



# THE MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW

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## The Christian Studies Shelf

Newman and Life in the Spirit  
John R. Connolly & Brian W. Hughes, editors  
Fortress Press  
P.O. Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209  
<http://fortresspress.com>  
9781451472530, \$35.00, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

John Henry Newman (21 February 1801 - 11 August 1890) was an important figure in the religious history of England in the 19th century. Originally an evangelical Oxford academic and priest in the Church of England, Newman was a leader in the Oxford Movement. This influential grouping of Anglicans wished to return the Church of England to many Catholic beliefs and forms of worship traditional in the medieval times to restore ritual expression. In 1845 Newman left the Church of England and was received into the Roman Catholic Church where he was eventually granted the rank of cardinal by Pope Leo XIII. He was instrumental in the founding of the Catholic University of Ireland, which evolved into University College, Dublin, today the largest university in Ireland. Newman's beatification was officially proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI on 19 September 2010 during his visit to the United Kingdom. His canonization is dependent on the documentation of

additional miracles. Newman was also a literary figure of note: his major writings including his autobiography *Apologia Pro Vita Sua* (1865 - 66), the *Grammar of Assent* (1870), and the poem *The Dream of Gerontius* (1865), which was set to music in 1900 by Edward Elgar as an oratorio. He wrote the popular hymns "Lead, Kindly Light" and "Praise to the Holiest in the Height" (taken from *Gerontius*). Collaboratively compiled and co-edited by John R. Connolly (Professor Emeritus of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California) and Brian W. Hughes (Associate professor and Chair of Theology, University of Saint Mary, Leavenworth, Kansas), "Newman and Life in the Spirit: Theological Reflections on Spirituality for Today" is a 192 page compendium comprised of ten major essays by outstanding scholars and theologians on the work and thought of Cardinal Newman. A very highly recommended contribution to pastoral, seminary, and academic library Christian Studies reference collections, it should be noted the "Newman and Life in the Spirit: Theological Reflections on Spirituality for Today" is also available in a Kindle edition (\$19.24).