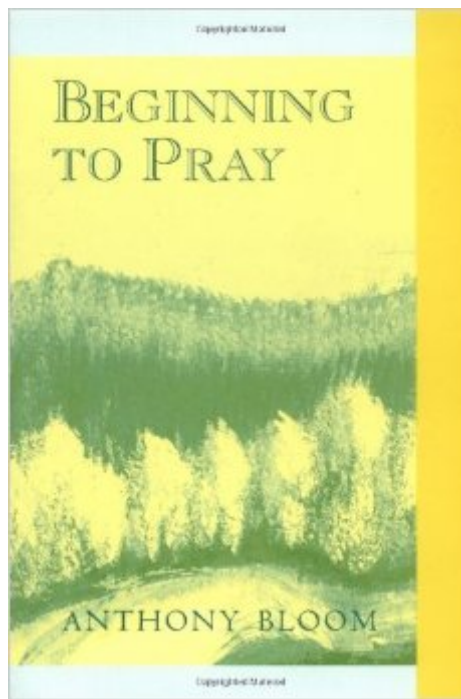


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# Beginning To Pray



## Synopsis

A new, attractive edition of this modern spiritual classic.

## Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Paulist Press (September 1, 1970)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0809115093

ISBN-13: 978-0809115099

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 5.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (48 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #40,185 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Prayer](#) #288 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Inspirational](#) #2809 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living](#)

## Customer Reviews

Anthony Bloom's *Beginning to Pray* is not just for beginners in prayer. In it, Bloom offers practical suggestions for novices in prayer and profound insights for even the most spiritually mature. Bloom draws from a life rich in challenges and communication with people and God in myriad circumstances. His writings of prayer reveal the mysteries that open to a person who prays in God's presence often. The introduction to the book is the transcript of an interview of the author answering questions about his life and ministry. The interview illustrates his qualifications to write a book on prayer. It also shows that his is a remarkable life journey that has taken him from Russia to the Orient to France. He worked his way through college to become a surgeon, eventually being conscripted by the Germans after the occupation of France. He then became ordained as monk in 1948 and served as a monk and a surgeon before leaving his medical practice for ministry. His first point in writing of prayer emphasizes our state before God. People at some point will face God, and when they do, they will receive salvation or condemnation. He encourages readers to accept their desperate state and to go to God asking for and receiving mercy. Then prayer can begin.

Otherwise, God is outside of us and cannot hear. Prayer will be sent to the unknown. Bloom urges readers to develop a passion for God at the expense of the possessions of the world. He reminds readers that one must take up his or her cross daily to follow Jesus. Bloom offers readers ways to experiment with types of prayers to find what suits them. These include written prayers like psalms,

short prayers like the "Jesus Prayer, praying with icons or spontaneous prayers.

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