

## Embracing Spiritual Leadership in an Evolving Universe

In this critical moment of Earth's challenges, we're coming to realize our deep connection with the entire tapestry of creation. Our individual and collective lives are integral parts of the vast journey of cosmic evolution. It's an ongoing transformation in a universe that's ever-changing. This profound understanding invites us to renew our faith and reimagine religious life.

I shared my learnings and reflections from the Deetime Leadership and Wellbeing Program in a two-day session with the leaders of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Spirit on November 23-24, 2023. The invitation allowed me to delve deeper into my "Cosmic/Ecological Spirituality in Religious Formation" project.



Thomas Berry beautifully expressed, "We will recover our sense of wonder and our sense of the sacred only if we appreciate the universe beyond ourselves as a revelatory experience of that numinous presence whence all things came into being. Indeed, the universe is the primary sacred reality. We become sacred by our participation in this more sublime dimension of the world about us."



Personally, encountering the Holy Mystery in the natural world has been transformative. Seeing myself as the universe in human form has given me a fresh perspective on identity. The incredible journey of tiny particles coming together to initiate the evolutionary process leading to life left me in awe. The Creator Spirit is alive within me and all of creation. Recognizing the radical interconnectivity at the heart of existence, the intricate web of life, has shifted my consciousness from mere individuality to being an integral part of a greater whole.

In the face of a world marked by suffering, division, wars, and violence, the powers of the universe within me inspire hope. This is the positive message I share during these challenging times. We have the ability to perceive reality through a different lens and

act with compassion. The Universe Story serves as our guiding light as we renew our faith and reimagine religious life.

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