prayer to our lady of medjugorje

Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje: A Path to Peace and Healing

prayer to our lady of medjugorje holds a special place in the hearts of many believers around the world. This particular devotion is deeply connected to the Marian apparitions reported in Medjugorje, a small town in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where since 1981, the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to six visionaries. For those seeking spiritual guidance, comfort, or a closer relationship with the Mother of God, the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje offers a unique and powerful way to connect with divine grace.

Understanding the Significance of Our Lady of Medjugorje

The story of Medjugorje has inspired countless pilgrims to travel thousands of miles, drawn by the messages of peace, conversion, and prayer that the visionaries have shared. Our Lady of Medjugorje is often referred to as the Queen of Peace, emphasizing her role as a source of calm amid turmoil and a guide toward spiritual renewal.

Unlike traditional Marian devotions, the messages from Medjugorje focus heavily on prayer as a daily practice, reconciliation with God, and living a life filled with love and forgiveness. This makes the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje not only a personal petition but also a call to transformation and hope.

The Core Elements of the Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje

When praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje, certain themes resonate deeply with devotees. These include peace, faith, conversion, and the power of the Rosary. The prayer often reflects the messages that the Virgin Mary has imparted during her apparitions, serving as a spiritual anchor for those who recite it.

Peace and Healing: Central Messages

One cannot talk about the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje without highlighting peace. The Virgin Mary's request for peace is not just about the absence of conflict but about inner tranquility and harmony in families, communities, and the world at large. Many who pray to her report experiencing a profound sense of calm and reassurance, even in difficult moments.

Healing is another vital aspect. Whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, the prayer invites the faithful to entrust their burdens to Mary, confident in her intercession before God. This aspect makes the prayer a source of comfort for many who struggle with illness, loss, or personal challenges.

The Rosary: A Powerful Form of Prayer Connected to Medjugorje

The Rosary is closely linked to the devotion to Our Lady of Medjugorje. The Virgin Mary has repeatedly urged the visionaries and pilgrims to pray the Rosary daily, emphasizing its power in bringing about peace and conversion.

Integrating the Rosary with the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje enhances the spiritual experience. This contemplative prayer invites individuals to meditate on the life of Christ through the eyes of Mary, deepening faith and understanding.

How to Pray to Our Lady of Medjugorje

Approaching the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje with sincerity and openness can transform one's spiritual life. Here are some practical tips to help make this devotion more meaningful:

Create a Sacred Space

Find a quiet and comfortable place where you can focus without distractions. This could be a corner with a small altar, a picture or statue of Our Lady of Medjugorje, and perhaps a lit candle. Setting the mood helps foster a prayerful atmosphere.

Use Intentional Prayer

When praying, be clear about your intentions. Whether you are seeking peace, healing, or guidance, speak from the heart. Remember that this prayer is a dialogue, inviting Mary's maternal care and intercession.

Incorporate the Rosary and Scripture

Consider combining the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje with the Rosary or Bible readings. This combination can deepen your connection with God and enhance the grace received through Mary's intercession.

Popular Prayers Inspired by Our Lady of Medjugorje

While the messages at Medjugorje have inspired many prayers, some have become

particularly beloved within the community of the faithful.

The Prayer of Peace

One of the most well-known prayers associated with Our Lady of Medjugorje is the Prayer of Peace, which reflects her call to bring peace into our hearts and the world:

"Peace, peace, peace. Let peace reign in your hearts, in your families, and in the world. Pray, pray, pray for peace."

This simple yet powerful invocation encourages continuous prayer as a means to foster peace.

The Rosary Prayer from Medjugorje

Another cherished prayer is the traditional Rosary, prayed with the specific intention of meditating on the messages given in Medjugorje. The Virgin Mary has often emphasized the importance of this prayer to overcome evil and grow in holiness.

The Impact of the Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje on Pilgrims and Believers

Many pilgrims who visit Medjugorje speak of life-changing experiences. The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje serves as a spiritual lifeline for countless people worldwide, even those who have never visited the site in person.

