

Special Issue

“Relationship Status: It’s Complicated.” Media-Based Forms of Participation in Religious Practices

Message from the Guest Editors

Given the global pandemic, rules of the lockdown directly concerned the possibility of taking part in religious practices in temples of all religions and confessions. One can risk the claim that in the COVID-19 era, virtual participation in masses and services was the only guarantee of maintaining the relationship between an institutionalised religion and its practitioners. By choosing the safety of the faithful, the Hierarchs gave them a dispensation and encouraged them to actively participate in the celebration, to be disseminated by traditional and Internet media. Meanwhile, Pope Francis called for an impermanence to this virtual participation. It is worthwhile to reflect on the future of media-based participation in the services, perhaps also for other religious practices. dia, especially the Internet, will become widespread (even against the expectations of Hierarchs) or will return to its former form. In the context of the technological and social changes that we are witnessing, it is a question not only about the form of participation in the service or other practices, but also about opening up institutions and believers to the world, accepting and adapting changes.

Guest Editors

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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.

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