# **SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS**

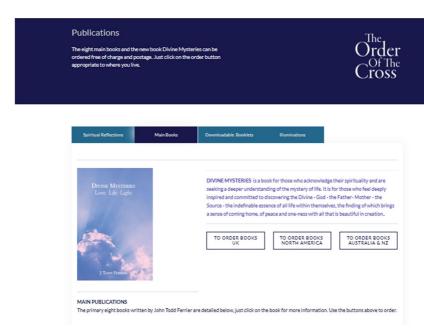
June, July, August 2023



The Order of the Cross

# **ORDER OF THE CROSS PUBLICATIONS**

The eight main books and the new book Divine Mysteries can be ordered free of charge and postage. Just click on the order button appropriate to where you live. See below:



There are also some downloadable booklets in the Publications area, Just click on the booklet and a pdf will download.



# Thoughts to Inspire



### The Mystery of our Life

WHAT A MYSTERY our Life is! We begin, seemingly, as little children, and we grow from more to more, even till we touch the Divine Estate. But we never outgrow our Source. Our channels are deepened and broadened, and the flow of our life enriched. Life becomes mightier and still mightier. But it is individuated, and never equal to the Ocean into which it flows, and out from the heart of which its waters proceed. The desire-nature as the passion of

the soul, flows from the innermost through the channels, expressing as it goes the Mystery of God within us.

How marvellous a thing Love is that can so desire! How profound is that Motion that can so express itself! How great is the Mystery of God in us, when, through the expression of our passion, God who is the Mystery becomes revealed! How stupendous is that Life of Love in the Divine which could desire into manifestation such Hierarchies of Worlds and Beings! How sublime is that Love in its majestic stooping that can make of the individuated soul a perfect world, a complex beautiful system, a reflex of His own Glorious Mystery, and embodiment of the fashion of the Lord!

# From the Teachings

# The Soul as a Ship upon the Sea

When the blessed Master found an hour of quiet with His immediate friends, He spake thus unto them concerning the experiences through which the Soul passes when it is beset with conditions which try it:

"The Soul is like a ship upon the open Sea, when all its attributes are out of true harmony; it is tossed about upon the tempestuous waves, and is in danger of being overwhelmed.

The mind of the Soul, which should be always calm and clear like pellucid waters, is then filled with disturbing elements, so that it cannot reflect unto the Soul the Heavens of its Lord.

Even the powers of the mind itself are so troubled that they fill it with the fear of a great dread, and make it cry out like those who are in dire distress.

For, as I have said unto you, the mind of the Soul is the Sea of Galilee; and the sacred little ship upon it is the Soul, the sacred Ark within which the Divine Presence abides"

The Logia, p126

# Reflections upon The Soul as a Ship upon the Sea John Pignéguy

THE LIVES that we lead as individuals are as many and varied as we ourselves are as people. The joy in all of this is that not only are we able to celebrate this variety whenever we happen to meet, but also that we are able more easily to support those who may be having difficulties in their lives. With 'world conditions' as they are at present, it can be very easy to feel somewhat overwhelmed by what appears to be going on, especially when the various media are constantly pumping out their version of events, mainly for their own purposes. This causes disturbance on more than one level, a fact that we constantly need to remind ourselves of, and to guard against. An understanding, however imperfect, of what is going on helps to direct our thoughts and actions, especially if we are trying to help others. But in doing so, we must be careful not to deplete our own resources as we ourselves seek to "reflect unto the Soul the Heavens of its Lord."

Thus, a sensible balance can more thoughtfully be achieved and maintained, something that will help bring a calmness to "the Soul, the sacred Ark within which the Divine Presence abides."

# Our GoToMeeting Teleconference System Esther Gowan

HEN COMMUNAL Sharing calls first began in 2014, a telephone conference system was established through the GoToMeeting (GTM) service provider. Our first calls linked North American Members who lived too far apart to attend services together in person. The call schedule soon expanded from two times per month to weekly, with UK Members joining in. Christopher Nye brought his Spiritual Linking readings into our monthly schedule.

With GTM providing call-in numbers for 18 countries world-wide, callers from North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand now join our Communal Sharing services and studies by phone. Several study groups also use the GTM system for their weekly calls.

While we use GoToMeeting as a telephone conference system, most clients use it for video conferencing. In this regard the company functions primarily as a competitor to Zoom.

