



Defining Characteristics

Creation Spirituality

- Deep connection between the Divine and the created world
- Follows the rhythm of the seasons
- Worship primarily outside

Original Blessing

- Inherent dignity of all creation
- Humanity is allowed its fullness- good and bad, beautiful and profane
- Pelagius as defender of this original goodness

Monastic Tradition

- Monasteries, not churches, as the heart of Christian life
- Centers of learning, culture, art, and creativity
- Rigorous, sometimes strict, practices

Pilgrimage

- the art of finding God “on the way”
- *perigrinatio*: a journey in search not of a place but a Presence
- Risk taking and adventure as part of the spiritual life

Trinitarian

- the mystical power of three
- Rituals and prayers done in threes
- Celtic knots as pointing to inter-being, interwovenness of life

Hospitality

- Treat every stranger as if it were Christ
- Monastic guest houses
- Rituals of empty chair, light in the window

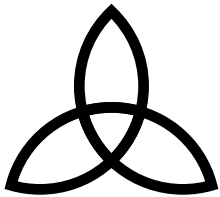
Holy Ordinary

- prayers for every occasion
- Rituals for any moment
- God in all things, sacred everywhere

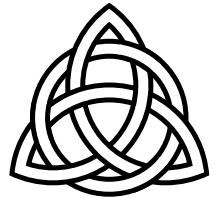
Celtic Symbols



The Celtic Cross features a traditional Christian cross with a circle surrounding the intersection of the arms and stem. The circle is a symbol of eternity and the infinite nature of God's love. It is also thought to represent the unity of heaven and earth. It reinforces the Celtic belief that Jesus is the “truly natural one” as John Philip Newell says, who comes to unite heaven and earth not only in his own life but in us and in our communities and world as well.



The Triquetra is a beloved symbol of the Holy Trinity. Its interlocking lines point to the mystery of the divine Three-in-One, and the eternal, abundant life of God. It also represents land, sea, and sky, which the Celts believed were the three realms of creation. Triquetra comes from the Latin word “triquetrus” which means three-cornered. Some versions of the triquetra also feature a circle, which symbolizes wholeness and completeness. This version is often called a Trinity knot.



The Triskelion (or triskele) is a motif consisting of three interlocking spirals or three human legs arranged in a symmetrical pattern. The three spirals symbolize the cyclical nature of life, unity, and the interconnectedness of the divine and the natural world. It also depicts the spiral of spiritual transformation, and the unity of body, mind, and soul.



The Tree of Life is often depicted with intricate, interwoven branches and roots, sometimes forming a circle. This symbol represents the interconnectedness of all life, the promise of eternal life, and the divine presence in all creation.



Celtic knotwork involves intricate patterns of interlacing lines with no beginning or end. These patterns symbolize eternity, the infinite nature of God's love, and the interconnectedness of all life. The knots also represent the concept of eternal life and the seamless flow of spiritual and earthly existence.

