

el punto de controversia principal entre la propuesta del profesor Castro Alfin y la opinión habitual de los especialistas en la cuestión. El anticlericalismo nace con la propia conciencia de una parte de la intelectualidad europea de la existencia del clericalismo. Ambos conceptos arraigan en la conversación pública occidental a partir de mediados del XIX. Que se mantuvieran expresiones, imágenes y denuncias, no nos puede llevar, sin embargo, a establecer una continuidad entre ambas realidades. La antigua condena moral pervivió con fuerza, pero el anticlericalismo contemporáneo fue mucho más allá., tal y como esta misma obra demuestra. El debate, en cualquier caso, está servido y estas páginas lo deberían animar. Los desacuerdos nunca serán malos en el ámbito historiográfico, sobre todo cuando se asientan en matices concretos.

No es una exageración calificar la obra de manantial de información y datos. Los materiales utilizados son muchos y variados. Por este texto desfilan ensayos políticos, novelas, prensa satírica o autores que se movieron en los márgenes intelectuales y que no siempre aparecen en este tipo de historias. El peso del caso francés es esencial para anclar en la historia europea el anticlericalismo en ese gozne entre el mundo moderno y contemporáneo, con un análisis

preciso de los discursos en el tiempo de la Ilustración, aunque también hay algunos recorridos que invitan a repensar el caso español.

Como colofón, el autor nos permite profundizar en las imágenes y símbolos manejados por el anticlericalismo en un interesante último gráfico, compuesto por casi una cincuentena de ilustraciones que enriquecen y acompañan a lo desarrollado en toda la obra. Este último gráfico podría contraponerse con el escasamente conocido *Zoología anticlerical* del jesuita Ricardo Rochel, con dibujos de Pedrero y editado por la Imprenta del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús a inicios del siglo XX. En fin, *La tea y el texto* es un libro que alienta debates y nos abre a temas por explorar que seguirán abiertos en el futuro. Detrás de estas páginas se descubre un proyecto que también es vital, cargado de lecturas, de reflexión y de discusiones con compañeros de profesión a lo largo y ancho de la geografía. El profesor Castro nos ha ofrecido su informada lectura de un fenómeno que ha marcado y establecido un parte considerable de los clivajes políticos, sociales y culturales de la contemporaneidad. Esta aproximación a la historia intelectual del anticlericalismo nos recuerda que las ideas siempre tienen consecuencias.

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American Catholicism Transformed: From the Cold War Through the Council
Oxford University Press, Oxford 2021, 480 pp.

The Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) undoubtedly represented a very important moment, not only for the history of the Catholic Church, but also for that of the entire world. The 16 documents released

by its participants touched almost every aspect of Church life and are also relevant for the history of the world and its development. This explains why at the moment there are so many writings that investigate

both that historic moment and its broader relevance to society.

Despite the complex existing literature, there are still many aspects of this topic that can be investigated. Among them, the way the Council transformed American Catholicism. Prof. Joseph Chinnici OFM, emeritus professor of History at the Franciscan School of Theology of the University of San Diego, takes on this complex topic and offers us an overview of significant social and religious changes from the Cold War and until the Council.

Published in 2021 and divided into two big parts: the first part of the book discusses how the Cold War brought an increase of civil rights, while the second part is dedicated to the event itself and to the way how it contributed to the transformation of American Catholicism. As the author shows in the foreword, the Council represented a special moment and its four decrees, on liturgy, Church, revelation and the Church in the modern world sparked a significant shift in theological discourse, and contributed to the increase of the image and impact of the Church in the public sphere. At the same time, the author insists on the fact that «the Second Vatican Council is not the place to begin if we are to comprehend the course of contemporary Catholicism in the twenty-first century. What the Church in the United States is now involved in is a mutation of much longer duration with much more profound consequences» (p. 7).

The fact that the reform of the church also requires a change in the life and work of social institutions like family, or a deeper observance and practice of morals is also emphasized by the author, who places the discussion in the American context. The four basic moral principles used by Mur-

ray in the analysis of the teaching of Pope Pius XII on war are also emphasized: first, the fact that all wars of aggression, just or unjust, fall under the ban of moral proscription; second, the fact that a defensive war to repress injustice is morally admissible both in principle and in fact; third, the principle of proportionality; and fourth, the limitation in the use of force. All of them are relevant to the understanding of the human dignity and of the history of the world from the Cold War to the Council. Therefore, in the first part of the book, Joseph P. Chinnici relate these principles with questions like religious renewal in the context of Secularism and its outcomes in America, diversity and conflict, and the Catholic mobilization around civil rights.

The second part of the book, entirely dedicated to the Second Vatican Council draws our attention to the historical evolution of the event, starting with the preparatory phases (1959-1962) and continuing with the first session; the interim periods, marked by the debates on the Church and liturgy; the final documents; the tasks ahead that the documents placed, but also by the historical consequences of the event. Well-written and based on a rich and updated bibliography, Joseph P. Chinnici's book entitled: *American Catholicism Transformed. From the Cold War Through the Council*, published in 2021 at Oxford University Press is not only a useful tool for understanding the way the Second Vatican Council changed American Catholicism, but also a book that manages to satisfy the curiosity of a reader who wants to find more about how the Church and social life interacted.

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