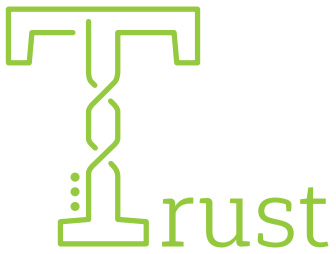


THE
Celtic Way
DIGITAL PILGRIMAGE JOURNAL



Part 3



BRANCH 1



Visio Divina

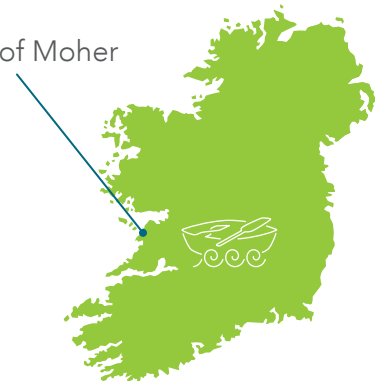


Brendan

HIS VOYAGE

Brendan set sail in a small rudderless boat with only the waves, wind, and will of God to lead him. Wherever God brought him, he preached the gospel and established monastic communities.

Cliffs of Moher



VISIO DIVINA REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a few deep breaths. Let your eyes move through the painting. What catches your eye? Focus on that portion of the work and sit with it for a minute.

Breathe in and out and let your body and mind slow down. Invite the Lord to speak to you about what you see.

What feelings does this painting evoke?

How do you see the Spirit at work in the midst of Brendan's journey? What inspires or challenges you as you consider Brendan's posture here?

What kind of prayer rises from within you as you ponder this work?

As you consider what is before you, what are some things you tend to cling to for security and direction?

Is there anything God is asking you to relinquish about your future?

What would it look like for you to have the same kind of openhanded posture of surrender Brendan has here?



Field Notes

We invite you to experience the Celtic Way with your whole self. When we tune into our breath and all of our senses, we can become more present to our bodies, our surroundings, and to God. Use the space below to write or draw anything that you would like to remember about your walk. For example, what did you see, hear, smell, touch, taste?





Luke 5:1-11

¹ One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people."

¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.



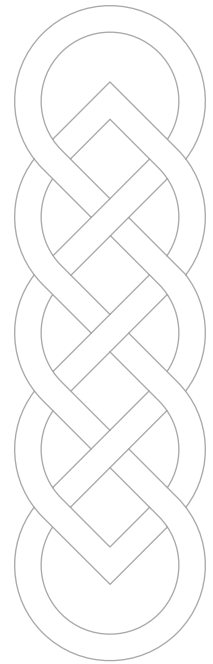
salm 107:1-3, 23-32

THE MESSAGE VERSION

¹⁻³ Oh, thank God—he’s so good!
His love never runs out.
All of you set free by God, tell the world!
Tell how he freed you from oppression,
Then rounded you up from all over the place,
from the four winds, from the seven seas.

...

²³⁻³² Some of you set sail in big ships;
you put to sea to do business in faraway ports.
Out at sea you saw God in action,
saw his breathtaking ways with the ocean:
With a word he called up the wind—
an ocean storm, towering waves!
You shot high in the sky, then the bottom dropped out;
your hearts were stuck in your throats.
You were spun like a top, you reeled like a drunk,
you didn’t know which end was up.
Then you called out to God in your desperate condition;
he got you out in the nick of time.
He quieted the wind down to a whisper,
put a muzzle on all the big waves.
And you were so glad when the storm died down,
and he led you safely back to harbor.
So thank God for his marvelous love,
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves.
Lift high your praises when the people assemble,
shout Hallelujah when the elders meet!



He
led you
safely



Illuminate a Psalm

Underline, circle, or note anything that stood out to you in this psalm. Are there any images that are particularly resonant?

Choose a word, phrase, or verse from the psalm to creatively copy below; you might handletter it, add color or other artistic elements, or even draw images instead of using words.



St. Brendan's Prayer

ASCRIBED TO BRENDAN BEFORE SAILING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Shall I abandon, O King of mysteries,
the soft comforts of home?

Shall I turn my back on my native land,
and turn my face towards the sea?

Shall I put myself wholly at your mercy,
without silver, without a horse, without fame, without honour?

Shall I throw myself wholly upon you,
without sword and shield, without food and drink, without a bed to lie on?

Shall I say farewell to my beautiful land,
placing myself under your yoke?

Shall I pour out my heart to you,
confessing my manifold sins and begging forgiveness,
tears streaming down my cheeks?

Shall I leave the prints of my knees on the sandy beach,
a record of my final prayer in my native land?

Shall I then suffer every kind of wound that the sea can inflict?

Shall I take my tiny boat across the wide sparkling ocean?

O King of the Glorious Heaven,
shall I go of my own choice upon the sea?

O Christ, will You help me on the wild waves?

A Prayer of St. Brendan

CELTIC DAILY PRAYERS FROM THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY

Christ of the mysteries, can I trust You
to be stronger than each storm in me?
Do I still yearn for Your glory to lighten on me?
I will show others the care You've given me.
I determine amidst all uncertainty always to trust.
I choose to live beyond regret,
and let You recreate my life.
I believe You will make a way for me
and provide for me,
if only I trust You and obey.
I will trust in the darkness and know
that my times are still in Your hand.
I will believe You for my future,
chapter by chapter, until all the story is written.
Focus my mind and my heart upon You,
my attention always on You without alteration.
Strengthen me with Your blessing
and appoint to me the task.
Teach me to live with eternity in view.
Tune my spirit to the music of heaven.
Feed me,
and, somehow,
make my obedience count for You.