Stories of Conversion and Renewal

Countless testimonies describe how praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje has led to profound conversion experiences. People report renewed faith, reconciliation with estranged family members, and a stronger commitment to living a Christian life.

A Source of Daily Strength

For many, the prayer becomes a daily habit that brings strength amid life's challenges. Whether facing personal struggles or global crises, turning to Our Lady of Medjugorje through prayer is a way to find hope and resilience.

Incorporating the Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje into Your Spiritual Routine

If you are wondering how to make this prayer a meaningful part of your life, here are some suggestions:

- Set a regular prayer time: Consistency helps build a deep connection.
- Join a prayer group: Sharing the devotion with others can enhance your experience.
- **Attend Mass or Adoration:** Complement your prayer with participation in the sacraments.
- **Reflect on the messages:** Spend time meditating on the themes of peace, conversion, and love.

By integrating these practices, the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje can become a powerful tool for spiritual growth and inner peace.

The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje is more than just words; it is a heartfelt conversation with a loving mother who desires the best for her children. Whether you are seeking comfort, guidance, or a renewed sense of faith, this devotion invites you to open your heart and embrace the peace that only she can bring.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Our Lady of Medjugorje?

Our Lady of Medjugorje refers to the Virgin Mary as she is believed to have appeared to six children in the town of Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, starting in 1981. These apparitions are associated with messages of peace, prayer, and conversion.

What is the significance of praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje?

Praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje is significant for many believers because it is seen as a way to receive spiritual guidance, peace, and intercession. The prayers often focus on conversion, faith renewal, and trusting in God's mercy.

Is there a specific prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje?

While there is no single official prayer, many devotees use the Rosary, the Prayer of the Heart, or specific prayers inspired by the messages of Medjugorje, such as asking for peace,

forgiveness, and strength to live a holy life.

Can praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje bring miracles or answers to prayers?

Many faithful believe that praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje can lead to miracles and answered prayers through her intercession, especially when prayers are said with faith, sincerity, and openness to God's will.

Are the apparitions of Our Lady of Medjugorje recognized by the Catholic Church?

As of now, the Catholic Church has not given a definitive approval of the Medjugorje apparitions, but it encourages prayer, pastoral care, and discernment. Many pilgrims still visit Medjugorje to pray and seek spiritual renewal.

How can I incorporate the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje into my daily spiritual practice?

You can incorporate prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje by dedicating time daily for the Rosary, reflecting on the messages of peace and conversion, attending Mass, and practicing acts of kindness and forgiveness inspired by her teachings.

Additional Resources

Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje: Exploring Its Spiritual Significance and Impact

prayer to our lady of medjugorje has become a focal point for millions of believers seeking solace, guidance, and spiritual renewal. Rooted in the reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary in the small town of Medjugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, this prayer tradition continues to captivate the faithful worldwide. The phenomenon of Medjugorje, which began in 1981, has inspired countless prayers, pilgrimages, and devotions, making it a significant subject within contemporary Catholic spirituality. This article undertakes a professional and analytical review of the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje, its origins, theological nuances, and broader implications for modern religious practice.

Historical Context of Our Lady of Medjugorje Apparitions

Before delving into the specifics of the prayer itself, understanding the backdrop of the Medjugorje apparitions is essential. On June 24, 1981, six local youths reported witnessing visions of the Virgin Mary on a hill near their village. These apparitions reportedly continue to this day for some visionaries, with messages emphasizing peace, conversion, prayer, and fasting.

The Catholic Church has approached the Medjugorje phenomenon with caution. While initial investigations were inconclusive, recent developments have seen the Vatican authorize official pilgrimages, signaling a degree of openness albeit without definitive endorsement. The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje, therefore, exists within a complex interplay of popular devotion and ecclesiastical scrutiny.

The Structure and Themes of the Prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje

The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje typically incorporates themes found in Marian devotion but is distinct in its emphasis on peace, repentance, and personal transformation. Central to the prayer is an appeal for intercession and protection, often invoking the titles attributed to Mary in the apparitions, such as "Queen of Peace."

