

SIX POPES

A Son of the Church Remembers

Book Description

Once you dig into Monsignor Hilary C. Franco's engaging memoir, you'll have a hard time putting it down. The son of Italian immigrants raised in the Bronx, Franco rose to work with the highest and most influential figures of the Roman Catholic Church.

As a young man, he attended Rome's premier seminary soon after becoming the special assistant to Archbishop Fulton Sheen. As a priest he would travel the world, and his book recounts a harrowing experience in the Deep South in the early 1960s, his work at the Second Vatican Council, and his time posted at the Church's diplomatic missions in Washington, D.C., and the United Nations.

This most formidable churchman reveals his tales of intellectual, pastoral, and diplomatic service to the Catholic Church, enlivened by recollections of the fascinating people he came to know — from U.S. presidents and foreign heads of state to religious leaders like Padre Pio and Saint Mother Teresa.

Stories of this book's six pontiffs that Franco served under — John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul I, John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and Francis — offer landmarks along his trek through the corridors of spiritual power in New York, Washington, D.C., and Rome.

Six Popes is written from a unique eyewitness vantage on many of the events and movements that shaped our world and the Catholic Church. There is really no other book like it.



Praise



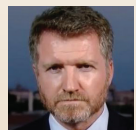
"Monsignor Franco is known as an engaging storyteller of his impactful time in the Church. Read this book and you will see why."

— **CARDINAL TIMOTHY DOLAN**, Archdiocese of New York



"There is a real lightness of touch as Monsignor Franco moves through the decades and back and forth across the Atlantic. The author's optimism for the world evidentially flows from his faith.... In a dreary and exhausting time, this was an unexpectedly heart-warming read."

— **REV. STEPHEN EDMONDS**, Church of England

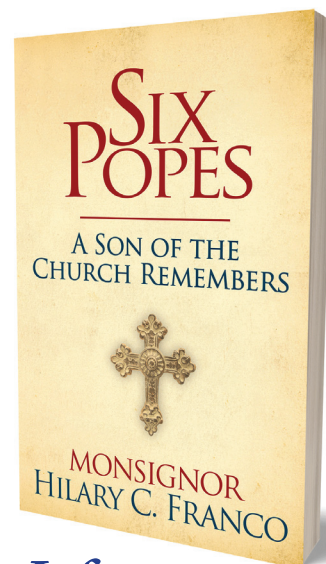


"A fascinating and colorful memoir of a life that has included attending the Second Vatican Council as an expert adviser, working as an official at the Congregation for Clergy for 24 years and, most recently, serving as an adviser at the Holy See's Mission to the United Nations."

— **EDWARD PENTIN**, National Catholic Register

Monsignor Hilary C. Franco

Monsignor Franco is an Advisor at the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations. He was ordained a priest in Rome at 22 and received a doctorate in biblical theology before the age of 24 from Rome's Pontifical Lateran University. He attended Fordham University in New York, where he earned a master's degree in sociology. Later, he earned another degree in canon law at the Lateran University. He is the author of *Bishop Sheen: Mentor and Friend*.



Ordering Info

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Humanix Books

Language: English

ISBN-10 : 1630061336

ISBN-13 : 978-1630061333

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Amazon URL: <https://amzn.to/3x0d00N>

Publisher: <https://bit.ly/sixpopes>

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High-res images of the book cover and Monsignor, along with an electronic version of this kit can be found online at novamedia.us/sixpopes

Interview Questions for Monsignor Franco

- *Pope Francis stands out as being different than his predecessors. How would you describe his approach to governing the Church?*
- *You have served six popes. Is there a characteristic common to all of those you have known?*
- *What do you think Fulton Sheen would think about America today? What's the status of his canonization cause?*
- *America seems so divided today, how can people of all faiths put these differences aside?*

