us have thrown in the towel, for the Bible is not a novel, and neither is it a history book or a catechism. Reading it requires considerable clarification in the fields of theology, history, literature, exegetics and linguistics. And it is difficult to grasp anything without some notion of how the biblical texts have been received over the great expanse of more than 2,000 years.
The historical exegete, theologian and effusive man of letters, Pierre-Marie Beaude, has imagined a lengthy correspondence over the space of three years between an uncle, an erudite Biblical scholar, and his niece, who is inquisitive, enthusiastic and nonconformist. They make a pact whereby both will read the entire Bible during the next three years, discussing every aspect of it, asking every question and seeking every answer and recounting their every reaction. We are invited to share their rich and frank exchange – rich in unexpected developments - on the history of the texts, the adventures of its heroes and the mysteries and the enigmas of the Scriptures...
The result is this unique book told in two voices, an absorbing, spirited and exhaustive work and a genuine exploration of the Biblical stories. Historical, literary and exegetical erudition is conveyed with panache and the desire to pass on this exceptional heritage to today’s readers.
Bible and Scripture Study

Saveurs du récit biblique
by Daniel Marguerat and André Wénin

Discover new ways of reading and enjoying Bible stories

About the authors
Daniel Marguerat is a Biblicist, exegete of the New Testament, a renowned international expert on Jesus and primitive Christianity.
André Wénin teaches the exegesis of the Old Testament and biblical languages at the theology faculty of the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve.
He is also a guest Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

Outstanding Features
> Two great contemporary Biblicists share their “art of reading the Bible”.
> An initiation to new ways of appreciating the Bible.

Content
This book comes at a time when the pleasures of biblical narration are in full expansion. Demonstrating the fecundity of new techniques of study and reading, it aims to give readers the desire to enjoy the Bible in new ways.
For readers who are tired of conventional readings, this book is a gateway to an original questioning of the Bible. Giving more importance to the readers, it shows how Bible stories were actually intended for them.
Among the great episodes studied here: the four Gospels, Genesis, the story of David and Jonathan... And among the great questions treated: the art of intrigue, diversity of viewpoints, the construction of characters, and irony in the Bible...
Le Nouveau Testament commenté
Edited by Camille Focant and Daniel Marguerat

The first comprehensive commentary of the New Testament by the most distinguished French-speaking specialists.

About the authors
Daniel Marguerat is a Biblicist, exegete of the New Testament, a renowned international expert on Jesus and primitive Christianity. Camille Focant is Emeritus Professor of the Exegesis of the New Testament at the Catholic University of Louvain. With Élian Cuvillier, Odile Fichy, Michel Gourgues, Christian Grappe, Jean-Michel Poffet, Michel Quesnel, Jean Zumstein...

Outstanding Features
> The New Testament with the unabridged text (New Ecumenical Translation of the Bible) and a cultural, literary and theological commentary.
> A team of authors including theologians and exegetes of international reputation.
> A very fine reference book, for reading and study.

Content
The structure is clear: each book of the New Testament is reproduced unabridged, in the New Ecumenical Translation, with a running commentary, preceded by an introduction which situates the work historically and provides a summary of the contents. For each passage, the text of the TOB is followed by the corresponding explanation. Boxed features give complementary historical and cultural details. This book is intended for readers who wish to read and understand the Bible. The authors are among the most distinguished contemporary French speaking specialists. They have avoided any language which might be too technical or academic in their commentary, providing the essential knowledge we possess today about these texts - theologically, culturally and historically speaking. A thematic index and a series of full-colour maps enrich the experience of reading and using this work.
Comment la Bible fut écrite
by Pierre Gibert

State of the art knowledge of the Bible: its origins, its history, its signification

About the author

Pierre Gibert, a Jesuit, is France’s most distinguished specialist of the history of biblical exegesis, the author of many books including the recent L’invention critique de la Bible in Gallimard’s prestigious series, Bibliothèque des histoires, as well as the Découvertes Gallimard on the Bible. He was one of the editors of Bayard’s translation of the Bible by Sébastien Casteillon, and of Histoire critique du Vieux Testament by Richard Simon.

Outstanding Features

➤ A long-awaited, complete revision of one of Bayard’s legendary successes.
➤ An extremely accessible synthesis updated and enriched by our knowledge of how the Bible was written.
➤ Intended for a wide, motivated public keen to understand the biblical heritage of our world.

Content

There can be no better introduction to reading the Bible than to learn how it was written and assembled: that conviction is central to this initiatory book by one of today’s finest exegetes and historians.

