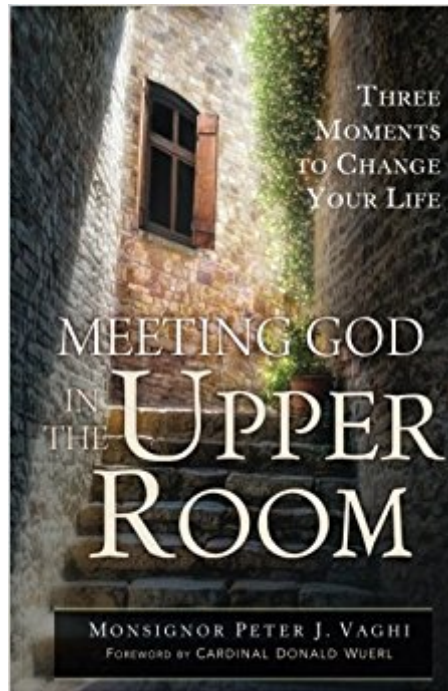




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# **Meeting God In The Upper Room: Three Moments To Change Your Life**



## Synopsis

Recalling his own Holy Land pilgrimage experience, Monsignor Peter Vaghi explores three significant events in the life of the early Church that can be traced back to the Upper Room in Jerusalem (sometimes called the "Cenacle") in order to guide us to a deeper appreciation and understanding of living the Christian life in prayer, worship and service. Each of the book's three parts is dedicated to one of these key moments in the history of our faith: the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist, the post-resurrection appearances of Christ to his followers, and the Holy Spirit descending on the apostles at Pentecost. The walk with the Lord is a continued encounter with Him in the power of Holy Spirit. In Meeting God in the Upper Room, Monsignor Vaghi captures the various integral ways in which we continue in our day to meet the Risen Lord •in the sacraments; in our prayer lives; in our profession of Easter faith; in our works of charity and service; in our devotion to Mary, Mother of the Church and our Mother; in the experience of the gifts of the Holy Spirit; in the call to evangelize and our efforts to evangelize in our own day •in our homes, workplaces, places of leisure, in our travel. All of these make up the rich and continued spiritual legacy of that Upper Room and what happened there. In writing about the Upper Room, Monsignor Vaghi tells of not just its historical significance, but its profound spiritual significance. It was there that Christ and his disciples retreated from the world in order to teach and learn, respectively, how they could carry on the faith. And as we set aside time to enter the "Upper Room" of our own life, we discover that Jesus is waiting to meet us there as well.

## Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Servant (February 3, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1632531267

ISBN-13: 978-1632531261

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #101,286 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Meditations > New Testament #292 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Worship & Devotion > Meditations #563 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles

## Customer Reviews

“Like many of you, I always await Msgr. Vaghi’s next book. Sure enough, this one’s another winner, as he takes us to where it all began, the Upper Room, the scene of the Last Supper and Pentecost. This work inspires the kind of meditation encouraged by St. Ignatius and his son, Pope Francis, as we prayerfully imagine ourselves in a biblical scene. Cardinal Timothy Michael Dolan, archbishop of New York “Msgr. Peter Vaghi’s journey into the most important room in Christendom is a journey into the heart of the Church and the heart of Jesus. Along the way, Monsignor Vaghi offers practical wisdom for modern disciples. Meeting God in the Upper Room is contemporary spiritual writing at its finest.” Matt Malone, SJ, editor-in-chief of America magazine “As each follower of Jesus recognizes the call to be an evangelizing disciple, we take on the responsibility of renewing our faith, of standing firm in the conviction of its truth and finally of sharing it. Msgr. Vaghi provides guidance and support for all three of those elements in the life of the Christian today who truly wants to take on the mission that came to life in the Upper Room. We should all be grateful to Monsignor Vaghi for offering us this opportunity to spiritually visit the Upper Room and draw strength and inspiration from our encounter with God in that sacred space.” Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, from the foreword “Meeting God in the Upper Room is a book to grow in faith and the love of Jesus Christ. In a narrative both human and spiritual, well grounded in Scripture and key documents of the Church, Msgr. Peter Vaghi takes the reader into the heart of the Upper Room in Jerusalem, which witnessed central acts of Jesus. Dare to be transformed by these pages.” Mary Shivanandan, STD, author and former professor of theology, John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage & Family at the Catholic University of America “In Meeting God in the Upper Room, Msgr. Vaghi weaves together Church Teachings, the creed, Church history, the Gospels, the necessity for service and evangelization, and he does this seamlessly with the constant backdrop of that Upper Room where the ministry and mission of the Church began. This book will take you there, to that room, and you will exit that place ready to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the apostles. You will want to buy this book for a friend, but you will definitely want to keep your own copy so that you can reread it any time you seek another Upper Room moment.” Denise Bossert, author, Gifts of the Visitation, former public relations director of Israel Ministry of Tourism, and founder of the apostolate Holy Land on My Own “Msgr. Vaghi’s new focus on the Upper

