

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

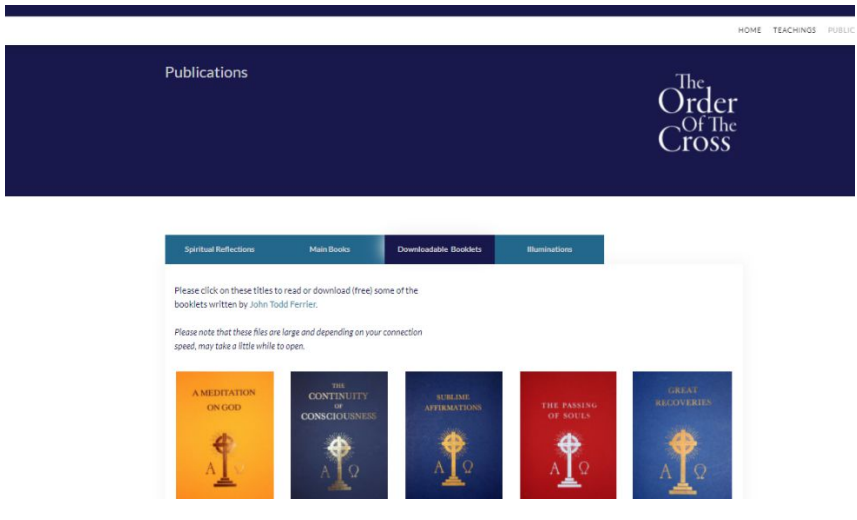
May, June, July 2021



The Order of the Cross

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The Coming Renaissance or Revival

WHAT DOES THE WORLD of today need? First an elevated vision of Life; then the effect of that vision upon every department of human experience, from the highest artistic sphere down to what may seem to be the most material within the realms of commerce. What is it that the Children of Men need that has been lacking in Christianity, or rather, in such a view of Christianity as has been presented to them? It is the living fact that they are parts of the universal Life, responsible Souls full of Divine energy to enable them to be contributory parts of the Cosmic Whole – individually, communally, nationally, and racially. How comes it to pass that the vision of the World is so low, when the religious Message that has come to it has been so high?

The World is needing a Renaissance. It requires a new Vision of Life that will touch Art in its various branches – Fine Art; Formative Art; Music; Dramatic Art; and that will also illumine Science and exalt it into the Realm to which it should truly belong. Science claims to know, and through its knowledge, to enlighten; yet it works on in a negative way that denies knowledge of the Reality, in its very eagerness to trust and exalt the merely phenomenal. Science needs the illumination that comes from within, an enlightenment that cannot be possessed from without.

The Renaissance that is to be – and is coming – must touch Music and Sculpture, Painting and Design, every branch of Science and all Drama, and even the wonderful art of Government, till all of them reveal GOD as present in HIS World. For herein all will reveal the highest Good, the truest Beauty, the most exquisite in Form, the perfect in Colour, the rich, sonorous, interpenetrating rhythms which intonate the Eternal even within the spheres of Human experience.

Herald XXI, pages 4,5 and 6

Reflections upon The Coming Renaissance or Revival

John Pignéguy

OUR FOUNDER writes in the cover-extract about the world “needing a Renaissance. It needs a new Vision of Life ...” and that is surely what each of us has before us as we move into new times on the Earth-planes. Modern conditions do not always allow us to maintain this vision, or maybe it is we ourselves who are at fault for allowing this to be the case. In a clamorous and hyper-active world, we can sometimes feel that the vision dims for us as we seek to live in, and cope with, all that goes on around us. A sense of disconnection is something that Our founder alludes to concerning the arts and sciences, where the ‘mental’ can often be seen to be very much in charge at the expense of the ‘thoughtful,’ whose quietness of approach is disdained, or ignored, or even not known. These things are most certainly changing, but probably not as quickly as they could do.

Our Founder makes interesting mention of “the wonderful art of Government,” and it is surely not much of a surprise that governments and politicians, whatever we might think of some of them, are working at a considerable disadvantage in the modern technological age. The relentless demands of multi-media broadcasting and social media networks means that governments have almost no ‘thinking-time’ in which to make considered decisions, resulting in bad decisions being made quickly, often with unexpected or unfortunate consequences. They lose the ‘vision’ of what it is that they are involved with.