Common Elements in the Prayer

- **Petition for Peace:** Reflecting the messages of the apparitions, the prayer frequently asks for peace in the world, families, and individual hearts.
- **Call for Conversion:** Many versions of the prayer include a plea for spiritual renewal and conversion, echoing the visionaries' messages urging repentance.
- **Trust in Mary's Intercession:** Believers express confidence in Mary's maternal care and her role as a mediator between humanity and God.

These elements resonate with broader Catholic teachings yet are uniquely framed within the context of Medjugorje's continuing revelations.

Theological and Spiritual Significance

From a theological perspective, the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje aligns with Marian doctrines such as Mary's role as Mediatrix and Advocate. The invocations reflect a deeply incarnational spirituality, where believers seek not only divine intervention but also a transformative encounter with grace.

Moreover, the emphasis on peace is particularly poignant given the historical and geopolitical turmoil in the Balkans during the 1980s. The prayer acts as both a spiritual balm and a call to social reconciliation, making it relevant beyond purely personal piety.

Comparative Analysis with Other Marian Prayers

When compared to traditional Marian prayers like the Hail Mary or the Rosary, the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje is more message-driven and contextual. While the Hail Mary focuses on praise and petition in a more formalized liturgical structure, the Medjugorje prayer often incorporates contemporary appeals reflecting the visionaries' specific messages.

Furthermore, the prayer's ongoing evolution mirrors the living nature of the Medjugorje phenomenon, contrasting with the fixed texts of canonical prayers. This dynamic aspect allows for adaptability according to current spiritual and social needs.

Impact and Popularity in Contemporary Devotion

The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje has had a significant impact on popular Catholic devotion worldwide. Pilgrimages to Medjugorje remain highly popular, attracting millions annually, and the prayer is often recited in communal and private settings.

Benefits Attributed to Devotion

- **Psychological Comfort:** Many devotees report feelings of peace and hope after praying to Our Lady of Medjugorje.
- **Community Building:** The prayer serves as a unifying practice among diverse cultural groups, fostering global spiritual solidarity.
- **Encouragement of Moral Living:** The conversion theme motivates believers toward ethical improvement and charitable actions.

Criticisms and Controversies

Despite its popularity, the prayer and associated apparitions have not been free from critique. Skeptics question the authenticity of the visions and caution against reliance on unapproved private revelations. Additionally, some theologians warn that an overemphasis on Medjugorje might detract from traditional Church teachings.

Nonetheless, many Church authorities advocate for discernment and encourage prayerful openness, which has allowed the prayer to maintain its place within contemporary Catholic spirituality.

Practical Guidance for Incorporating the Prayer into Daily Life

For those interested in integrating the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje into their spiritual routine, it is advisable to approach it with mindfulness and balance. Here are several practical considerations:

- 1. **Understand the Context:** Familiarize oneself with the messages of Medjugorje to grasp the prayer's underlying themes fully.
- 2. **Complement with Established Prayers:** Use the prayer alongside traditional devotions like the Rosary to maintain a grounded spiritual practice.
- 3. **Reflect on Personal Intentions:** Tailor the prayer to address individual or communal needs without losing sight of its core messages.
- 4. **Participate in Group Devotions:** Engaging in communal prayer can deepen the spiritual experience and foster a sense of connectedness.

By adopting such approaches, the prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje can serve as a meaningful addition to one's spiritual life.

Conclusion: The Enduring Resonance of a Modern Marian Devotion

The prayer to Our Lady of Medjugorje stands as a compelling example of how contemporary religious phenomena shape devotional practices. While it continues to invite both fervent faith and critical inquiry, its emphasis on peace, conversion, and maternal intercession resonates deeply with many believers. As the Church navigates its official stance and the faithful engage with the prayer in diverse contexts, the legacy of Medjugorje's messages—and their associated prayers—remains a significant chapter in modern Catholic spirituality.

