

THE
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WITH FACULTY MINISTRY

DIGITAL PILGRIMAGE JOURNAL



Orientation



Introduction — ●●●

Peregrinatio in the Celtic tradition is a rooted wandering. As followers of Jesus left their homes, journeying from place to place as God led them, they chose into perpetual exile. God was the root of their wandering. Similar to the call of Abraham to leave his homeland, these Celtic pilgrims went out—some on foot, others in small boats on the sea—to share the story of the Triune God.

Entering our time of pilgrimage, you may not be leaving your home to trek to unknown lands, but it's likely that part of your story involves wandering. Maybe you've had to leave what is known and head into something that is unknown. Perhaps, you've felt the loss of control as plans for the future are uncertain. As you meet some of these ancient wanderers—Patrick, Brigid, Brendan, Kevin, and Columba—throughout this series of walks, our hope is that you experience a taste of what it is like to wander with the same God who wrote their stories and brought them into his bigger story.

Over our time together, we hope you won't simply learn information about some interesting religious figures and the culture from which they came, but that you'll see how their stories within the arc of God's story can speak to each of us today.

How to Use This Journal — ●●●

When embarking on pilgrimage, it is helpful to record and reflect on the places and people that you encounter, and, in particular, how God meets you along the way. This journal provides space to guide you in reflecting on each session: before, during, and after your walks. You are invited to play with this journal and use as much or as little as you find helpful. It is an interactive PDF, so you can use your device to type directly into it, or you are welcome to print out the pages in order to be able to hand write, draw, or color. The interactive boxes you may see on screen will *not* show up when you print the journal.

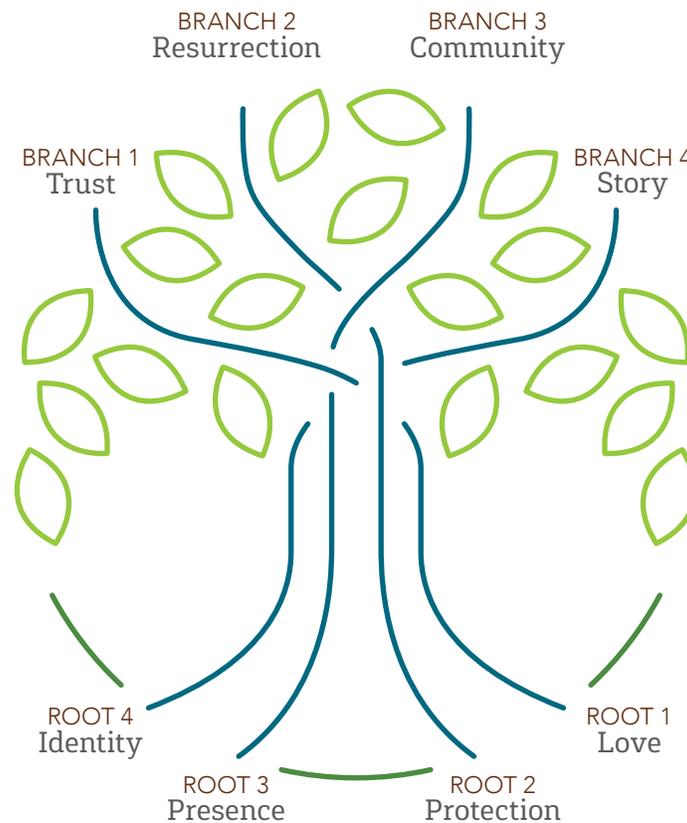
For each session, you will find a set of pages that highlight key elements of the walks, including background information about the saint, place, and spiritual practices mentioned in the audioguide. These pages also include the psalm and other scripture readings from the walk, along with reflective questions and space to record field notes. In the early Celtic tradition of manuscript copying, you are invited to illuminate the psalm and/or choose one verse from it, taking time to reflect on the words as you add color and other artistic elements to the printed page.

After every set of two walks, you will find an Optional Debrief section with activities and reflections to process the past year (more info on next page).

In the Appendix, you will find additional resources to accompany you along the Celtic Way.

Tree of Life — ...

As we look at the stories of Celtic Christians who embraced pilgrimage as a way of life, we are going to explore how they found their roots in the love, protection, and presence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They were also rooted in their identity: who God called them to be. These roots led to lives that branched out into surrendered following, fruit of resurrection, community, and people whose healed stories are woven into God's larger story.



Where We're Going — ...



BRANCH 4
Iona (Scotland)

ROOT 3
Croagh Patrick

ROOT 1
Slemish Mountain

ROOT 4
Dundalk

ROOT 2
Hill of Slane

BRANCH 1
Cliffs of Moher

BRANCH 3
Glendalough

BRANCH 2
Kildare

How to Debrief in Small Groups — ...

With any significant experience, it's important to process in an external way and with others. During The Celtic Way try to take time once a week or so to reflect and share in a small group using some of the questions below, plus a question or two from each walk (found in this journal).

Since everyone will be walking at a different pace and will likely have listened to different walks as the group meets, make sure people know they are welcome to share about where ever they find themselves along The Celtic Way. Encourage everyone in your group to speak. Notice if you haven't heard from someone or if one person is dominating the conversation, and if so, gently invite equal participation.

RECOGNIZE

- Where did you go? What walk(s) did you complete this week?
- What did you see on your walk? (Feel free to share pictures.)
- What did you think about while walking?

