Reconciling Religion and Science

President Tomas Garik Masaryk ruled a democratic Czechoslovakia after the First World War. His son, Jan Masaryk, who was a close friend of Queen Elizabeth I served the Czech Nation as Minister of External Affairs. He always had something to say that gave people smiles. Two books were always by his bedside. One was “Good Soldier Svek” (a parody of a Czech soldier who humourously dealt with his situations in Austrian military life after the assassination of Austrian Kaiser Ferdinand in Sarajevo. This book has been translated into more than 20 languages by Karel Capek including English). His other literary pillar was the Holy Bible. There are many good things in the Bible to guide our conscience and provide hope and ferment ideas in our lives. But one must realize that “one must interpret the passages of the Bible within the context of the time period in which it is being interpreted.” [1] “There are parts of the Bible that are dogma but other parts are meant to be symbolic.” [2] Afterall, the Bible was written by scholars and philosophers. It was so sad in London, Ontario that a young mentally ill man’s parents had a priest perform an exorcism on their son, and starved him in the process. The young mentally ill man died when psychiatric medication could have cured him. “It is so wrong to teach Creationism as Science.”[3] Nobody can refute that dinosaurs and cave men existed. I believe in evolution and God. I think my belief in God gives me strength and hope and courage and I believe when I die, my spirit will transcend to heaven. I believe in balancing a life in mind, body and spirit. But I also believe that we learn something new every day, and we can learn spiritual things every day and on and on into the future and when we explore the universe. I would love to have a religion think tank providing understanding from all the religions and cultures which I think would bring I pray one day world peace. I am a modern Catholic with Jesus in my life. Believing in God’s help and guidance is good and it has saved me.

[1,2,3] Discussed at Knights of Columbus retreats at the St. Peters Holy Seminary in London, Ontario, Canada.