Prayer To Our Lady Of Medjugorje

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prayer to our lady of medjugorje: The Best of "The Spirit of Medjugorje" June Klins, 2007-09-24 In 1981 a beautiful lady appeared to 6 young people in the village of Medjugorje in what is now Bosnia-Herzegovina. She told them that She was the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Peace, and came with a message of peace. She has continued to appear since 1981 to give messages to the world of peace, love and joy. She is confiding ten secrets to each visionary (some are chastisements for the world) and promises to leave a visible sign at the place of the apparitions in Medjugorje for all humanity. This time, this period of grace, is for conversion and deepening faith. After the visible sign, those living will have little time for conversion. Many books have been written about Medjugorje, but this one and Volume I of this series are different. They both include not only information about Medjugorje and talks and interviews with the visionaries, but also heartfelt testimonies of those who have been healed and changed through Medjugorje, as well as advice, written from the heart, on how to live the messages. This book is for EVERYONE - all Our Lady's children, Catholic and non-Catholic. If you have not heard about Medjugorje, it will tell you everything you need to know. If you have been following the messages of Medjugorje or have been one of the millions of people blessed to have been there, this book will light your fire all over again. I desire to lead you all on the way of holiness. Live my messages and put into life every word that I am giving you. May they be precious to you because they come from Heaven. (Our Lady of Medjugorje, 6/25/02)

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Our Lady of the Nations Chris Maunder, 2016-02-18 Our Lady of the Nations is a detailed and scholarly overview of the apparitions of Mary in 20th-century Catholic Europe. Chris Maunder discusses apparitions in general and how they are interpreted in Catholicism by, for example, Karl Rahner and Benedict XVI. The role of women and children as visionaries is considered, including issues concerning changing views of gender, children's spirituality, and the protection of minors. He covers cases that are well known and approved by the Church (Fatima, Beauraing, Banneux, and Amsterdam), others that are well known but not approved (such as Garabandal and Medjugorje), and many that are neither well known nor approved, such as those in Belgian Flanders or Nazi Germany in the 1930s, or in France, Italy, or Germany after the Second World War. Resources include academic studies of particular apparitions, some Catholic theological and devotional literature, and occasionally travel writing. There is also coverage of material in French which is not known to the English reader. Shrines and visionaries are believed to be indicators of the presence of Mary. In the visionary perspective, she has appeared in order to reassure her followers and to warn of divine judgement. Her messages echo doctrinal Catholic Mariology with some innovations, but also express a deep dissatisfaction with the events and trends of the 20th century, from communism to Nazism to liberalism and religious indifference. While the Marian cult evolves according to new templates for apparitions and developments in Mariology, the fundamental message of presence, consolation, and admonition remains constant.

