

Taking Action

Engaging the Story

What do you feel as a result of this input?

...can you name your reaction?

...can you identify your attitude?

...can you identify where you could take action?

Personal Action

You might like to respond with an action that is a change:

...of attitude;

...of heart;

...of mind;

...of policy;

...of funding priorities

Thank you for your participation in this week's Soup and Substance Lenten programme. We hope you can join us next week for *Hydrofracking—Should we be concerned?* by Tanya Jones (Fermanagh Fracking Awareness Network).



Awakening to Interconnectedness

Presented by: Carmel Bracken rsm and Kathleen Glennon rsm



Awakening to Interconnectedness

“We have a new story of the universe. Science has given us a new revelatory experience. It is now giving us a new intimacy with the earth.”—

Thomas Berry

The worldwide collapse of age old institutions and financial institutions all expose the extreme limitations of an old world view. We urgently need a new story to live by. We need another way to be. Science is now affirming what poets and mystics have known all along . The Universe is alive, it is intelligent and all is connected.

The great work of this century is to apply these essential truths to our lives so that we co-create a world that works for all. The problems we face can awaken us to evolve more consciously. We need to undergo a radical revision of our understanding of ourselves and our world. It begins with the understanding that nothing in the world is separate. All is one.

Today’s presentation will take a brief look at Celtic, Indian, Judeo-Christian and Mystical understandings of interconnectedness and will explore *The Universe Story* as the context for interconnection.

Kathleen Glennon RSM has an MA in RE and a Diploma in Religion and Ecology from Lampeter University. She is the author of *Heartbeat of the Seasons and Hope and Wholeness* and is currently writing earth poetry.

Carmel Bracken RSM has worked in Secondary and Adult Education. She has trained in Sacred Circle Dance and Multicultural Wellness Education. She has an MA in Culture and Spirituality from Sophia Centre, Holy Names University, Oakland, California. She has facilitated workshops and retreats in Nigeria, England, Ireland and USA and facilitates wellness workshops for those living with cancer. She is the author of a book of poetry entitled *The Gift of a Friend*, published by Mercier Press.

Finding Inspiration

‘Lent is a time not for giving up but for taking on, a time to be re-connected with a heart that has been made tender by truth.

Contrary to an asceticism that diminishes, Quantum Grace invites us to an aestheticism (love of beauty, wonder and awe) that enlarges the horizons of our journey into God’.

Diarmuid O’Murchu

(quoted in *Quantum Grace* by Judy Cannato)

Reflection

At times we feel that we are far away from home- the home that God created and intended us to share.

We find ourselves in a world where the destructive power of a growth-driven economic model ignores Earth’s limits and its need to rest and regenerate.

In our most sacred moments of prayer and connection, we remember that we are all one human family, living in a world where all life forms interconnect.

We aspire to a new way of life and a different economy, based on the integrity and dignity of all creation, the common good, ecological health and resilience, sufficiency, equality, solidarity, caring for the most vulnerable and impoverished, and decision-making at the most local level possible.

We believe that actions are necessary to secure the well-being of the planet for future generations of life.