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Hispanic Heritage Month Booklist

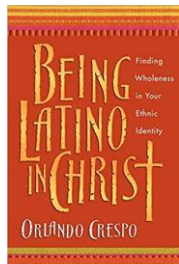
What is Hispanic Heritage Month (Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispania)? From September 15-October 15, we celebrate the influence of the Latinx community of the United States. Search the booklist on the following pages to find out how to access all of these titles from the Sage Library. Click on the book title to access the ebook directly or search our [online catalog](#).



Brown Church: Five centuries of Latina/o social justice, theology, and identity

by Robert Chao Romero

Interest in and awareness of the demand for social justice as an outworking of the Christian faith is growing. But it is not new. For five hundred years, Latina/o culture and identity have been shaped by their challenges to the religious, socio-economic, and political status quo, whether in opposition to Spanish colonialism, Latin American dictatorships, US imperialism in Central America, the oppression of farmworkers, or the current exploitation of undocumented immigrants. Christianity has played a significant role in that movement at every stage. Robert Chao Romero, the son of a Mexican father and a Chinese immigrant mother, explores the history and theology of what he terms the "Brown Church." Romero considers how this movement has responded to these and other injustices throughout its history by appealing to the belief that God's vision for redemption includes not only heavenly promises but also the transformation of every aspect of our lives and the world. Walking through this history of activism and faith, readers will discover that Latina/o Christians have a heart after God's own.



Being Latino in Christ: Finding Wholeness in Your Ethnic Identity

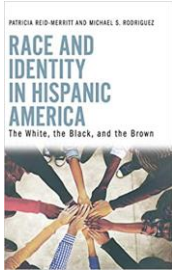
by Orlando Crespo

Orlando Crespo has taken his own journey from Puerto Rico to an immigrant neighborhood in Springfield, Massachusetts, and back again to his Latino roots. In this book, he helps you to reflect on your own voyage of self-understanding and on what it means to have a mixed heritage, from the days of the original Spanish Conquest to the present. His straightforward approach also takes him to what the Bible says about ethnic identity--about a people who were often oppressed by more powerful cultures. He helps you to see how Jesus' own humanity unfolded in the context of a people who were considered to be inferior. Crespo finds both realism and hope in the good news of Jesus. There is more, however, than merely coming to terms with who you are. Crespo also shows how Latinos are called to step out positively in ministry to the world. You can make a positive impact on the world in racial reconciliation, in bicultural ministry and more because of who God has uniquely made you to be.



Inward
by Diego Perez

From poet, meditator, and speaker Yung Pueblo (real name Diego Perez), comes a collection of poetry and prose that explores the movement from self-love to unconditional love, the power of letting go, and the wisdom that comes when we truly try to know ourselves. It serves as a reminder to the reader that healing, transformation, and freedom are possible.

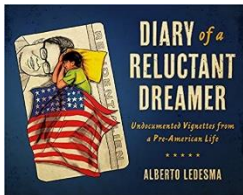


Race and Identity in Hispanic America: The White, the Black, and the Brown
By Patricia Reid-Merritt and Michael S. Rodriguez

The Hispanicization of America is precipitating a paradigm shift in racial thinking in which race is no longer defined by distinct characteristics but rather is becoming synonymous with ethnic/cultural identity.

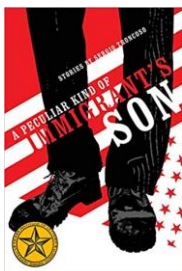
Traditionally, assimilation has been conceived of as a unidirectional and racialized phenomenon. Newly arrived immigrant groups or longstanding minority/indigenous populations were "Americanized" in confining their racial and ethnic natures to the private sphere and adopting, in the public sphere, the cultural mores, norms, and values of the dominant cultural/racial group. In contrast, the Hispanicization of America entails the horizontal assimilation of various groups from Spanish-speaking countries throughout the Western Hemisphere and Caribbean into a pan-ethnic, Hispanic/Latino identity that also challenges the privileged position of whiteness as the primary and exclusive referent for American identity.

Instead of focusing on one Hispanic group, ethnic identity, or region, this book chronicles the development of racial identity across the largest Hispanic groups throughout the United States.



Diary of a Reluctant Dreamer: Undocumented Vignettes from a Pre-American Life
by Alberto Ledesma

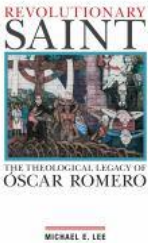
Exploring Ledesma's experiences from immigrant to student to academic, *Diary of a Reluctant Dreamer* presents a humorous, gritty, and multilayered portrait of undocumented immigrant life in urban America. Ledesma's vignettes about life in the midst of ongoing social trauma give voice to a generation that has long been silent about its struggles. Delving into the key moments of cultural transition throughout his childhood and adulthood—police at the back door waiting to deport his family, the ex-girlfriend who threatens to call INS and report him, and the interactions with law enforcement even after he is no longer undocumented—Ledesma, through his art and his words, provides a glimpse into the psychological and philosophical concerns of undocumented immigrant youth who struggle to pinpoint their identity and community.



