

Special Issue

Exploring Hagiography and Monasticism

Message from the Guest Editor

Contributions are invited for a Religions Special Issue exploring the relationship between hagiography and the monastic tradition. Monasteries were the centre-point of the cult of saints as it emerged in medieval Europe, both in the east and west. They created and curated legends of the holy men and women connected with the history of their own foundations and they channelled the devotional currents of the lay communities surrounding them, bringing form, focus and sometimes wider fame to a wide variety of charismatic figures, which found a popular following almost organically.

This subject has always attracted academic scholarship but it is only relatively recently that the vital diachronic, gendered, interdisciplinary and trans-national perspectives have been opened up. This Special Issue aims to feature new and emerging research engaged in these approaches, especially in less well-studied contexts and regions of Europe in the medieval, Reformation and post-Reformation eras, and with the inter-relationship between hagiography in written, material and visual cultures. Original research articles are welcome.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 October 2025)



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About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

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.

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