

THE GREAT GRACE

Receiving Vatican II Today

Edited by Nigel Zimmermann

Nigel Zimmermann presents critical reflections from leading Catholic prelates and scholars on the significance of the Second Vatican Council fifty years after it began. These include two senior Cardinals, one of whom is the head of the Congregation of Bishops and the other a member of Pope Francis' new advisory body on reforming the Roman Curia, as well as Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy.

Together with thinkers from North America, the UK, Rome and Australia, they take up key themes from the Conciliar documents and assess the reception of the Council half a century on from its inception. In doing so, they open up new avenues for thinking through the authentic witness and teaching of the most important ecclesiastical event of the twentieth century. These avenues include discussion of themes such as the liturgy, *communio*, the Council in its historical context, the role of the laity, communicating the Council in a social media world, and the task of mission in the future. This volume marks a turning point in the Council's reception in the wider Church.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Nigel Zimmermann lectures in theology with the Institute for Ethics and Society at the University of Notre Dame Australia (Sydney). He completed his PhD at the University of Edinburgh and was a Wingate Scholar 2011-2013. He is author of *Levinas and Theology* and *The Great Grace* (ed). He has published in theology, philosophy, and ethics.

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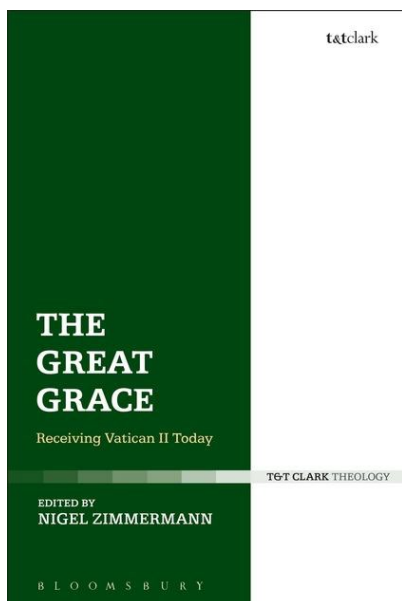
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"Ecumenical Councils have typically begun in controversy, have been conducted in further controversy, and have always been followed by yet more controversy. Little wonder, then that there have been only twenty-one of them, by Catholic reckoning, in over two millennia of Christian history. *The Great Grace* is an important contribution from Down Under to the ongoing interpretation, reception, and implementation of the Second Vatican Council. All those committed to the real Vatican II, as distinguished from the Rorschach Blot Vatican II, are in debt to this book's distinguished authors for their insights and for their passion for authentic Catholic renewal."

– George Weigel, Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington DC, USA

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