**Story and Symbolism for Window No. 7**

GOD IN US and US IN GOD

**INTO THE FUTURE**

Here we see another multi-layered symbol: the UNIVERSE – COSMOS.

This is a powerful symbol of the future – vast, dark, unknown, exciting and challenging.

Yet with LIGHT AT THE CENTRE and many OTHER LIGHTS to guide us on our journey.

The underlying structure of this design, of the Cosmos, is a Spiral.

Scientific photos show that our Universe and all Galaxies exist and move as Spirals.

The Spiral is an age-old intuitive symbol of SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

and OUR IDENTITY WITH the Universe.

I believe we live in exciting and enlightening times with regard to the open dialogue between Scientists and Theologians. Ongoing discoveries and discussions about the nature and relationship of LIGHT and MATTER are leading towards a ‘common language’.

At the same time, renewed interest and understanding of the writing and wisdom of the early Christian mystics has contributed to a re-claiming of the cosmic Christ. These include Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, St. Francis of Assisi, Meister Eckhart, Hildegard of Bingen and many others.

In the 12th Century, Hildegard wrote “it was love that was the source of all creation.” She also wrote that the word of God is everywhere and in everything, for “without the word of God, no creature has being. God’s word is in all creation, visible and invisible.” She is writing about the cosmic Christ.

Hildegard writes also about the ‘light in everything’. Today, 800 years later, science assures us that there are light waves or photons in every atom in the universe. Even our own bodies contain bio-photons which emit light.

There is so much more that could be said in this regard. Those interested may already know, while others may investigate further.

VISUAL ELEMENTS and SYMBOLISM

* SPIRAL – note the interesting correlation between

SPIRAL and ‘S-P-I-R-(ITU)A-L’ - Spiritual.

-- a perfect example of ‘as above’, so below, ‘as within so without’.

-- at a spiritual level, ourselves as a MICROCOSM of the MACROCOSM of

the Universe/ Cosmos … of God.

* the organising principle at work in the universe.
* EARTH - we stand on Earth in HOPE. We hear the CRY OF THE EARTH with deep

hope that it is ‘HEARD and HEALED’ by a loving response FROM ALL HUMANKIND.

* SUN - HEART of the Universe, radiating LIGHT and HEAT, Solar energy, which

makes it POSSIBLE for LIFE to exist ON EARTH.

* + LIGHT of CHRIST guides and illuminates our thought and actions.
* MOON - beautiful and sometimes mysterious.
  + symbol of powerful FEMININE ENERGY,WISDOM and INTUITION.
  + her phases influence the cycles and NATURAL RHYTHMS OF LIFE – movement of the Oceans, emotions, women’s cycles, etc
* STARS (and PLANETS)
  + with the naked eye we see planets as Stars.
  + ancient symbols of LIGHT, DIVINE GUIDANCE and MYSTERY.
  + appear in all Cultures and Traditions, always representing a CELESTIAL FORCE.
  + enlightenment or LIGHT in the DARKNESS ….

as in the STAR of BETHLEHEM

* + associated with ANGELIC BEINGS
* RAINBOW RIBBON
  + flows around, through and beyond us INTO the FUTURE.
  + springing from it, we see new growth. FRESH GREEN LEAVES from the Tree of Life. Nature and Humanity THRIVE TOGETHER in PEACE and HARMONY …. fulfillment of our HOPE and FAITH … of OUR PRAYER
  + the spectrum colours of the Rainbow Ribbon, THE SPIRIT of GOD are reflected in the planets.
  + rainbow colours are also reflected in Swathes of Stars, lighting and guiding our way Into The Future.

THE LOVE OF GOD - ALPHA AND OMEGA - INFINITE.

DEDICATION : With gratitude we acknowledge the generosity

of the MacLeod Family who so graciously donated the windows

IN MEMORY OF NANCY, IAN and JENNIFER.

Designing Artist – Gail Donovan

July,2022

The windows were constructed by

THE ADELAIDE LEADLIGHT CENTRE