THE RHETORIC OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Edited by JOSEPH R. BLANEY and JOSEPH P. ZOMPETTI
Pope John Paul II was clearly one of the most influential persons of the twentieth century. He affected politics, religion, and culture with a rhetorical zeal matched by few actors on the international stage. From the downfall of communism in Eastern Europe to his devotion to Mary to his championing of social justice and orthodox theology, this book examines his moments of persuasive finesse as well as instances when his message could have been crafted more effectively. The essays in this collection examine his persuasive skills from several scholarly points of view. The book also offers analyses of media portrayals of this often-controversial figure.

With contributions from some of the world’s leading communication scholars, clergy, and social activists, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in a deeper understanding of religious communication in general and John Paul II’s rhetorical papacy in particular. Written by Catholics, Protestants, Mormons, agnostics, and atheists, the chapters approach the pope with varying degrees of admiration, but always with intellectual respect.


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