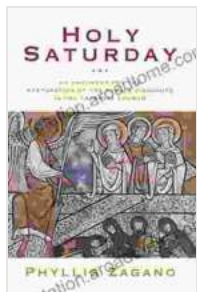


Empowering Women in Faith: A Case for Restoring the Female Diaconate



Holy Saturday: An Argument for the Restoration of the Female Diaconate in the Catholic Church by Phyllis Zagano

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1130 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 193 pages
Lending : Enabled

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HOLY SATURDAY

AN ARGUMENT FOR THE
RESTORATION OF THE FEMALE DIACONATE
IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



PHYLLIS ZAGANO

The Catholic Church has a rich history of women serving in various roles throughout its existence. However, the female diaconate, an ordained ministry that existed in the early Church, has been inactive for centuries. The book ***An Argument for the Restoration of the Female Diaconate in the Catholic Church*** advances a compelling case for the reinstatement of

women deacons, demonstrating its biblical, historical, and theological foundations.

Biblical and Historical Evidence

The book draws upon extensive Scriptural and historical research to support its claim. Numerous Biblical passages indicate the existence of women deacons in the early Church. Acts 6:1-6 records the appointment of Phoebe as a deacon in the church of Cenchreae. Similarly, Romans 16:1 mentions Phoebe as a "deacon" in the church of Rome.

Historical records from the first centuries of the Church further substantiate the existence of female deacons. The writings of Church Fathers such as Tertullian, Irenaeus, and Hippolytus attest to their presence and active participation in various ministries, including baptizing, administering communion, and assisting the poor and sick.

Theological Arguments

The book also presents a compelling theological case for the restoration of the female diaconate. The author argues that the inherent dignity and equality of women, as affirmed in the teachings of Jesus and the early Church, supports the re-establishment of this ministry. The author also explores the complementary roles that women and men can play in the Church, emphasizing the need for diversity and inclusivity in ordained ministry.

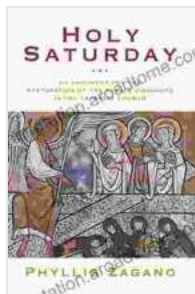
Practical Implications

Beyond the theological arguments, the book also highlights the practical benefits of restoring the female diaconate. Women deacons would bring a unique perspective and set of experiences to the ministry, enriching the

Church's pastoral care and outreach to the marginalized. They would also serve as role models for young women, demonstrating the possibilities for women's leadership and service within the Church.

An Argument for the Restoration of the Female Diaconate in the Catholic Church is an authoritative and persuasive work that makes a strong case for the reinstatement of women deacons in the Catholic Church. Its thorough research, clear arguments, and practical insights make it an essential read for anyone interested in gender equality, Church history, and the future of women in the Catholic Church. By embracing the female diaconate, the Church can take a bold step towards empowering women in faith and fulfilling its mission of service and inclusion.

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