

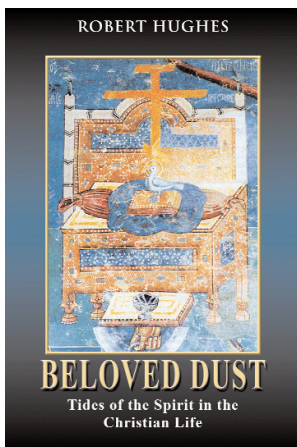
Beloved Dust

Tides of the Spirit in the Christian Life

Robert Davis Hughes III



Winner of the 2010 Poullart Libermann Award in Pneumatology



"The author offers a spirituality in which love of God and love of earth are not merely compatible but intertwine. This is an important contribution to a renewed spiritual theology." - Catholic Library World

There has been an explosion of interest in classical Christian spirituality over the past 50 years. Nevertheless, while a great deal of work has been done on the history of Christian spirituality, there has been no full-scale, systematic theological and pastoral treatment of Christian spiritual life since before the Second Vatican Council.

Beloved Dust takes a realistic and contemporary view of human being as entirely physical (dust) and then shows it immersed in three great tides of the Holy Spirit, the traditional threefold rhythm of conversion, transfiguration, and glory. What is unique about Robert Hughes's approach, among other things, is the effort to root spiritual theology in the doctrine of the Spirit, an outgrowth of the renewed interest in the Trinity among both Catholics (Karl Rahner) and Protestants (Robert Jenson). Also striking is Hughes's emphasis on "ordinary life"—marriage, parenting, etc. Here as a married Episcopal priest/theologian who brings a distinctly "Protestant" perspective to a traditionally "Catholic" enterprise for so long the preserve of celibate priests. What he achieves is an entirely new presentation of the traditional teaching in the light of contemporary knowledge and practice.

Robert D. Hughes, III, is Norma and Olan Mills Professor of Divinity and Professor of Systematic Theology in the School of Theology of The University of the South, where he has taught since 1977. Author of numerous articles appearing in journals such as the *Anglican Theological Review*, the *Sewanee Theological Review*, and the *St. Luke's Journal of Theology*, he also wrote "The Holy Spirit in Christian Spirituality" for *The Blackwell Companion to Christian Spirituality* (2005).

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