● ● ●
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REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Is there a way that Jesus is asking you to trust him and put out into deep water like Simon, or launch your boat like Brendan?

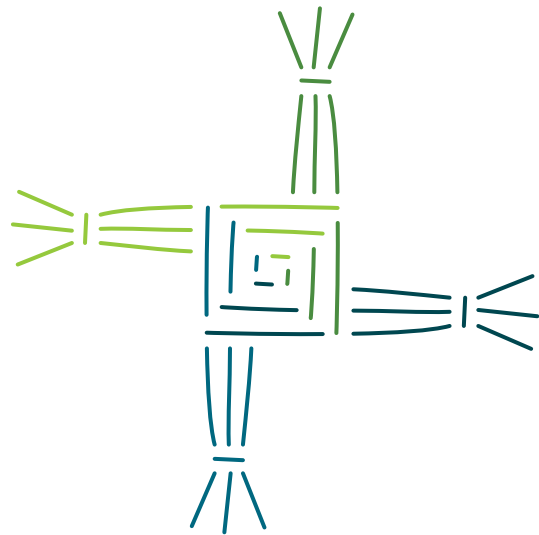
Is there anything that you are holding in your grip that keeps you from saying “yes” to the next thing that God has for you? Can you imagine releasing it in trust?

What partners or companions are with you on your journey?

What is exciting about trusting Jesus in your current circumstances? What’s difficult?

Resurrection

BRANCH 2



Visio Divina

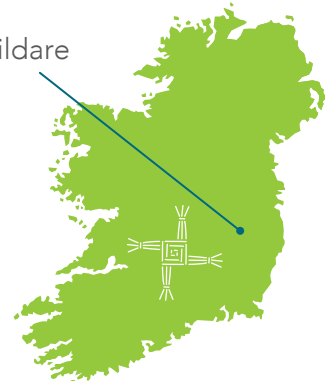


Brigid

HER CLOAK & CROSS

Brigid miraculously spread her cloak for miles to secure land as a safe haven for all kinds of people and animals. She ministered to a dying man, weaving reeds into a cross to share the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. She led a community that embodied shalom and a life woven together in the cross of Christ.

Kildare



VISIO DIVINA REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a few deep breaths. Let your eyes move through the painting. What catches your eye? Focus on that portion of the work and sit with it for a minute.

Breathe in and out and let your body and mind slow down. Invite the Lord to speak to you about what you see.

What feelings does this painting evoke?

What do you notice about how the Spirit is at work in this painting?

How do you see God's shalom present in the diverse community at home in her cloak?

What kind of prayer rises from within you as you ponder this work?

How does this painting and Brigid's story challenge you to live in community with others? Are there any relationships that need to be made right? Or people groups you tend to avoid, that God is challenging you to welcome and love?



Field Notes

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Luke 24:1-12

¹ On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

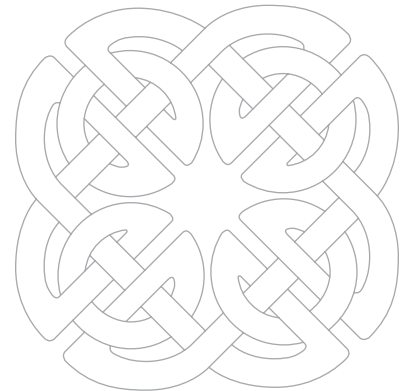
⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.



salm 16

- ¹ Keep me safe, my God,
for in you I take refuge.
- ² I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."
- ³ I say of the holy people who are in the land,
"They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."
- ⁴ Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods
or take up their names on my lips.
- ⁵ Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
- ⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- ⁷ I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
- ⁸ I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
- ¹⁰ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
- ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.



Fill me
○ with
JOY
in your
presence



Illuminate a Psalm

Underline, circle, or note anything that stood out to you in this psalm. Are there any images that are particularly resonant?

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● ● ● REFLECTION QUESTIONS

● Where in your life are you experiencing disappointment, grief, or anguish? What are the places of death that need resurrection in your life?

How is Jesus inviting you into hope and prayer as you wait for him to bring healing and restoration to unfinished or difficult strands of your story?

Where is there desolation in your community, society, field of study or work? How might God invite you to seek shalom there and carry life and resurrection into those places of desolation?



Iconic Moments

- You've likely heard the saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words." In certain religious traditions, icons are those pictures. People who paint icons are actually called writers, and they are said to write icons because the icons can visually convey complicated and numerous insights into Jesus and the kingdom of God. So, when you look at an icon, you are actually reading it.

The Holy Spirit is the Great Writer and is writing icons in your life all the time. Iconic moments can come in many forms, from intense to mundane. It's up to us to look for them and read them. Take time now to identify three iconic moments that the Great Writer wrote for you over the past year.

In the blank space, you can write a few key words, or draw a sample image, or paste in a photo that encapsulates what God was doing in that scene.