This lack of ‘thinking-time’ is something that can affect us all, if we let it. The resultant dimming of our own ‘inner vision’ is something that we need always to be wary of, and to try as best we may to renew that ‘vision,’ to refresh that vision with all the beauty, love and friendship that surrounds each one of us in all our different fields of service and experience. We will at the same time become ‘renewed’ on every level, and thus be more able to joyfully contribute our own small but vital part to “the rich, sonorous, interpenetrating rhythms which intonate the Eternal even within the spheres of Human experience.”

Residential Gathering

Holberry House, Nannup, Western Australia

19th- 21st March, 2021

Patricia Sherwood

FIVE MEMBERS and four spiritual seekers (plus 9 year old Evie and Emmie the poodle) were privileged to gather together in a delightful country manor in the English style complete with ponds, ducks and woods. A little piece of paradise in the Australian bush, complete with tiger snake and a fig tree for wisdom.



Our theme was the *Human Temple* and we worked devotedly to embrace its beauty and mystery over the time of our Equinoxal Gathering. As we all work in counselling, aged care or the hospital sector we were longing for spiritual nourishment to help us in these challenging times. On Friday evening Trish opened the gathering with a study on the *Divine Structure of the Human Temple*.



Saturday began with movement conducted by Kathy Maley leading us all into a rhythmical flowing start to the day. This was followed with a splendid meditation on the psalm *Mine eyes do I lift up to the Hills of GOD*.

There was then a study on defending the Human Temple in these times by embracing the Armour of GOD. In the afternoon we spent a few hours painting our unique version of the Armour of GOD using acrylics and sharing how the different aspects of the Armour work through the 7 bodies to protect us. Janet led a moving service on the *Armour of GOD* and the evening concluded with an inspirational PowerPoint presentation by Rosemary on external temple constructions throughout the ages. Representing the Soul's aspiration and inspiration.

On Sunday following our relaxing natural movements, Jane conducted a moving meditation on cancer and the way to its healing. This was followed by a study by Trish on the motion of the aspiration and inspiration through the Human Temple to purify and connect us with the divine flow of energy and we reflected upon the many parts of the body representing different divine attributes. In the afternoon using

watercolour, we each painted our vision of a Divine Human Temple. We concluded with a Worship Service on the *Golden Bowl, and Silver Cord in the Human Temple* led by Trish



Although the temperatures soared to 37 degrees we were blessed with a swimming pool and well-nourished on the physical planes by a catering company who produced gluten free vegan food for us ... their first attempt at such a menu, and a very successful one.

That evening we consolidated the positive vision of the Human Temple clothed with the Armour of GOD to return to our workplaces, our spirits renewed and invigorated by our spiritual fellowship.

Many thanks to the trustees for funding the retreat, and to those Members who sent us copies of the Human Temple, and to the eternal love for making these days of home coming possible for us all.

Thoughts on the Pineal and Pituitary Glands

Margery Van Zyl

And all the parts of the body, every one of which is sacred, are intimately associated with the inner bodies, and even with the Divine Self who is in Principle, miniature of the Eternal Mystery.

Divine Renaissance I, p43

IN THESE UNUSUAL TIMES, we are more aware than ever of the evil that has been cast onto the outer planes of the Earth and it behoves us to try and live according to the tenets of the Teachings. I was therefore surprised to read in the recent Australian Newsletter that Melatonin (the precious substance made by the Pineal Gland) could be bought over the counter in the USA and used as a 'Star Helper' to

boost the Immune System in coping with the Covid-19 virus. I know that it is used in the United States to help deal with jet lag.

Our founder talks so often of the Pineal and the Pituitary as the highest centres and writes unfoldments on the Ductless Glands, which we call the Endocrine System and which I feel is a link between our physical bodies and our inner lives. Endocrine means inner judgement and there is a wonderful feedback system whereby the products of these glands (hormones) are carefully balanced by the higher centre known as the Pituitary, “the conductor of the hormone orchestra.” I have always felt that we should interfere with those hormone levels as little as possible so that the inner bodies too are not interfered with and can get the help that they need from the Divine Centre towards healing and regeneration.