In this entirely revised edition, Pierre Gibert presents the latest discoveries. Who were the authors of the Bible? How were the texts assembled and transmitted? How should we understand the history of biblical interpretation? This book is the best antidote for preconceived ideas and mistaken concepts, as well as just plain ignorance of the Bible.

No, the Bible is not a single book but a library made up over several centuries. It wasn’t written in one go. It recounts past times just as historians or archaeologists do, but from a very different viewpoint.
Theology

« Vous donc, Priez ainsi. »
Le Notre Père
by Groupe des Dombes

A long-awaited event: a group of reflection on prayer and ecumenism presents its latest publication

About the author

The Dombes Group has been in existence for 70 years. Today, it is directed by the Protestant Rev. Jean Tartier and Father Jean-François Chiron. It assembles about forty Catholic and Protestant theologians in prayer and reflection. They have published their considerable reflections toward common faith in the Churches, as well as the often ‘burning’ issues that divide: sin, Mary, doctrinal authority... Among its members are some outstanding theologians: Jean-Noël Aletti, Dominique Cerbelaud, Michel Fédou, Michel Kubler...

Outstanding Features

> Success of previous publications, translated into several languages.
> Eagerly awaited since its announcement in 2005!
> A strong theme: the Christian prayer par excellence, the ‘Our Father’.

Content

The words of the Lord’s Prayer are not such an easy exercise: it can be profitable for believers of different confession to confront the difficulties together. Since the schisms of the 16th century, the Lord’s Prayer has been prayed and mediated separately by Catholics and Protestants: which is why it is tempting to make it a prayer specific to each confession, even though it constitutes a rich spiritual heritage often ignored by others. The Lord’s Prayer is just one step on a path along which we are still travelling. Praying together must lead us toward greater communion, which is why the group chose this common prayer to speak to the different Churches. Hence the structure of this publication:
1. Problematic of the context of the Lord’s Prayer in the life of Churches today.
2. ‘Historical diagnosis’ of the practice and the understanding of the ‘Our Father’ in history. Reminder of different traditions.
3. Reading the Scriptures, the Jewish roots of prayer, and comprehension problems. The keys to interpretation.
Theology

Transmettre un Évangile de liberté
by Christophe Theobald

How should we recount the Gospel today?

About the author

A Jesuit, Christophe Theobald teaches fundamental and dogmatic theology at the Jesuit Faculty in Paris (Centre Sèvres), is joint editor-in-chief of the journal Recherches de science religieuse, as well as author and consultant for the review Études.

Bibliography

Le péché originel. Heurs et malheurs d’un dogme, Bayard, 2005;
La Révélation, coll. Tout simplement, Les éditions de l’Atelier, 2001;
Histoire des dogmes. t. IV : la Parole du salut, (with B. Sesboüé), Desclée, 1996;

Outstanding Features

> The first truly personal book by a theologian unanimously regarded as the most promising of his generation

Contents

We are in danger of no longer being able to pose the fundamental questions regarding our existence. There may be many reasons for this mutism: the impossibility of inhabiting the crystallized languages of our Christian tradition; the absence of attentive listeners capable of soliciting our words, to tell what dwells within us and describe the world as we perceive it...
The apostle Paul situates that surprising event, which is speaking, at the heart of an ordeal or a ‘crossing’: speaking becomes an inner need for one whose expression is the only means of ‘manifesting life even in the bosom of death’ ‘I did believe, therefore I spoke’ (Ps. 116; Co 4, 10).

This human experience, often acquired with difficulty, is the expression par excellence of a Gospel of freedom whose transmission depends on very precise human and spiritual conditions. The author’s intention is to deploy and reveal them.
L’Évangile et la tradition
by Bernard Sesboüé

A brilliant, uncompromising presentation of tradition in the Church

About the author
Bernard Sesboüé is a Jesuit, and probably the most widely-read theologian in France since the success of his book Croire (Droguet et Ardant, 2003). A member of the Dombes Group, he is the author of an impressive body of work and unanimously recognised, in particular for his updated presentation of the Faith and the ministries of the Church.
With Bayard, he has published Marie, ce que dit la foi (2004): 9 500 copies sold.

Outstanding Features
- Success of the author’s books.
- The question of Tradition in the Church has made a dramatic come-back in ecclesial debates with the recent decisions by Benedict XVI.

