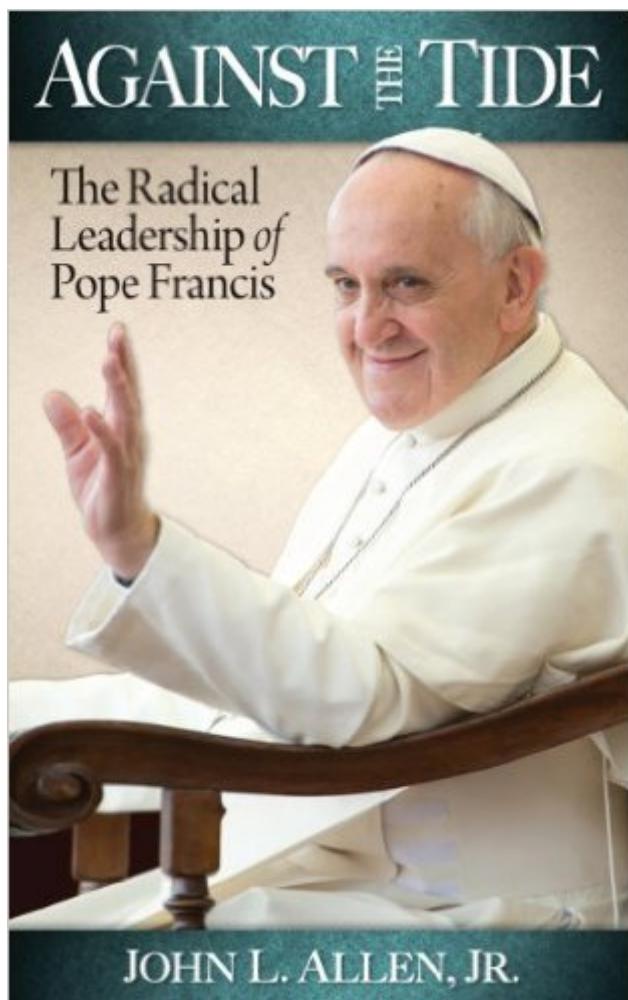


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# Against The Tide: The Radical Leadership Of Pope Francis



## Synopsis

John L. Allen, Jr., who has covered the Vatican for CNN, the National Catholic Reporter, and currently the Boston Globe, has been in the forefront of covering Pope Francis and understanding his mission. In *Against the Tide*, Allen reveals a pope who has fixed his sight on reform, on accountability and on the Church's Social Gospel. Allen shows how the pope's actions reach out to those who are disinterested, disenfranchised and lost • and how his leadership, while beginning a new era, has roots that stretch back 2000 years. A

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## Customer Reviews

*Against the Tide: The Radical Leadership of Pope Francis* by John Allen Jr. is a short read at only 64 pages, but is packed with examples and quotes that prove a fresh wind is blowing and "it's cool to be Catholic again." While the tenure of Pope Francis has been short, the impact has already been great. This publication does a credible job of chronicling this impact so far. Readers will be heartened by the stories within. They will have hope rekindled and faith restored. One can not help but feel a spirit of joy and love as you read of the Pope's love for God and people, including the poor, homeless, diseased, and grieved. The author, who covers the Pope and Vatican for several news organizations, knows his material and shares with us, the readers, just how loving and genuine Pope Francis lives and leads. Because it is short, this book rates 4 Stars. I enjoyed the pace, vocabulary, and especially the energy of the prose. The entire book can be read in an hour or two. For your family and friends who are cynical or disenchanted with church or religion, consider this as an evangelism tool which, when combined with your love and God's love, may be a powerful

call back. I believe if we all lived, loved, and practiced our Christian Faith as God intends, Jesus taught and modeled, and the Pope is currently doing, the world would be a much better place. I suspect this small book will strengthen our resolve to do likewise. Peace and blessings!

John Allen has a clear, concise and logical mind. He is also extremely balanced in his reporting. I always trust him to deliver the truth. He doesn't irritate me like other journalists, who take extreme views in either the ultra-conservative and ultra-liberal camps, and are often off-the-wall in their reporting. This Booklet deals with the main points of Francis' Papacy to date and from an objective viewpoint.

A great book that gives a straight forward critique of the papacy of Pope Francis. John Allen wrote a book on the papacy of Pope Benedict which was well received so I think has a better understanding than most of the difference between the two. A good read that is quite funny in places.

John Allen has a reputation for clear reporting on the Vatican. In this short work he has summarized the myriad of actions taken by Pope Francis to shake up the Curia and place his imprint on the Vatican and on the Church. Even since this was published significant actions have taken place . The demotion of Cardinal Burke was significant as was the promotion of Bishop of Spokane to succeed Cardinal George of Chicago. It fore tells of more to come.

Most media don't get Pope Francis. They view him through their own distorted glasses and assess him based upon either what they want him to be or the performance they would like him to have. Not so with this small book. Mr Allen has captured Pope Francis in the context of his first year's words and actions and delivered an accurate assessment.

Inspiring! Brings renewed joy and hope in our faith and our church leader. Great reminder on being joyful and "like Jesus" as a Catholic and in our service to God and others.

This is a misleading and half-truth publication about Pope Francis and what his is doing. First, in order to know what is happening in Rome, you have to follow the Vatican News, on EWTN TV and see what he is saying in all the encyclicals, comments made during Papal Visits, statements released on the Synod of Bishops Conferences, and by people who work with him, and lastly from good reliable Catholic sources. This is to say that the public media has misunderstood what he says

in regard to matters of faith and doctrines that the Church has held for centuries, and will never be overturned. The manner how the Church will dialog with specific groups is what may change. Before it was a bit judgmental and left people out, but now the Church is asked to treat people with more love and respect. Before you read this book, just remember that the Church does not bend with social sins and popular practices of the modern age, rather it will be more loving the person but not what they are doing. Hope this helps in understanding the Pope. He is down to earth and does not use all the niceties of his office, and that is a change loved by everybody. The next synod in October 2015 will finalize and deal with the issues raised in the Synod in October 2014. Pray for the Pope as he requested. Pax et Bonum, friends.

I want more. Thank you for giving me a taste of all the delights - and unknowns - of the Francis papacy. I walk away anticipating the next dish and having a better, and more satisfying awareness, of what I am really hungry for.

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