

Sample Annotated Bibliography Entry

Martos, Joseph. "Part Two: Histories of the Sacraments." In *Doors to the Sacred: A Historical Introduction to Sacraments in the Catholic Church*. Rev. ed. Liguori, MO: Liguori/Triumph, 2001.

The second part of Martos' *Doors to the Sacred* concerns itself with the historicity and development of the Catholic Church's seven sacraments. Beginning with the rites of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, Martos then examines Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, and Ordination.

Each chapter begins with a section on "Parallels and Precedents," which examines the sacrament's connections to its ritual elements (such as water in Baptism), other ancient religions practices that may have been similar, and OT precedents for the sacraments. Martos then systematically explains the historical development of each sacrament by indicating the NT basis for it, considering the works of early Church writers, such as Origen and Tertullian, and also investigating the thought of medieval theologians, such as Thomas Aquinas. In Martos' analysis of modern sacramental practices, he also considers the rites in non-Catholic Churches as well.

Martos' history provides great insight into the development of the sacraments throughout history. Naturally, this would be resourceful for liturgists discerning how their liturgies reflect the development of the understanding of sacraments, including how they are understood today. Since Martos includes thoughts on other Christian Churches, the resource is great for ecumenical dialogue between Catholic and non-Catholic ministers.

Matthew DePaula – MPM

Department of Theology
Graduate Ministry Programs
University of Dallas