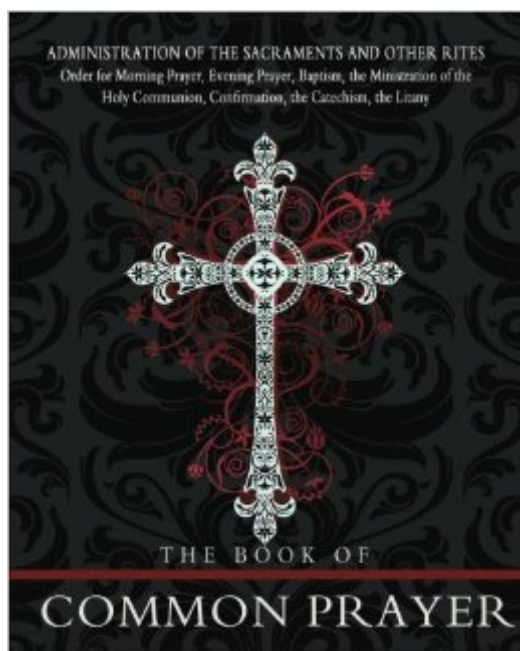


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# The Book Of Common Prayer



## Synopsis

A treasured resource for traditional Anglicans and other people who appreciate the majesty of King James-style language. It features a Presentation section containing certificates for the rites of Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Book of Common Prayer (1979) is the latest, complete BCP used by the American branch of the Anglicans, the Episcopal church. There have been many books that have had the title 'Book of Common Prayer' since the first one appeared in 1549; it has been used continuously in one edition or another in the Anglican tradition since 1559; the 'main' edition remains the 1662 edition. The American church modified the Book of Common Prayer for its own use beginning shortly after the Revolutionary War -- this book is the successor of a long and worthy tradition. A bishop in the Episcopal church once said to me, 'We don't have a theology that we have to believe -- what we have is the prayerbook.' Please forgive the absence of context for this phrase -- while he would say that this statement in isolation is an exaggeration, and I would agree, nonetheless his statement serves to highlight both the importance of and the strength of the Book of Common Prayer. To be an Anglican (in the United States, read Episcopalian for the same in the context of this article), one does not have to subscribe to any particular systematic theological framework. One does not have to practice a particular brand of liturgical style. One does not have to have an approved politico-theological viewpoint. One can be a conservative, liberal or moderate; one can be high

church, low church, or broad; one can be charismatic, evangelical, or mainline traditional -- one can be any number of things in a rich diversity of choices, and the Book of Common Prayer can still be the book upon which spirituality and worship is centred. The Book of Common Prayer is not, in fact, a book that changed my life. It is a book that changes my life.

It's wonderful that the 1928 Book of Common Prayer is back in print and available - hopefully to stay. It's remarkable that a book that is so widely loved and used has had a recent history of not being in print or readily available. Now, I can take it with me on my Kindle as well. The 1928 Prayer Book is the American version of the Book of Common Prayer, descended from the first Prayer Book composed by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in 1549. It is very close to the most classic form of the Prayer Book, the 1662 Prayer Book, which is still the official book for the Church of England and much of the Anglican Communion, as well as the theological standard for the new province, the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA). The 1928 Prayer Book is used by the continuing Anglican churches, the Reformed Episcopal Church, and many churches in the ACNA. Not only is it good to see this Prayer Book back in print but to see it in a reasonably priced hardcover edition. So many churches and individuals I know who want a 1928 Prayer Book have had to resort to using beat up old versions that are in disrepair. To traditional Anglicans, this reprinting of the Prayer Book is a Godsend. But what most people don't know is that the Book of Common Prayer is a profound and beautiful resource for the prayer and devotional life of any Christian. The Prayer Book expresses an orthodox and comprehensive theology and spirituality for all of life, and it helps the individual Christian order his life around prayer, the Bible, and the Church. So many Christians I meet are floundering in their devotional life with the Lord or find that their prayer life is dull and dry. Using the Prayer Book has given a structure and words to the hearts of many Christians.

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