A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son
by Sergio Troncoso

How does a Mexican-American, the son of poor immigrants, leave his border home and move to the heart of gringo America? How does he adapt to the worlds of wealth, elite universities, the rush and power of New York City? How does he make peace with a stern old-fashioned father who has only known hard field labor his whole life? With echoes of Dreiser's *American Tragedy* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, Troncoso tells his luminous stories through the lens of an exile adrift in the 21st century, his characters suffering from the loss of culture and language,

the loss of roots and home as they adapt to the glittering promises of new worlds which ultimately seem so empty.



Revolutionary Saint: The theological legacy of Óscar Romero

by Michael Edward Lee

Many years after his death in 1980, the world is still absorbing the witness of Oscar Romero, the archbishop of San Salvador, martyred for his commitment to the poor and social justice. In this work, Lee offers a profound reflection on the theological implications of Romero's life and ministry.

Drawing on Romero's biography as well as his homilies and other writings, Lee considers specifically how Romero's witness challenges Christians in the U.S. to reimagine a robust Christian spirituality that is at once a mystical encounter with God and a prophetic engagement in the struggle for justice. In light of Romero's beatification and pending canonization, Lee reflects on the implications of the archbishop's recognition as a martyr and on the model of holiness he offers for the wider church today.



To March for Others: The black freedom struggle and the United Farm Workers

by Lauren Araiza

To March for Others explores the reasons why Black activists, who were committed to their own fight for equality during this period, crossed racial, socioeconomic, geographic, and ideological divides to align themselves with a union of predominantly Mexican American farm workers in rural California.

Araiza considers the history, ideology, and political engagement of these five civil rights organizations, representing a broad spectrum of African American activism, and compares their attitudes and approaches to multiracial coalitions. Through their various relationships with the UFW, Araiza examines the dynamics of race, class, labor, and politics in twentieth-century freedom movements. The lessons in this eloquent and provocative study apply to a broader understanding of political and ethnic coalition building in the contemporary United States.



Women Warriors of the Afro-Latina Diaspora

by Marta Moreno Vega, Marinieves Alba, Yvette Modestin

In this volume, Latina women of African descent share their stories. The authors included are from all over Latin America and they write about the African diaspora and issues such as colonialism, oppression and disenfranchisement.

The contributors span a range of professions, from artists to grass-roots activists, scholars and elected officials. Each is deeply engaged in her community, and they all use their positions to advocate for justice, racial equality, and cultural equity. In their introduction, the editors write that these stories provide insight into the conditions that have led Afro-Latinas to challenge systems of inequality, including the machismo that is still prominent in Spanish-speaking cultures.

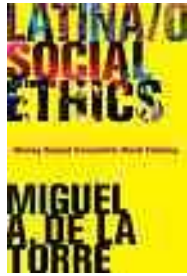


Harvest of Empire: A history of Latinos in America

by Juan González

The first new edition in ten years of this important study of Latinos in U.S. history, *Harvest of Empire* spans five centuries—from the first New World colonies to the first decade of the new millennium. Latinos are now the largest minority group in the United States, and their impact on American popular culture—from food to entertainment to literature—is greater than ever. Featuring family portraits of real-life immigrant Latino pioneers, as well as accounts of the events and conditions

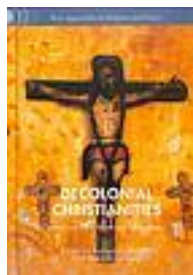
that compelled them to leave their homelands, *Harvest of Empire* is required reading for anyone wishing to understand the history and legacy of this increasingly influential group.



Latina/o Social Ethics: Moving beyond Eurocentric moral thinking
by Miguel A De La Torre

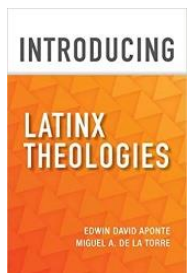
A groundbreaking corrective work, *Latina/o Social Ethics* strives to create a liberative ethical approach to the Hispanic experience by using its own tools and materials. First explaining why Eurocentric ethical paradigms are inadequate in their attempts to liberate oppressed communities, De La Torre looks with Hispanic eyes at three major ethicists of the twentieth century--Walter Rauschenbusch, Reinhold Niebuhr, and Stanley Hauerwas--and how ethics is presented in U.S. culture wars, from the Religious Right to the Religious Left. He deconstructs these ethical paradigms and demonstrates why all are detrimental to and irreconcilable with the Hispanic social location.

