

Book Reviews

Andrew Wingate

Celebrating Difference, Staying Faithful

How to Live in a Multi-Faith World

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The author of this useful book is the Bishop of Leicester's Advisor in Inter-Faith Relations. It addresses the problems Christians may have about people of other faiths. It would be useful for parish groups to use as well as for individuals. There are no clear answers, but plenty of material for reflection. It explains Hinduism, Islam, and other 'world' religions in terms that anyone can follow, and gives us questions at the end of each section, all to aid our understanding of fellow-citizens, and anticipates what our reactions might be.

The author is well informed and an enthusiastic promoter of dialogue between members of various faith communities. He is not afraid to point to similarities as well as to differences of view point.

If any reader of franciscan has not yet embarked on the adventure of learning what others faiths are about, this book is a very good start. Wingate does not talk down to anyone, but gently leads us to consider pastoral problems and opportunities, social issues, and whether we can pray together with, say, Hindus or Muslims. The book is a must for anyone who tries to work out the implications of living near, with or among people of other religions. Its simplicity is a real mark of the author's pastoral insight and his informed passion for dialogue.

Thomas Anthony SSF