Contents
The Gospel is subject to the test of time and men; entrusted to a community. The Church is its living witness, but also subject to its judgement. That is what is known as Tradition.
Our perception of this Tradition and Church dogmata, which can easily be opposed to the Gospel, is once more in the limelight with the debate on the Saint Pius X version of the mass. Yet, the true Tradition is the tradition of the Gospel, in other words its transmission from the Apostles down to us.
The Gospel has always combined the old and the new. It has nothing whatsoever to do with a rigid or repetitive conception of an immovable and historically unacceptable Church, with a just interpretation of its dogmata. The author illustrates his proposition using historical surveys, showing how the Gospel requires both words and action.
To conclude, B. Sesboüé ventures to reflect on what new tasks the Tradition invites us to undertake today.
La Trinité racontée
by Michel Rondet

Enter into the mystery and the most original of Christian dogmas

About the author

Michel Rondet, a Jesuit, is a master of spirituality. He has preached at numerous retreats and as a theologian and taught spirituality. For many years, he was a coach and trainer at the Centre de la Baume (Aix-en-Provence).
He received the Prix des Librairies Siloë in 2002 for Ecouter les mots de Dieu (Bayard).
His last book was Laissez-vous guider par l’Esprit (Bayard 2005)

Outstanding Features

> A renowned and popular author of Ignatian spirituality.
> At last, a popular, readable and accessible theological work on an issue that is central to the Christian faith.

Contents

In 7 chapters, Michel Rondet invites us on a fascinating journey of discovery, both theological and spiritual, of the mystery and dogma of the Trinity.

A popular dogma, but one that is ‘revered and misunderstood’, claims the author. Three in one... The Trinitarian Christian God is radically different from the sole God of the Koran. This is no solitary God, but a mediator, a God of love and communion.

Michel Rondet’s book is also a spiritual exercise on the Trinity that encourages the reader to enter into ‘Trinitarian prayer’.

The author has achieved an amazing feat: to restore the Trinity in our perception as a spiritual mystery.
Guide de lecture et de prière des psaumes

Directed by J. Nieuviarts and J-P. Prévost
Preface by Mgr Robert Le Gall

The first guide to help you learn to read and pray the Psalms

About the authors
Jacques Nieuviarts is an Assumptionist, a Biblicist and a specialist in the Old Testament. He has written popular books for a wide public and participated in the new translation of the Bible (Bayard, 2001.).

Jean-Pierre Prévost is a Biblicist, specialist of the Psalms, and the author of numerous books in France and Canada.

They were co-directors of Le Guide du Nouveau Testament for Bayard.

With the collaboration of Mgr Le Gall, the Archbishop of Toulouse and president of the Commission Episcopale pour la Liturgie et la Pastorale Sacramentelle; Pierre Debergé, dean of the Faculté Catholique de Théologie de Toulouse; Jean-Marie Auwers, Biblicist, and Jacques Trublet, a Jesuit and Biblicist at the Centre Sèvres. All are specialists in the Book of Psalms.

Outstanding Features
- An attractive, handy book that fits into any pocket
- A guide recommended and prefaced by the bishop in charge of liturgy in France.
- Psalmic prayer is increasingly popular among Christians.

Contents
This book is a first a complete and compact guide to discovering the Psalms, which aims to inform its readers as well as help them to pray. It is designed to be a guide for everyone, those who read the Bible and/or those who pray.

The Psalms have always been the prayers of the Church. However, up till now, there has never been a guide to reading them that also invites the reader to pray through the psalms.

Here is all the necessary information for reading the Psalter: its composition and history, the literary genres, the Psalms in Church prayer, Jesus and the Psalms... As well as practical and spiritual sections: how does one pray with the Psalms? Chanting the Psalms; Employing and hearing the words of the Psalms... With the most evocative and important quotations from the Psalter.

A book to keep by one’s side at all times for reading and meditating.
Sainte colère

By Lytta Basset

A new edition of a best-seller

About the author

Lytta Basset, Franco-Swiss, is a philosopher and Protestant theologian. She has developed the traditional readership of Christian theology with essays such as Guérir du malheur, Le pouvoir de pardonner, Moi je ne juge personne, La joie imprenable, Aimer sans dévorer (published by Albin Michel).

After experiencing the loss of a loved one, she published Ce lien qui ne meurt jamais in 2007, and in paperback (Le livre de poche) in 2010. Professor of Practical Theology at the University of Neuchâtel, she is director of the international journal of theology and spirituality La chair et le souffle.

Outstanding Features

- Lytta Basset is the well-known author of successful books: Aimer sans dévorer (Albin Michel).
- Excellent sales of previous editions of this book.

