

SALLY DWYER-McNULTY

COMMON THREADS

A Cultural History of Clothing
in American Catholicism

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Common Threads: A Cultural History of Clothing in American Catholicism



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A well-illustrated cultural history of the apparel worn by American Catholics, Sally Dwyer-McNulty's *Common Threads* reveals the transnational origins and homegrown significance of clothing in developing identity, unity, and a feeling of respectability for a significant religious group that had very long struggled for its footing in a Protestant-dominated society frequently openly hostile to Catholics. Indeed, clothing itself has become a kind of Catholic vocabulary, whether expressing shared devotional experiences or entwined with debates about education, authority, and the place of religious beliefs in American culture. Dwyer-McNulty tracks and analyzes changes in Catholic clothing all the way through the twentieth hundred years and in to the present, which discovers the brand new Pope Francis choosing to use plain black shoes instead of ornate red types. Drawing on insights from the study of material culture and of lived religion, Dwyer-McNulty demonstrates how the visual lexicon of clothing in Catholicism can indicate gender ideology, age, and class. Focusing on those that wore the most visually specific clothes--priests, women religious, and schoolchildren--the tale begins in the 1830s, when most American priests had been foreign born and wore a number of clerical styles.



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Total History of Catholic Clothing From early 19th century Catholic religious garments and schoolchildren's clothing, to the simple black shoes worn (favored) by Pope Francis, author Sally Dwyer-NcNulty has neatly and completely sewed together the evolution and changes in Catholic uniforms through the years in the most interesting and informative way. Three Stars Not well written, though interesting. The illustrations and photographs of early Catholic school uniforms and other clothing items are amazing. Common Threads deserves greater than a 5 star review for its research, traditional value, and engrossing text. A++ My very Catholic aunt loved it This book was a gift ant the recipient loved it. Real interesting book Interesting historical background. It had been a surprise to discover that priests and bishops were concerned about their clerical closet. I thought just nuns had been anxious about their practices. I thought these were beautiful! By the way, I miss the nun's practices. She explains the reasoning and discusses the professionals and cons of school uniforms, and the effect of Vatican II on Catholic nun's habits. Five Stars Just as advertised! Great history! I am hoping I could borrow it. Common Threads for Uncommon People Great book! Every Catholic should examine!



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