One of the technical difficulties occasionally encountered in our Communal Sharing calls has been voice echoing. The echoing has been particularly challenging in calls linking North America with Australia and New Zealand.

In searching for a solution to the unwanted background noise, we have ended up with a hybridized system. Participants now have the option of joining our calls from a computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking on a link provided in our weekly email announcements:

# https://meet.goto.com/506112581

While we expect most callers will continue to join us by telephone, you may notice changes in how you are greeted when you join the call. Upon dialing the number listed for your country in the Communal Sharing announcement (pages 25 to 27 and entering the access code and pound sign (506-112-581 #), the first caller will hear the following message: "If you are the organizer, please press the star key now. Otherwise please hold."

The first member to join the call assumes the role of organizer by pressing the star key (\*), and entering the organizer PIN (1234) and hash sign (#). Callers will not be connected without the PIN number being entered by the first caller. Those joining later will be asked, "Please enter your PIN number, followed by the pound or hash sign (#). If you do not have a PIN, just enter #."

For most callers the only change in the dialing procedure will be an extra # sign after the access code.

Those who are currently paying long-distance toll charges to their phone company may find it less expensive to join the call from your computer, tablet or smartphone. And for friends visiting or living in areas that do not have a regional dial-in number, it may now be possible to join our Communal Sharing calls electronically if you have an Internet connection available.



# Communal Sharing Circle: Services and Studies by Phone

THE COMMUNAL SHARING CIRCLE is international and open to all. Initially designed to link callers world-wide by phone, calls can now be accessed electronically from your computer, tablet or smartphone. See "GoToMeeting Teleconference System" p23.

Readings taken from the books are referenced on the following schedule: others require a service document. To receive documents by mail or email, contact the Coordinator as listed below.

TWO REGIONAL CALLS are scheduled to serve our global community:

I: North America, Australia and New Zealand – 00:00 UTC

II: North America and the UK / Europe – 16:00 UTC

Local call times, dial-in numbers and internet access link are listed on the following pages. Please call in before the scheduled hour.

#### SCHEDULE

### **JUNE 2023**

- 4 I & II Communal Sharing Ministrant: Katherine Maley "Who May Fathom the Mystery?" Isaiah, p.133-143
- II I & II Worship Service Ministrant: Jan Holmes "Divine Gifts" [document]
- 18 I & II Spiritual Linking Ministrant: Christopher Nye "Did the Master Live as a Man" Pt. I Master, p.5-13
- 25 I & II Communal Sharing Ministrant: Lindajean Stewart "The Mystery of the Spiral" Pt. I Herald 29, p.23-31

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2	I & II	Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Patrick Barnes
		"Ephraim, Manasseh & Benjamin" [document]
9	I & II	Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Michael Arcese
	"Lov	e Letters" – H.14, pp.180-184, 278-281, 289-293
16	I & II	Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
		"Did the Master Live as a Man" Pt. 2 – Master, p.14-22

23 I & II Communal Sharing — Ministrant: Lindajean Stewart
"The Mystery of the Spiral" Pt. 2 — Herald 29, p.31-41

#### **AUGUST 2023**

6	I & II	Worship Service – Ministrant: Janet Ristic "Divine Creation" [document]
13	&    "The	Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Elsie Danielsson e World Crisis" – Herald 14, 93-104
20	I & II	Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye "A Brief Meditation on a Great Quest" – H.22, p.126-136
27	I & II	Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Turid Nelson "The Urim and the Thummim" – LMU, p.224-234

LOCAL CALL TIMES – Communal Sharing calls are scheduled year-round on Universal Time (UTC = GMT). To find your local call-in time, refer to schedule A or B according to whether your area is currently observing Standard or Daylight Savings Time.

# All areas world-wide are currently observing schedule A.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and to receive service documents by mail or email, please contact the Communal Sharing Coordinator:

Esther Gowan • esthergowan@earthlink.net • (I) 805-542-9133

# A - Daylight Saving Time in Northern Hemisphere; Standard Time in Southern Hemisphere

I A: 00:00 UTC (=GMT)
5 pm PDT (Sat. eve.)
8 pm EDT (Sat. eve.)
8 am AWST
10 am AEST
12 pm NZST

II A: 16:00 UTC
9 am PDT
12 pm EDT
5 pm BST (U.K.)
(12 am next day AWST)
(4 am next day NZST)