Contents

This is one of Lytta Basset’s finest books in a totally revised edition. Published more than fifteen years ago, it was greatly appreciated by readers. It presents anger as a necessary stage in the believer’s spiritual life. ‘Anger’, writes Lytta Basset, ‘must be considered as a driving force capable of transforming a potentially devastating energy into a violence of life that attends all processes of birth.’ The author quotes Jacob’s combat, Job’s complaint and Jesus’ anger. There is also a ‘holy’ anger, a space in which God and Man can face and find each other in the night.
Spirituality

Le Dieu sauvage : pour une foi critique
by Maurice Bellet

A deeply moving book on the absolute radicality of God

About the author
Maurice Bellet is a priest, theologian and philosopher. His work and research are situated at the intersection of philosophy, theology and psychoanalysis.
As well as frequent speeches at meetings and conferences, he practises psychoanalytical listening.

Bibliography
La traversée de l’en-bas, (2005, Bayard, 8,500 copies sold)
Le meurtre de la parole ou l’épreuve du dialogue, (2006, Bayard)

Outstanding Features
> A book whose title echoes Le Dieu pervers, one of his biggest sellers.
> The success of Maurice Bellet’s previous books.

Content
In these pages, the author attempts to break away from the modern problematic whereby criticism, the ultimate instance of truth, judges belief; obliging it to defend itself to the best of its ability by becoming inflexible, returning to old traditions and beliefs, or adapting.
But the reality is quite the contrary: at the heart of what appears to be belief, there is an instance of criticism which is absolutely radical in nature. Religious faith in itself confronts the most inexorable test of truth. It evokes those things that separate human beings from chaos. The Gospel is traversed by radical crises and violent criticism; they call into question all claims to knowledge and omnipotence, even in relation to what is known as ‘Christianity’.

If God is God, He has every right to be where He wishes, when He wishes; regardless of our ideas about Him, our reverence, our rites, our learning. All we need is to sustain that relationship wherein man is a good and invigorating presence for his fellows. Compared to established gods, that god is an emerging God.
Minuscule traité acide de spiritualité
by Maurice Bellet

A surprising little book that combines humour and criticism.
Success of the author’s previous books.

About the author

Maurice Bellet, priest, theologian and psychoanalyst, is one of the most innovating Christian authors who can reach a wide public.
He has written about forty books, many of them best-sellers: Le Dieu pervers (DDB), La traversée de l’en-bas (Bayard), Dieu, personne ne l’a jamais vu (Albin Michel).

Content

This short book consists of 4 texts: a collection of spiritual reflections, often funny yet uncompromising on subjects such as humanity, God, morals, prayer, the Church... ; a pastiche of an imaginary encyclical on the future of the Church and two spiritual meditations. “The reader will discover, I hope, that from beginning to end, only one thing matters: how, through laughter and tears, can we poor humans carry the weight of our own lives?” No doubt for the first time Maurice Bellet presents, in an original and roundabout way, a lucid and critical vision of the Church and the faith of his contemporaries... but without losing a sense of humour and a certain dose of hope. M. Bellet claims that the Church is waiting; hoping that initiatives comparable to that of Francis of Assisi or Ignatius of Loyola will appear...
Spirituality

Si je dis Credo
by Maurice Bellet

A contemporary and surprising interpretation of the Christians’ creed, the Christian prayer par excellence.

About the author
Maurice Bellet is a priest, psychoanalyst, theologian and philosopher. A prolific author, his work has been translated all over the world.

Outstanding Features
> The unfailing success of Maurice Bellet’s books.
> A crucial subject: a rereading of Christianity’s universal prayer.

Content
The first versions of “I believe in God”, the Christians’ creed, dates from the 2nd century. It is extraordinarily brief, less than half a page, and seems to evoke a world now long gone, an age of myths and fabulous tales. Nevertheless, it is still adopted and recited today by tens, even hundreds of millions of human beings...
How can we still read and understand this enigmatic little text which is so important for us? Maurice Bellet proposes a contemporary interpretation that will surprise readers. One by one, he takes the articles of the Creed and reads them with intelligence, putting them to the test of today’s challenges and questions. This ancient little text still holds surprises, as the author explains, using all his spiritual, analytical and philosophical skills to restore all its force to the Christian prayer par excellence.
Spirituality

Translation
by Maurice Bellet

How to transmit the Christian message from the ancient world to our new word.

About the author
Maurice Bellet is a priest, psychoanalyst, theologian and philosopher. His many books have been translated worldwide.

Outstanding Features
> The success of Maurice Bellet’s previous books.
> An exceptional new volume on the future of Christianity.

