

Contents

Introduction: The Parameters of this Book	1
1. What is Christmas?	17
2. Revisiting the Religious Origins and Essence of Christmas	33
3. Is Christmas a 'Secular' Religion?	73
4. Christmas as a Site of Implicit Religion	125
5. Christmas Films and the Persistence of the Supernatural	147
6. Reframing Christmas and the Religion of Materialism	169
<i>Bibliography</i>	203
<i>Index</i>	219