Catholic/Counter Reformation

Catholic vs. Counter?

- Catholic Reformation
  - More positive view of efforts by St. Church to fix abuses, from 15th-17th c.
  - Renew Church discipline
  - Create new religious orders
  - Encourage personal piety
  - Prior councils
  - Energetic bishops (Giberti in Verona; Pole in England)
  - Create new religious orders
  - Jesuits, Somaschans...
  - Expand R. Catholic education
    - Schools of Ch. Doctrine
    - Seminaries
  - Encourage personal piety
    - Devotio Moderna
    - Confraternities

- Counter-Reformation
  - Traditionally viewed as blanket condemnation of all challenges to RCC
  - Traditionally viewed as "enforcing" Catholicism
    - Inquisition
    - Index
    - Propaganda
    - Prerogatives
  - Used infrequently by scholars today...

- Alternates:
  - Tridentine Reform
  - Confessionalization
  - Early Modern Catholicism
  - (O’Malley, Trent and All That)

A New View:
Early Modern Catholicism

- John O’Malley
  (Georgetown Univ, formerly at Harvard)
  - Trent and All That: Renaming Early Modern Catholicism
  - Jesuits in Art & Science
  - The First Jesuits
Why remain Catholic in 16th c.?

• Fear of instability and chaos
• Rich ceremonial and liturgical tradition
• Strong record of care for poor and sick
• Long-standing theology and history
• Salvation seems more secure

Who remains Catholic?

Responses of the Catholic Church to Prot. Reform

• Re-examine Catholic beliefs and practices
• Institute reforms of beliefs and practices where needed
• Reinvigorate the Catholic community
• Where necessary, use force to re-impose Catholicism among the population

• E.g., Reforming clerics, Council of Trent, Index, Inquisition, Jesuits
New Religious Orders

- Jesuits (1541)
- Theatines (1525)
- Ursulines (1535)
- Capuchins (1528)
- Somaschans (1531)
- And many, many more ...(see Zophy, 256-257)

New Religious Reformers

- Cardinal Jimenez Cisneros (Spain)
  - Zophy, 254-55
- St. Teresa of Avila & Carmelite Order (Spain)
  - Zophy, 260-62
- Cardinal Gasparo Contarini (Italy)
  - Zophy, 263
- Pope Paul III (formerly Cardinal Alessandro Farnese)
  - Zophy, 262-63

New Religious Art: Baroque!

- Gian Lorenzo Bernini, "Ecstasy of St. Teresa", (1647-52)
- Caravaggio, "Conversion of St. Paul", (1601)
- Gian Lorenzo Bernini, "Ecstasy of St. Teresa", (1647-52)
The Council of Trent

- Met 1545-47, 1551-, 1562-63
- Reaffirmed several of the doctrines criticized by Luther, including
  - Justification by faith and works
  - The efficacy of the seven sacraments
  - Priesthood is a special state
  - Clerical celibacy
  - Confession and absolution
  - Transubstantiation
  - Scripture and church tradition are equal in shaping Catholic faith
  - The Latin bible is the only legitimate version
  - Denied private judgment as a legitimate basis of belief
  - Legitimacy of the doctrine of indulgences (although the practice was reformed)
  - Latin worship
  - Veneration of the saints and the Virgin, efficacy of pilgrimages
- The Council of Trent's definitions of Catholicism and Catholic practice were maintained until the Vatican II conference of the 1960's

A contemporary illustration of the Council of Trent
The “Index auctorum et librorum prohibitorum”

- First published in 1557, later adopted by the Council of Trent
- A list of books and authors the reading of which was forbidden to Catholics
- Continued until 1966
- Included the obvious (Calvin, Machiavelli) and the not so obvious (Abelard, Erasmus, Graham Greene)

The Inquisition(s)

- Not new to the 16th century
  - Inquisitions had been established throughout the middle ages to deal with various heretical movements
  - Generally run by either the Dominicans or the Franciscans
  - “The Name of the Rose”: a depiction of an early 14th century Inquisition

The Spanish Inquisition

- Multiple tribunals, each w/ an indep. staff and all reporting to the Suprema.
- As Spain was re-Christianized, Moslem and Jewish residents either left or converted to Catholicism
  - “Moriscos”: former Moslems and their descendants
  - “Marranos”: former Jews and their descendants
- The Spanish Inquisition (operating in Spain) focused on these two populations, and on “cristianos viejos” (Old Christians)
- Recent scholarship has improved the image of the Inquisition...
Auto da Fe