

Recommended Reading List for Saint Mark's Celtic Pilgrimage Ireland/Iona Extension, July 2024

Newell, John Phillip. Christ of the Celts: The Healing of Creation. Jossey-Bass, 2008.

Celtic theologian and pilgrimage guide, Newell offers this in his prelude: "I explore the Celtic image of Christ as the Memory of what we have forgotten. [Christ] remembers the dance of the universe and the harmony that is deep within all things. [Christ] is the Memory also of who we are."

Adams, David. Border Lands. Sheed & Ward, 1999.

Former vicar of Holy Island (Lindisfarne), Canon David Adams wrote several books of reflections, meditations, and prayers on and in the Celtic tradition. This book is a collection of many of these pieces that have resonated with pilgrims and spiritual seekers for decades.

Paintner, Christine Valters. The Soul's Slow Ripening: 12 Celtic Practices for Seeking the Sacred. Soren Books, 2018. Christine Valters Paintner, online abbess for Abbey of the Arts, uses reflections, stories, guided activities, prayer experiences, and a variety of creative arts to help you patiently and attentively listen to God's invitation.

O'Donohue, John, Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom, Harper Perennial, New York, NY, 1997.

Anam Cara is literally "holy friendship" and embodies God's design for all creation, for communities of faith, and for us as fellow pilgrims on the way. John is a late Irish Catholic priest and spiritual guide with deep roots in Celtic spirituality. His writings and poetry are sublime.

Hutchinson, Paul. Between the Bells: Stories of Reconciliation from Corrymeela (with a Forward by Pádraig Ó Tuama). Canterbury Press, 2019. Paul Hutchinson is the former Centre Director of the Corrymeela Community, a retreat house in Northern Ireland committed to the work of reconciliation and peacemaking. In this book, Hutchinson offers stories of people who were changed by their visit to Corrymeela and reflects on the work of reconciliation for all of us.

Optional Reads:

Newell, John Phillip, Listening for the Heartbeat of God: A Celtic Spirituality, Paulist Press, New York, NY, 1997. Former warden of Iona Abbey, Newell now leads the School of Celtic Consciousness and writes extensively. He has several other books, but this is still considered his magnum opus through which he has inspired millions to a deeper appreciation of creation, God and self as One.

Ó Tuama, Pádraig. In the Shelter: Finding a Home in the World. Hodder, 2016.

Drawing on the Irish saying, "It is in the shelter of each other that the people live," Pádraig Ó Tuama relates ideas of shelter and welcome to journeys of life, using poetry, story, biblical reflection and prose to open up gentle ways of living well in a troubled world. Ó Touma will be visiting Saint Mark's on May 30, 2024 to offer a workshop on "Poetry and Place."

Cahill, Thomas. How the Irish Saved Civilization. Anchor, 1996.

In a fast-paced and entertaining narrative, Cahill relates the untold story of Ireland's role in maintaining Western culture after the fall of the Roman Empire and throughout the Dark Ages. The influence of St. Patrick and many communities of monks formed Ireland as the "isle of saints and scholars," which is still essential to Ireland's spiritual heritage.

Pemberton, O.S.H, Cintra. Soulfaring: Celtic Pilgrimage Then and Now. Morehouse, 1999. **Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2.** A member of the Episcopal Order of St. Helena and renowned retreat leader, Pemberton explores the ancient practice of "*peregrinatio*" and its evolution into modern Celtic Pilgrimage. She also offers an introduction to fifteen traditional pilgrimage sites in Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man and Wales.

Marcus, Clare Cooper, Iona Dreaming: The Healing Power of Place, A Memoir. Nicholar-Hayes, Inc., Lake Worth, FL, 2010. An interesting reflection on her six-month solitary retreat on Iona, but more broadly, she develops an inspiring treatise on the role that place can play in spiritual healing as one unfolds into authenticity informed by her surroundings and the practice of presence there.

De Waal, Esther, The Celtic Way of Prayer, Hodder & Stoughton, UK, 2003, **Introduction and Chapter 1.** De Waal is a scholar and practitioner of both Celtic and Benedictine spirituality and has great appreciation for how they have informed the Anglican tradition. This book explores some of the distinctive characteristics of the Celtic tradition, offering lovely prayers and metaphors along the way.

PBS Documentary Series: Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland. Recently premiered, this powerful 5-part series from the makers of the Bafta and Emmy winning "Once Upon a Time in Iraq" is the story of the Troubles in Northern Ireland told by the ordinary people whose lives it changed forever.