REFLECT

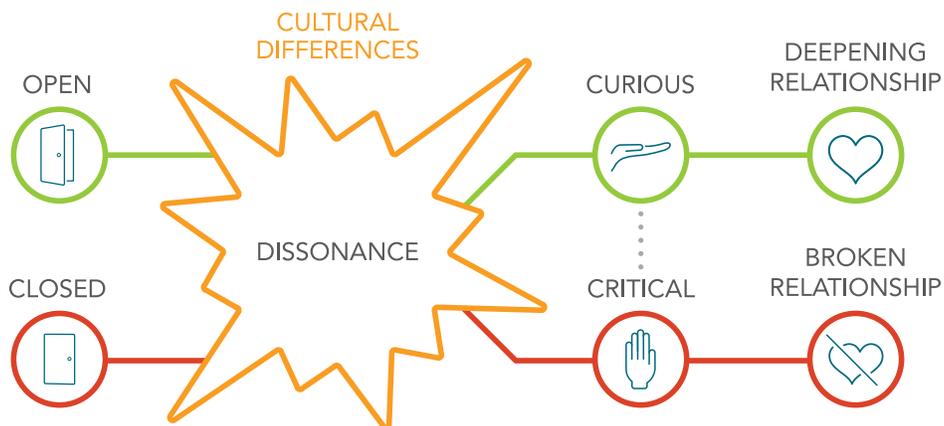
- What stuck out to you from the audioguide for the walk(s) you took?
- What reflection question from the walk(s) you took resonated with you and why?

RESPOND

- What have you been learning about a particular walk's theme that you want to remember?
- Is there a next step you feel led to take in light of that walk's theme?

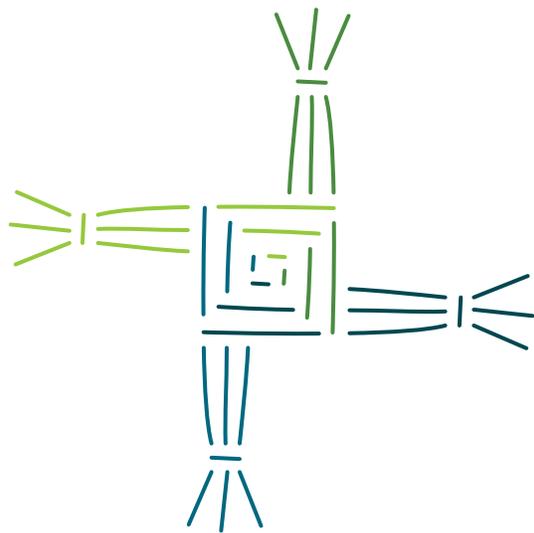
Approaching Differences — ...

Some things in our Celtic Way experience might stretch you: exercise, speakers at special events, things said in debrief, the repetitiveness of breath prayer or other spiritual practices you may not be familiar with. Any time you experience this dissonance, we invite you to view it as an opportunity for growth. Ask God what he is teaching. Be curious. Build relationships.



Resurrection

BRANCH 2



Visio Divina



Brigid

HER CLOAK & CROSS

Brigid miraculously spread her cloak for miles to secure land as a safe haven for all kinds of people and animals. She ministered to a dying man, weaving reeds into a cross to share the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. She led a community that embodied shalom and a life woven together in the cross of Christ.

Kildare



VISIO DIVINA REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a few deep breaths. Let your eyes move through the painting. What catches your eye? Focus on that portion of the work and sit with it for a minute.

Breathe in and out and let your body and mind slow down. Invite the Lord to speak to you about what you see.

What feelings does this painting evoke?

What do you notice about how the Spirit is at work in this painting?

How do you see God's shalom present in the diverse community at home in her cloak?

What kind of prayer rises from within you as you ponder this work?

How does this painting and Brigid's story challenge you to live in community with others? Are there any relationships that need to be made right? Or people groups you tend to avoid, that God is challenging you to welcome and love?



Field Notes

We invite you to experience the Celtic Way with your whole self. When we tune into our breath and all of our senses, we can become more present to our bodies, our surroundings, and to God. Use the space below to write or draw anything that you would like to remember about your walk. For example, what did you see, hear, smell, touch, taste?





Luke 24:1-12

¹ On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

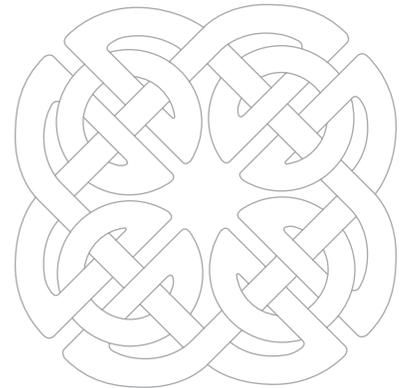
⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.



salm 16

- ¹ Keep me safe, my God,
for in you I take refuge.
- ² I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."
- ³ I say of the holy people who are in the land,
"They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."
- ⁴ Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods
or take up their names on my lips.
- ⁵ Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
- ⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- ⁷ I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
- ⁸ I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
- ¹⁰ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
- ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.



Fill me
○ with
JOY
in your
presence



Illuminate a Psalm

Underline, circle, or note anything that stood out to you in this psalm. Are there any images that are particularly resonant?

Choose a word, phrase, or verse from the psalm to creatively copy below; you might handletter it, add color or other artistic elements, or even draw images instead of using words.



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● ● ●
● ● ●

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where in your life are you experiencing disappointment, grief, or anguish? What are the places of death that need resurrection in your life?

How is Jesus inviting you into hope and prayer as you wait for him to bring healing and restoration to unfinished or difficult strands of your story?

Where is there desolation in your community, society, field of study or work? How might God invite you to seek shalom there and carry life and resurrection into those places of desolation?