

Introduction To The Devout Life Francis De Sales

2011 Reprint of 1956 Edition Translated by Michael Day at The Newman Press. Full facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. "Introduction to the Devout Life" is the most popular Catholic "self-help" book of all time. First published in the early 17th century, it has proven its value as a daily spiritual guide and helpful reference for living an authentic Christian life. Written specifically for laymen, it began as letters from Saint Francis to a married woman who was seeking holiness amidst the distractions of her life of wealth and status. It contains treasures of wisdom for every reader, from eager beginner to lifelong Christian. Devout life does not require withdrawal from the world. This was the central insight of Saint Francis de Sales, a 16th-century priest whose "Introduction to the Devout Life" has not gone out of print in almost four centuries. Francis served the church at a dangerous time in a dangerous place: during the Reformation, in Calvinist areas of France, when celebrating mass was punishable by death. He was a popular minister and a prolific letter writer whose correspondence was cherished for its clear and direct instruction in the ways of piety. The book collects passages from many of those letters, organized as one message addressed to the allegorical character Philothea (which

means "lover of God"). The book includes long sections about prayer, temptation, and how to maintain and renew devotion to God. But it is most distinguished by its discussion of how to live a holy life in the secular world. Each chapter (such as "How to Combine Due Care for a Good Reputation with Humility") is frank, uncannily modern, and precise. --Michael Joseph Gross

At the encouragement of others, St. Francis de Sales, the Catholic Bishop of Geneva, published his first edition of the Introduction to the Devout Life in late 1608. It sold out quickly. In 1619, he published his fifth and final edition. The Introduction has been in print and changing lives ever since. St. Francis died on December 28th, 1622, at the age of 55. He was canonized in 1665 and declared a Doctor of the Catholic Church in 1877. This book is a new English translation of St. Francis' 1619 edition. The depth and breadth of the Introduction to the Devout Life has made it an enduring classic on loving God, prayer, biblical meditation, developing the Fruit of the Spirit, and being fully devoted to Christ. Its insights and practical guidance are timeless. It will forever change your heart and deepen your personal relationship with God. As St. Francis says: "LIVE JESUS! Yes, Lord Jesus, live and reign in our hearts forever and ever. Amen."

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As no sensible person would make a long road trip without first consulting a map, so

the person intent upon gaining Heaven should first resort to a competent guide to reach that Goal of all goals. And no better guide to Heaven exists than An Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622), Doctor of the Church. It is at once easy to read, being laid out in short chapters, yet thorough, authoritative, reliable, kind and gentle a mirror of its author. It is a book, moreover, for all, because all are called to the devout life. True devotion to God, the author points out, adorns every vocation. The devout life, moreover, is a lovely, a pleasant, and a happy life. (p. 5) An Introduction to the Devout Life is a book to be read with pencil in hand. It is a book to be read again and again. It is a book to make your guide for the rest of your life. It goes to the heart of becoming good. Its aim is to help you be rid of sin and even the inclinations to sin. No one will come away without being profoundly impressed and without being motivated to enter upon the devout life . . . which leads ultimately to God and to Heaven.

[Introduction to the devout life. From the French](#)

[Introduction to the devout life. A new transl](#)

[An Introduction to a Devout Life](#)

[A Masterpiece of Mystical and Devotional Literature](#)

[Introduction to the Devout Life ... Translated and Edited by John K. Ryan](#)

The Complete 1610 Edition

Francis de Sales

An Adaptation of The Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

De Sales' classic has been described as "a masterpiece of psychology, practical morality, and common sense" and, after The Bible and The Imitation of Christ, is the widest read spiritual book of all time. Unlike many others, Devout Life was written specifically for lay persons and it demonstrates a rare sensitivity to the demands of life in a world that is often antagonistic to spirituality. In this first-of-its-kind edition, Fr. John-Julian offers a fresh translation, a most thorough historical introduction, and notes explaining points of language and theology along the way.

Centuries ago, Francis de Sales—bishop of Geneva during the lifetime of many first generation Protestant Calvinists—wrote about the importance of having a spiritual director. Yet he later told his biographer such a person "would be difficult to find," suggesting that in these circumstances "We can look for guidance among the books of authors who are no longer living. Devotional books are our best Directors." Today, de Sales serves as such a spiritual director to countless modern day believers, and his Introduction to the Devout Life is recognized as one of the truly great works of devotional literature. Originally written as a series of letters of religious guidance, this enduring book is filled with thoughtful spiritual illustrations and radiates with a warm humanity that touches people of all religious backgrounds. A classic masterpiece of spiritual writing, de Sales' book is acknowledged to be among the top handful of guides to Christian living. No matter what readers are in their spiritual development—whether they are beginners or skilled theologians—to

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modern interpretation, an "honest paraphrase" of de Sales' work, will gently guide them down the clearest path imaginable into a deeper and more authentic religious life.

An Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales, a doctor of the Church, is a classic of Christian literature. Though written centuries ago, the great saint continues to teach from its pages as though he were speaking directly to us today. This new translation by Brother Bob presents this book in modern language to give the reader the opportunity to easily grasp the concepts. An Introduction to the Devout Life offers spiritual direction on living the Gospels and gives clear instructions on how to grow spiritually. St. Francis de Sales addresses the concerns of everyday life, from relationships to material goods, and how we can use them all to grow closer to God.

A masterful updating of a classic work. St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622), bishop of Geneva and founder of the Visitation Order of nuns, was renowned for his teachings on spirituality. His masterpiece in the field of spiritual literature was "The Introduction to the Devout Life." Revolutionary in its day and noted for its charm, warmth, and clarity of language, it set forth a spirituality oriented toward life in the world, an approach quite different from that of St. Francis de Sales's contemporaries, who saw spiritual perfection as possible only in religious life. While the message of "The Introduction to Devout Life" is still valid today, the fact is that its expression is quite dated. In this book, as in "Bringing 'The Imitation of Christ' Into the 21st Century," Father Meninger is not offering a new translation or paraphrase of a spiritual classic. Rather, he is attempting to express the teachings of the original in a wholly contemporary idiom. Father Meninger has not hesitated to change, omit, or add to the original where necessary, the better to highlight the heart and charisma of St. Francis de Sales's teachings.

[An Introduction to the Devout Life. Illustrated](#)

[Or, An Introduction to a Devout Life : Newly Translated Into English ...](#)

[Introduction to a Devout Life](#)

[Devotie tot het godlyk hert van onzen heere Jesus-Christus](#)

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[Introduction to the Devout Life, from the French of Saint Francis of Sales ...](#)

[Introduction to the Devout Life. Large Print](#)

This is a brand new translation of Introduction  la vie dvoté. The last Catholic translation of significant worth appeared more than seventy years ago. Be careful when you read some versions of the work. A number of them were made by our separated brethren, who seem to have an aversion to the teachings of the Church. They gloss over or delete everywhere St. Francis mentions anything related to them. The most sincere among them do say that they have done so, but the greater number of them stay silent, and leave it up to the reader to find out whether or not their translations are faithful to the author's intentions and the teachings of the Church. Some have even left out entire chapters. Henry Benedict Mackey, OSB, the best translator of a number of works of St. Francis, calls previous Catholic translations of the Introduction, "very imperfect as regards style." He adds that the Anglican version is better, but that it "omits

essential points of doctrine."In this book, St. Francis de Sales uses a conversational tone to explain the most serious of subjects: a complete program leading to sanctified life, unfolding in easily assimilated stages, and developing logically one out of the other. The careful arrangement and inner balance of the subject matter is reflected in brief topical chapters divided into five parts. After an initial process of dedicating heart and soul to God, we learn how on to pray and make the best use of the Sacraments. Then follows the practice of virtues, and being on guard against temptations. Finally, St. Francis prods us to renew our resolutions to love God, and cheerfully go on with our lives. Along the way, he provides a wide variety of advice suitable for those who live in the practical world, are enamored of God, and who wish to lead a devout life. The appendix has further readings recommended by the author.For 400 years, this small book has been loved and admired everywhere, and has helped, as St. Francis wished, to make true piety known and practiced in every circumstance in life. He said that devotion, far from preventing us from doing our ordinary duties, helps us to perform them better, and that the care of one's family is rendered easier; the love of husband and wife is increased; the service done by citizens becomes more faithful; and all occupations become pleasanter and more agreeable. When the book appeared, Henry IV, King of France, said that it was far beyond what he had expected, and his Queen, Maria de' Medici, sent a copy studded with

diamonds to James I of England, who is said to have always carried it on his person, and declared that it was rather the work of an Angel than that of a man. For four hundred years this book has taught and inspired Christians. It provides step-by-step instructions in the form of a long letter addressed to Philothea, or one who loves God. The book teaches that anyone can live a life devoted to God, even while remaining in ordinary life. Contents include how to cultivate the desire for a devout life; the means of raising the soul to God by prayer and the sacraments; the practice of virtues; advice against temptations; and renewing the soul and confirming it in its devotion. Francois de Sales (1567-1622) was bishop of Geneva and an energetic evangelist in the Savoy region of his native France. The wisdom of St. Francis' advice is confirmed by the fact that the book's spiritual value has been proved in four centuries of Christian lives. "An Introduction to the Devout Life", a work intended to lead "Philothea", the soul living in the world, into the paths of devotion, that is to say, of true and solid piety. Every one should strive to become pious, and "it is an error, it is even a heresy", to hold that piety is incompatible with any state of life. In the first part the author helps the soul to free itself from all inclination to, or affection for, sin; in the second, he teaches it how to be united to God by prayer and the sacraments; in the third, he exercises it in the practice of virtue; in the fourth, he strengthens it against temptation; in the fifth, he teaches it how to form its

resolutions and to persevere. The "Introduction", which is a masterpiece of psychology, practical morality, and common sense, was translated into nearly every language even in the lifetime of the author, and it has since gone through innumerable editions. This Premium Edition includes: . An Easy to Read Layout making reading comfortable . A biography of St Francis . Beautiful engravings . More than 200 footnotes

An Introduction to the Devout Life is a book to be read with pencil in hand. It is a book to be read again and again. It is a book to make your guide for the rest of your life. It goes to the heart of becoming good. Its aim is to help you be rid of sin and even the inclinations to sin. Alone, its 10 brief meditations in Part I will orient you toward God for the rest of your life. No one will come away without being profoundly impressed and without being motivated to enter upon the devout life ... which leads ultimately to God and to Heaven."--Page 4 of cover.

