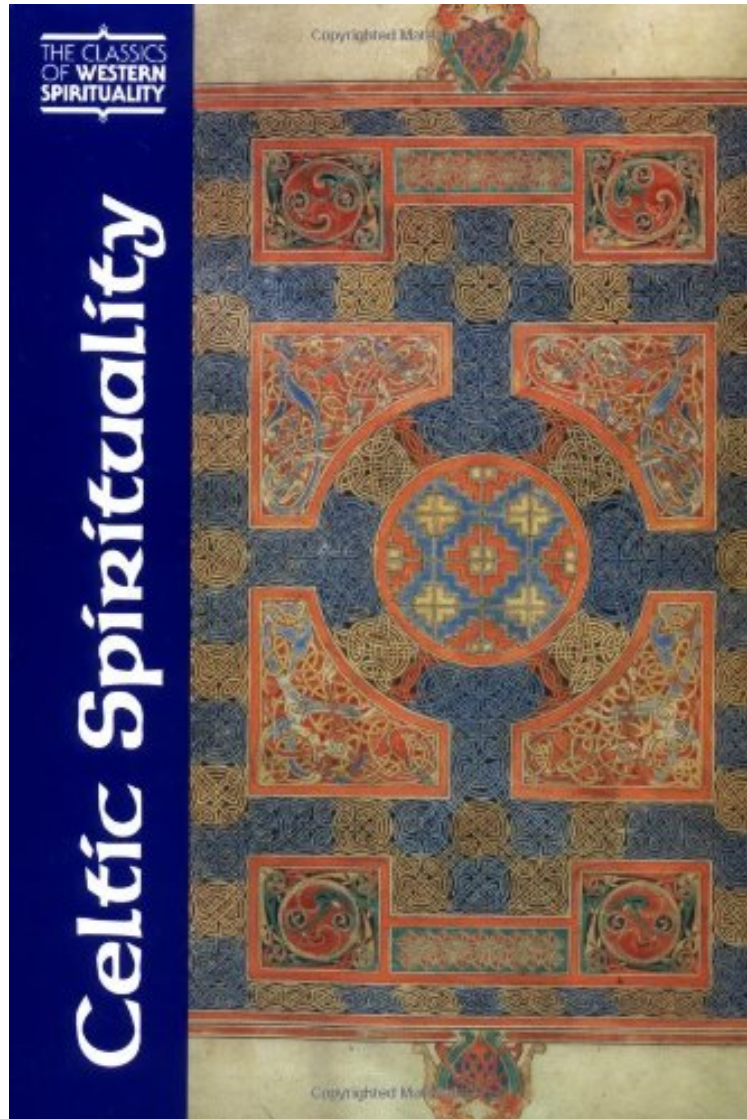


[PDF] Celtic Spirituality (Classics of Western Spirituality (Paperback))

## Celtic Spirituality (Classics of Western Spirituality (Paperback))

*Professor of Christian Doctrine Oliver Davies*  
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**Professor of Christian Doctrine Oliver Davies : Celtic Spirituality (Classics of Western Spirituality (Paperback))** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Celtic Spirituality (Classics of Western Spirituality (Paperback)):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Standard Book on Celtic Christianity By Hike This is a standard book on Celtic spirituality and includes a good sampling of Celtic literature. It is not a compendium of Celtic literature or culture. Celtic resources are quite fragmented and one can spend a fortune getting a complete set. But this does give a good taste of Celtic Christianity. I purchased a used copy and it was used as a textbook for some course somewhere.

