

Celtic Christianity – An Introduction

‘Celtic’ is a term which has become quite common in modern parlance, and can often be, as J.R.R. Tolkien once said, *‘a magic bag, into which anything may be put, and out of which almost anything may come’*

‘Celtic’, though potentially misleading, *remains a useful term in its inclusivity*, and is generally to be preferred to ‘Irish’, ‘Welsh’, or even ‘insular’, which—though entirely appropriate in many contexts—are too exclusivist... [The use of the term ‘Celtic’] does maintain the principle of an affinity of language, supporting some kind of affinity of culture between the Celtic-speaking areas, reinforced by extensive cultural contact based on close geographical proximity

Oliver Davies – Celtic Spirituality

In Ireland itself, Archbishop James Ussher (1581–1656) was gathering and publishing other materials...while not using the words ‘Celtic Church’, [can be seen as putting the concept into circulation that *in the early medieval period there were distinct churches in these islands, distinct from one another and from Rome.*

Thomas O’Loughlin – Celtic Theology

How do you think that using aspects of our Christian spiritual heritage can help our current and future selves?

What specifically about historic ‘Celtic’ Christianity do you think can benefit the modern church?

What aspects of New Monasticism might be helpful to you in your own walk with God?