[Committed Life](#)

[Introduction to the Devout Life](#)

[From the French of Saint Francis of Sales. To which is Prefixed an Abstract of His Life](#)

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[Philothea; Or an Introduction to the Devout Life](#)

[An Introduction to the Devout Life](#)
[Or an Introduction to the Devout Life](#)
[Introduction To The Devout Life](#)

Do you really desire to walk with GOD in increasingly warm fellowship? Originally written over 400 years ago, Francis de Sales's inspiring classic "Introduction to the Devout Life" has remained a uniquely accessible and relevant treasure of devotion for anyone with the desire to know God more intimately, and walk with him in increasingly warm fellowship. Addressed to Christians in every walk of life and for every age, this easy-to-understand book is laid out in short and concise chapters packed with biblical and practical lessons to fill the reader's heart with a hunger for God's presence and guide the reader in living a life of true devotion and holiness. Whether you are just beginning your spiritual journey or are more advanced in the spiritual life, you'll be able to apply this timeless wisdom immediately and experience the grace-filled results.

A contemporary selection of Catholic classics, curated for the modern reader by Our Sunday Visitor in the spirit of our founder, Archbishop John Francis Noll.

A Masterpiece of Mystical and Devotional Literature

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES — A Catholic Classic!

— Includes Over 200 Active Linked Endnotes — Includes an Active Index, Table of Contents and Layered NCX Navigation — Includes Illustrations by Gustave Dore Publisher: Available in Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-1-78379-446-1 Introduction to the Devout Life was written by St. Francis de Sales, the first edition being published in 1609. It enjoyed wide popularity, evidenced by its translation into all major languages of the day. It is typically categorized as a

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form of reading known as lectio divina or divine reading, based on the Christian monastic practice of spiritual reading. Like The Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis, it is considered a spiritual classic in the Christian tradition. The work is also used as a guide in Christian spiritual direction. PUBLISHER: CATHOLIC WAY PUBLISHING

[St. Francis de Sales Books](#)

[Written Originally in French by St. Francis de Sales ... Faithfully Render'd Into English. To which is Prefix'd a Summary of His Life, and Adjoyn'd a Collection of His Choicest Mactims. In the Close is Added, the Communication of Dr. Thaulerus with a Poor Beggar, ... From the French of St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Prince of Geneva, to which is Prefixed an Abstract of His Life](#)

[Philothea: or An introduction to a devout life ... Translated into English by ... Richard Challoner ... The third edition](#)

[An introduction to a devout life. By Francis Sales ... Together with a summary of his life, and a collection of his choicest maximes, now added to this last edition](#)

[Introduction to the Devout Life \(Annotated\)](#)

[Philothea](#)

[From the French of St. Francis De Sales Bishop of Geneva](#)

[The Committed Life](#)

Francis de Sales's Introduction to the Devout Life has remained a uniquely accessible and relevant treasure of devotion for nearly four hundred years. As Bishop of Geneva in the first quarter of the seventeenth century, Francis de Sales saw to the spiritual needs of everyone from the poorest

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peasants to court ladies. The desire to be closer to God that he found in people from all levels of society led him to compile these instructions on how to live in Christ. Francis's compassionate Introduction leads the reader through practical ways of attaining a devout life without renouncing the world and offers prayers and meditations to strengthen devotion in the face of temptation and hardship.

This book was written by a bishop of Geneva who went on to be recognized as a Catholic Saint and Doctor of the Church after his death. Francis began preaching in the Calvinist region of Chablis, mainly addressing the poor. Preaching against Calvinist teaching was dangerous, but Francis survived two attempts on his life. Another time, he miraculously escaped death after meeting a wolf pack while traveling through the countryside. Despite the dangers, Francis continued to preach. Within four years, the region had returned to its catholic heritage. An Introduction to the Devout Life provides the reader with an inspiring example of faith and piety while demonstrating a fervent opposition to the doctrine of predestination.

How to live a holy life in the secular world is the focus of this masterpiece of Christian literature by a 16th-century priest. Drawn from the letters of St. Francis de Sales, this enduring spiritual guide offers clear and direct advice about praying, resisting temptation, and maintaining devotion to God.

[The Complete Introduction to the Devout Life](#)

[A Modern Interpretation of Introduction to the Devout Life by Francis de Sales](#)

[Introduction to the Devout Life. From the French, etc](#)

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