It is known in the medical world that the use of the contraceptive pill with its ovarian hormones of oestrogen and progesterone can alter the output of melatonin from the pineal; likewise the use of HRT (Hormone Replacement Therapy) in menopausal women. Our founder describes the Pituitary Gland held aloft with four horns of power, (*Herald XXII*, p75) and this is even so where it lies in the brain behind the bridge of the nose in a saddle protected by four horns of bone.

The Pineal is deep in the brain tissue the size of a pinhead and its precious hormone melatonin controls fundamental functions such as the circadian rhythm – our waking sleeping patterns and many other delicate mechanisms in the body. Many of us wonder about these two cups and might it be that the Pineal is the chalice and the Pituitary the cup that distributes?

Sitting like caps on the top of each Kidney are the Adrenal Glands with their output of adrenalin and steroids. These hormones can be helpful and even life-saving but are used with great caution by the medical profession. I, myself, have tried to avoid the use of steroid ointments though sorely tempted in some of life’s challenging situations.

We all know of the Thyroid gland and its over and under functioning in the physical body yet we read:

The Thyroid Gland and the Pituitary body and the two streams I speak of are entirely members of and vehicles for the work of the Ætheric body.

Herald XXII, p75

The Thyroid too is finely balanced in its output and if uncontrolled, perhaps by hurt to the Ætheric, can make day-to-day living difficult. The medical world can use a synthetic version of its hormone, with great care and constant supervision, to restore a balanced life of service. Likewise an excess output can be carefully reduced and control restored.

I think that the automatic nervous System might be another link with the inner bodies and with the streams, which Our founder describes emanating from the Standard with its two Witnesses, which have to do with functioning. (*Divine Renaissance I, p43*). This automatic nervous System, of whose working we are usually unaware, runs from spinal centres to every part, from the tiniest arteriole to the pupil of the eye. This is the sympathetic-parasympathetic system, very finely balanced and often treated with great sensitivity by Craniosacral Osteopaths.

Now connected with the spine ... if a doctor were looking on the spinal column, and a physiologist observing, neither would see the two ducts (so I have to call them though they are invisible conduits) one on each side of that column; ...

Now the two streams flow right and left ... and communicate magnetic streams from the Ætheric Body

Herald XXII, pp74 and 75

In the end we return to the Pineal:

... the innermost Eternity or Dimension is realised only through the Spirit; but through the Pineal the Glory of the LORD can descend to fill the Being, giving to the Being, vision. It is the covered tent, over which the Glory of the LORD abides. But the *realisation* of the LORD HIMSELF is in the Spirit.

Herald XXI, p15

Inspirational Thoughts

Sons of Compassion.

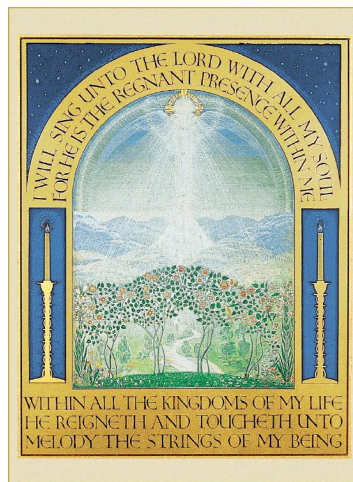
Blessed are the compassionate, and those whose heart is full of sweet understanding. They reveal the way of Angelic Love.

Mock no one's sorrow, and say not that it should not have been. Rather try to be full of the understanding of each soul's travail out of the Night into the Day.

Being compassionate even though you must needs be silent through being unable to comprehend. The Angels of GOD in the Heavens, and on the Earth, follow with tender love the Soul's travail through the Path in which the burden is borne, to the Goal when joy cometh.

Before Soul-sorrow ever be reverent. Where ye cannot understand either the cause of the nature of the sorrow, let reverent and tender love be manifested. Your compassion will comfort. And if you should be able to comprehend the mystery of such travail, your love in its reverent tenderness will be as balm .

From Life's Mysteries Unveiled, by John Todd Ferrier



ORDER OF THE CROSS LITERATURE

The primary books written by John Todd Ferrier are available to purchase by contacting one of the people below, depending on your location.

