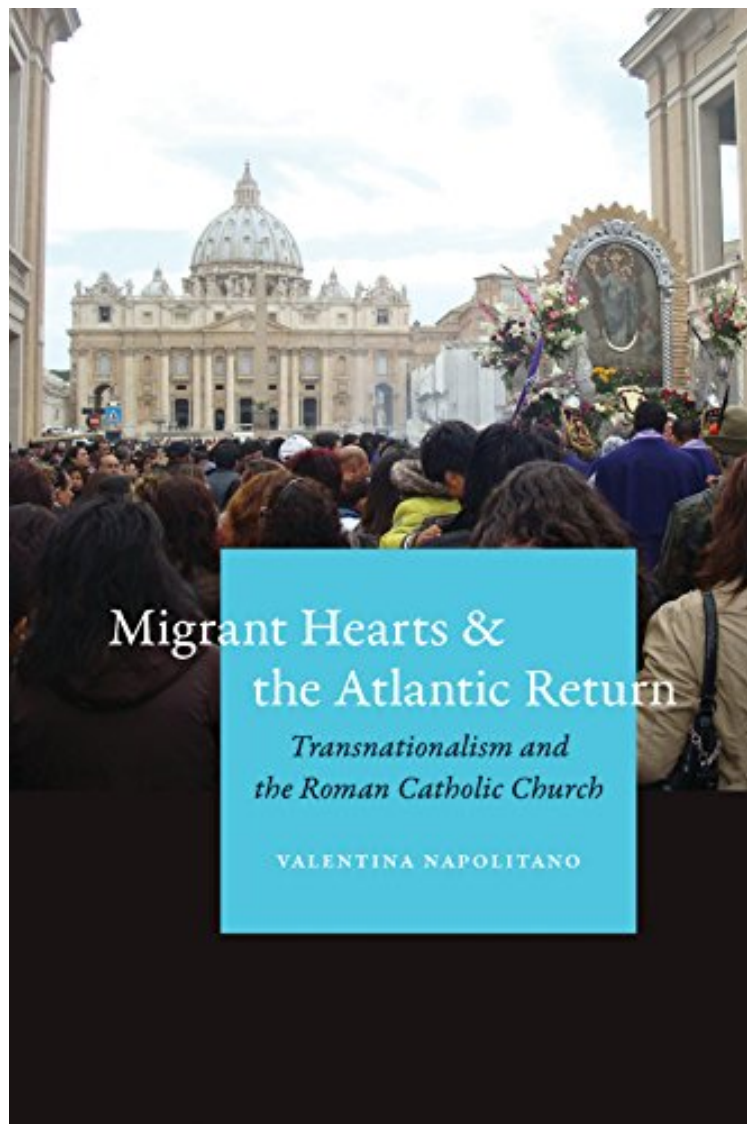


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Migrant Hearts and the Atlantic Return: Transnationalism and the Roman Catholic Church

Valentina Napolitano

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Valentina Napolitano : Migrant Hearts and the Atlantic Return: Transnationalism and the Roman Catholic Church before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Migrant Hearts and the Atlantic Return: Transnationalism and the Roman Catholic Church:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy AvivGBeautifully written.

Migrant Hearts and the Atlantic Return examines contemporary migration in the context of a Roman Catholic Church eager to both comprehend and act upon the movements of peoples. Combining extensive fieldwork with lay and religious Latin American migrants in Rome and analysis of the Catholic Church's historical desires and anxieties around conversion since the period of colonization, Napolitano sketches the dynamics of a return to a faith's putative center. Against a Eurocentric notion of Catholic identity, Napolitano shows how the Americas reorient Europe. Napolitano examines both popular and institutional Catholicism in the celebrations of the Virgin of Guadalupe and El Señor de los Milagros, papal encyclicals, the Latin American Catholic Mission, and the order of the Legionaries of Christ. Tracing the affective contours of documented and undocumented immigrants' experiences and the Church's multiple postures toward transnational migration, she shows how different ways of being Catholic inform constructions of gender, labor, and sexuality whose fault lines intersect across contemporary Europe.

Napolitano's study is especially compelling since it takes us right to the heart of, well, Roman Catholicism, thereby distilling how ideas, hopes, and fantasies are entwined at the center of what she aptly calls the "passionate machine." She uses the term to foreground how the Vatican is a bureaucratic state, as well as a multifaceted political subject that propels the passions and affects shaping global migration.