

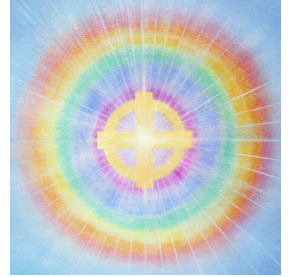
The Science of Being

SCIENCE AND RELIGION ARE ONE. Science is of the realm of understanding and knowledge; Religion is of the realm of realization. Let those who are seeking through Religion, recognize that it is through their understanding that light may be thrown upon all the paths of life, until the interpretation of the innermost illumines the interpretation of the outermost, giving to all things their real meaning wherein they become one. *For in the Divine World of harmony, Religion and Science are of the same Temple.*

Science is Divine Religion ... Religion is the Life of the Spirit in Man. The Science or realization of Being is the knowledge with which the Divine Indwelling crowns a Man, so that he knows, in the light of that Presence, all things. He knows the Father-Mother. He understands divine creations, divine fashionings, divine manifestations. He apprehends the meaning of a manifest world like this, for he has Divine Prescience. He understands and can interpret a fallen world like this, for he has inner knowledge. He understands those departments which have become paths for the seeking of knowledge and the understanding of the elements. Through the Divine Gift he understands all things ...

Let all learn to love HIM Who is all knowledge. And let that Love and the knowledge that comes through it, touch everything in your life, and through you the Life of everyone, the world in which you are, and the elements with which you have to deal, and through which you have to minister. *Thus make Life a perfect whole.*

Divine Renaissance II, pp22,23



Spiritual Reflections

The Order of the Cross

**February
March
2018**

Thoughts on the Teachings

John Pignéguay

OUR THINKING ABOUT THINGS is often coloured or affected by the myriad pressures of modern life. Busy lives do not always allow the time for much of a pause, for reflection, for a sense of quietness, for trying to know and understand the nature of our own experiences. Consequently, the part that we ourselves, as individuals, could be playing in the greater scheme of things is not always immediately apparent. “Knowledge” in various aspects of life is vital to our functioning, but knowledge does not exist for its own sake and needs to be tempered or balanced by an inner understanding.

Albert Einstein (mathematician, scientist, and one of the greatest thinkers) once said that “imagination is more important than knowledge,” and that surely gives us a clue. “Knowledge” is generally fact-based and of the mind, whereas “imagination” is personal and unique, and very much part of the inner life of every individual. Our Friend writes in the opening sentence of the cover-extract: “Science and Religion are one.” And this gives us a real unity-of-purpose in all that we do, with each complementing the other. “The Science of Being,” in its truest form, is thus brought to the forefront of our consciousness. And aiding us in all of this are, among other positive influences, not only the creative arts – music, art, literature, dance, drama, all of which feed into the individual imagination and soul-life – but also the related unity of purpose in “the seeking of knowledge and the understanding of the elements.” In other words, the “scientific” approach to things.

As always, “balance” is the key. And, as always, we can then begin to see more clearly how all of these thoughts relate to “The Science of Being” and what that means for each of us in our daily lives.

Our Friend’s gentle words of encouragement and inspiration in the final paragraph of the cover-extract really do say it all, helping each one of us to “make Life a perfect whole.”

Compassion and Pity **An expression of the Divine Love** **Julie Stephenson-Booth**

A plea for more Compassion, Pity and Love
at our Gatherings and Groups for the creatures,
concerning the Dairy world
and the poor Souls who work in these places.

For the Law of GOD is that of supreme Love and Wisdom....
But the Law of Love operates into manifestation as that of
Compassion and Pity – twin streams flowing from the
Fountain-Head. But what is Compassion if it be not a true
understanding of the Souls of men and women amid all their
difficult conditions of life, resulting from a violation of the very
Law of Love, and the negation of the Divine Wisdom? And
what is Pity but the out-spread Wings of Love to shelter and
defend the young and defenceless, and also those who have
been smitten in the way, whether Human Souls or creature?

Herald XI, p155

2

SOMETIMES IT IS EASY to see the evils of the bloodshed and flesh
seating of the creatures but other kindred evils can hide
themselves in the most subtle ways.

In the greatly increased Industrial Dairy world, there is a great
veiled evil. The products that are produced seemingly offer sweet
delights, but hidden in this delight is the cry of the creatures and
their suffering. Thousands of little calves go to the slaughter for
the want of their mothers' milk. Perhaps we as Members
endeavour, and again to endeavour, to rise from such wants
especially now as there are so many non-dairy products on the
market, just as delicious. There are so many places now to
acquire non-dairy from if one so desires them.

