

Contents

List of Plates and Figures	7
Acknowledgments	13
Abbreviations	15
Introduction	17
1. The Pious Women of Corpus Christi	23
Bernardina Sedazzari's House in Via Praisolo	24
Leaders of the Community	26
The Inventory of 1426: Ecclesiastical Vestments	27
Relics, Devotional Objects and Art	30
From Urban Hermits to Cloistered Nuns	37
2. Building a Public Image of Piety	41
San Guglielmo as a Poor Clares 'Anti-Model'	42
Building the First Church and Convent	46
The Poor Clares <i>Form of Life</i>	53
The <i>Entombment and Adoration of the Host</i> Altarpieces	57
3. The <i>Sette Armi Spirituali</i> and its Audience	67
The Corpus Christi Community 1431–56	68
Women's Education in Ferrara, Mantua and Urbino	71

Corpus Christi Library and <i>Lectio Divina</i>	74
The <i>Sette Armi Spirituali</i> and Teaching Novices	76
4. Drawing for Devotion: Sister Caterina's Breviary	87
Nuns' Artwork: Aesthetic, Medium and Materials	89
The Kalendar and Psalter	94
Personalizing her Breviary: The <i>Temporale</i> and <i>Hymnarium</i>	97
Poverty, Penitence and Franciscan Saints in the <i>Sanctorale</i>	105
Vigri's <i>Man of Sorrows</i> and the <i>Gaude Virgo Mater Christi</i>	114
5. Corpus Christi's Later Religious and Civic Identity	119
The <i>Sette Armi Spirituali</i> and Observant Reform	120
The Community and Casa Romei	132
The d'Este Duchesses as Patrons	139
Later Fifteenth-Century Art and Visual Culture	143
Corpus Christi as a Pantheon of d'Este Women	151
Conclusion	153
Notes	157
Appendix I	199
Appendix II	203
Bibliography	211
Index	237