# B – Standard Time in Northern Hemisphere; Daylight Saving Time in Southern Hemisphere

IB: 00:00 UTC (=GMT)
4 pm PST (Sat. eve.)
7 pm EST (Sat. eve.)
8 am AWST
II am AEDT
I pm NZDT

II B: 16:00 UTC 8 am PST 11 am EST 4 pm GMT (U.K.) (12 am next day AWST) (5 am next day NZDT)

INTERNATIONAL PHONE NUMBERS FOR COMMUNAL SHARING CALLS					
COUNTRY	PHONE NUMBER				
Australia	(0) 2 8355 1039				
Canada	(1) 647-497-9379				
France	(0) 1 70 95 05 85				
Ireland	(0) 19 030 050				
New Zealand	(0) 9 925 0481				
Sweden	(0) 853 527 817				
United Kingdom	(0) 330 221 0099				
United States	(1) 646-749-3117				
ACCESS CODE: 506-112-581 # (same for all areas)					

Sharing calls from your computer, tablet or smartphone with the following link:

https://meet.goto.com/506112581

# Spiritual Linking Christopher Nye

he reading for June is

"Did The Master Live as a Man?"

The Master Part 1 pages 5-13

It will take place on Saturday 17 & Sunday 18

"For the spiritual realm cannot be reached by seeking along the merely historical plane;"

HE STUDY FOR JULY IS

"Did the Master Live as a Man?"

The Master part 2 pages 14-22

It will take place on Saturday 15 & Sunday 16

"The Soul had to learn the meaning of spiritual things through the visualization of them."

HE STUDY FOR AUGUST IS

"A Brief Meditation on a Great Quest""

Herald 22 pages 126-136

It will take place on Saturday 19 & Sunday 20

"HE can communicate Divine Power to you only through HIS Son in you, HIS Christ in you."

There will be two readings. **00h00 UTC (=GMT)** Saturday in North America, Sunday in Australia and New Zealand. 5pm PDT, 6pm MDT 7pm CDT, 8pm EDT; 8am AWST, 10.30am ACDT, 11am AEDT; 1pm NZDT. **16h00 UTC (=GMT)** that is 5pm BST in the UK, 9am PDT, 10am MDT, 11am CDT, 12 noon EDT in North America. For phone-in numbers please see the Communal Sharing pages.



# **ORDER OF THE CROSS LITERATURE**

The primary books written by John Todd Ferrier are available free of charge by going onto our website under Publications and clicking on the appropriate button or by contacting one of the people below, depending on your location.

### **Books**

The Master: His Life and Teachings
The Logia or Sayings of the Master
Life's Mysteries Unveiled
Life's Mysteries Unveiled – PAPERBACK
The Divine Renaissance Vol. 1
The Divine Renaissance Vol. 2
The Message of Ezekiel
The Mystery of the Light Within Us
The Message of Isaiah
Divine Mysteries

**UK: Contact Margaret Jack** 

Email: literature.uk@orderofthecross.org
North America: Contact Alexander Guza Email:

literature.usa@orderofthecross.org

Australia & New Zealand Contact Claire Ede Email:

literature.au@orderofthecross.org

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2023**

Ammerdown Summer Gathering
Fri. 21st – Mon. 31st July
North American Gathering at Ojai
Sunday 17th Sept. – Sat 23rd Sept
Western Area Gathering at Sheldon
Fri. 6th – Sun. 8th October
Glenthorne Autumn Gathering
Mon. 16th – Mon. 23rd October
Australia and New Zealand Gathering at Adelaide
Monday 13th – Monday 20th November

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS BEYOND 2023**

#### 2024

Easter Gathering at Sarum College
Thurs. 28th – Mon. 1st April
Ammerdown Summer Gathering
Thurs. 25th July – Mon. 5th August
Glenthorne Spring Open Gathering
Wed. 8th – Thurs. 16th May
Glenthorne Autumn Open Gathering
Mon. 21st – Tues. 29th October

The next issue of the Spiritual Reflections will be published at the beginning of September 2023.

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR OTHER DETAILS**

If you have changed your address or any of your contact details, please notify lan Heathcote at:

The Order of the Cross
27 Old Gloucester Street, LONDON, WCIN 3AX

Or Email: membership@orderofthecross.org

This will ensure that Spiritual Reflections is sent to your correct address and that your contact details are updated on our database.

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