With a clean slate, then, De La Torre moves to constructing a new Hispanic-centered ethical paradigm that is rooted in the Latino community way of being. Reviewing the field of Hispanic ethical thought, De La Torre pays special attention to specific concepts ripe with potential that have been developed over the past generation. In the final chapter, De La Torre offers his own constructive paradigm--an ethics para joder, which is rooted in the Latina/o experience, and by which, he argues, the Hispanic community can survive within U.S. culture.



Decolonial Christianities: Latinx and Latin American perspectives
by Raimundo Barreto, Roberto Sirvent

What does it mean to theorize Christianity in light of the decolonial turn? This volume invites distinguished Latinx and Latin American scholars to a conversation that engages the rich theoretical contributions of the decolonial turn, while relocating Indigenous, Afro-Latin American, Latinx, and other often marginalized practices and hermeneutical perspectives to the center-stage of religious discourse in the Americas. Keeping in mind that all religions—Christianity included—are cultured, and avoiding the abstract references to Christianity common to the modern Eurocentric hegemonic project, the contributors favor embodied religious practices that emerge in concrete contexts and communities. Featuring essays from scholars such as Sylvia Marcos, Enrique Dussel, and Luis Rivera-Pagán, this volume represents a major step to bring Christian theology into the conversation with decolonial theory.



Introducing Latinx Theologies
by Edwin David Aponte and Miguel A. De La Torre

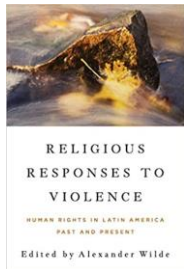
The authors articulate the fundamental principles and perspectives with which Hispanics from different faith traditions do theology. Describing both Protestant and Catholic traditions, they show how various Latinx cultures have been shaped by historical movements such as colonialism, Christian mission, and globalization.



The Politics of Jesús: A Hispanic political theology
by Miguel A De La Torre

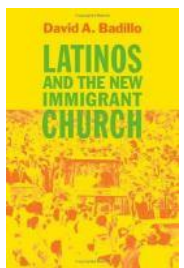
Miguel A. De La Torre argues that we all create Jesus in our own image, reflecting and reinforcing the values of communities—sometimes for better, and often for worse. In light of the increasing economic and social inequality around the world, De La Torre asserts that what the world needs is a Jesus of solidarity who also comes from the underside of global power. The *Politics of Jesús* is a search for a Jesus that resonates specifically with the Latino/a community, as well as other marginalized groups. The book unabashedly rejects the Eurocentric Jesus for the Hispanic Jesús, whose mission is to give life abundantly, who resonates with the Latino/a experience of disenfranchisement, and who works for real social justice and political change.

While Jesus is an admirable figure for Christians, *The Politics of Jesús* highlights the way the Jesus of dominant culture is oppressive and describes a Jesús from the barrio who chose poverty and disrupted the status quo. Saying “no” to oppression and its symbols, even when one of those symbols is Jesus, is the first step to saying “yes” to the self, to liberation, and symbols of that liberation. For Jesus to connect with the Hispanic quest for liberation, Jesús must be unapologetically Hispanic and compel people to action. The Politics of Jesús provocatively moves the study of Jesús into the global present.



Religious Responses to Violence: Human Rights in Latin America Past and Present
by Alexander Wilde

During the past half century, Latin America has evolved from a region of political instability and frequent dictatorships into one of elected governments. Although its societies and economies have undergone sweeping changes, high levels of violence have remained a persistent problem. This volume offers rich resources to understand how religion has perceived and addressed different forms of violence, from the political and state violence of the 1970s and 1980s to the drug traffickers and youth gangs of today. The contributors offer many fresh insights into contemporary criminal violence and reconsider past interpretations of political violence, liberation theology, and human rights in light of new questions and evidence. In contrast to many other studies of violence, this book explores its moral dimensions—up close in lived experience—and the real consequences of human agency.



Latinos and the New Immigrant Church
by David A. Badillo

Latin Americans make up the largest new immigrant population in the United States, and Latino Catholics are the fastest-growing sector of the Catholic Church in America. In this book, historian David A. Badillo offers a history of Latino Catholicism in the United States by looking at its growth in San Antonio, Chicago, New York, and Miami. By contrasting the development of three distinctive Latino communities—the Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and Cuban Americans—Badillo challenges the popular concept of an overarching “Latino experience” and offers instead an integrative approach to understanding the scope, depth, and complexity of the Latino contribution to the character of America’s urban landscapes.