

The Influence of Teilhard de Chardin on Contemporary Christian Thought

An online lecture with Louis Savary

April 19, 7:00-8:30 pm Eastern Time

Suggested donation \$20

Jesuit priest Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) was the first to integrate evolution into Christian thinking. Teilhard's insights on evolution impact theology, morality, liturgy, love, human effort, suffering, scripture and ecology. His writings offered a church stuck in static thinking a way to embrace an evolutionary mindset and be energized and enriched by the discoveries of modern science. But, while he was alive, the church refused to accept his ideas. Acceptance of his ideas is slowly growing. At its core, his thinking shows how divine love, since the first moment of the universe's creation, is and has always been expressed primarily through the dynamics of evolution. Specifically, he showed how the fundamental laws of evolution are, at the same time, the fundamental laws of love.

Louis Savary, who holds doctorates in both mathematics and theology, was a Jesuit for thirty years. In addition to many books on spirituality in general, he has written a series of eight books explaining Teilhard's ideas for a general audience, including *The Divine Milieu Explained* and *The Phenomenon of Man Explained*. His latest is *Teilhard on the Eucharist: Envisioning the Body of Christ*.