

Special Issue

Religious Architecture and Social Dynamics: Adaptive Reuse, Heritage, Visibility, and Digital Transformation of Sacred Space

Message from the Guest Editor

Religious architecture now stands at the center of major social and spatial transformations. Sacred buildings are being abandoned, repurposed, digitized, contested, and politically negotiated. Churches become cultural centers; mosques become subjects of urban conflict; pilgrimage sites turn into tourist infrastructures; digital platforms reshape religious presence and spatial experience. This Special Issue invites contributions examining these transformations through four lenses: adaptive reuse and desacralization; religious visibility in multicultural cities; contested heritage preservation; and digitally mediated sacred presence. These themes form a timely research agenda at the intersection of sociology of religion, urban studies, heritage studies, and digital humanities. We welcome empirical, theoretical, comparative, and methodological contributions from scholars across disciplines and geographical contexts. Contributions engaging with spatial justice, post-secular urbanism, heritage conflicts, digital mediation, and material religion are especially encouraged. We also welcome collaborative approaches bridging social sciences, humanities, architecture, and urban design.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Marcin Jewdokimow

Institute of Cultural and Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities,
Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, 01-815 Warszawa,
Poland

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Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider *Religions* as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Arndt Büssing

Professorship Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping, Faculty of Health,
Witten/Herdecke University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke,
Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und Christliche Sozialarbeit, Theologische
Fakultät, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Platz der Universität 3, D-
79098 Freiburg, Germany

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indexed within Scopus, AHCI (Web of Science), ATLA Religion Database, Religious and Theological Abstracts, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

CiteScore – Q1 (Religious Studies)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 26.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2026).