Recently I met some friends from our Fellowship for lunch at the
Cornish Vegan. It was excellent in offering delicious cakes, soups,
meals, all without one ounce of suffering. The whole place had an
atmosphere of such gentleness. We remarked upon this to the
owner, who talked to us about how there has been such a
change, that there was really no need for the dairy world to exist,

it only exists because people desire it. That made me think about our Fellowship and how Our Friend talks about wrong desire, hurting the creatures and ourselves, also the poor souls who work in these awful places the hurt that is being given to them and the feeding of wrong states, wrong desire.

There is a quite a strong movement in the world to step away from this cruel world of Dairy, that has grown so greatly. Perhaps our Groups and Gatherings could talk more about this and the foundation statement of Our Friend.

Aims and Ideals Foundation Statement:

To proclaim a message of peace and happiness, health and purity, spirituality and Divine Love.

The question must be asked, how can the light of truth be gained in these places by those who work in the dairy world and slaughter houses, when we ourselves effectively endorse what they do, by our own action through diet. The Dairy world leads to the taking of innocent lives. Surely this is, in fact, the veiled Truth. Are we not seekers of Love and Compassion for all souls including the creatures?

3

The Aims and Ideals do not exclude the innocent creatures that are used and suffer for the taste of the dairy world. Are they not defenceless and oppressed?

Our Friend is very astute in his greater understanding of the term "kindred evils."

There will be things emerging that may not seem to hold bloodshed yet when closely looked upon walk hand in hand with it. It is not true that we cannot pick and choose about Truth when it comes to rest within our Being. We all, in our different paths have come a long way, and as Our Friend reminds us we must endeavour to continue to rise further once the Truth is realised, at any world cost to go forward and upwards.

I found this passage when addressing my concerns at the Altar

The Simplicity of The Teachings

By using the term "simplicity", we do not mean that they are not profound. They are. But in their first aspects they can be

easily understood, because they relate to the life, to the purification of life, to the right way of living, thinking, feeling, desiring. They are what all the World is needing, to make its ways pure and beautiful in the matter of its foods and its drinks, its ways, its habits. They are what the World is needing for the healing of its traditional thought, its racial customs; for the blotting out of the shadows which so directly lie athwart the threshold of the whole life of humanity; and especially we are thinking of the western world that has professed the very noblest of religious visions and to have taken the sublimest Mystery into the mind and the heart and the Being, even the Cross of Christ.

4

The Teachings are simple enough even for a child to understand. They reveal Love in its lowly expression, in its gentleness and purity, and the Love-principle applied to life in every act, in relation to those in the home, in relation to those in other homes, in relation to everyone whom one meets in the way; how Love should look out of the windows of the Soul upon the creatures with sweet compassion and exquisite pity; recognising them, even though not understanding the purpose for which they are moving also across the threshold of the World's drama; looking upon them as children, in lowly estate, of the same Sublime Mystery. Many of the creatures are in most fallen conditions because they have shared the travail of humanity in fallen state. Indeed, all of them have suffered so, but some in greater degree than others.

The Teachings have at the very heart of them this attitude of mind and heart towards all Souls and towards all creatures. They are simple enough for life. One cannot follow them without laying aside everything that is unlovely, everything that is unlike true Love, compassion and pity.

There are many who hold spiritual things as knowledges but who resent even being shown the beautiful way of life; who do not believe that the creatures should have such compassion and pity made manifest unto them.

The Teachings for which the Order stands take in the creatures, too. And no one who follows the Teachings can be

other than a friend of the creatures as well as a friend of man. Is it not sad to think that the greatest friends of the creatures have so frequently been outside of all Christian communities, all religious communities, men and women who have been touched with Divine compassion?

The first aspect, therefore, of the Healing [which] the Teachings [give] is to heal the thoughts of men and women concerning the way of life. Their call is to each one to take up the Cross of self-denial; to take up that Cross which brings the joy of beautiful purity into the heart and the vision, so that there will be no misunderstanding of what, as Divine Healers, the Teachings stand for. They would heal the life of the World. They would make it beautiful. Through such Love expressed as compassion and pity, the conflict between what is called "nature" and humanity would pass away; and all the other conflicts in the world are but the re-embodiments of those conflicts between nature and humanity. For it is impossible to do so great a hurt in what might be accounted the lower degrees of experience without that hurt coming up and into the higher or intermediary realms of human thought and experience, and expressing itself. If the Love and the compassion and the pity which the Teaching stand for were regnant, the world would regain its balanced polarity so much more quickly. It would be greatly hastened, and so many of the woundings of humanity would be healed and their sorrows wiped away.

