



Pilgrimage?The Sacred Art: Journey to the Center of the Heart (The Art of Spiritual Living)

By Dr. Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook

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Explore the many dimensions of the pilgrimage experience and change your orientation to the world.

"Pilgrimage is an opportunity for pilgrims to cultivate their inner life (or inner voice) in a way that leads to a greater sense of peace and compassion?a sense that pervades all of life."

?from Chapter 6, "Preparing to Practice"

Pilgrimage is a spiritual practice of nearly every major religion of the world. If you are a Christian you may travel to sites associated with the life of Jesus; Jews might visit the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem and other sacred places in the Holy Land of Israel; Muslims participate in the Hajj, the journey to Mecca; Buddhists visit the sacred sites related to the life of Buddha. Even if you practice no religion at all you will still find that you most likely participate in this practice?the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC, and Lenin's tomb in Moscow are considered national pilgrimage sites. As a spiritual practice, pilgrimage transcends religious, national, cultural and linguistic boundaries.

This fascinating look at the sacred art of pilgrimage integrates spirituality, practice, spiritual formation, psychology, world religions and historical resources. It examines how the world's religious pilgrimages evolved as central spiritual practices and the relationship between pilgrimage and transformation. It explains what makes a place holy, and why and how some sites are so compelling that they attract thousands, even millions of pilgrims each year.



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Editorial Review

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Kujawa-Holbrook, an Episcopal priest and theology professor, offers a cogent, thorough exploration of both the universal and the particular aspects of pilgrimage that have shaped human tradition and can be experienced today. She shows the similarities and differences of the act and meaning of pilgrimage among various religious practitioners, including the Abrahamic traditions, Buddhism, and Hinduism. She then discusses the roles pilgrimage has had for artists, in Western literary tradition, and even secular pastimes. She draws from psychological and theological texts and studies, including the Turners' anthropological examination of Image and Pilgrimage in Christian Culture, Jung's writings, and novels such as Coelho's *The Alchemist*, weaving insights from each and all smoothly into her own analysis of a pilgrimage's stages—separation, transition, and incorporation. Today a pilgrimage can even be taken via the Internet. A useful text for both laity and scholars in any tradition, and the handful of guiding questions ending each chapter invite the reader to undertake a pilgrimage, even when none had been previously considered. --
Francisca Goldsmith

Review

"A deeply satisfying?and oftentimes rollicking?account of one of the most important religious practices on earth.... You'll love this book!"

?**Mark Massa, SJ**, dean, School of Theology and Ministry, Boston College

"Beautifully written ... will take the reader to the center of the heart as it did to me."

?**Deepak Shimkhada, PhD**, president, Indic Foundation; professor of Hindu studies, Claremont Lincoln University

"Helping us claim our deepest heart's desires and find our way ... a trove of insight, both ancient and new."

?**The Rev. Curtis Almquist, SSJE**, The Society of Saint John the Evangelist, Cambridge, Massachusetts

"A timely and compelling invitation to both the secular and religious seeker.... Interreligiously aware, grounded in deep expertise and accessible."

?**Elena Procaro-Foley**, Driscoll Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies, Iona College

"A reflective journey through the liminal spaces of life where the need for meaning encounters the challenges and violence of contemporary experience.... Provides illustrative examples to structure the ways and means of spiritual homecoming."

?**Rodney L. Petersen, PhD**, executive director, Boston Theological Institute

"Beautiful and sensitive.... Blend[s] the lines between theory and practice such that the religious scholar and the thoughtful practitioner might each learn from the other."

?**The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray**, dean and associate professor of theology, Barrytown College; American Baptist chaplain, Harvard University

"A treasure trove of guidance and inspiration for that which Sufis say can never be found by seeking, yet only seekers find."

?**Imam Jamal Rahman**, author, *Spiritual Gems of Islam: Insights & Practices from the Qur'an, Hadith,*

Rumi & Muslim Teaching Stories to Enlighten the Heart & Mind

“A true feast for both mind and spirit.... To students, scholars, activists, artists, spiritual seekers young and old, I can only say: Take, read, savor, and embark!”

Alexander Levering Kern, executive director, Center for Spirituality, Dialogue and Service, Northeastern University; poet and editor, *Becoming Fire: Spiritual Writing from Rising Generations*

About the Author

Dr. Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook, an Episcopal priest, is a popular teacher, speaker and retreat leader on topics related to Christian spirituality, mysticism, social activism and interreligious encounter. A professor of practical theology at Claremont School of Theology, Claremont Lincoln University, and professor of Anglican studies at Bloy House, the Episcopal Theological School at Claremont, she is author of *Hildegard of Bingen: Essential Writings and Chants of a Christian Mystic?Annotated & Explained* and *Pilgrimage?The Sacred Art: Journey to the Center of the Heart*, among other books.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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As people who live in the particular modest era should be update about what going on or information even knowledge to make them keep up with the era which can be always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what one you should start with. This Pilgrimage?The Sacred Art: Journey to the Center of the Heart (The Art of Spiritual Living) is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

Sally Staten:

The reason? Because this Pilgrimage?The Sacred Art: Journey to the Center of the Heart (The Art of Spiritual Living) is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap it but latter it will distress you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such amazing way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

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