A passion for life: fragments of the face of God
Chittister, Joan
Orbis, 1996
291.0922

Here, saints are "reachable figures, who have lived well through situations similar to our own as proof that we too can stretch ourselves to the limits of the best in us"….In them are reflected the many facets of the face of God. The icons presented are male and female, Christian and non-Christian, married and single, religious and lay, from different times and diverse cultures. They are activists and mystics, their holiness recognized by due process, or acclaimed by those who lived in the shadow of their lives. While not without flaws, they are so luminous in their virtues as to be a light for the ages. Chittister presents some of these and encourages us to identify with them, to follow their example. Robert Lentz's stunning icons provide a feast to the eye as well as the soul.

Aboriginal art and spirituality
Crumlin, Rosemary
Collins Dove, 1991
704.03991507494

"Painting has become a powerful vehicle for the transmission of a culture: the myths, stories and practices reverenced by particular groups are encoded in the images in paint on boards and canvases to be revealed in layers to those who can see. This book is about those images, the immediacy of their impact as works of art, their meanings as expression of the deep and abiding spirituality of the Aboriginal peoples. The images, even in reproduction, entice, invite and sometimes confront, for they express a way of life and a value system alien to the Western ones. Yet many are powerful works of art able to stand alongside the great artists expressions of this century."— The collection was drawn from throughout Australia and adjacent islands. The authors are curators and collectors of Aboriginal art.

Angelic Mistakes: the art of Thomas Merton
Lipsy, Roger
New Seeds Press.
2006
769.92

While living as a hermit-monk in dialogue with the world, Merton created a largely unknown body of visual art. …Lipsey analyses the simple and striking images and their significance in Merton's journey, finding resonances with Asian calligraphy and American abstract expressionism, and relates them to the influence of Merton's wide circle of friends, including philosophers, poets, Zen scholars, and artists. But the centerpiece is the art itself, presented as 34 representative pieces that reflect the changing themes and methods of Merton's work. Each is accompanied by selections from his writings from the period when these remarkable images were created.
The Blake Book: Art, Religion and Spirituality in Australia  
Celebrating 60 Years of the Blake Prize  
Crumlin, Rosemary McMillan 2011  
759.994

The Blake Prize for Religious Art has now withstood 60 years of controversy as critics have argued as to what constitutes 'religious art'. Rosemary Crumlin's richly illustrated book traces the changing styles of the thousands of entries to the Prize over six decades. These begin with winners of the prize in the 1950s who modelled their works on examples from Western art history and then extends to the decades when non-objectivity posed problems for those seeking religious imagery, through to the inclusion of Indigenous art and influences stemming from Asia and the Muslim world. This is a profoundly important history of a particular aspect of Australian art.

Christ in the margins: Icons and biographies  
Lentz, Robert  
Orbis, 2003  
270.0922

Those who 'live in the world but are not of it' have something important to tell us about transcending the world. These men and women all live in the margins, and each wears the face of Christ in a unique way. 'Christ in the Margins' features forty Robert Lentz icons and biographies of Christ figures who confound the status quo. Together with Edwina Gateley's lyrical portraits of contemporary men and women who have revealed the Christ-presence to her in the most unlikely places, it is both profoundly spiritual and spiritually profound. Included, along with the likes of St Francis are: Steve Biko, Albert Einstein, Johann Sebastian Bach, J.R.R. Tolkein etc.

Mary in Western Art  
Verdon, Timothy  
Hudson Hills, NY 2000  
232.91

Mary's importance in the spiritual history of Europe is evident, through numerous reflections by Christian thinkers since the fifth century and churches dedicated to her. Periodically, images of the Mother outstrip those of her Son both in quantity and in creative originality. The historical identity of Europe's peoples seems linked to the ways in which they have venerated, imagined, and depicted Mary. Verdon organizes this rich, visual material using thematic and biographical approaches. He shows that direct experience of an individual relationship with Mary, from the viewpoint of religious faith, was what determined artistic representations, without presuming to "explain" individual paintings or sculptures.
The Mystical language of Icons  
Nes, Solrunn  
St Paul's, 2000  
704.9482

In this beautifully illustrated volume the author explains formal motifs found in Orthodox iconography and their function, form and meaning using examples of her own work. She also offers a thorough historical and theological background to the tradition of Orthodox iconography.

The Rublev Trinity: the Icon of the Trinity by the monk painter Andrei Rublev  
Bunge, Gabriel  
St Vladimir's Seminary Press  
2007  
704.9

This is a detailed and comprehensive theological explanation of the icon. In this inspired work, Benedictine Fr Gabriel aims to make the icon's timeless message accessible to the contemporary praying believer. Russian iconographic art, much more than the Romanesque and Gothic sacred art of the West, represents a theological confession of faith. Icon painters were conscious of this responsibility. The monk-painters learned their Orthodox faith through the prayer of the Hours and the Divine Liturgy, through the familiar texts of the hymns and the Gospel readings, and reflected the revelation of God in their art.