So, you might be able to find a course, a seminar, a discussion group that uses this book. It would be good to read with someone knowledgeable of the Celts and their culture since many have mis-interpreted their thoughts and beliefs. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Anthology of Primary Texts By Theophan Edwards This book is fantastic, offering a well selected variety of early Celtic Christian literature. The selections, (many for the first time translated into English) offer a real feel for the dispositions, theology, and flavor of the early Celtic Christian. The introductory chapters offer valuable contextual information. If there is a fault with the introduction, it is that it leaves the reader thirsting for more. The end notes, as well, communicate important information regarding descriptions of geography, information explaining items which may not be self-explanatory to the first time student in this field of study. As with the introduction, the end notes leave the reader thirsting for more. I really only have one major complaint or criticism: I hate end notes. Placing the references, etc, as foot notes is much more convenient, easier to locate, and keeps the reference in the context of the main texts. I wish for many more volumes such as this. In the meantime I continue rereading this one to two times per year, and continually looking up references. For a student of the early Celtic Church who is not fluent in either Latin or any of the early Irish, Scot, or Welsh languages, this book is a must read, and will provide much spiritual edification. An invaluable resource to include in one's library. 112 of 117 people found the following review helpful. An excellent overview for the intelligent and serious reader By Sean A. Lotz In my eighteen or so years as a Celtic Catholic, and especially in the past five years, I have seen the term "Celtic Christianity" applied to everything from the sublime (love of nature and the saints) to the ridiculous (giving communion to your dog) to the utterly intolerable (worshipping pagan gods). Some modern writers on the theme do an excellent job of interpreting this strand of the Christian Faith for the modern reader; others are better left unread. So where is a serious inquirer to go for "the real goods"? Where to find out what our ancient Fathers and Mothers in the Faith really believed, thought, and did? Davies's book is an excellent resource. Limiting his own comments and interpretations to the introduction (and with an excellent preface by James Mackey), Davies contents himself with providing clear and easily readable translations of original source material. Some of the most important documents for understanding the mind of the early Celtic Christian are here. You can read all of St. Patrick's own writings and the ancient biography by Muirch. Discover the most ancient accounts of St. Brigit, St. Brendan, St. David, and even the dear but little-known St. Melangell and her hare. But that's not all. There is the monastic Rule of St. Columbanus, ten Irish poems, twenty Welsh poems, and several devotional prayer-poems. You can find some of the oldest Celtic liturgical material, interpretations of Scriptural passages, ten ancient sermons, and some theology courtesy of Pelagius and John Scottus Eriugena. This is all original material, carefully translated and presented in an easy-to-use format. But it's not dry dusty stuff: it breathes a freshness from the early days of the Faith that is sometimes missing from more modern writers. We've perhaps been around too long, thought about it too much. Our Celtic saints got the good news "hot off the press," and embraced it with a shocking enthusiasm which is good for us jaded post-moderns. I hope you read this book and enjoy it as much as I have.

This volume offers translations of numerous texts from the Celtic tradition from the 6th through the 13th centuries, in a cross-section of genres and forms, including saints' lives, monastic texts, poetry, devotional texts, liturgical texts, apocrypha, exegetical texts and theological treatises.

From Library Journal The latest from Paulist Press's extraordinary series on world spiritual traditions and classics--one that has brought great theologians and mystics to the attention of scholars and general readers alike, this generous volume includes writings by and about saints Patrick, Brigit, and Brendan, as well as less familiar poems, liturgies, narratives, and sermons all capably translated and presented by Davies (theology and religious studies, St. David's Coll., Univ. of Wales). It is a joy to see these texts gathered for the modern reader for the first time and to revisit the distinctively ardent, earthy religious experience of Celtic Christianity in the Middle Ages. Highly recommended. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. An invaluable source for the study of early Celtic Christianity. -- Stone Campbell Journal Covers background on the sources for the translated texts, and the concepts and origins of Celtic spirituality. -- Crux Highly recommended. -- H-Net s The inclusion of Celtic Spirituality in this highly esteemed series is significant. -- The Furrow This Classic of Western Spirituality serves to deepen one's love for spirituality in the Celtic Christian tradition. -- Bookviews This is a welcome addition to a fine series. -- National Catholic Reporter This scholarly work gives rich insight into the history, spirituality and giftedness of the Celtic peoples. -- Spirit and Life About the Author Oliver Davies, who earned a D. Phil. in German from Oxford University, is Professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at St. David's College, the University of Wales. He is the author of *God Within: The Mystical Tradition of Northern Europe*.