



God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life

Pope Benedict XVI, Stephan Otto Horn, Vinzenz Pfnur

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The Second Vatican Council says, "We ought to try to discover a new reverence for the Eucharistic mystery. Something is happening that is greater than anything we can do. The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; it is the font from which all her power flows."

This profound statement about the Eucharist stands at the center of this book by Cardinal Ratzinger. He compellingly shows us the biblical, historical, and theological dimensions of the Eucharist. The Cardinal draws far-reaching conclusions, focusing on the importance of one's personal devotion to and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, for the personal reception of Communion by the individual Christian, as well as for the life of the Church. For Ratzinger, any transformation of the world on the social plane grows out of the celebration of the Eucharist. He beautifully illustrates how the omnipotent God comes intimately close to us in the Holy Eucharist, the Heart of Life.

God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life Details

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From Reader Review God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life for online ebook

Conor says

This collection of reflections and homilies on the Holy Eucharist is profound, simple, and beautiful. I was constantly amazed at the Holy Father's insights and his ability to express them in an accessible and readable manner. Yet again with this book I perceived a man who understands the doubts and questions of the modern man and how to answer them. I highly recommend reading this book. I would suggest reading it all at once rather than in the piecemeal manner in which I read it however.

Avel Deleon says

A good book on the Eucharist!

Marlon says

I like this book because it helps me to understand deeper the meaning and significance of the Holy Eucharist.

Judy says

This book is a collection of homilies from Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict, that offers a lot of insight into the Eucharist and our relationship to it. The format makes this a great resource for meditation/reflection. Best of all is that it didn't seem to be written in "Pope speak" (theological language over my head) so I wasn't reaching for the dictionary too much.

Brian Reagan says

Again another insightful book to cause Catholic and non-Catholic alike to examine the heart and attitude whereby they approach the Lord's Table.

Derek Speegle says

This is my absolute favorite book by Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI). Excellent reflections on the Eucharist and the life of the Church. Its depth is complimented by its brevity, making it beneficial for further meditation.

Thadeus says

This book varied between speaking to me profoundly and being too much for me to take in. This is a valuable collection of his homilies.

Recommended for those wanting to learn more and experience more in the Eucharist.

Christine Alcott says

Deep observations about the life of the Eucharist.

Nick says

Ratzinger is particularly approachable in this little collection of essays on the Eucharist and its place within the life of the Church. In particular, he is adept in sorting out just what it is that the Church is about in the Mass and why certain practices are to be encouraged while others are not. It's a fine book to read on your own or within the context of adoration -- there is much nourishment here on a number of different levels. The final essay, on the meaning of "eternal life," is a potent clarification of this often nebulous (and under-addressed) subject, and is highly recommended.

Andrew Plasom-Scott says

As good as ever: Ratzinger is the kind of theologian whose writing is so good that its ease of reading disguises the depth of the thought. This is a collection of essays/ sermons about the Eucharist, and is rich fare indeed. One of those books that, having finished, I will re-read again almost immediately, and I am sure i will get even more out of it the second time through.

Elizabeth says

A very excellent read. This book needs to be read slowly to savor and truly comprehend its contents.

Brandon Westlake says

Lord, I am not worthy for you to enter under my roof.

Todd Hains says

A great place to start reading Ratzinger: a series of collected sermons and addresses oriented around God's presence in the Eucharist.