Room and the salvation events that happened there gives a freshness to the familiar texts of the Last Supper and the resurrection. By drawing us back to the room where Christ gave us salvation, we are present again at his invitation to follow him and to see anew the unfolding of his extraordinary gift. An evangelizing treasure!

• Mary Ellen Bork, writer and lecturer on Catholic culture at Women for Faith & Family

"I have read with admiration this new book, in which the Upper Room becomes the amazing single locus for the central mysteries of our faith then and now. The invitation to the reader to enter his or her own upper room, makes it a contemporary reality for every Christian. I especially enjoyed the frequent references to Pope Francis they give the presentation a unifying voice. I am certain the book will have wide relevance for the new evangelization that is still unfolding in the Church.

• Monsignor Charles M. Murphy, author and former rector of Pontifical North American College in Rome

Monsignor Peter J. Vaghi is pastor of the Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda, Maryland, and a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington. He received seminary and theological training at the Pontifical North American College and Gregorian University, both in Rome. Msgr. Vaghi was designated "Prelate of Honor" by St. John Paul II in 1995, and has served since 1987 as chaplain of the John Carroll Society, a group of professional men and women in service of the Archbishop of Washington. He is the author of *Encountering Jesus in Word, Sacraments, and Works of Charity* as well as the *Pillars of Faith* series. He has also written articles for *America*, *Priest*, and *Our Sunday Visitor* and contributed to two collections of writings on priestly spirituality: *Behold Your Mother* and *Born of the Eucharist*.

a bit disappointing; maybe I expected too much.

Great reading. Good mediation book

good book

Page 30 is inspiring: Washing feet this becomes the way of Jesus...

Good read especially for Catholics away from the Church

Excellent read

The Upper Room is one of the most important locations in Church history. It was in this room that the Last Supper occurred and Jesus washed His disciples' feet and gave us the Eucharist. Jesus also appeared here after His Resurrection, and this is where Pentecost occurred. Monsignor Peter J. Vaghi recently wrote a book that focuses on these events called *Meeting God in the Upper Room*. The book is divided into three chapters, which correspond to the three events I mentioned earlier. The first chapter helps us prepare our Upper Room with some advice from the U.S. Catechism for Adults. It tells us to go to confession, fast, reflect on the readings before Mass, come early for Mass, and go to Eucharistic Adoration. The second chapter discusses the institution of Holy Orders and the Eucharist. Chapter Three was very interesting to me, as it talked about the different personalities present at the Last Supper. In the second part of the book we witness the institution of Penance and a portrait of Thomas. The final part of the book not only gives us a chapter on Pentecost, but one on Mary as well, which I appreciate, because many Christians tend to forget that she was there too. We tend to think that after the Crucifixion and Resurrection, she just faded away. However, she still has a prominent role in the ministry of Jesus. This book was very well-written and shines light on a place of Christendom that we find so many of our origins. Monsignor Vaghi draws upon Scripture, the Catechism, the Second Vatican Council, and writings of some of our most recent popes to give a compelling read. This book is written with the hands of a pastor, a teacher, and thus it is beneficial for our spiritual growth. With Lent quickly approaching, I recommend picking up a copy and reading your way through it during this season. This book was provided to me for free in exchange for an honest review.

This book takes you into the presence of Jesus and the disciples as they prepare and celebrate their last night together. It's an intimate look at how much Jesus loved his friends, how much he loves us all. Tomorrow is Holy Thursday and I am humbled to receive Jesus into my heart. I have reread chapter 6 many times letting His love fall on me. I'm sure I will enjoy parts 2 & 3 after Easter. There are no coincidences, this book chose me. Thank you Monsignor Vaghi.

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