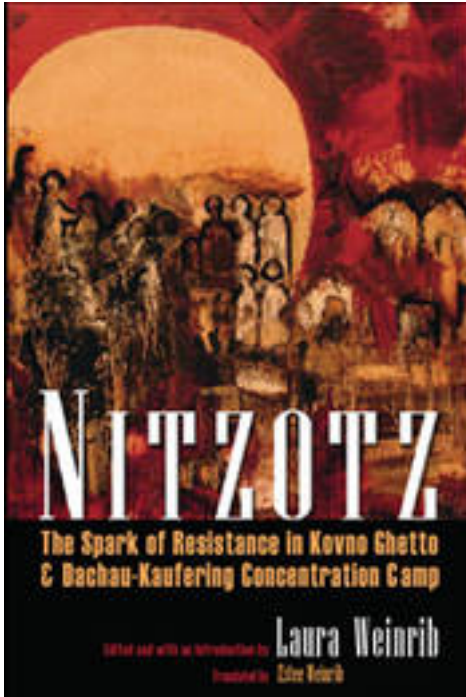




Boys, Mary C.. Has God Only One Blessing?

| Sherman, Franklin

Boys, Mary C.. Has God Only One Blessing? Judaism as a Source of Christian Self-Understanding.



Book Review

Has God Only One Blessing? Judaism as a Source of Christian Self-Understanding

by [Mary C. Boys](#). Paulist Press, New York and Mahwah, NJ, 2000
393 pp., \$29.95, paper

In this magisterial book, Mary Boys distills the fruits of a generation of Christian

biblical, liturgical, and systematic theology, blends in the sharp piquancy of

Jewish-Christian dialogue, and produces a vintage worthy to savor as we welcome the new

millennium....Boys' achievement is as remarkable as it is timely.

Eugene J. Fisher
Associate Director, Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs,
National Conference of Catholic Bishops

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In her new book, *Has God Only One Blessing?*, Mary Boys presents an overview of the

church's troubled relations to and distorted image of the Jews and Judaism over the

centuries, together with proposals for a theological and practical reconstruction of the relationship. "The fruit of years of personal experience, dialogue, and research, this is a ground-breaking work in every way," says Elizabeth Johnson, C.S.J., Distinguished Professor of Theology at Fordham University. "With a wealth of examples and argument, it challenges the inherited idea that Christianity has fulfilled or superseded Judaism as God's favored religion, and crafts an alternative vision of the church and synagogue as partners rather than rivals. Preachers, educators, pastoral ministers, and thoughtful persons of all stripes will be stunned by this mirror held up to their assumptions and moved to translate insight into action."

Rabbi A. James Rudin, Senior Interreligious Advisor for the American Jewish Committee

(New York), has described *Has God Only One Blessing?* as "one of the most

important books I have ever read" ([see full text](#) of his review),

and Rabbi Michael Signer, Abrams Professor in the Department of Theology of Notre Dame

University, has stated: "In these pages Jews can discern the true fruits of more than twenty years that Mary Boys has spent in dialogue with them."

Sister Mary C. Boys, S.N.J.M., is the Skinner and McAlpin Professor of Practical Theology

at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and is the author of three previous books. *Has*

God Only One Blessing? includes 64 pages of notes and a 25-page bibliography, and as an

appendix, the full text of the 1988 publication of the National Conference of Catholic

Bishops, "God's Mercy Endures Forever: Notes on the Presentation of Jews and Judaism

in Catholic Preaching."

Franklin Sherman

[Introduction](#) to the book, including a definition of key terms.