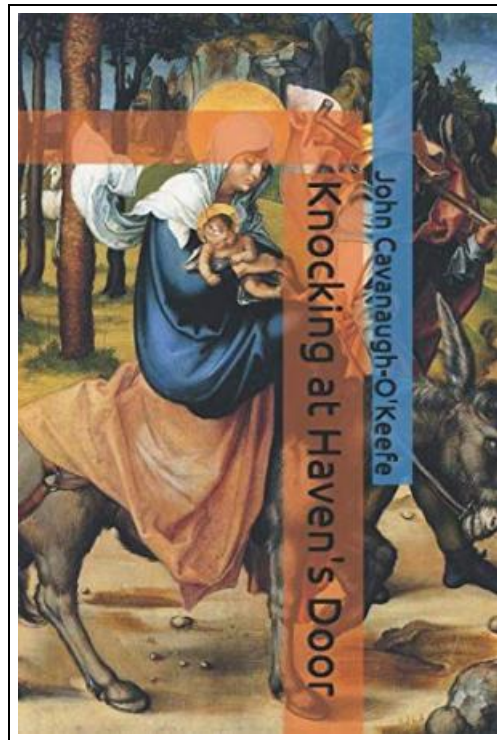


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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. Knocking at Haven's Gate describes four paradigms of hospitality in Scripture and Tradition. In our time, hospitality often seems to be a mere decoration, but historically it has been a value comparable to justice and truth. So recovering some sense of what our forebears thought about it matters. The book explores five questions. First, and most important: when Jesus spoke of "strangers," what did that word mean? Welcome them, he said, and you will be welcomed into the kingdom of God; or don't, and depart into regions of fire. That's pretty clear, but what's a "stranger"? A homeless man? Whoever knocks? An immigrant? The answer to what Jesus meant when he spoke of strangers must be in the culture in which he spoke - in the Old Testament. A: The teaching about strangers in the Old Testament is clear, forceful, and abundant. A stranger is whatever the Jews were when they were in Egypt. The word includes immigrants. Second, if the teaching about welcoming strangers is clear, forceful, and abundant in the Old Testament, it must show up in the New Testament as well. If not, I was projecting my own ideas into Scripture. So: is it there? A: The teaching about hospitality is indeed all over the New Testament. But much of it depends on a familiarity with the teaching in the Old Testament. For example, the Last Supper was foreshadowed by the First Feast, Abraham's hospitality to celestial strangers at Mamre. Third, if the teaching about hospitality is all over Scripture, both Old and New Testaments, it must be reflected in the life and teaching of the Church. If not, I was cherry-picking. So: is it there too? A: Hospitality is indeed a central value in the life and teaching...

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