Diarmuid O'Murchu was born to a working class family and spent his childhood on a farm in Ireland. He calls his adult theological perspective a "re-discovery" of the Celtic spirituality he was taught as a child, which stressed a deep connection between God and nature. As O’Murchu began to read Teilhard de Chardin and Thomas Berry, their emphasis on the sacredness of the earth resonated with him and he began to articulate his own theology.

He is a member of the Sacred Heart Missionary Order and a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin Ireland. He is also a social psychologist and has spent most of his working life in social ministry, predominantly in London, U.K. In that capacity he has worked as a couple's counsellor, in bereavement work, in AIDS-HIV counselling, and with homeless people and refugees. As a workshop leader and group leader, he has facilitated programs on Adult Faith Development in Europe, USA, Canada, Australia, The Philippines, Thailand, India, Peru and in several African countries.

For more on Diarmuid O'Murchu click here

“Spirituality is an innate quality of human life and existence. It is something we are born with, something essentially dynamic that forever seeks articulation and expression in human living.”

Diarmuid O'Murchu

Spirituality: Daring New Horizons

As employed in modern usage these are some of the key elements employed in the notion of Spirituality:

It is an articulation of the human search for meaning in life, a pursuit shared by humans of every time and culture.

It predates formal religion by several thousand years.

It comes from deep within (often interpreted as individualistic), uniquely personal and veering more in the direction of meditation, inner experience, and mysticism.

It is widely connected with a love for nature and a desire to live in more convivial and responsible ways with the natural environment.

It tends to view external authority in a negative light, particularly that which emanates from patriarchal/hierarchical systems.

“If this emerging spirituality is an evolutionary development of our time, with a rightness for this time, how do we discern its complex unfolding, naming deviations that may be dangerous and destructive, and identifying positive features that will enhance our lives culturally and spiritually?”

Diarmuid will be speaking about these ideas and more at St Luke’s Norwich on Saturday 29th September (10.00 – 16.30) and exploring them in a workshop at Wiveton Village Hall on Sunday 30th September (11.50 – 15.00).

Booking and venue details for St Luke’s click here

Booking and venue details for Wiveton click here