

WALKING THE LABYRINTH

Another New Age gimmick is walking the labyrinth. This practice is being done in retreat centers, some churches, gardens, and even hospitals. The labyrinth is the design of a maze, usually on the floor of a building, that is supposedly used as a “spiritual tool”. A person is supposed to walk the labyrinth to the center where he or she is supposed to reach the center of his/her being to meet the god or goddess within.

A well known labyrinth, called Veriditas, is based out of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, California. It is led by Lauren Artress, an Episcopal priest. This is the diocese of Bishop Swing, who allows Fr. Matthew Fox to do rave masses at the same Cathedral. (Fr. Fox is a former Catholic priest who promoted the New Age concept of the Cosmic Christ) The Veriditas project promotes walking through labyrinths as a transformative spiritual experience. They believe it is a way for all to find healing, self-knowledge and soul assignments and to continue weaving the Web of Creation. Artress led a Labyrinth workshop, “Sacred Circles: a Celebration of Women’s Spirituality” at the Episcopal National Cathedral in July, 1996. Artress also claims that over a million people have walked the labyrinth at Grace Cathedral alone.

The Labyrinth Project has been on the Peter Jennings ABC News, and on the front page of the New York Times. and even been taped for the ‘Remembering the Spirit’ segment for Oprah” (From “Imagine...”, Source, (newsletter of the Labyrinth Project) no. 8, Fall 1998, p. 12)

This information is taken from “The New Age movement in the Episcopal Church” by Lee Penn. (<http://fatima.freehosting.net/Articles/Art7.htm>)