

David Brown
Through the Eyes of the Saints
A pilgrimage through history
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This is not another collection of lives of the saints! Professor Brown has chosen 33 men and women from the vast list of saints, mostly identified in our liturgical calendar, with the purpose of drawing out how they might challenge us today towards a contemporary holiness. Therefore to explore this book with the expectation of gaining a neat summary of hagiographic detail will only bring disappointment. Rather, Professor Brown draws from four periods of Christian history - the Early Church, the Medieval Church, the Reformation Period and the Modern World - lives of Christians whose responses to the settings of their day also throw a piercing shaft of light upon our own generation with its nagging needs.

Saints are certainly not without sin, as the author rather enjoys reminding his readers. 'Their strength lay in the degree to which, while remaining in those limitations, they also transcended them' (p.158) he says concerning the lives of Archbishops Hannington and Luwum. The material selected, written in short chapters, contains much thought for prayer and is available therefore to be used as a companion to our times of quiet and contemplation. It helps to put a lot of things into perspective. It often disturbs and so demands an urgent resolution.

Damian SSF