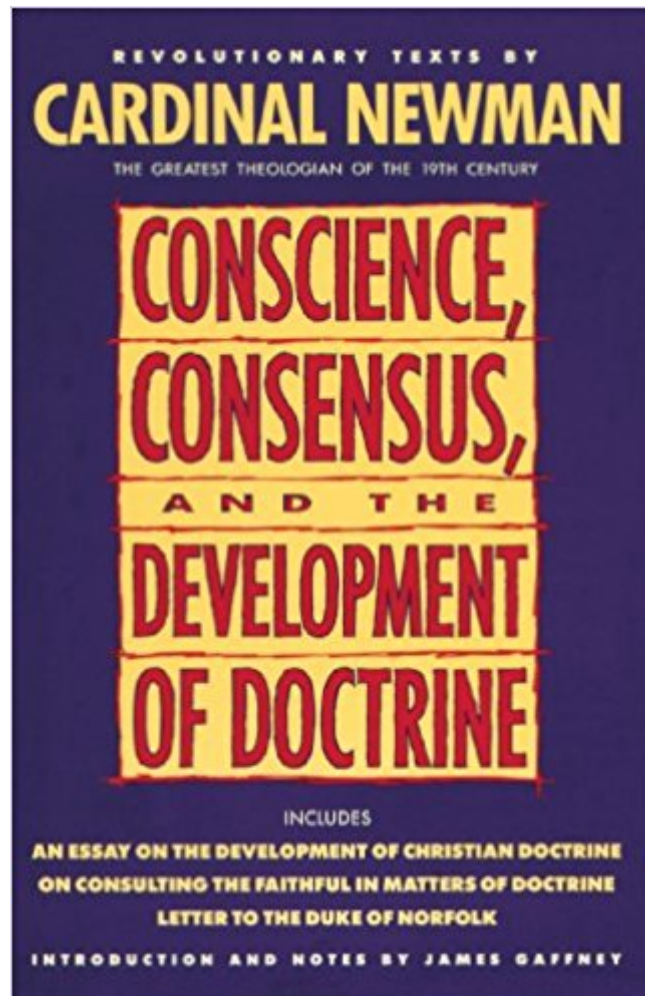




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Conscience, Consensus, And The Development Of Doctrine



Synopsis

"Certainly, if I am obliged to bring religion into after-dinner toasts (which indeed does not seem quite the thing), I shall drink -- to the Pope, if you please -- still, to Conscience first, and to the Pope afterwards."--John Henry Cardinal Newman

In the works collected here, including *An Essay on the Development of Christian doctrine*, *A Letter Addressed to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk*, and *On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine*, John Henry Cardinal Newman, the great nineteenth-century English theologian, debunks a few Catholic myths:

Myth #1: The teaching of the Catholic Church on faith and morals has never changed and never will change. Not so, this brilliant scholar says. For just as each era has new ways of understanding, so, too, must the Catholic Church always change in its understanding of faith and morals.

Myth #2: Catholics have to do whatever the Pope says. To the contrary, according to Newman's famous quip on after-dinner toasts, the ultimate obligation of Catholics is to conscience, not the Pope.

Myth #3: It's the bishops who teach, the laity who follows. Newman turns this notion upside down: The laity, he says, are the source and final seal of the church's teaching; thus the bishops must listen to them.

Never before collected in one volume, these classic works reveal Newman at his eloquent best as he speaks to the religious crises of our time.

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Customer Reviews

The extensive writings of Newman (1801-90) remain important in our time. Newman, who has been advanced for canonization, was an English Catholic theologian and controversialist, poet, and

musician whose rapier pen wrought devastation on his enemies. This collection of four essays includes three shorter works, *The Theory of Developments in Religious Doctrine* (1843), *On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine* (1859), and two chapters of *A Letter Addressed to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk* (1874). The classic *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine* (1845), which led Newman from Anglicanism to the Roman Church, is included. Compiler Gaffney provides clear commentaries on the selections he calls "revolutionary," which are useful for studies in developmental theology. This is recommended for religious collections and informed lay readers.- Anna Donnelly, St. John's Univ. Lib., Jamaica, N.Y. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

In the works collected here, including *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, *A Letter Addressed to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk*, and *On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine*, John Henry Cardinal Newman, the great nineteenth-century English theologian, debunks a few Catholic myths: . Myth #1: The teaching of the Catholic Church on faith and morals has never changed and never will change. Not so, this brilliant scholar says. For just as each era has new ways of understanding, so, too, must the Catholic Church always change in its understanding of faith and morals. Myth #2: Catholics have to do whatever the Pope says. To the contrary, according to Newman's famous quip on after-dinner toasts, the ultimate obligation of Catholics is to conscience, not to the Pope. Myth #3: It's the bishops who teach, the laity who follow. Newman turns this notion upside down: The laity, he says, are the source and final seal of the church's teaching; thus the bishops must listen to them. Never before collected in one volume, these classic works reveal Newman at his eloquent best as he speaks to the religious crises of our time.

Perfect selection of the writings that reflect the issues of our times. Gaffney is to be commended for his editing.

vg

I'm working on a term paper for a graduate theology class. This book is perfect for the topic of Newman's observation of the natural outgrowth in the development of doctrine as outlined by the early Church fathers. The notes provided by the editor were most helpful in describing the progression of Newman's research and conclusions on the subject and how they changed from the first published version of his "Essay on the Development of Doctrine" and his final version thirty years later. Even if you're not a student this is still an interesting read.

Excellent book for reading Newman in the original. These writings cover a significant part of Newman's life and give the reader a good cross section of Newman's thinking over an extended period of time.

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