Contents
“Transmission”: passage, translation, moving from one world into another. That is exactly what Maurice Bellet proposes to do with Christianity. Displace the whole thing. “Aspiring to the importance of the event, to relocate that which, in the past, had to provide humans with the means to assume the burden of their being; these living creatures with a strange awareness, beings of desire, of doubt and and love, with what I term ‘transfer’: a process within the Faith yet which liberates it from the illusions and confinement that have so marked belief in modern times. What matters is what the Word it carries can transmit, here and now, to the human being who arrives at the threshold of this unknown, where the great adventure of modernity both triumphs and expires.”
This little book examines the great mysteries of the Christian faith: the Incarnation, Salvation, the Passion, the inner night, the Resurrection... Each time, the author evokes a possible passage, a transfer. This is probably the most original of Maurice Bellet’s books. It responds to Christians’ contemporary anxieties: how to ‘pass on’ our Faith to the world of tomorrow?
Notes confidentielles

By Maurice Bellet

The Church and sexuality: how can we emerge from an impossible debate? Maurice Bellet has a bold suggestion.

About the author

Maurice Bellet, born in 1923, is a priest and a psychoanalyst, theologian and philosopher. His extensive work is translated all over the world.

Outstanding Features

> Sexual morals are at the heart of debates around the synod.
> This book is keenly awaited by his readers. Bellet writes on this subject for the first time.

Contents

Sexual morality is a subject of debate and poses problems to Catholics. There are those who wish to maintain the prohibitions and moral condemnations, and those who would like to adapt Christian morality...

In this brief essay, Maurice Bellet suggests another way of posing the problem. He writes that the ‘real issue’ is not a question of decreeing or repealing the rules and laws that govern morals and customs, but that we must radically question our way of reading and understanding the Gospels – for they also speak of these matters. Maurice Bellet reveals an evangelical teaching that few people before him have presented as a way of emerging from the moral dilemma.

‘It’s risky,’ he writes, ‘but better to take this risk than lock ourselves into a conflict with no way out.’
La chair délivrée

By Maurice Bellet

The Church and sexuality: how can we emerge from an impossible debate? Maurice Bellet has a bold suggestion.

About the author

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Carnets spirituels
By Père Ceyrac

The spiritual testament of the famous ‘Father India’ who was called ‘the prophet of the 20th century’

About the author

Pierre Ceyrac was born on February 4, 1914, in Meyssac, Corrèze. He arrived in India as a missionary in 1936 and died in Chennai on May 30, 2012. He devoted his life to the poorest among us. With Mother Teresa, Sister Emmanuelle and Abbé Pierre, he has become one of the great figures of contemporary Christian history.

Outstanding Features

> A previously unpublished text from a major figure of contemporary Christianity.
> A spiritual document in a category of its own.
> Many pages of the original notebook are reproduced in colour.
> Two great names are associated with Father Ceyrac in this book: Jean Vanier (the preface) and Jean-Christophe Rufin (interview).
> Father Ceyrac’s books are always a success (DDB and Pocket) and those of his two co-authors, Jean Vanier and Jean-Christophe Rufin.

Contents

This immense figure of modern Christianity spent almost seventy years in India as a Jesuit missionary. His ambition was to restore the dignity of the Untouchables, devote his life to the children of the streets, the sick and the most wretched in a continent where 250 million people live below the poverty line. He launched many projects, centres for sick children and created a modern farm which became a centre of economic and social development.

In little notebooks, he wrote down his spiritual observations and thoughts about daily life. The Jesuits of Chennai have probably kept them. The last of those notebooks, 80 pages written between 2006 and 2012 just before his death, was conserved by a member of his family and passed down to us.

Here are Father Ceyrac’s last words, in all their force, simplicity and humility. Words jotted down on paper, revealing the intense spirituality of the man who used to say ‘all that is not given is lost’.

These are the thoughts of a man between his 94th and 98th year, who thinks back on his life, his family and the people he met (Mother Teresa, Mahatma Gandhi, Abbé Pierre...); who thinks about love, death, and what he will leave behind him when he leaves the world. These moving words are meditations of astonishing force. Here, pages of the notebooks are reproduced.

A superb interview of Father Ceyrac (2003) with writer Jean-Christophe Rufin completes the book. He talks about his life, India, Cambodia and the beauty of the world which he considers to be a reflection of God.

Technical specifications

Format: 145 x 190 mm
Pages: 120 pages
Retail price: 15 €
Lettres à un ami fraternel
Présentation et édition du père Maurice Borrmans

By Christian de Chergé

For the first time, Christian de Chergé’s letters reveal his inner dialogue with Islam.

About the author

Christian de Chergé was the prior of the Tibhirine monastery in Algeria. A Cistercian monk of Aiguebelle Abbey, he went to Tibhirine in 1974. With six of his brothers, he was murdered on May 21, 1996. Maurice Borrmans is one of the White Fathers, former professor of Islamic studies at the Pontifical Institute in Rome and author of many books on the dialogue between Christianity and Islam.