Herald XXVIII, p140-142

If we cannot rise from these things, how do we expect the younger children of this world to rise. And yes, we will become more sensitive as the need to grow and embrace all we once knew, becomes realised; our returning Home with joyous hearts, but the Call of the Message is undeniable.

We have the help and love of the Fellowship and the never ending Overshadowing of our FATHER-MOTHER. The creatures endure so much, surely our strength and compassion together, growing to become full rounded, will send out the message, a plea for the freedom that they, and all Souls seek.

Our FATHER-MOTHER through Our Friend expressed the need for us to be vehicles, to be the tide of Love that will send waves of Healing throughout the world. It is a gift embedded in us by the Divine Love, once lost, now found, surely to be lived.

A never ending path, embracing Compassion, Pity and Love for all. With all blessing and the greatest gift of love.

S, SE and Western Areas Autumn Gathering, Charney Manor, 2017

Richard Palmer

Friday evening Service, 29 September:

HOW WONDERFUL IT IS to gather together, Friends of Ancient Times, each Soul bringing their own radiant atmosphere to worship, returning both outwardly and inwardly, coming before a beautifully prepared Altar to share the words of Our Friend and ascend in consciousness to the Heavenly Realms.

6

Our first reading was 'The Opening of the Heavens' from *Herald* XXII.

We are living again in the Day of the opening up of the Heavens. Soul Vision is coming back again unto the Children ... p39

A familiar unveiling, yet in an upbuilt Atmosphere revealing more and more the Love of the Divine.

Revelation ... signifies the Light which will interpenetrate and clothe that Mystery that it may be apprehended, and ultimately even comprehended by the receiver of the Revelation.

Revelation is given that:

...you might respond to HIM Who is the Eternal Divine Overshadowing ... that you may be able to receive of HIS Revelation until at last you can take flight in Spirit beyond the embodied realms into the consciousness of HIS Universal Presence in such degree that the Universal becomes to you individual; and beyond, so that you can speak to HIM, commune with HIM, not as afar off but as ONE near at hand -

Oh yes, more! - as ONE Who is part of yourself, Who is your Real Self in individuated exposition; so that you can speak with HIM, to HIM, and in such a state HE can flash the Glory of His Shining within you ... And it is all unto the end that you may know HIM, because to know HIM is the very Joy of Life. To know HIM is Life indeed;

p40,44-6

The second reading from *Herald XIX* was 'Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving', brief, yet profoundly touching every aspect of Life!

Prayer is the flight of the Soul. ... and there is no ascension but by Prayer. ... Praise is the crown of Prayer ... Praise being the motion of the Being concerning HIM. We proclaim, we adore in Praise. We worship HIM in Praise.

This motion leads to Thanksgiving.

Be grateful unto HIM for your life. Give thanks even for your power to travail, and for the burden HE has asked you to carry upon the Cross of your Being in service for HIM in that travail. That is Thanksgiving - the heart that ever blesses HIM, that shares HIS patience, that in loveliness grows like HIM, that in tenderness expresses HIM, that in lowliness reveals HIM, that in the breath of the auric outflow mediates from and for HIM.

pp168,171-2,174

The singing beautifully expressed our worship in the wonderfully inward poetry of Læticia Withall, Hymns 93 and 100, and we closed with the gentle comfort of Hymn 101.

Agnes Buist

Retreat, Saturday morning, 30 September

THE THEME CHOSEN was Salvation and the first reading from Great Recoveries, The Woman who found the Lost Coin not only calls us to find again the Presence by entering the Upper Room but speaks of Salvation –

as the salving of every property within the Being; the bringing back of the ancient potencies of the Being into their ancient Inheritance; the re-elevating of all the powers of the Being to the Realm to which they originally belonged ...

The second and third parts of the Retreat drew inspiration from the unfoldment Wells Divine, Celestial, Angelic, to be found in *Herald XVIII*. Other titles are the Wells of Salvation and Wells of Beersheba. Our Friend relates the sacred stories to the Inner Worlds of our own lives 'and the Inner World whence we are nourished'. The word Beersheba itself is Elohistic. Thus Our Friend speaks of the seven Elohistic colours, representing (as from the Red ray), the Spirit of Life, the Spirit of Love, the Spirit of Wisdom, the Spirit of Peace, the Spirit of Fire (Fire being the Energy), the Spirit of Power, the Spirit of the Divine Awe – the fulness of the acknowledgment of the Mystery of the FATHER-MOTHER. May our meditation on the wonderful Elohistic colours help us to recover our ancient Inheritance. The further unveilings related to the processional of our lives and gave much counsel.

