Contents

	List of illustrations	V11
	Preface	ix
1	Catholicism under the ancien régime	1
	The warning lights of dechristianization	3
	Differentiating factors in French catholicism	8
	The causes of dechristianization	14
2	The Revolution	30
	The Revolution in the west of France	49
	The consequences of the Revolution	51
3	The secular clergy	57
	A clerical and hierarchical church	57
	The bishops	61
	The parish clergy: recruitment	63
	The parish clergy: social origins and motivation	68
	The parish clergy: standard of living	76
	L'esprit de domination	78
	The clergy and intellectual enquiry	80
	Clerical values	87
	The clergy and 'the world'	90
	The clergy and sexuality	92
	The clergy and modernity	94
	the cure d'Ars	100
	Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century clergy	102
4	The regular clergy	104
	Female religious orders	105

vi A Social History of French Catholicism 1789-1914

	Male religious orders	107
	Geography and social class	111
	Reasons for growth	117
	Anticlerical hostility to the orders	127
	Reasons for hostility	130
5	Popular religion	134
	The clerical recuperation of popular religion	138
	The upsurge of Marian devotion	145
	Relics	151
	Embourgeoisement and feminization of popular	450
	religion	152
	Popular religious art	154
6	Religious practice: region, gender, and age	158
	Region	170
	Town and countryside	178
	Gender	180
	Age	190
7	The Church and social class	193
	The nobility	193
	The bourgeoisie: early hostility to catholicism	195
	The clericalization of the bourgeoisie after 1848	199
	Problems between the bourgeoisie and the Church	207
	The Church and the working class	212
	Reasons for the irreligion of the working class	218
8	Dechristianization and rechristianization: from a God of	
	fear to a God of love	227
	The evolution of religious practice	227
	Anticatholic forces	233
	An unattractive and inappropriate religion?	241
	Forces favouring catholicism: post-Revolutionary	
	reconstruction	248
	Forces favouring catholicism: from a God of fear to a God of love	25.1
	The decline of hell and damnation	251
	Marian devotion	253
	Eucharistic devotion	254 256
	Liguorism	260
	Ultramontane piety	265
9	Conclusion	260

	Contents	vii
Notes		274
Guide to further reading		305
Index		312