

## **About Diana Butler Bass**

Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture. She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the author of seven books including *A People's History of Christianity: the Other Side of the Story* (HarperOne, 2009). Her best-selling *Christianity for the Rest of Us* (2006) was named as one of the best religion books of the year by *Publishers Weekly* and *Christian Century*, won the Book of the Year Award from the Academy of Parish Clergy, and was featured in a cover story in *USA TODAY*.

Diana regularly consults with religious organizations, leads conferences for religious leaders, and teaches and preaches in a variety of venues. She blogs at *Beliefnet* and regularly comments on religion, politics, and culture in the media including *USA TODAY*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, CNN, FOX, PBS, and NPR. From 1995-2000, she wrote a weekly column on American religion for the *New York Times* Syndicate. She is a contributing editor for *Sojourners Magazine* has written widely in the religious press, including *Christian Century*, *Clergy Journal*, and *Congregations*.

From 2002 to 2006, she was the Project Director of a national Lilly Endowment funded study of mainline Protestant vitality—a project featured in *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, the *Washington Post* and the *Los Angeles Times*. She is the recipient of numerous grants and awards including an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from The General Theological Seminary in New York. Diana also serves on the board of directors of the Beatitudes Society.

Diana has taught at Westmont College, the University of California at Santa Barbara, Macalester College, Rhodes College, and the Virginia Theological Seminary. She has taught church history, American religious history, history of Christian thought, religion and politics, and congregational studies.

She lives in Alexandria, Virginia with her family. She is a member of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in downtown Washington, D.C.