

**THE "SUMMA  
THEOLOGICA" OF  
ST. THOMAS  
AQUINAS, PART I**

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The "Summa theologica" of St. Thomas Aquinas, part I by Thomas Aquinas

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**THOMAS AQUINAS**

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AQUINAS, PART I**



THE "SUMMA THEOLOGICA"



**ſihil Obſtat.**

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CENSOR. THEOL.

**Imprimatur**

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ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

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LETTER FROM THE CARDINAL SECRETARY  
OF STATE.

THE VATICAN,  
February 24th, 1912.

*To the Very Reverend Father Humbert Everest, O.P.,  
Prior Provincial of the English Dominican Province.*

REVEREND FATHER,

I am desired to inform you that the Holy Father has been pleased to express his gratitude on receiving from you the first volume of the *Summa* of St. Thomas Aquinas, which, with the assistance of your beloved brethren of the English Province, you have most wisely determined to translate into your mother-tongue. I say 'most wisely,' because to translate into the language of one's country the immortal works of St. Thomas is to give to its people a great treasure of human and Divine knowledge, and to afford those who are desirous of obtaining it, not only the best method of reasoning in unfolding and elucidating sacred truths, but also the most efficacious means of combating heresies. Therefore, without doubt, you have undertaken a task worthy of religious men—worthy of the sons of St. Dominic.

The Venerable Pontiff, in graciously accepting your gift, returns you most cordial thanks, and earnestly prays that your task may have a successful result and produce abundant fruit. In token of his appreciation, he most lovingly imparts to you and your fellow-workers the Apostolic Benediction.

And for myself I extend to you the right hand of fellowship, and thank you for the special volume of the translation which you presented to me.

I remain, Rev. Father,

Yours devotedly,

R. CARD. MERRY DEL VAL.

LETTER FROM THE MASTER-GENERAL OF  
THE FRIAR PREACHERS.

COLLEGIO ANGELICO,  
ROMA, May 21st, 1911.

*To the English Translators of the 'Summa Theologica' of  
St. Thomas.*

VERY REV. AND DEAR FATHERS,

In translating into English the *Summa Theologica* of St. Thomas, you undertake a work which will bring profit to the Church and honour to the Dominican Order, and which, I hope, will be acceptable even to the laity; for what was said of the great doctor by his contemporaries is true for all time—that everybody can gather fruit from his writings, which are within the grasp of all. As a matter of fact, St. Thomas appeals to the light of reason, not in order to weaken the ground of faith, which is the Divine Reason, infinitely surpassing the reason of man, but, on the contrary, in order to increase the merit of faith by making us adhere more firmly to His revelation. For we see thereby how reasonable is our submission, how salutary it is to the mind, how profitable for our guidance, how joyful to the heart.

May your work contribute to this end! Thus it will be a sermon, preached through the press, by reason of its diffusion and duration more fruitful than that preached by word of mouth.

I bless you in our Holy Father, St. Dominic, and ask the help of your prayers for the Order and for myself.

FR. HYACINTH M. CORMIER, O.P.,  
*Master-General.*

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