

***The Coming of God* by Maria Boulding** (Liturgical Press, 1982).

Maria Boulding (1929-2009), a contemplative Benedictine nun at Stanbrook Abbey in Yorkshire, England, became a serious scripture scholar and theologian. Each of the 10 chapters in *The Coming of God* reflects her deep appreciation for how God's presence shaped the history of the ancient Israelites, as well as the followers of Jesus Christ. Each chapter is also rich with contemplative insights into the nature of the spiritual journey.

A sample from Chapter 6:

“We have to pray from a position of chaos, because that is where we are, and that is the material on which the Spirit delights to work. The implications of this for personal prayer will be suggested in a moment, but it is worth noting first that the psalms can make great sense as chaotic prayer. They are full of darkness and conflict as well as joy in God's presence; they are not always pure praise but often ugly with vengeance, hatred and smugness...

“The strange thing is that although prayer is often completely unsatisfying and very humbling, although you seem to fail and fail again at prayer, you dimly know that it is all-important to stay there in that emptiness, refusing to fill the void with anything that is not God.”

At her death, Maria Boulding merited a long obituary in *The Independent* newspaper: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/obituaries/maria-boulding-nun-and-theologian-who-translated-works-by-st-augustine-1837159.html>

*The Coming of God* is housed in the Spiritual Life (**SPL**) section of the Lending Library, (which is organized alphabetically by the author's last name).