



## Worship Without Words: The Signs and Symbols of Our Faith, Expanded Edition

By Patricia S. Klein



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The perfect resource to explain christian church symbolism. If you are new to liturgical worship, through conversion or rediscovery, you may find yourself surrounded by images and traditions that are totally foreign to your experience of church. This thorough guide uses understandable language to explain the signs, symbols, gestures, vestments, calendar, and architectural and sacramental elements of the liturgy. With clarity and insight, Patricia Klein explores the meaning of these time-honored traditions, as well as their historical and biblical roots. New to this edition are expanded sections on liturgical colors, pre-Lenten traditions, the Last Things, saints' feast days, and symbols of Easter, martyrdom, saints, and the Virgin Mary; as well as entirely new sections on symbols of sin and temptation, and Old Testament saints and their symbols in art and architecture.

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Patricia Klein has put together an immensely useful handbook for all elements of Christian worship. Using drawings, definitions, and brief historical explanations, she maps out the large landscape of liturgy with clarity and brevity. Chapter 1, for example, moves from the most obvious starting point (the church building itself, including explanations of the terms cathedral, basilica, and oratory) through monastic architecture, the interior and exterior spaces (buttress, cloister, apse, chancel) and then into church furnishings (ambo--"a raised desk from which the Gospels or Epistles were read or chanted") and liturgical furnishings (processional cross, alms basin). Subsequent chapters explore the altar, the cross, the liturgical year, liturgical worship, music, sacraments, vestments, as well as church dogma (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed). A delightful book for browsing and reference, it can get positively addictive for anyone with an interest in the outer forms of the inner faith. --*Doug Thorpe*

#### From [Booklist](#)

The Christian church has amassed a dauntingly large vocabulary over the millennia. Or should one say vocabularies? Klein's classified dictionary of church terminology contains many pictures of physical artifacts, from church floor plans to symbols of the faith, as well as words. Thus, it defines both verbal and visual signs; hence, *vocabularies*. The emphasis is on signs that originate in Roman Catholicism, which, after all, predates Orthodoxy and Protestantism. Each of 12 chapters deals with a different set of terms. The first, "Sacred Places, Sacred Spaces," contains architectural and furnishing terms. Subsequent chapters focus on physical features (the altar, vestments), public and private worship, the sacraments, church offices, the liturgical year, and the words of belief. Each chapter is appropriately subdivided, with the index providing a complete alphabet of defined terms. Interestingly, Klein has low-church roots but believes knowing the names of the old ways removes practical barriers between varying Christians and enables them "to lose [themselves] in the Presence of God"--that is, to truly worship. Consider reference as well as circulating copies. *Ray Olson*

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#### Review

Now in an expanded second edition, *Worship Without Words: The Signs and Symbols of Our Faith* is a solid quick-reference guide to terms, symbols, clothing, titles, and more used in Christian liturgical worship. From dictionary-like sections that spell out definitions with visual aid from simple black-and-white-pictures, to the cycles and holidays of the liturgical year, to lessons and books of worship, the concept of the body of Christ, vestments, and more, *Worship Without Words* is an excellent primer for anyone new to liturgical worship whether through conversion or rediscovery. A reader-friendly, highly accessible resource. Also highly recommended is author Patricia S. Klein's "A Year With C.S. Lewis." *Midwest Book Review* July 2007

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#### Robert Arnett:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading

practice give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want truly feel happy read one along with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. Typically the *Worship Without Words: The Signs and Symbols of Our Faith, Expanded Edition* is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

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### **Isidro Wells:**

*Worship Without Words: The Signs and Symbols of Our Faith, Expanded Edition* can be one of your basic books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing *Worship Without Words: The Signs and Symbols of Our Faith, Expanded Edition* nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource data that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into new stage of crucial thinking.

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