

Online with the God of Universe

Carers of Earth-Community for Tomorrow

Participants Feedback on online retreat

Retreat is the time of spiritual journey with the Lord. At this juncture of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Good Shepherd CEIN Province Leadership team took a challenging step to help the sisters to make their annual retreat online. Thirty eight participants got this opportunity to make the retreat without spending money, energy and time for packing and travelling. Our retreat director Bro.



Conrad D'Souza; belongs to the Christian Brothers Congregation, who with his vast knowledge and deep spiritual experiences guided us to enter into this spiritual journey with the theme- **Evolving with the Universe, in God!**

The theme was very apt for today's spirituality. It was very much connected to Pope Francis' encyclical "**LAUDATO SI - CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME**".



This retreat helped me to look at the Universe from another perspective and move from Human-Community to Earth-Community. Any world view today, considers the fact and the truth that universe is expanding and evolving, I try to understand this concept of the universe story and allow it to influence my spirituality. These six days was a time for me to look back at the milestones of my personal life and evolve in the process of being and

becoming. Nature has a lot to teach me in the process and it is a spiritual journey. Holiness is a journey to wholeness. I realised that I'm called to experience this wholeness in the Universe. I am interconnected with immediate neighbours of this Earth-community and am striving to draw my attention to find God in it.



I thanked the Creator and learned to appreciate the gift of myself and every being on earth. The universe provoked my thoughts and views as I spent these days in silence and reflection. The universe is friendly and I am the expression of that universe, therefore it co-operates to trust in my goodness and that of others. The universe is inclusive of everything, it is interdependent and has a lesson to teach and therefore I take courage to integrate and blend myself with this universe in my mission.

The methodology used was unique, the different images that were depicted in the PPT, enabled me to reflect more and challenged me in the depth of my Spirituality. Preacher imparted to us a new way of looking at the Bible from Women's and Creation perspective, something I had never thought or imagined before.

I am very grateful to Sr. Pushpa and the team for arranging this online retreat and Bro. Conrad D'Souza for his enriching and challenging message.



Sr. Arokiammal.S



Sr. Flora: We thank the retreat organizers Sr. Pushpa and team and Bro. Conrad for a meaningful retreat. Sr. Selvi and I felt that this retreat was something new and different with lot of material to reflect and inspiration to pray. We enjoyed the journey with the God of Universe. This retreat brought newness in our lives, everything was planned well. We are grateful.

Sr. Monica: This retreat has awakened my mind and heart. Constant reminder of checking my motivation behind each action made me to reconsider my very existence as a religious. I am fortunate to be the member of the Good Shepherd family which cares for the marginalized and earth community. This retreat impelled me to go out of my shell to make human and earth community a better place. It challenged me to be attentive to the needs of others. I can say that it was a journey from within to the outer world to my religious community, to the human family and to the earth community. I am grateful to Province Leadership Team who made this retreat during this pandemic.



Sr. Zita: This retreat was Unique and wonderful. I loved this retreat. It provided me an opportunity to think differently with evolving spirituality in today's world. Different images of Jesus and their interpretation was creative and convincing. Meaningful slides were catchy and attractive. I sensed freedom and responsibility for the time spent on my daily reflection. We made our own groups in the community and shared the enriching experiences.



Sr. Mariam: I liked this retreat very much as the inspirations given by the retreat director was very deep and touching to the core of our being and encouraged us to respect and take care of the whole creation with reverence. He has taken much trouble to study in order to convince us these values with bible quotations. It was a new insight to know Jesus as a gardener, an environmentalist and we as His followers are challenged to be like Jesus, the gardener. All of us enjoyed the retreat.



Sr. Philo: I liked the Theme Evolving with Universe in God. Creation reflects the beauty and wonder of God. The Universe is a gift from God and it is friendly. God is seeking me more than I seek God. We are the experience of the universe and I find God in all created things and with the long gaze at the nature I experience God very close. I liked the presentation of Jesus as gardener, a life giver. When I connect with the Universe my relationship with God will become

infinite and deep. It was inspiring and challenged us to take care of the mother earth and every living being.

Sr. Amala: I appreciate the retreat which focused on the earth community. Putting on Christ values of compassion, love, and to be a care giver was challenging and gave a different perspective. I liked the topics like Evolving Spirituality, Growing into Spirituality, Finding God in everything and Jesus empowering women. I had a fruitful and reflective retreat.



Sr. Mercy George: The retreat preacher was creative and moved us with deep reflections. He gave a new outlook about the Universe and earth community and our responsibility towards it. New and evolving spirituality and Jesus' approach to women, Jesus as an environmentalist was a new way of understanding Jesus. On the whole it was very enriching experience. Brother had taken a lot of effort to get the appropriate picture for every slide. In the Community we had evening prayer separately and shared reflections as a retreat group.

