# Christian Spirit





## Winner of the 2004 Midwestern Independent Publisher's Association Award



*Christian Spirit* is both a source of inspiration and a source for meditation. It inspires with wonderful images of early Christian art and feeds meditation through the words and wisdom of great Christian souls from the earliest times.

These powerful words and pictures combine to make it a unique quote book. These pages can be experienced in a way that helps us renew within ourselves the spirit which has illumined the efforts of Christian seekers for many centuries.

What is Christian Spirit?

- It is an inspirational quote book that is meant to be carried in a pocket or placed on a bedside table.
- Christian Spirit is filled with over 150 pages of short quotes from great Christian men and women.
- The quotes are taken from the earliest sources of Christian spirituality and thought.



- The stunningly beautiful imagery is taken from pre-modern sources.
- The overall book is intended to be non-denominational and appealing to all.
- *Christian Spirit* is inspiring and thought-provoking for both Christians and those of other faiths.
- \* The experience of reading *Christian Spirit* is meant to be carried in our hearts and minds.



## A Few Words From the Introduction:

"....In today's technological world we often lose our connection with anything of sacred value that can provide a balance for the disequilibriating factors that we encounter on a daily basis. It is our hope that the insights provided in *Christian Spirit*, both through the words of these great sages and through sacred art from over a millennium of Christianity, will help each of us to better understand the sacred spirit that dwells within every person."

-Michael Oren Fitzgerald



## What Others Have Said About Christian Spirit

"This beautifully illustrated book shows the reader where all the Christian denominations could find their unity: in sacred art and in spiritual depth. It is indeed the same spirit which runs through the diversity of forms. It shows that the Christian heritage still shines today in its sacred art." —Jean-Pierre LaFouge – Marquette University

"This is a beautiful book that captures the nobility of the human spirit in pursuit of God. Writings from great spiritual teachers throughout the ages shine like jewels on every page. This book is a worthwhile treasure for those who seek the pearl of great price."

**– Sr. Ilia Delio, O.S.F.** - Washington Theological Union, author of *Crucified Love: Bonaventure's Mysticism of the Crucified Christ* 

"The goal of this splendid book is to provide a taste of both the spiritual wisdom and sacred art (iconography) of Christianity during the first 1500 years of its existence. Another goal is to present on almost every page stunningly beautiful works of art in color...that embody the spiritual vision of Christianity. Combining exquisite art and short quotes from the Church Fathers...make this volume a spiritual gem of inspiration for daily meditation. Makes a superb gift. "

#### -Light and Life Publishing

"Each of these profound quotations and each of these wonderful images take us back centuries in time; they also take us to the very heart of what matters in the world. Readers should dwell on them. Meditating on just one of these every morning will add depth to each day."

- Rev. Dr. John Chryssavgis, author of *In the Heart of the Desert* 

"This delightful, pocket-sized book lends itself to becoming a companion for the thoughtful religious person on his or her journey through a secular world. As nourishing to the eye as to the intellect, it offers carefully selected insights from writers from the earliest Christian era to the Middle Ages, from Syria, Alexandria, Lyons, Assisi and Norwich, to name but a few of the homes of these spiritual giants. The text is beautifully juxtaposed to inspirational illustrations, all breathtakingly beautiful, be they of mosaics, manuscripts or appropriately sepia-tinted photographs of classic monastic sites."

**—Hannah Hunt**, independent scholar working in Patristics and Early Church history in universities throughout England

"A copy of this beautiful little book should be in every home. Offering after offering overwhelms us with consciousness of Heaven's generosity to Christianity in the way of sacred art, whether it be the art of the icon, the art of book illumination or the marvels of Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic architecture." — Martin Lings, author of Ancient Beliefs and Modern Superstitions and The Sacred Art of Shakespeare: To Take upon Us the Mystery of Things

## What Others Have Said about Michael Oren Fitzgerald's Works:

*"Indian Spirit* is a wonderful book, containing not only beautiful photographs of Native Americans but also significant examples of their eloquent words of wisdom. Michael O. Fitzgerald and World Wisdom are to be commended for this inspiring publication."

-Raymond Wilson, Fort Hays State University

*"Light on the Indian World* is a fascinating, engaging, informative and memorable addition to personal, academic, and community libraries, Native American Studies supplemental reading lists and academic reference collections. *Five Stars."* (highest rating)

#### -Midwest Book Review

"Authentic and conveying the character of Yellowtail's voice."

-Publishers Weekly on Yellowtail, Crow Medicine Man and Sun Dance Chief

"I find this work to be one of the most precious documents on Native American religions and spirituality in its universal dimension. The book vibrates with the authenticity of its source."

-Seyyed Hossein Nasr, author and scholar, on Yellowtail, Crow Medicine Man and Sun Dance Chief

"[This] is a book that affirms human dignity and nobility and our common spiritual purpose as human beings; it is a book to share and to take heart, and it takes its place next to the other classics."

-Parabola Magazine on Yellowtail, Crow Medicine Man and Sun Dance Chief

## What are other publication details of Christian Spirit?

- Christian Spirit includes over 70 color photographs of beautiful Christian sacred places and objects and over 100 color images of calligraphies and illustrations.
- The book was published in October 2004 and has a price of \$14.95.



## About the co-editor, Michael Oren Fitzgerald



Michael Fitzgerald has written and edited numerous publications on world religions, predominantly American Indian spirituality. Fitzgerald has taught Religious Traditions of the North American Indians in the Indiana University Continuing Studies Department at Bloomington, Indiana. He is a licensed attorney and holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence, cum laude, from Indiana University. Michael is an adopted son of the late Thomas Yellowtail, one of the most honored American Indian spiritual leaders of the last century, and was also adopted into the Crow tribe by Yellowtail. Michael and his wife, Judith, have attended sacred rites of many American Indian tribes and have spent extended periods of time visiting traditional cultures and attending sacred ceremonies throughout the world. They have an adult son and live in Bloomington, Indiana.

## About the co-editor and designer, Judith Fitzgerald

Readers of *Christian Spirit* will immediately see that this book represents a masterpiece of design. Judith Fitzgerald, who is also co-editor, is the primary designer of *Christian Spirit*. She is a graduate of Indiana University. Judy is an artisan, a calligrapher, and a graphic designer. She has collaborated with her husband, Michael Oren Fitzgerald, on the successful inspirational quote books, *Indian Spirit*, and *The Sermon of All Creation* as well as the forthcoming *The Spirit of Indian Women* and *The Universal Spirit of Islam*.





### Previous books edited by Michael Oren Fitzgerald

- Yellowtail, Crow Medicine Man and Sun Dance Chief (University of Oklahoma Press, 1994)
- Light on the Indian World: The Essential Writings of Charles Eastman (World Wisdom, 2002)
- Indian Spirit (World Wisdom, 2003)
- The Sermon of All Creation: Christians on Nature (World Wisdom, 2005)
- The Spirit of Indian Women (World Wisdom, 2005) Forthcoming
- The Universal Spirit of Islam (World Wisdom, 2006) Forthcoming