



In Tune With the World: A Theory of Festivity

By JOSEF PIEPER

St. Augustines Press April 1999, 1999. Paper Back. Book Condition: New. It would have been a humorous parody were it not so wicked: the spectacle of the theorists and victors of the French Revolution creating and instituting new festivals and holidays (e.g. the "Festival of the Supreme Being," or the "Festival of Reason," or the "translation of the relics of St. Voltaire") in place of the Mass or the other festivals of the Christian year, or the creation of a "rational" ten-day week to replace the seven-day one, with all its divine associations. The only sacrilege more wicked would be modern nihilism, the removal of festival altogether. For the human being is truly homo adorans, the one who adores, and the removal of the object of adoration and the source of festivity can only lead to dehumanization. Pieper here focuses his analytical clarity on the nature of the Feast, of sacred rest, of the nature of joy itself, and in so doing opens our eyes to rhythms and realities we take for granted -- praise, thanksgiving, Sunday, Easter -- that lie at the hidden center of art, culture, and meaningful leisure. 104 pp.



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