Books

The Master: His Life and Teachings	£5.00
The Logia or Sayings of the Master	£5.00
Life's Mysteries Unveiled	£5.00
Life's Mysteries Unveiled – PAPERBACK	£4.00
The Divine Renaissance Vol. 1	£5.00
The Divine Renaissance Vol. 2	£5.00
The Message of Ezekiel	£5.00
The Mystery of the Light Within Us	£5.00
The Message of Isaiah	£5.00
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UK: Contact Margaret Jack

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North America: Contact Alexander Guza Email:

literature.usa@orderofthecross.org

Australia & New Zealand Contact Claire Ede Email:

literature.au@orderofthecross.org

Communal Sharing Circle: Services and Studies by Phone

THE COMMUNAL SHARING CIRCLE is international and open to all. Join us as a reader or a listener—all you need is a phone!

Readings taken from the books are referenced on the calendar below; others require a service document. To receive documents by mail or email, please contact the Coordinator (see page 13).

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 and dial-in numbers are listed on pages 13 and 14. If possible, please call in before the scheduled hour.

SCHEDULE

MAY

- | | | |
|----|--------|---|
| 2 | I & II | Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Christa Lewin
<i>H.31, p.66-82 – The Garments of the Sons of GOD</i> |
| 9 | I & II | Worship Service – Ministrant: Sera Smolen
<i>Time and Eternity</i> [document] |
| 16 | I & II | Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Readings from: <i>Thoughts for the Day</i> [booklet] |
| 23 | I & II | Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Ian van Zyl
<i>Herald 12, p.91-107 – The House of Israel</i> |

JUNE

- 6 I & II Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Jane Bennett
DR II, p.329-342 – *The Divine Passion*
- 13 I & II Worship Service – Ministrant: Jean Laverack
DR I, p.77-92 – *The Eternal Mystery*
- 20 I & II Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Readings from: *Thoughts for the Day* [booklet]
- 27 I & II Worship Service – Ministrant: Jan Holmes
The Abrahamic Story [document]

JULY

- 4 I & II Worship Service – Ministrant: Patricia Sherwood
The Sacred Fire [document]
- 11 I & II Communal Sharing – Ministrant: Lindajean Stewart
Herald 10, p. 111-125 – *The Divine Law of Motion*
- 18 I & II Spiritual Linking – Ministrant: Christopher Nye
Readings from: *Thoughts for the Day* [booklet]
- 25 I & II Worship Service – Ministrant: June Young
The Taking of the City of Jericho [document]

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 (next page) according to whether your area is currently observing Standard or Daylight Savings Time. For the months of May, June and July, schedule A is in effect in all areas.

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

**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: 08:00 UTC

9 am BST (U.K.)

4 pm AWST

6 pm AEST

8 pm NZST

(1 am PDT) (USA)

III 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**

I B: 00:00 UTC (= GMT)

4 pm PST (Sat. eve.)

7 pm EST (Sat. eve.)

8 am AWST

11 am AEDT

1 pm NZDT

II B: 08:00 UTC

8 am GMT (U.K.)

4 pm AWST

7 pm AEDT

9 pm NZDT

(12 am PST) (USA)

III 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)	



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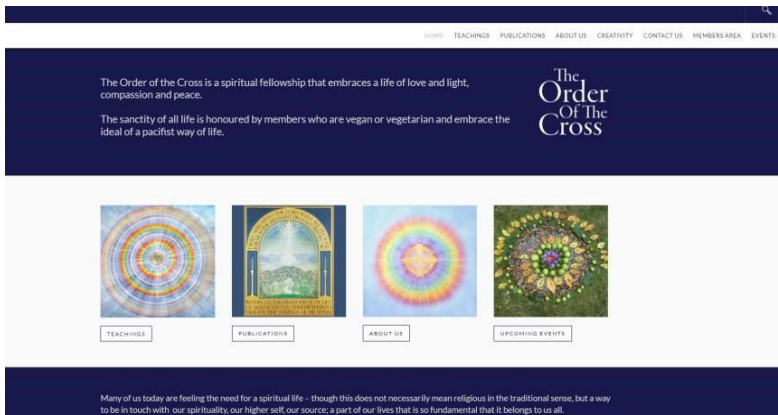
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Spiritual Reflections Publication Timetable

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

The next issue of Spiritual Reflections will be published at the beginning of August 2021.