

CCCW Silver Jubilee Lectures 2021

Theme: *Transfiguring World Christianity*



Science:

Figuring out World Christianity and Nature

23rd June 2021, 4-6pm (BST), Online

Speaker

Prof. Kuruvilla Pandikattu SJ, Professor of Physics, Philosophy and Religion at the Institute of Philosophy and Theology, Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune, India



Chaired by

Prof. Keith Fox, Director, Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

This third lecture in the five-part CCCW Silver Jubilee Lectures series examines the work of four key thinkers on the relationship between nature and religion. Firstly, the focus is on a Cambridge priest-physicist, John Polkinghorne (1930 –2021) who has been one of the pioneers of science-religion dialogue. As a theoretical physicist and theologian, Polkinghorne explored the nature of reality through the intertwining of science and religion. Secondly, the focus moves to a person of deep dialogue between religions as well as with the sciences, the priest-mystic Bede Griffiths (1906 –1993). Coming specifically to India, the lecture deals with Prof. Job Kozhamthadam (1940-), the pioneer of science-religion dialogue, who as a physicist and philosopher tried to relate Kepler's findings to a deeper understanding of reality. If Kozhamthadam has focused on the physical cosmology, Prof. Savarimuthu Ignacimuthu (1948-) has been focusing on the biological world. Finally, the insights of these four thinkers are gathered to refigure our understanding of the relationship between science and religion with regards to our understanding of nature, which includes both the cosmological and biological perspectives.

Dr Kuruvilla Pandikattu SJ is Professor of Physics, Philosophy and Religion at Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune, India, since 1996. He has three Masters' Degrees in Physics and Philosophy and two Doctorates in Philosophy and Theology to his credit. He has been actively involved in science-religion dialogue; transhumanism; viable human life-style and philosophical anthropology, . Author of numerous books and academic articles, Pandikattu is a Jesuit priest belonging to Dumka-Raiganj Province, India. He been involved in organising national and international conferences on science-religion dialogue. His main topics of research are anthropology, eschatology, and transhumanism.