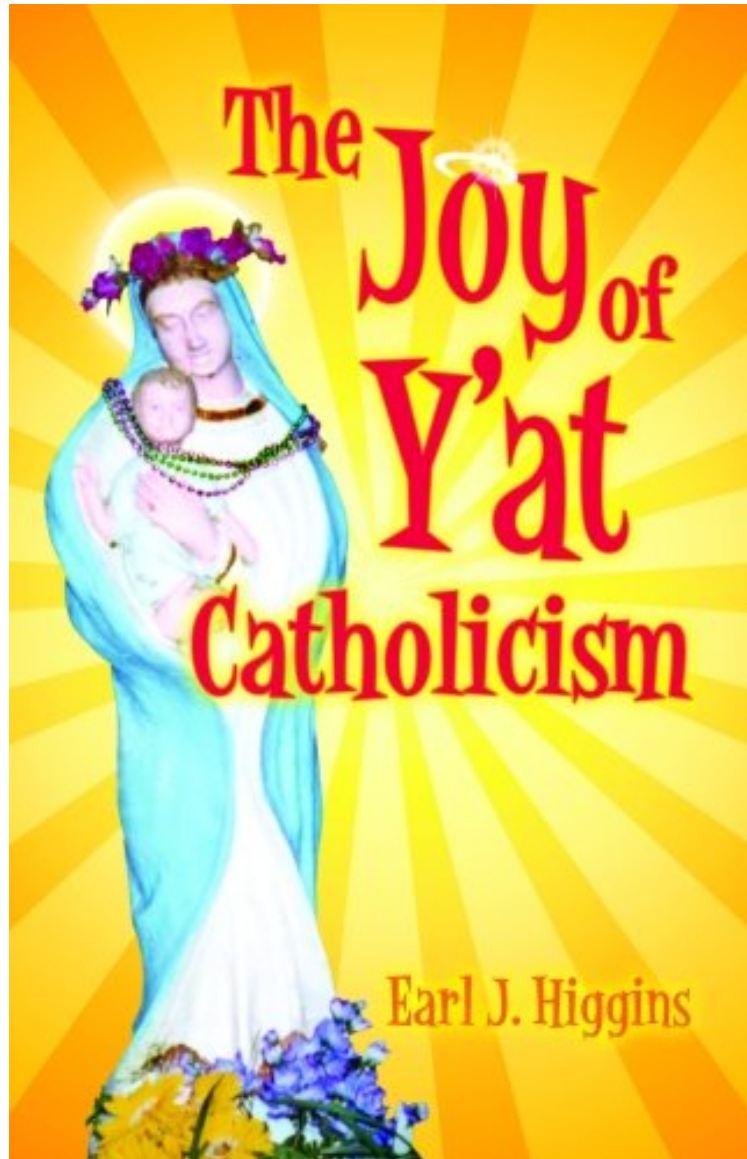


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Joy of Y'at Catholicism, The

Earl Higgins

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Earl Higgins : Joy of Y'at Catholicism, The before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joy of Y'at Catholicism, The:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Light-hearted window into the unique brand of NOLA CatholicismBy R. CannataNew Orleans is so fascinating to so many people because it is so complex. In so many ways it is not quite an American city, but neither is it fully Caribbean or French. It stands alone in terms of its cuisine, its

architecture, its people, its parades, its customs, etc. This is especially true in its religion. On one hand, New Orleans is by far the least 'churched' city in the South. On the other hand it has a profoundly Catholic flavor and loyalties. Its unique calendar, its street and neighborhood names, its setup -- all point to a Catholic shape, and a highly quirky one at that. This book is a delightful look at the beautiful and absurd nature of NOLA's unique brand of religious traditions. Earl J. Higgins clearly loves both his Catholic faith and his city. He is in his 60s, and did both his BA and JD degrees locally at Tulane. He served in the US Navy reserve and as a US District Court staff attorney in NOLA. And he's gone to NOLA churches his whole life. The book is light-hearted, even goofy and trite at times, but packed full of folklore, social commentary and great information. From his hysterical introduction to weird NOLA vocabulary to his final conclusion that "God is a Y'at," you'll find this book as entertaining as it is thought-provoking. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. By a non-cradle Catholic By R. Sheppard This is a wonderful insight into the religious fabric and culture of New Orleans, pre-Katrina. It is also a fairly accurate chronological history of New Orleans Catholicism as it influenced the schools and citizens of New Orleans both Catholic and non-catholic. Told in a sometimes comical and satirical manner, the author points out not only the serious side of being Catholic in "the city that care forgot." but the numerous absurd beliefs, where they came from, and how they were adopted without being questioned. Similar in nature to "A Confederacy of Dunces" you might get a deeper appreciation of the book had you either lived or at least visited New Orleans. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. We have many customs and habits to pray to the Lord and our favorite Saints. This is a book that you can ... By Joan Organ If You are from New Orleans or grew up here and are Catholic, it is a delightful way to jog your memory of the way we worshipped God. We have many customs and habits to pray to the Lord and our favorite Saints. This is a book that you can pick up go back to your youth, I think, Oh yes when we lived in that Parish we did that.

A tongue-in-cheek, lighthearted guide for the uninitiated into the culture and traditions that shaped New Orleans. Rich in tradition, the Catholic faith has been a heavy influence on and unifying force of the culture and fabric of New Orleans from its inception. This book warm-heartedly recounts a light and sometimes-funny view of the city's churches, theology, schools, saints, weddings, funerals, and more.

From the Publisher A tongue-in-cheek, lighthearted guide for the uninitiated into the culture and traditions that shaped New Orleans. From the Back Cover: Just as all Y'ats Orleanians know dat a true miracle is a Catlick family wid less than five kids, and da priest's benediction is da starting block for da mad dash to da parking lot, now dey'll know dat if dere's ever an archbishop of Y'ats, it'll be Earl Higgins. excuse me, Oil Higgins. --Angus Lind, New Orleans Times-Picayune Where y'at? is a universal greeting for New Orleanians; it is shorthand for How are you? So much of New Orleans' culture is shorthand, a fusion of the city's rich immigrant culture that defines the community by its music, food, and traditions. From the city's inception, the Catholic faith has influenced this evolution, with education and devotion being the cornerstones. Modern secular life--the way New Orleanians celebrate the joys and sorrows of living--also has its roots in Catholicism. From street and civil parish names to Mardi Gras, from the high school a New Orleanian attended to what he eats on Fridays, the joie de vivre spirit of faith shines through. Higgins, a proud Y'at Catholic, humorously shares the quirky shorthand of this aspect of New Orleans life. About the Author Retired from the United States Navy and the United States Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, as the assistant director of staff attorneys, Higgins is a ranger at the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve and writes a column of humor, satire, and whimsy for the Delta Sierran, a bimonthly publication of the Sierra Club. A member of St. Thomas More Parish of Tulane University, he and his wife, Janet, are the parents of three grown children and reside in River Ridge, Louisiana.