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prayer to our lady of medjugorje: *Meeting with Our Lady of Medjugorje* Finbar O'Leary, 2014-03-26 In 1981, Our Lady, Queen of Peace appeared to six children - Ivanka, Mirjana, Ivan, Vicka, Marija and Jakov - in the small village of Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Two young girls in that place, Jelena Vasilj and Marijana Vasilj, also received from Our Lady the gift of inner locution deeply mystical experiences whereby Jesus and Our Lady communicate messages and images interiorly. Since these extraordinary events, millions of pilgrims have travelled from across the world to pray in this special place. ??Through these visionaries and locutionaries, Our Lady continues to communicate to the world her loving messages of peace, prayer, fasting, the sacraments and urgent conversion. ??Meeting with Our Lady of Medjugorje gives a deep insight into these messages and the happenings in Medjugorje through in-depth interviews with the visionaries, as well as rare and intimate interviews with the two locutionaties. Throughout these beautiful interviews we hear Our Lady's messages concerning our modern world and he simple and loving message to help us get closer to the Divine: Pray! ??Through Jelena, Our Lady requested that a prayer group, which would be led by Her, be created in Medjugorje. It is through prayer groups, and deep personal prayer, that Our Lady wishes to draw us closer. In this book we hear Our Lady's instructions for the prayer groups throughout the world.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Revelations Xavier Reyes-Ayral, 2022-05-31 From 1846 to the present day, the Vatican has maintained quite the same message brought forth from Heaven by different messengers across time and across vast distances and continents. This message echoes the gravest of admonitions and calls mankind to convert and find refuge through the knowledge of the truth, which today threatens the very basis of world peace... Today, in 2022, the message of La Salette, La Fraudais, Tilly, Fatima, Garabandal, Akita and Medjugorje, and their secrets take a meaning of the greatest importance, as the admonitions brought forth by the Blessed Virgin Mary warn of a cataclysmic global disaster which has now become imminent. The Church's apprehension of frightening the masses, inspired inaction and Rome's decision to silence – founded more on fear than on caution – led millions of faithful to the darkness of ignorance and, therefore, to a lack of necessary conversion, prayers and intercession for peace. This book proposes unveiling the light and, thus, asking humanity to respond to the call of a warm and loving mother who merely seeks the salvation of her children.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: The Messages of Medjugorje: The Complete Text, 1981-2014 Medjugorje-Apologia.com, 2015-09-04 A complete corpus of all the messages of the apparitions of Medjugorje, from the beginning to the present day. Book size is A5, with a compact type-font for ease of portability.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Power of Popular Piety Ambrose Mong, 2019-03-04 This book examines the ambivalence of folk Catholicism as a resource to fight against injustice, exploitation, and oppression. Cases are cited to illuminate the value and potential trespasses of popular religious beliefs and practices. Over centuries, representatives of the powerful middle and upper middle classes did not hesitate to manipulate popular piety to protect their power and privileges. In fact, much of popular religion still reflects the dominant ideology. Popular piety has the potential for liberation against unjust social and economic structures. When properly guided, this practice can broaden and deepen political consciousness and mobilize people to act. Without a strong level of political consciousness as well as liberative evangelization, popular religion will be alienating to the poor while strengthening the status quo of the rich and the powerful. This study argues that it will be the elites, the well-educated and committed Christians, not the masses, who would foster the transformation of society.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Meeting With Our Lady of Medjugorje Finbar O'Leary, 2014 Rare and in-depth interviews with the visionaries and locutionaries of Medjugorge- in this book we hear Our Lady's instructions for prayer groups throughout the world.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: My Path to Peace and Justice Richard T. McSorley, 2010-05-01 Richard T. McSorley, S. J. (1914 - 2002) led an extraordinary life. He survived a World War II prison camp to become one of the great peacemakers of the twentieth century. From struggles against segregation in the late forties to Vietnam War protests in the sixties to condemnation of nuclear weapons in the eighties, McSorley has been on the cutting edge of the great social justice movements of the last half-century. His life crossed paths with many of the world's most notable figures: Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Daniel and Philip Berrigan; the Kennedy family; Bill Clinton; Don Helder Camara; and a host of peace leaders from throughout the world. In this autobiography published six years before his death, McSorley documents his life, his travels throughout Europe, South American, Central America and the Middle East. His descriptions of these events form a backdrop of the real story - his spiritual journey toward active peacemaking and unswerving pacifism. Through it all he weaves the thread of the theology of peace. He applies gospel principles to our social and government structures. McSorley may be best known for his ability to cut through academic arguments to state the truth in the most basic of terms. He counters the justification of war with the biblical call to love enemies. This book is an account of a life devoted to God and of service to the community.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Ritual, Performance and the Senses Michael Bull, Jon P. Mitchell, 2020-05-18 Ritual has long been a central concept in anthropological theories of religious transmission. Ritual, Performance and the Senses offers a new understanding of how ritual enables religious representations – ideas, beliefs, values – to be shared among participants. Focusing on the body and the experiential nature of ritual, the book brings together insights from three distinct areas of study: cognitive/neuroanthropology, performance studies and the anthropology of the senses. Eight chapters by scholars from each of these sub-disciplines investigate different aspects of embodied religious practice, ranging from philosophical discussions of belief to explorations of the biological processes taking place in the brain itself. Case studies range from miracles and visionary activity in Catholic Malta to meditative practices in theatrical performance and include three pilgrimage sites: the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, the festival of Ramlila in Ramnagar, India and the mountain shrine of the Lord of the Shiny Snow in Andean Peru. Understanding ritual allows us to understand processes at the very centre of human social life and humanity itself, making this an invaluable text for students and scholars in anthropology, cognitive science, performance studies and religious studies.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: The Coming Fin De Siècle Stjepan Mestrovic, 2010-11-01 First Published in 1991, this book attempts to show the relevance of Durkheim's sociology to the debate on modernity and postmodernism. It does so by examining how Durkheim's ideas can be applied to current social issues. The author argues that there are striking parallels between the social context of the 1890s, when Durkheim began to publish in book form, and today. The book will

