

Renewing the conversation between faith and science

Ilia Delio | May. 8, 2014

In his recent conversation with leaders of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, Cardinal Gerhard Müller, Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), expressed a concern about the LCWR focusing attention on the concept of conscious evolution, a concept fundamental to the work of Barbara Marx Hubbard who addressed the LCWR assembly in 2012. Cardinal Müller said that "such an intense focus on new ideas such as conscious evolution has robbed religious of the ability truly to *sentire cum Ecclesia* (to think with the Church and embrace its teachings)."

He continued: "The fundamental theses of conscious evolution are opposed to Christian Revelation and, when taken unreflectively, lead almost necessarily to fundamental errors regarding the omnipotence of God, the incarnation of Christ, the reality of Original Sin, the necessity of salvation and the definitive nature of the salvific action of Christ."

While it is possible that the Cardinal's words were extracted from a broader conversation, his concern offers an opportunity to say a few words about conscious evolution and, more broadly, the mutual engagement of science and religion.

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