

TEILHARD STUDIES

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Michael Kazimierz Heller is Professor in the Faculty of Philosophy of The Pontifical Academy of Theology in Kraków, Poland and an adjunct member of the Vatican Astronomical Observatory staff. He also serves as a lecturer in philosophy of science and logic at the Theological Institute in Tarnów. A Roman Catholic priest belonging to the diocese of Tarnów, Dr. Heller was ordained in 1959 and graduated from the Catholic University of Lublin, where he earned a master's degree in philosophy in 1965 and a Ph.D. in cosmology in 1966. He has been a visiting professor at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium and a visiting scientist at Belgium's University of Liège, the University of Oxford, the University of Leicester, Ruhr University in Germany, The Catholic University of America, and the University of Arizona among others. Dr. Heller is a member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, the recipient of an honorary degree from the Technical University of Kraków and of the 2008 Templeton Prize, awarded "for progress toward research or discoveries about spiritual realities," for his extensive philosophical and scientific probing of "big questions." His works have sought to reconcile the "known scientific world with the unknowable dimensions of God."

His current research is concerned with the singularity problem in general relativity and the use of noncommutative geometry in seeking the unification of general relativity and quantum mechanics. He has published nearly 200 scientific papers, not only in general relativity and relativistic cosmology but also in philosophy and the history of science and science and theology, and is the author of more than 20 books.

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