The serpent of good and evil: a reconciliation in the life and art of Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann  
Derrington, Patricia.  
Hyland, 2000  
305.4889915

In Christian mythology the serpent is credited with bringing evil and death into the world. In the Creation of Mythology of many Aboriginal societies, the Rainbow Serpent is not only responsible for the creation of the landscape, but is important in regeneration and birth in both animals and humans. A reconciliation of the cultures and spiritualities which produced these opposing beliefs has been central to Miriam-Rose's life and art. Her work reveals the complexity of a philosophy that allows Miriam-Rose to identify with both Aboriginal and Christian spirituality, and indeed fuses them in paint to produce powerful works in a unique style.
Selected Resources for Religious Art (continued)

**Praying in Color**

*book*

**Praying in Color: Kids edition**

*Teaching DVD*

Macbeth, Sybil

Paraclete, 2009

248.32

A joyful, natural, creative way for kids to connect with God. Did you know that you can doodle your thoughts to God? You only need a few minutes, some paper, and crayons or markers. "Our words make great prayers. But words don't always seem to be there when we need them most. Just when we're searching for the ones we want, they go missing. Praying without words is another option. This new prayer form can take as little or as much time as one has or wants to commit. Half of the prayer involves drawing while the other half is transporting the visual memories or actual physical images to help the believer pray throughout the day.

**The Sacred Gaze : religious visual culture in theory and practice**

Berkley, 2005

201.67

'Sacred gaze' denotes any way of seeing that invests its object - with spiritual significance. Drawing from many different fields, Morgan investigates key aspects of vision and imagery in a variety of religious traditions. He explores how viewers respond to religious imagery and how their experience contributes to the social, intellectual, and perceptual construction of reality. Ranging widely from 13th C Japan and 18th C Tibet to contemporary America, Thailand, and Africa, "The Sacred Gaze" discusses the religious functions of images and the tools viewers use to interpret them. ...The opening chapter considers definitions of 'visual culture' and how these relate to the traditional practice of art history.

**Sister Wendy contemplates the Iconic Jesus**

Beckett, Wendy

St Pauls 2011

704.9482

"The Iconic Jesus" introduces the reader to the meaning and significance of iconography. Sr Wendy chose a selection of her favourite icons, from traditional and modern sources, which depict episodes from the life of Christ. We contemplate these icons with her guidance and are drawn into a deeper understanding of the life of Christ and the life He wishes us to live. Sr Wendy does not allow us simply to look. Her commentary complements the artist's work and together they provide inspiration to live a life of service to Christ, the Church and to each other. "The tradition of the icon shows that the artist must be conscious of fulfilling a mission of service to the Church." (Blessed John Paul II).

See also Subjects: *Illuminations, sculpture, stained glass, architecture, sacred space*
Selected Resources for Religious Art (continued)

Catholic Resource & Information Service

**Selected Websites for Religious Art from the RE Database**

**About Art and the Bible**

http://www.artbible.info/art/

This Web site offers pictures of hundreds of famous paintings linked to their corresponding Bible passage - the passage the artist may have read. Information is provided on the paintings. Please note: it is the old King James version of the Bible. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 5-12.

**Al Asqa Mosque**

http://www.360tr.net/kudus/mescidiaksa_eng/index.html

The Al-Aqsa Mosque (also spelled El-Aksa; “Distant Mosque”) is the most important mosque in Jerusalem. Located on the Haram esh-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary) or Temple Mount, it is the third holiest site in Islam after Mecca and Medina. It is the central focus of the Muslim community in Jerusalem, hosting daily prayers and accommodating large crowds for Friday sermons. This 3D tour allows you to explore the Mosque. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 7-12.

**Chartres Cathedral**

http://images.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/i/image/image.idx?sid=f91cb5f8b736d0455ff77033cd07d493;page=index;c=chartres;g=pittic

Chartres Cathedral is among the best preserved of the major French cathedrals, with extensive programmes of sculpture and stained glass. It was a major site of pilgrimage in honour of the Virgin Mary, to whom the cathedral is dedicated. This website provides access to a comprehensive collection of images and detailed descriptions of Chartres Cathedral. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 5-12.

