

TALKING TO GOD:
PORTRAIT OF A WORLD AT PRAYER

About the Editor

John Gattuso is the editor of Stone Creek Publications, a publisher and packager of illustrated books and creative nonfiction. His most recent books include the award-winning *Shadow Boxers: Sweat, Sacrifice & the Will to Survive in American Boxing Gyms* and numerous illustrated guides for bird watchers, hikers, kayakers, astronomers, scuba divers, and other travelers with special interests.

About the Writers

Karen Armstrong is the author of several best-selling books, including *The Battle for God*, *The History of God*, and *Through the Narrow Gate*, a memoir of her seven years as a Catholic nun.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists and Tibet's political leader-in-exile. His many books include *An Open Heart*, *The Art of Happiness*, and *Freedom in Exile*. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, His Holiness is recognized as one of the world's preeminent spiritual leaders.

Mohandas K. Gandhi led India's movement for independence from Great Britain. His practice of nonviolent protest has influenced struggles for civil rights and independence worldwide.

Zen master and peace activist **Thich Nhat Hanh** was nominated for the Nobel Prize by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1967. His books include *Peace Is Every Step*, *Living Buddha*, *Living Christ*, *The Miracle of Mindfulness*, and *The Energy of Prayer*.

Jack Kornfield was trained as a Buddhist monk in Thailand, Burma, and India and is a co-founder of the Insight Meditation Society and Spirit Rock Center. His books include *A Path with Heart*, *Seeking the Heart of Wisdom*, and *After the Ecstasy, the Laundry*.

Rabbi Harold Kushner is the best-selling author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* and *Living a Life That Matters*.

Regarded as one of the most influential Christian thinkers of the 20th century, **C. S. Lewis** was the author of a wide range of books, including the beloved children's series *The Chronicles of Narnia* and such religion titles as *Mere Christianity*, *Christian Reflections*, and *The Screwtape Letters*.

Thomas Merton, who became a Trappist monk in the Cistercian Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, was the author of more than 40 books, including *New Seeds of Contemplation*, *No Man Is an Island*, and *The Seven Storey Mountain*. He is acknowledged as one of the foremost spiritual thinkers of the 20th century.

Thomas Moore is a former Catholic monk and author of the best-selling *Care of the Soul* and *The Soul's Religion*.

Seyyed Hossein Nasr, an expert on Islamic science and spirituality, is University Professor of Islamic Studies at George Washington University. Professor Nasr is the author of numerous books, including *Man and Nature: The Spiritual Crisis in Modern Man*, *Religion and the Order of Nature*, and *Knowledge and the Sacred*.

Kathleen Norris is the author of *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography*, *The Cloister Walk*, and *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*.

John Paul II, born Karol Józef Wojtyła, was elected Pope in 1978. His pontificate lasted nearly 27 years, one of the longest and most influential in the history of the Church.

Huston Smith is Professor of Religion and Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Philosophy,

Emeritus, at Syracuse University. Holder of twelve honorary degrees, his many books include *The World's Religions*, which has sold more than 2½ million copies, and *Why Religion Matters*, which won the 2002 Wilbur Award for the best book on religion. In 1996 Bill Moyers devoted a PBS special, “The Wisdom of Faith with Huston Smith,” to his life and work.

David Steindl-Rast is a Benedictine monk and advocate of contemplative prayer. He is the author of numerous books, including *A Listening Heart*, *Gratefulness: The Heart of Prayer*, and *Music of Silence*. Brother David serves a worldwide Network for Grateful Living through www.gratefulness.org.

Phyllis Tickle is the former Contributing Editor in Religion to *Publishers Weekly* and author of some two dozen books, including *God-Talk in America*, *Prayer Is a Place: America's Spiritual Landscape Observed*, and *The Divine Hours* trilogy.

Desmond Tutu is the former Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, and recipient of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize. Collections of his speeches, sermons, and other writings include *Crying in the Wilderness*, *The Rainbow People of God*, and *God Has a Dream*.

Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, **Elie Wiesel** is the author of more than forty books, including *Against Silence*, *Souls on Fire*, and the Holocaust memoir *Night*. He is the founder, with his wife Marion, of The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.

Michael Wolfe is an author and film producer. His books include *The Hadj*, *One Thousand Roads to Mecca*, and *Taking Back Islam*. His film *Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet* was broadcast on PBS in 2002. He is a columnist for Beliefnet.com.

Carol Zaleski is Professor of Religion at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, and co-author of *Prayer: A History*.

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