The Central Themes of Herbert Vorgrimler’s Sacramental Theology
(except for Chapter 9, on reconciliation, and Chapter 10, on anointing of the sick)

Theological Preconditions for Sacramental Theology
• Experience of God and God’s Revelation
• Images and Symbols of God
• The “Sacramental Principle” in Jewish-Christian Tradition
• Christian Theology, “Old Testament Sacraments,” and “Natural Sacraments”
• Christological, Pneumatological, and Trinitarian Presuppositions

Determining the Place of the Sacraments
• The Sacraments as the Church’s Liturgy
• The Subject of the Church’s Liturgy
• The Presence of Jesus Christ in the Liturgy

The Sacramental Economy of Salvation
• Creation and Election as Sacrament
• Jesus Christ as the Primordial Sacrament
• Church as Fundamental Sacrament
• Individual Sacraments as Actualizations of the Fundamental Sacrament

The Sacraments in General
• The General Concept of a Sacrament

History of General Sacramental Theology
• New Testament
• The Church Fathers
• Middle Ages
• The Sacramental Theology of the Reformers
• The Church’s Official Sacramental Teaching
• The Development of Sacramental Theology after Trent
• Limits and Structure of General Sacramental Theology and Doctrine of the Individual Sacraments

Fundamentals of General Sacramental Theology
Symbolic Liturgical Actions as Mediation of the Presence of God
• Effective Symbolic Event
• Jesus Christ as Author of the Sacraments
• The Number Seven and the Inequality of the Sacraments
• Sacrament—Event of the Word of God
• Sacrament, Prayer, and Discipleship
• Sacraments of Faith
• Sacraments as Mediation of Divine Grace
• Sacrament and History
• Sacraments of the Church

Baptism
• Biblical Foundations
• The Rite of Initiation
• Historical Decisions
• Baptism of Children
• Ecumenical Perspectives
• Summary
Confirmation
• Biblical Foundations
• Historical Decisions
• Summary

Eucharist
• Introduction
• Biblical Foundations
• The Last Supper Accounts
• Other New Testament Texts
• Summary and Problems

Concept and Basic Form of the Eucharist
• The Fundamental Liturgical Form
• The Concept of Eucharist

Historical Stages and Decisions
• The Development of a Eucharistic Theology
• Concentration on the Real Presence
• Scholastic Theology of the Eucharist
• Reformation Teaching on the Lord’s Supper
• The Real Presence
• The Sacrifice of the Mass
• The Eucharist and the Office of Priesthood
• Vatican Council II
• Communion
• The Renewal of Eucharistic Theology

The Sacrament of Orders (just section 11:4)
The Sacrament of Orders: Systematic and Liturgical Aspects
• Bishop
• Priest
• Deacon
  [Institution of Ministers]

The Sacrament of Marriage
• Introduction

Biblical Foundations
• Old Testament
• Jesus and the Jesus Traditions
• Paul and the Letter to the Ephesians
• Additional Statements

Historical Decisions
• The Development of a Theology, Liturgy, and Law of Marriage
• Statements of Earlier Church Teaching
• Vatican Council II and the New Code of Canon Law
• Theology of Marriage: Summary