Outstanding Features

> A unique, exceptional book on Christian de Chergé’s encounter with Islam.
> Books and films about the events in Tibhirine are keenly awaited.
> 2016 will mark the 20th anniversary of the monks’ kidnapping and murder.

Contents

October 1972, Christian de Chergé, young priest and Cistercian monk, had just completed two years at the Pontifical Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies in Rome. In 1974, he joined the community at the monastery of Tibhirine in Algeria. In Rome, Christian had met Father Maurice Borrmans, a White father and Professor of Islamic studies. They become great friends and wrote to each other until the decisive years of 1994-1996. In his letters to the professor, Christian talks about his relationship with Islam and his Muslim brothers, his private and daily life in Algeria.

In this book, readers will find complete reproductions of the 74 letters written by Christian de Chergé to Maurice Borrmans from 1974 to 1995. They constitute a unique and precious testimony of Christian de Chergé’s spiritual and intellectual apprenticeship of Islam, the interreligious dialogues he practiced in his life with all his doubts and hopes, as well as his efforts to make a Christian reading of the Koran. He also writes of the suffering caused by his superiors’ procrastination and the deep crisis that, at Christmas in 1979, took him to Charles de Foucault’s Assekrem.

‘We all know the love we should feel for this people who have been wounded and duped ... There are things that ripen in secret, ensuring that that nothing will be as before, including our approach to Islam.’ (Christian de Chergé, September 11, 1995)
Le souffle du don
by Brother Christophe

New, enriched edition of Brother Christophe’s writings

About the author
Brother Christophe (C. Lebreton), a Trappist monk since 1974 and in Algeria since 1987, was 45 years-old when he was kidnapped and murdered. Master of the novices of Tibhirine, he was the youngest brother in this community, based close to the Tamié Abbey in Savoie.

Outstanding Features
• An exceptional book about the spirituality of Tibhirine.
• Enriched with many texts by Brother Christophe published for the first time.
• Books about the tragedy of Tibhirine are in great demand, see the success of the first edition of Brother Christophe’s diary (1999).

Content
"With Brother Christophe’s diary, we hold in our hands a day-by-day account of the events that took place in the Tibhirine community from August 1993 to March 19, 1996 (seven days before they were taken). This testimony is that of a holy man and a poet, gardener by trade and monk by vocation. Christophe touches us by the sincerity of his confession as a Christian and by the quality of his expression and the depth of spirituality in his monastic life... but also by the very tangible colour of his ‘confessions’. I dare use this word because they remind me of the confidences of Saint Augustine, exactly fifteen centuries before in Algeria.”
Mgr. Teissier. This new edition of Brother Christophe’s diary was edited by Brother Didier de Tamié, at the request of Christophe’s family. The diary assembles many personal meditations on the Cross, love and the gift of God, published here for the first time. Brother Christophe is revealed to be an authentic writer and spiritual poet of rare power and intensity.
Cinq petites catéchèses sur le Credo
by Mgr Christophe Dufour

New Edition

About the author

Mgr. Christophe Dufour has been Archbishop of the diocese of Aix en Provence since 2008. Formerly Bishop of Limoges, he is also a member of the Episcopal Commission for liturgy and pastoral sacraments. He was formerly chaplain to high school pupils and students.

Outstanding features:
✓ Excellent sales of the first edition
✓ Mgr. Dufour has become an important figure of the Eglise de France

Content

In this little book, the Archbishop of Aix and Arles, for many years responsible for the catechism in France, has succeeded in expressing the essence of the Christian faith for the contemporary reader, who is often put off by the heritage of the Gospels.
In five brief parts, Mgr. Dufour comments the major claims of the Creed:
All-powerful God; Jesus born of God and raised from death; Holy Church; The life-giving Spirit... At the end of each chapter, he invites us to continue our reflection alone or in groups.
Frère Luc, la biographie
by Dom Thomas Georgeon

The first biography of the Tibhirine community doctor, with previously unpublished documents.

About the author
Dom Thomas Georgeon is a Cistercian monk, Abbot of the Italian monastery at Frattochie (Rome), a specialist of interreligious matters and the Tibhirine community, on which he has written several studies. He was chosen by Brother Luc’s family to work on his personal archives.

Christophe Henning is a writer and a journalist in charge of the religion column of Pèlerin, and author of several books about Tibhirine, notably Le jardinier de Tibhirine, with Jean-Marie Lassausse (Bayard, 2010), more than 15,000 copies sold.

Outstanding Features
- The first biography based on Brother Luc’s personal archives, never before published.
- The success of books about Tibhirine and the popularity of Brother Luc (played by Michael Lonsdale in the film Of Gods and Men).

