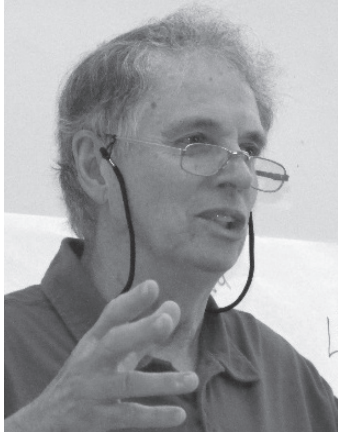


John Surett, S.J., offers retreats and workshops at the interface of cosmology and spirituality and expects that an enrichment will emerge from a serious engagement with both.



The Third Divine Mediation

John Surette, S.J.

It was 1989 at the Holy Cross Center in Port Burwell, Ontario. I had never heard of Thomas Berry and was completely unaware of his teachings. He was there as the weekend guest speaker and what he said changed my life.

I had always been fascinated with the interface of the Divine and the human. This fascination was part of what led me to become a Jesuit priest. So, when Thomas started to speak about “the mediation of the Divine and the human” my antennae extended to their maximum.

For most of my life as a priest I was involved in the human/human relationship, especially in the works of social justice. So, when Thomas continued on to speak about “the Human-Human mediation” I felt comfortable and much at home.

Then he began to speak about what he called “The Third Mediation.” It was “the mediation between Earth and its human community.” Most of this was new to me and I was eager to learn more.

The more precipitated out within my consciousness when he put the three mediations together into one statement. These are not his exact words, but as I remember them: Continued progress in the Divine/human mediation and continued progress in the human/human mediation, now for the first time ever, depends upon progress in the Earth/human mediation!

Upon hearing these words, from deep inside of me emerged some words that were total surprise: Yes! This is true!

Then I experienced an instantaneous discernment of the Creative Energy moving within me. At that very moment I knew that for the rest of my life I would focus on the Earth/human, knowing that in doing so I would continue to be working on the human/human and the Divine/human. This continues to be my motivation today.

Thank you, Thomas!