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Book on Mysticism Wins Two First Place Awards for Australian Author

Australian author and BBI - The Australian Institute of Theological Education (BBI-TAITE) Presentation Sisters lecturer Dr Michelle Jones has received two first place awards for her book *Ruth Burrows: Essential Writings* (Orbis Books). The book was recently awarded First Place (Spirituality) in the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada Book Awards. This distinction follows upon the announcement in June that the book took First Place (Spirituality) in the Association of Catholic Publishers 2020 “Excellence in Publishing Awards.”

Ruth Burrows is the pen name of Sister Rachel, OCD, a nun of the Carmelite monastery in Quidenham, England, and the author of more than a dozen books on prayer and the mystical life. Describing the ruling insight that runs throughout all her writings, Burrows says: “God offers himself in total love to each one of us. Our part is to open our hearts to receive the gift.”

Jones has oriented *Ruth Burrows: Essential Writings* around that insight. The book begins with Burrows’ revealing account of her own personal discovery of the gift of God’s love, as she came to realise that her interior poverty is the very place where Jesus dwells and expresses his self-emptying “Yes” to the Father’s outpoured love. It then goes on to explore Burrows’ depiction of the spiritual life as a process of becoming, in Jesus, increasingly receptive to the inundation of God’s love.

Michelle Jones is a consecrated woman affiliated with the Quidenham Carmel. She lives a life of prayer in rural Western Australia, while lecturing online with BBI-TAITE.



Sr Ruth Burrows & Dr Michelle Jones

Ruth Burrows: Essential Writings is available in Australia through Garratt Publishing.