News
Spirituality



Michael Leach and Loretto Sr. Jeannine Gramick (NCR screenshot/YouTube)



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For the second year, NCR is bringing our readers a four-part series of conversations on spirituality during the Lenten season.

In the first conversation, Soul Seeing for Lent host Michael Leach speaks with Loretto Sr. Jeannine Gramick, co-founder of New Ways Ministry, about her ministry, her correspondence with Pope Francis and what she's doing this Lent.

Background reading:

- Pope Francis' letters are like the soothing hand of a friend who has reached out to heal my wounds and lead me out of a long and barren wasteland, writes Gramick in her Soul Seeing for Lent column.

- In two letters to New Ways Ministry last year, Francis commended the group for its outreach to the LGBTQ community and referred to co-founder Gramick as "a valiant woman" who had suffered much for her ministry.

- St. Joseph Sr. Christine Schenk says if we are to ever emerge from Catholic polarization, it will be through dialogue, respect for differences and the kind of nonviolent love practiced by New Ways Ministry and so many LGBTQ+ Catholics.

- Soul Seeing, which is edited by Leach, is a regular NCR column focused on spirituality and the "peace beyond all understanding." You can read all Soul Seeing columns here.

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Mark your calendar for our upcoming Soul Seeing for Lent conversations:

- March 21 — Jesuit Fr. Jim Martin, editor-at-large at America magazine

- April 4 — Nicole Symmonds, visiting professor at McAfee School of Theology

- April 18 — Franciscan Sr. Ilia Delio, the Josephine C. Connelly Endowed Chair in Theology at Villanova University

This story appears in the **Soul Seeing for Lent** feature series. View the full series.