**Balgo - Kutjungka Catholic Parish**


Kutjungka Catholic Parish is composed of four communities: Wirrimanu (Balgo), Malarn (Mulan, Lake Gregory), Kururrungku (Billiluna), Yagga Yagga (Yaka Yaka) with a population of about 1000 people living in the four centres. This site narrates stories from the communities about the integration of desert life and aboriginal spirituality with the Church's liturgy and, through superb photographic displays, shows the beauty of this area, its history and its art. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 5-12

Related link: http://www.balgoart.org.au/about

**Christ in the Desert : Aboriginal Christian Art in Australia**

http://archive.today/PuKf8

Fr. Joseph Schad, SJ, travelled to Australia during the final stage of Jesuit formation. He worked with Christian Life Communities in the Lakes District in Victoria, giving Ignatian retreats in daily life. Toward the end of the year he went to a remote Aboriginal community in the Balgo Hills to record and photograph Aboriginal art in the community's Jesuit church. He videotaped interviews with a number of artists, in which they talked about their paintings and their meanings.
Selected Resources for Religious Art (continued)

Collection of Russian Icons
http://www.sai.msu.su/~util/icons/
A collection of Russian icons on saints. Artwork and visuals make interesting viewing. Suitable for teacher background and for years 11-12.

The Dreamtime
This site from the Aboriginal Australia Art & Culture Centre in Alice Springs has a very comprehensive explanation of the dreamtime with clear diagrams showing inter-relationships very well. Includes artworks and music. Suitable for teacher and student background Yrs 7-10.

Praying with Art
http://www.americamagazine.org/content/slideshows/prayer/index.html
An American online meditation for Lent and Easter, narrated by Karen Sue Smith reflecting on works by Chagall, Manet and Bassano. Suitable for teacher background and yrs 9-12.

Prayer Windows
http://www.prayerwindows.com/
This site, hosted by Jesuit Bob Gilroy, uses creative imagery to express the relationship between God and people of faith. It is an extremely useful teaching resource that includes creative activities that combine prayer with art, an online retreat, as well as a gallery of art for use in teaching about prayer. The creative activities are an excellent entry point in teaching young people about the value of contemplation, meditation and prayer. All of the ideas are easily adaptable for use in the religion classroom. One of these, called Exercising the Imagination, provides students with a variety of short guided meditations. They would prove very useful as models for helping students to develop their own guided meditations. Suitable for teacher or student background. Contains teaching and learning activities. Suitable for years 7-12.

The Peace Meditation
http://www.beliefnet.com/features/peace/test2/container01.html
This peace meditation is inspired by monk, author, and peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh. The Vietnamese Buddhist Zen master worked tirelessly for peace, especially during the Vietnam War. In 1967, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. nominated him for a Nobel Peace Prize. Thich Nhat Hanh argues that unless and until individuals are peaceful within themselves, they cannot work for peace among nations. Note: This feature has audio. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 7-12.

Sacred - an online gallery of Sacred Texts
http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/sacredtexts/sacredthemespage.html
http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/sacredtexts/
The most important and beautiful Jewish, Christian and Muslim books from the British Museum, displayed together for the first time. With the latest version of Shockwave installed you can turn the pages of these beautiful texts and hear them read out loud. In addition, there are videos on how the texts were constructed, teacher notes, interesting articles, and links to other Key Learning Areas. Suitable for teacher or student background. Suitable for years 7-12.
Selected Resources for Religious Art (continued)

Sistine Chapel online
http://www.vatican.va/various/cappelle/sistina_vr/index.html
The Vatican has now placed the Sistine Chapel online in a stunning 360 degree web gallery. Zoom in on every part of Michelangelo’s masterwork. Suitable for teacher or student background for yrs 5-12.

Yarra Healing  http://www.yarrahealing.catholic.edu.au/
The Catholic Education Office Melbourne, as developer of this site, believes that a reconciled Australia will only emerge when the unique perspectives of Indigenous peoples’ understandings of culture, land and spirituality are heard, received and celebrated. This is a great resource, even though it is based on one particular area. It is still interesting, well produced, accessible and has some very good underlying principles and challenges for all of us. Suitable for teacher background. Suitable for student background. Contains teaching and learning activities. Suitable for years 3 - 12

Includes Balgo Art. This website accompanies the Lore of the Land CD-ROM (available at CRIS) and is the result of a co-operative and consultative partnership between Indigenous and non-indigenous people. It offers teachers and students the opportunity to explore and discover the richness of Australia’s history, the beauty of its geography and the voices of its people giving expression to their love of this land we all share and each call home. This is a wonderful resource. It is creative, innovative, so easily accessible to so many levels - middle and upper primary through to adult. Suitable for teacher or student background. Contains teaching and learning activities. Suitable for years 3 - 12

Other links and articles:

Art In The Service of Religion by Dewitt H. Parker, Excerpted from The Principles of Aesthetics
World Spirituality
http://www.worldspirituality.org/art-religion.html#

Aboriginal Religion and Ceremony – Aboriginal Art by David Welch
www.aboriginalculture.com.au

Museums, Galleries, exhibitions art. religion and spirituality intersections and conversations.
St Louis University Museum of Contemporary Religious Art
http://www.slu.edu/mocra/links-and-resources/art-religion-and-spirituality
contains 40+ links