

Special Issue

Women in the Christian Tradition: Paradigms and Expressions of Religious Life in Early Modern Western Contexts

Message from the Guest Editor

By highlighting the complexity of forms of women's religious life across diverse geographies in the early modern period, and by deepening reflection on the broader theme of women in the Christian tradition, this Special Issue welcomes original research articles and reviews addressing, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Religious configurations and their diversity;
- Paradigms of religious life: active life (charitable work, education, evangelisation, etc.) and contemplative life, intersections between mysticism and apostolate
- The world of strict enclosure: variety and deviations, enclosed orders with apostolic functions, diversity of statutes, community composition, and the presence of laywomen within the enclosure;
- Positions and discourses of ecclesiastical authority regarding forms of religious life;
- Spiritual lineages, models of sanctity, and devotional, liturgical, and cultural practices;
- Architecture and material culture: the monastic model and its multiple interpretations;
- Religious women in the colonial world and the reinterpretation of the Tridentine model.

Guest Editor

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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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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).