How has seeing Holy Places in Ireland deepened your Spiritual Life?

We arrived in Dublin, Ireland around 10am, three hours late after plane delays. I had been during the flight and had not slept at all. I was anxious, slightly Ill, and almost delirious from exhaustion but pushed though because we were already headed to our first sacred space of the day: Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

I was not, in any way shape or form ready to handle the awe and splendor Saint Patrick's Cathedral had to offer. After making a beeline to the restroom I proceeded to look for a quiet place to sit and pray. I chose the left side chapel to the front of the Cathedral. There was a sign that said it was for meditation and prayer only, I thought perfect. So for the next twenty minutes while the rest of the group and many other tourists walked around taking in the splendor I sat in silence enjoying the space, being still, present, and so grateful to be on this sacred ground.

After our adventures in Dublin we headed to Glendalough the ruins of a Benedictine monastic community where we would be spending two nights. My favorite spot there was the Reefert Church that was thought to have been a burial place for chieftains before the Benedictine Community was founded. There was a little nook to the right of the chapel where other guests had left a small prayer tokens. You could feel the Holy Spirit permeating through this space and I delighted in taking a few moments to pray with those past, present, and future visitors to this space.

A few days later we visited Kylemore Abbey, one of Ireland's most famous Abbeys still active today. We had three hours to explore the gardens, castle, and church. I again went and found a quiet place to pray in the church. They had a recording of the sisters chanting, so even though I missed the noon day service I was still able to pray with the sisters! Even though there were many tourist looking in the church, everyone one seemed to quiet down when I started praying silently. Another tourist even sat with me for a few minutes.

The Holy Places in Ireland helped deepen my Spiritual life in many ways. I learned that finding places to rest with God are everywhere, and can be as simple as a chair in front of an altar or a rock by a lake. I learned that people express their gratitude for sacred spaces in a number of ways from coins, to rocks, to Uno playing cards all unique and special gifts given in faith and reverence. I learned that people will respect your desire to pray, and will become quiet in solidarity with you. I learned many more things about myself, my friends, and the beautiful country that is Ireland. I highly recommend going on the Ireland Celtic Journeys lead my Sr. Margo, with her 27+ years of experience she has curated a wonderful spiritual experience.