Content
Brother Luc lived more than 50 years in Algeria and in Tibhirine. He went there from the monastery on Aiguebelle (Drôme). This biography recounts his exceptional life: in the French Resistance during WW2; the Algerian war when he was kidnapped by maquisards because he was a doctor; his monastic vocation; his passion for Algeria and the Muslim people. Lastly, his life in the monastery at Tibhirine up to his capture and death.

His writings reveal a strong spirituality and total engagement to help the poor and the sick.

The monk’s brother sent the authors all his papers and notebooks. This book reproduces many of Brother Luc’s writings and drawings never published before.

This is the story of a truly outstanding man, a doctor, a soldier, and a monk. One of the best-loved characters in Xavier Beauvois’ film, played by Michael Lonsdale.
Le jardinier de Tibhirine
by Jean-Marie Lassausse et Christophe Henning

A testimony that calls upon us to inspect our preconceived ideas on dialogue with others, Islam and the heritage of the monks of Tibhirine.

About the author
Jean-Marie Lassausse is a priest with the Mission de France. He has spent many years on mission in Africa. Since 2001, he has been responsible for the grounds of the monastery of Tibhirine.
Christophe Henning is a journalist (Panorama) and a writer.

Outstanding Features
- A film about the monks of Tibhirine, starring Lambert Wilson and directed by Xavier Beauvois, will be on our screens in October 2010.
- An exceptional testimony on the Christian presence in Algeria today.

Content
Jean-Marie Lassausse, a native of Vosges, was born into a farming family with lots of children. Today, he is the ‘gardener of Tibhirine’. He works on the land with Algerians and Muslims. His ministry as a priest has taken him to Tanzania, Ethiopia, Morocco, and to Algeria where he has remained since 2000.
His simple, deep testimony pleads for a `Church that is a meeting place`. He believes that his experience, his travels into `other people’s lands` can contribute to the reflection on the disaffection for churches in the West, and especially help understand the urgency of a pastoral that encourages meeting with others.
He discovered the spiritual heritage of the brothers of Tibhirine principally through dialogue with the local population and Islam. In this book, he recalls the testimonies of Muslims about Father Christian de Chergé’s community, the martyrdom of the monks, relations with the monks and their tangible heritage, which may appear to be without an heir today.
Être père, j’y crois
by Olivier Le Gendre

‘I believe that anyone who is a father is very close to God, though they may not always know it.’

A contemporary meditation on fatherhood by a religious author with tremendous public appeal.

About the author
Olivier Le Gendre, before becoming a successful author, was an entrepreneur. Married with five children, he has also been the international director of a Catholic secular movement present in 35 countries, and today he is a member of a foundation that finances developmental projects around the world.

Outstanding Features
- His book Confession d’un cardinal (Lattès, 2007) has sold over 100,000 copies.
- Current interest in discussions about the family.

Contents
We are accustomed to seeing this author blowing ecclesial secrets, or calling into question the ‘courtly’ Church denounced by Pope Francis. Here, he proffers a short and poignant spiritual meditation on paternity. What does it mean to be a father? It is by no means an innate talent. A certain degree of investment, and simply being present, is required; as well as special attention to the other acknowledged as son or daughter.

Not only did the Christian God reveal himself as a father, but he is the only God bold enough to risk being rejected by his offspring, without however condemning them… This book, whose strength derives from an intense meditation of the Lord’s Prayer, displays a modest and respectful concern for the humblest and most vulnerable among us.

It explains how there are different ways of being a father, whether biological, adoptive or spiritual… All fatherhood is dual-natured: both helping the child to grow and building trust.
Jésus, j’y crois !
by Michael Lonsdale

The testimony of faith of the great French actor who starred in Of Gods and Men

Michael Lonsdale is a French actor in films and on the stage. He has worked with Orson Welles, Truffaut, Buñuel, Claude Sautet, Louis Malle, Spielberg... In the theatre, he has played Dürrenmatt, Duras, Beckett... On February 25, 2011, he received the first César of his career for best supporting actor in Of Gods and Men. A militant Catholic, he is a member of the Renouveau charismatique movement.

