Task Sheet 3. Exploring Profound Spaces

Suggested Task
Arrange a visit to some place of significance within your belief system, or to a piece of art or architecture. For example this could be a place of worship or a piece of art or architecture in a public setting that reflects a significant part of your belief identity. The 'host' should ensure that the 'visitor' is aware of any expectations in terms of dress code, socialising or behaviour.

Discuss together the role of sacred space, art or architecture within your religion and your own life.

Aims
To reflect on the meaning and significance of profound (and/or sacred) space.
To explore questions of architecture, fixtures and furnishings.
To learn how the space is used.

Objectives
On your own and with your partner define your objectives for this tandem exercise. What do you want to learn?

Consider asking yourself
What makes a space profound (and/or sacred)?
What does that space mean to me and how does that affect my belief and any religious practice?
What role does sacred or profound space play in the life of the community or belief group?
Are there personal spaces that I consider profound or sacred?

Consider asking your tandem partner
You may ask all or none of the suggestions above plus:
How is the sanctity of profound or sacred spaces maintained, developed/created and violated?
Are there other, more personal spaces that are similarly profound or sacred to you and what functions do they have? What do you do there?

Things to reflect on together
- What are our similarities? Why?
- Where do we differ? Why?