

(1962–5) arguably impacted upon Latin America more than any other region. Peter Sánchez adeptly weaves a history of Catholic conciliar social teaching with social movements such as liberation theology. He shows the personal consequences for many religious leaders of siding with the poor and forfeiting the *quid pro quo* relationship of the Catholic Church with the land-owning oligarchy.

As a political scientist, the author uses methodologies drawn from social movement theory (Doug McAdam, Christian Smith and others). Historians may find some early methodological discourse distracting, but the archival base is indeed engaging. The analysis is based on ninety-five personal interviews and extensive archival materials from across the world – including Padre Rodríguez’s personal papers. *Priest under fire* essentially argues that it was religious leaders and not the ‘politico-military organizations’ that first awakened the ‘insurgent consciousness of the Salvadoran poor’ (p. 243).

The author could have leveraged this data towards even wider conclusions and relevance. This account of the Salvadoran situation sheds light on why the Catholic Church turned toward the poor in the 1960s and on why many of the Latin American poor chose Protestantism. Sánchez’s analysis reveals the Catholic Church’s deep-seated loyalty to the rich in Latin America. Subsequent developments in social Christianity (such as theologies of liberation and CEBs) certainly stemmed the tide of conversions, yet could not stop massive shifts in the religious landscape of Latin America. *Priest under fire* is a fascinating, first-hand account of one of the most important stories in Latin American religion in the twentieth century.

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*Refuge in the Lord. Catholics, presidents and the politics of immigration, 1981–2013.* By Lawrence J. McAndrews. Pp. xii + 289. Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 2015. £47.45 (paper). 978 0 8132 2779 5  
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There could not be a more timely book for the 2016 US presidential election and its aftermath. Lawrence McAndrews’s work provides much-needed nuance and context for America’s passionate debate over immigration. Rising above the cacophony of political platforms and media quips, the author makes an original contribution to Catholic scholarship on the issue. Unlike other books that focus either on Catholic Social Thought or federal immigration policy, the author blends these voices together by reconstructing a multilayered conversation between US Catholic bishops and five American presidents during the past forty years. McAndrews charts this dialogue from the Hesburgh Commission and Reagan’s Immigration Reform and Control Act (1986) to Obama’s executive implementation of parts of the DREAM Act (2012) and the precarious state of his Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program (DACA) after the 2013 government shutdown. For sources, the author turns to the archives, unearthing documents from presidential libraries and the collected papers of various senators and federal offices. Catholic scholars have hitherto overlooked these vital archival sources, and McAndrews’s political side of the story is something decidedly missing from most Catholic scholarship on the subject. His further ability to articulate the bishops’ perspective is remarkable,

especially when one considers that the archival collections of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops are currently unavailable for this time period. The book's central argument will none the less raise eyebrows. McAndrews argues that the bishops ultimately thwarted, or at least obstructed, political progress on immigration reform by remaining 'doggedly dogmatic' in their insistence on legalisation or amnesty, neglecting public (and popular Catholic) opinion that demanded tighter border control as an essential condition of any reform (p. 214). Overall the bishops come off as aloof to both the concerns of their flock and the politics of pragmatic compromise. To be fair, the book attempts to present the theological and pastoral reasons behind the bishops' insistence on legalisation and family reunification (especially for Latino Catholics). However, papal pressure on the USCCB remains underdeveloped, and one finds no trace of Pope John Paul II's post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Ecclesia in America* (1999). This document set the framework for a more 'hemispheric' and transnational vision of Catholicism and migration in the Americas, a template informing both conservative and liberal US bishops in their joint push for family justice in immigration reform. Nevertheless, the author masterfully pinpoints continuities and shifts in immigration reform between the 1980s and today, and the reader discovers how campaign rhetoric has often clouded the consistent immigration policy of presidents from both sides of the political spectrum (particularly regarding deportation). Scholars of Catholic theology, US history or political theory would be remiss to overlook this book, and college professors should consider this work for courses on immigration or American Catholicism. An index is included.

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PAUL G. MONSON

*Russia's uncommon prophet. Father Aleksandr Men and his times.* By Wallace L. Daniel.

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Early in the morning of Sunday 9 September 1990 Fr Aleksandr Men was murdered on his way to catch the train to the parish church, which he had served for twenty years, at Novaia Derevnia north-east of Moscow. The crime remains unsolved; the weapon and the lack of other clues point to the KGB (Committee for State Security), which alone had the motive, the means and the ability to manage a cover-up. The relevant archives are still closed.

Fortunately, Wallace Daniel has had access to plentiful material for the life, if not for the death, of this remarkable priest, mainly from the indispensable Keston Archive at Baylor University, but also from interviews with people who knew him personally, including his brother and son as well as former colleagues and supporters. This is not only a chronological biography; it also illuminates the story of the Russian Orthodox Church in the last decades of Soviet power, especially during the period of renewed persecution under Khrushchev. The specialist will find new sources, fresh insights and an extensive bibliography, while the general reader will enjoy the easy narrative flow together with ample background history and helpful introductions to persons and explanations of concepts, whether in the text or in the footnotes.