**The Cosmic Mass: matter matters**

Msgr. Kevin Irwin’s book “Models of the Eucharist” explores what happens when the Eucharist is celebrated at Mass and what this central act of worships means for Catholic belief and living a Christian life. In doing so, he offers 11 models of the Eucharist, the first of which is: Cosmic Mass. The term “cosmic” recognizes that God is revealed in our earth and all of the creatures that inhabit it. At Mass, we lift up bread and wine in gratitude for the water, wind, soil and sun and human hands that have made it. This model helps us to see the importance and meaning of the “stuff” of our daily lives and to view it through a paschal lens. To treat the earth and all of its inhabitants with care, and to view what otherwise might be seen as defeats — sicknesses, setbacks, hardships and even death itself — when raised up to God, like the bread and wine, as participating deeply in the redemptive work of Christ.