appeal to the readers of sociology, as well as the related disciplines of philosophy, psychology, cultural studies and history. It is also intended for anyone interested in the issues and questions that were being raised as humanity approached the end of the twentieth century and the end of the millennium.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Our Lady Says Albert Joseph Mary Shamon, 2003-06 In this book, Fr. Shamon highlights the importance of the Creed, providing new insights and reaffirming forgotten truths. He quotes several occasions where Our Lady, in her messages at Medjugorje, specifically requests the praying of the Creed. As we continue our life long journey of faith, Fr. Shamon invites us to a deeper understanding of the Creed, its meaning, its purpose--all to the end of supporting us in this journey.

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prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Welcome Home! Victor R. Claveau, 2000-01-01 Here are the compelling stories of eleven reverts, Catholics who fell away from the Church and eventually came back home. Some of the people are very well-known, like Fr. John Corapi, Rick Strom and Jesse Romero, and others are known only in their smaller circles. But each person's story of why he left the Catholic Church and why he returned is a unique and moving tale of God's mercy, love and grace. There is one common denominator, though, among the writers of Welcome Home! To parapharse Archbishop Fulton Sheen, few hate the Catholic Chruch for what she teaches, but millions hate it for what they think she teaches. The defining moment of illuminating grace almost always came when our storytellers began to examine Catholic teaching for themselves.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Mary's Call to Prayer John D. Smatlak, 2021-01-19 Over multiple centuries, visionaries have reported seeing and speaking with the apparition of Mary, mother of Jesus. Nearly all of these apparition events include evidence of other miracles. Within the apparitions, Mary's primary message is intended for all Christians to hear: the time to pray more is now. In an insightful spiritual discussion enhanced by biblical references, John Smatlak relies on the voice of Mary to directly answer many of the common questions asked by Christians such as what is important to gain eternal life and what is not? What behaviors cause a person to go to hell? Can prayer prevent war? Do we keep our earthly bodies in the afterlife? Throughout the presentation, Mary communicates clear expectations for Christians while providing a better understanding of Jesus, herself, and other supernatural beings. In perfect alignment with the Bible and Jesus, Mary expresses her deep love for people, warns of dire future events on earth, and explains how to either mitigate or avoid these events with prayer. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is a valuable resource for Christians that provides twentieth century answers from heaven to many common questions while addressing the need for prayer.

prayer to our lady of medjugorje: Occasions of Faith Lawrence J. Taylor, 1995-04 Devotional occasions, or experiences by Irish Catholics form the crux of this powerful, first book-length anthropological study of Irish Catholicism. Questions central to the study of religion inform Occasions of Faith: What is religion and how do official and popular religion differ? What is the relation between power and meaning? What are the roles of religious and political regimes in the social construction of religion? In exploring these questions, the book draws on two major theoretical traditions in the anthropological study of religion: the tradition of Geertz, Douglas, and

Turner and that of Marx, Foucault, and Asad. Even the powerful religious regime Taylor finds in Irish Catholicism must leave creative space for what he calls a religious imagination. Basic fears and needs propel the people of southwest Donegal - and all of us, Taylor argues - to respond creatively to strong personal religious experiences and to invent forms to express them.

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