"Empty Religion: Islam and Christianity's Common Peril"

Whatever we call it --- mysticism, devotion, piety --- the esoteric dimension of religion has always been in a tense yet creative relationship with exoteric observance in the three great monotheistic religions of the west. Recent developments in Christianity and Islam, however, have served to marginalize or even eliminate the concern for personal transformation. The result is to make spirituality superficial and to make religion little more than a form of politics, in uneven competition with secular rivals.


The FLANNERY CHAIR OF ROMAN CATHOLIC THEOLOGY is an endowed Chair gift of the late Maud and Milo Flannery of Spokane, to further excellence of theological study and teaching at Gonzaga University. The Flannery Lecture is delivered each year by the outstanding theologian who holds the Chair and is prepared and presented to benefit as wide an audience as possible.

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