Outstanding features:
> The author’s great reputation. This is his first personal book
> An unexpected “Jesus” in a very contemporary testimony

Content
In simple and personal terms, Michael Lonsdale shares what lies at the heart of his faith. At the root is Jesus, a meeting, a rebirth. Since then, the actor has made his way with his travelling companion: ‘Jesus, he’s like a friend you can tell everything. He doesn’t reply directly, but I feel his presence in many human beings, through events.’ Looking back over his life, Michael Lonsdale recounts these events and meetings that made him discover and love Christ. The intimate, devout side of an actor with a most impressive career and a moving testimony. Poignant in his interpretation of Brother Luc de Tibhirine in Xavier Beauvois’ film, Of Gods and Men (2011), the actor with 130 films to his credit has played alongside the greatest. But nothing has distanced him from the simple faith he expresses here with confidence and generosity.
Dieu n'est pas ce que vous croyez

By Jean-Marie Ploux

10 years after his first success, Jean-Marie Ploux completely revises his reflection on the reception of God in contemporary society

About the author

Jean-Marie Ploux is a priest with the Mission de France. A theologian, he published Le christianisme a-t-il fait son temps? (1998) and Le dialogue change-t-il la foi? (Editions de l'Atelier). He is a familiar guest in the media.

Outstanding Features

> Jean-Marie Ploux is a well-known figure in the Church and in the media.
> A book that answers our questions on the evolution of the Church and Pope Francis.

Contents

The first edition of this book, which appeared in 2008, was a great success with readers and received the Prix des libraires Siloé. It also sparked off many debates, inspiring meetings and discussions all over France.

Today, Jean-Marie Ploux brings us more than a new edition – this is a new book on the same subject, taking account of the changes and evolutions in society and in the Church.

He presents new ideas about the Church and the changes we hope to see. More than ever, this God who invites us to become closer to others, so that they become our neighbours - who goes as far as to become one of us - is sending a message that runs against the grain of our times, yet promises salvation. This little treatise on the identity of God is both striking and clear.
Christian de Chergé
by Christian Salenson

Topicality of the dialogue between Christianity and Islam

About the author

Christian Salenson is a priest and director of the Institute for Science and Theology of Religions in Marseille. He has been studying the works of Christian de Chergé, and he is in charge of the file for the beatification of Christian de Chergé.

Outstanding Features

- Beatification of Christian de Chergé is currently examined and should be decided in 2009
- Growing interest of the Church for Christian de Chergé's thought
- The theological and spiritual heritage left by the monk of Notre Dame de l'Atlas in Tibhirine, murdered in 1996 in Algeria, is indeed impressive.

Content

The author has made a very close study of Christian de Chergé’s writings, conserved in the abbey of Notre-Dame d’Aiguebelle. For him, the spiritual experience of the prior of Tibhirine engenders a genuine theology of interfaith dialogue. In this first serious, documented biography since Christian de Chergé’s death, the author shows how Christian de Chergé’s life and commitment to dialogue with Islam led him to develop a theological vision of Islam’s place in God’s design, and on the understanding of Christ and the Church in this multi-cultural and multi-faith world.
Quand je suis faible, je suis fort
by Thierry Verhelst and Anne Ducrocq

‘I took part in a dance of Life with Thierry and his family. Yes, one can stay alive in the face of death.’

About the authors
Thierry Verhelst (1942-2013) was an orthodox priest of Belgian origin, involved in North-South relations. The career of this jurist and anthropologist took him from Belgium to India, by way of Ethiopia, Rwanda, Brazil, Algeria and the United States. He was a militant on behalf of several developmental NGOs. In the summer of 2010, he began to experience unusual tiredness and difficulty in walking. Six months later, he learned the worst: he was suffering from ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, known more commonly as Motor Neurone Disease). He was married with two daughters; one an orthodox nun. He died on the 25 April 2013.

Anne Ducrocq is a journalist for Nouvelles Clés, Le Monde des Religions and Livres Hebdo. Close to the Béthanie centre for orthodox spirituality in the Moselle region of France, she published Béthanie ou l’art de guérir (Presses de la Renaissance), Le courage de changer sa vie and Guide spirituel des lieux de retraite (Albin Michel, 2004 and 2009 respectively).

Outstanding Features
› A deeply moving description of frailty and dependence.
› An intense, spiritual dialogue on the conclusion of life.
› The fame of Anne Ducrocq.

Contents
‘I met Thierry Verhelst and his loved ones at a time when their hearts of gold were being smelted. Living part time in an orthodox spiritual centre in Lorraine, I struck up a friendship with a nun, Sister Barbara. For two years, I shared her experience of her father’s encroaching illness - Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a degenerative disease - and the astonishing itinerary of inner freedom he experienced as he lost control of his body.’ A.D.

Anne Ducrocq decided to spend some time with Thierry V., “simply, to discover what the ultimate ordeal can teach those who embrace it.” She supported him through conversation and by lending an attentive ear right up to the moment of the ‘Great Passage’. The day after his burial, and with his prior agreement, Thierry’s wife Roseline gave Anne the spiritual journals that Thierry had kept throughout his illness. This book is a composite of all these sources, grouped together in a series of constant journeys between interior and exterior, between hope and despair.