8

Love is of the Eternal quality. It is Life, Life filled with the motion of HIS Holy Purpose; loving the beautiful, not only in Nature, but everywhere; loving all things, not only in a dreamy way, but in the most practical way; loving each other, not in an imaginary flight, but in Divine Reality penetrating through the action of the Elohe represented by Love applied to the Being, discerning the Divinity in each one. Love sees, it understands, and if you would see Divinely, if you would know GOD, you must let your life be Love's embodiment.

Under the heading 'Celestial – The Wells Of Elam' the story of Abraham journeying to the Solar World is given and then the story of Isaac, his Sacrifice relating to the sublime sacrifice made by the Solar Christhood at the command of the Divine World – for the Wells had been interfered with, and they had to be re-dug.

What was the special mission of the Son of GOD, in these days, to this World? Why, it is to re-dig the Wells of Beersheba, that the Divine Waters may again fill them ... for refreshment, for life-giving, for life-energizing, light-revealing power.

The Well of YA-Akob-El, the Angelic Well is the FATHER-MOTHER's provision for the Earth children. This Well is situated or placed in the Land of Sa-Maria – Sa, the Spirit, Maria, the Substance.

To read the whole unfoldment gives us glimpses of the depths and the heights of Sacred Mysteries.

STAND STILL AND SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD

We sang two Hymns during the Retreat, no.63 at the end of Part 2, Norah Macnab's Hymn, 'Shine on my heart, Star of my Destiny', and in conclusion Hymn 88 'O Altogether Lovely One', by Norman Parley.

Easter Gathering at Salisbury 2018

YOU WILL RECEIVE the leaflet, including the Programme and Application Form, soon after receiving this Newsletter, but we thought you should know in advance of some significant changes. Most importantly there will be a full programme from Evening Prayers on Thursday 29 March to the morning Worship Service on Monday 02 April, with departures after lunch. Little ones are invited to join us for the first 15-20 minutes of the Monday Worship Service after which they will leave the Service and they will have some special activities to enjoy after lunch.

The Eucharist, for Members, will be on Sunday morning and there will be a Worship Service on Saturday morning. In addition to an evening of creative contributions on Sunday there will be an evening of Music and the Spoken Word on Friday.

9

Poems and Photograph

Alan Harris

Beauty

Soon after sundown tonight
leftover orange fades upward
into night's deepening blue
above our row of poplars.

How does a sky do this?
It looks so easy.
Such beauty is free to see
yet invites a seeing into.

Who is living behind this beauty?
No name is being spoken to me
but there's an inner rush as if
some Friend from space is near.

10



Intermission

There can come a moment
when stillness reigns,
when the actor in the mind
is curtained away from view,
when reading is unneeded
though the book be open.

With animation suspended,
whole libraries may be
now serenely renounced,
classrooms unattended,
conversations unengaged in,
writing saved for a later muse.

Images stream in and out
with no conscious guidance
or disturbance, each
morphing into the next.

Is this interlude a taste
of the long and quiet phase
that humans call heaven?
An after-state wherein they
reap the ecstasy they sowed
while living the virtues?

Euphoria must pass.
Soon will be seeking,
effort, grief, desire—
but for now the mind
is permitted its silence,
and the heart and soul
their benign repose.

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Communal Sharing: Services and Studies by Phone

THE COMMUNAL SHARING CIRCLE is international and open to all. All you need to join us is a phone! Three regional calls are scheduled to serve our global community:

- I: North America, Australia and New Zealand – 00:00 UTC
- II: Europe, Australia and New Zealand – 08:00 UTC
- III: North America and Europe – 16:00 UTC

Local times and dial-in numbers are listed on pages 13 and 14.

We welcome you to participate as a reader or a listener. Readings taken from the books are referenced on the schedule; others require service documents, which may be requested by contacting the Communal Sharing Coordinator (page 13).

Feel free to join us as frequently or infrequently as you like. When possible, please dial in 3-5 minutes before the hour and introduce yourself when joining the call.

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FELLOWSHIP CALLS on 2nd Saturdays – February 10, March 10, April 14 – help us get to know each other better and consider ways to improve our Sunday calls. Fellowship calls begin in North America at 8 am Pacific, 11 am Eastern, 4 pm in the UK.

SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|----|----------|---|
| 4 | I & III | Worship Service – Ministrant: Patricia Sherwood
<i>The Sacred Fire</i> [Document provided] |
| 11 | III | Ongoing Study taken from Divine Renaissance II
Ministrant: Esther Gowan |
| 18 | II & III | Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Easter booklet, pp 5-16 – <i>The Cross of a Christ</i> |
| 25 | III | Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Sophia Howard
<i>Loyalty to Truth</i> [Document provided] |

MARCH

- 4 I & III Worship Service – Ministrant: Patrick Barnes
The Divine Awe [Document provided]
- 11 III Ongoing Study taken from Divine Renaissance II
Ministrant: Dorothy Reid
- 18 II & III Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Easter booklet, pp.22-33, *The Resurrection Life*
- 25 III Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Lindajean Stewart
The Vernal Equinox [Document provided]

APRIL

- 1 I & III Easter Service – Ministrants: Stephen & Claire Ede
The Stations of the Cross [Document provided]
- 8 III Ongoing Study taken from Divine Renaissance II
Ministrant: Michael Arcese
- 15 II & III Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Herald I I, pp.27-34 – *Immaculate Conception*, pt.2
- 22 III Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Anne Candlin
[Reading to be announced.]

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FOR MORE INFORMATION and to receive service documents by mail or email, please contact the Communal Sharing Coordinator: Esther Gowan • esthergowan@earthlink.net • (1) 805-542-9133

LOCAL TIMES – Communal Sharing calls are scheduled year-round on Universal Time (GMT). To find the call-in time for your locality, refer to schedule A or B according to whether your Time Zone is currently observing Standard or Daylight Saving Time.

The shift from schedule B to A will take place in N. America on 3/11, in Europe on 3/25, and in Australia and N.Z. on 4/1.

<p>A – Daylight Saving Time in Northern Hemisphere Standard Time in Southern Hemisphere</p> <p>I A: 00h00 GMT 5 pm PDT (Sat. eve.) 8 pm EDT (Sat. eve.) 8 am AWST 10 am AEST 12 pm NZST</p> <p>II A: 08h00 GMT 9 am BST (U.K.) 4 pm AWST 6 pm AEST 8 pm NZST (1 am PDT) (USA)</p> <p>III A: 16h00 GMT 9 am PDT 12 pm EDT 5 pm BST (U.K.) (12 am next day AWST) (4 am next day NZST)</p>	<p>B – Standard Time in Northern Hemisphere; Daylight Saving Time in Southern Hemisphere</p> <p>I b: 00h00 GMT 4 pm PST (Sat. eve.) 7 pm EST (Sat. eve.) 8 am AWST 11 am AEDT 1 pm NZDT</p> <p>II b: 08h00 GMT 8 am GMT (U.K.) 4 pm AWST 7 pm AEDT 9 pm NZDT (12 am PST) (USA)</p> <p>III b: 16h00 GMT 8 am PST 11 am EST 4 pm GMT (U.K.) (12 am next day AWST) (5 am next day NZDT)</p>
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INTERNATIONAL PHONE NUMBERS FOR COMMUNAL SHARING CALLS	
COUNTRY	PHONE NUMBER
Australia	(0) 2 8355 1039
Canada	(1) 647-497-9379
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
<p>ACCESS CODE: 506-112-581 # # (Same code for all countries)</p>	

Spiritual Linking Christopher Nye

THE READING FOR FEBRUARY IS

*An Easter Brochure 1940
Part 1 “The Cross of a Christ”*
It will take place on Sunday 17th

In that day we realize the perfect Atonement —
the AT-ONE-MENT with HIM.

THE READING FOR MARCH IS

*An Easter Brochure 1940
Part 2 “The Resurrection Life”*
It will take place on Sunday 17th

Every Son of GOD is a Servant.

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The two Readings for February and March are **08h00 GMT** that is 8am in the UK, 4pm in Western Australia, 7pm in Eastern Australia and 9pm in New Zealand; the second is **16h00 GMT** that is 4pm in the UK, 8am PST in North America.

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS

February

11th Ringwood Family Day: "Seashells", Swanage
14th - 19th New Year Gathering: "Seashells", Swanage

March

29th - 2nd April Easter Gathering, Sarum College, Salisbury
2nd – 8th April Natural Movement Dance Gathering, Swanage

If you are interested in joining us at one of the Swanage Gatherings contact us using the Order of the Cross details below and please tell us something about yourself.

You will receive an application form for the Easter Gathering in due course.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 16 If you have changed your address or any of your contact details, please notify Roger Score at:

The Order of the Cross
27 Old Gloucester Street, LONDON, WC1N 3AX
Email: light@orderofthecross.org or
Telephone 0207 1176 059

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

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Email: editor@orderofthecross.org

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Spiritual Reflections Publication Timetable

Issues will be published in the first week of:	The two or three month period the issue will cover
February	February March
April	April May
June	June July August
September	September October November
December	December January

**You are reminded
that the next issue of Spiritual Reflections
will be published at the beginning of April
2018**