

## **Some Fundamental Dimensions of Early Celtic Christian Spirituality**

Although it is accurate to say that there was never an autonomous “Celtic Church” in relation to early Rome-centered Christianity, there certainly were common aspects of Christian life shared by Celtic-speaking Christians in different areas. These fundamental dimensions of Christian living were not the product of an organized pattern of piety and ecclesial structure. They were present in different locations because Celtic-speaking Christians shared a common cultural, religious, and societal background. These influences, along with common practices of Christians shared by other Christians throughout the Mediterranean world at that time, formed their unique spirituality. There were distinct dimensions shared by all Celtic-speaking Christians:

- **The values of community:**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **An emphasis on conversion of life:**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **An emphasis on the reality of God’s nature as Trinity:**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **God’s relationship with creation is incarnational:**

- **An emphasis on penance and repentance:**
  
- **Human life is a dynamic reality that includes body and soul:**
  
- **Celtic-speaking Christians were aware of the dark side of life with its suffering, injustice, random dangers, and defeat:**
  
- **Celtic Christians were Christ-centered in their piety and their awareness that Christ is the one who is the source of their power for living:**
  
- **Centrality of the Bible:**
  
- **Peregrinatio pro amore Christi** (evangelization and pilgrimage):