



The
Order
Of The
Cross

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

December 2025



Angels & Shepherds issue

COMPASSION

PITY

LOVE

The Order Of The Cross

SPIRITUAL AIMS AND IDEALS

The Order is an informal Fellowship;
having for its service in life the cultivation of the
Spirit of Love towards all souls: Helping the weak
and defending the defenceless and oppressed;
Abstaining from hurting the creatures, eschewing
bloodshed and flesh eating, and living upon the
pure foods so abundantly provided by nature;
Walking in the Mystic Way of Life, whose Path
leads to the realization of the Christhood; And
sending forth the Mystic Teachings unto all
who may be able to receive them - those sacred
interpretations of the Soul, the Christhood, and
the Divine Love and Wisdom, for which the Order
of the Cross stands.

REDEMPTION

REGENERATION

ILLUMINATION

SELF-ABANDONMENT

SELF-SACRIFICE

SELF-DENIAL

SERVICE

DEVOTION

PURITY



Welcome to the latest issue of *Spiritual Reflections* - a journal for Enquirers of the Message of The Order of the Cross.

This latest issue aims to explore the wonderful theme of Angels and Shepherds.

The Order is a Global Fellowship with groups meeting in the UK, America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and a few members in other parts of the World.

The Fellowship was founded by the Reverend John Todd Ferrier to present the World with a new way of reading, understanding and living the Christian faith; and to further the Aims and Ideals of living a pure life with no harm coming to any of the creatures, or to our fellow man. This is a life of pacifism where every man, woman and child knows Love and respect.

Our books are all the work of Our Friend (John Todd Ferrier) and can be found on many platforms as printed books or ebooks, by searching for 'John Todd Ferrier'.

Much more about our beautiful Fellowship can be found at:
www.orderofthecross.org

Spiritual Reflections is edited by Andrea Kerr. She would welcome thoughts, questions, comments and contributions from our readers.

These can be sent to: **editor@orderofthecross.org**



We all have Our Angels

We are all ministered unto by Angels. We all have the correspondence within us of the Angel of His Presence, though the correspondence may not yet be unveiled within the Being, and so there has as yet come no high realization of that most Blessed and Glorious Presence. But the Angels talk with us, they commune with us, they walk with us. We may be ever in their company, always sharing something of their Blessedness and their Ministry. For it is thus Souls grow, it is thus they move through the ages. It is thus they climb the Hills in their Processional and pass from state to state, summit to summit. It is thus they come to know more and still more of the Divine Reality.



Have you never talked with your own Angel? He will have spoken to you many times. For the Angel of His Presence is in our constitution, though not in the fulness of the Divine World sense, where HE assumes the Presence and Fashion of ADONAI HIMSELF, nor in the Celestial degree wherein HE becomes the concrete Exposition [of the Eternal Mystery] within the Inner Realm of a Star, and even within the Kingdoms, the higher Kingdoms of the Earth, when unfallen. HE speaks within the Soul through His Own Presence there. It may be but a miniature, but it is real. It is of that Living Substance that can grow, become richer, fuller and know the vitalization that results from the Motion of the Eternal Breath or Spirit of the FATHER-MOTHER.

Walk through life in the consciousness that you are ensphered from His High Realm, for the Angels may be ministering in lower estates than oft-times they are accustomed to do, to meet your needs for the present hour. Walk and serve in the consciousness that through His Angel in you HE is calling, gradually unveiling, drawing aside or parting the curtains, revealing to you something more of the Mystery of HIMSELF and thereby enriching you to enable you in that day of high realization to endure that which the realization brings. This is something much more than knowledge.

- *The Herald of the Cross*,
Vol 19, pages 156 - 157



The Order of the Cross Publications

This issue's featured book is '*The Logia or Sayings of The Master*'



The Logia or Sayings of The Master



J. Todd Ferrier

The Teachings contained in this Message are universal in their scope, revealing the oneness of all life and the unity of all true religious aspiration. They show that many of the tradition Christian teachings are mystical and allegorical in nature. Thus, the names Jesus and Christ represent degrees of spiritual consciousness, attainable by all Souls over a period of many lives. Purity of living is essential, embracing such ideals as pacifism and vegetarianism. God is spoken of as the FATHER-MOTHER, emphasizing the dual

mystery of the universe. The unique interpretation of the Sin-Offering, or Oblation, is profound, for it is shown to be a supreme example of the majesty, omnipotence and sacrifice of the Divine Love.

There are many levels of truth to be gradually uncovered as the seeker pursues the path indicated, for a truth can only be known in the degree to which it is embodied. ... The book concludes with the reinterpreted text of the Apocalypse.

This book and several others can be ordered free of charge and postage. Visit: www.orderofthecross.org/publications/

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

UK - contact Margaret Jack: literature.uk@orderofthecross.org

North America - contact Alexander Guza: literature.usa@orderofthecross.org

Australia & New Zealand - contact Claire Ede: literature.au@orderofthecross.org

Everyone remembers the Angels at Christmas time; and many forget all about them until perhaps at Eastertime. Then, all too soon, Christmas comes round again and we look out for cards with beautiful Angels once more.

But just as the Christ-mass can be at any time of the year so also the Angels are with us always. They are a reality and are part of the unseen, though no less real, World and they speak to us in our innermost Being.



The Rev. John Todd Ferrier writes:

Painting by Amy Todd Ferrier

“In their forms the Angels are very much like ourselves. They have the most delicate human bodies, very pure and capable of revealing through them the Mystery of GOD. They never wear black, for they love all the colours of the Rainbow and Spectrum. Some are in White, others in Ruby, Sardius, Topaz, Emerald, Sapphire, Indigo-Amethyst, and Violet Amethyst or Heliotrope. But all of them are most radiant, and their robes are of such fine spiritual fabric that they can become translucent and transparent. When they extend some of their Planes, as is the case in special service, they appear to have wings for flight. But they also have the power to use their wings for defence, should such be necessary. And some are given a ministry of protection to children...

Thus would I have you walk and serve in your life, conscious always that the Angels are near you ministering, guarding you in so far as they may without taking from you the wisdom you yourselves must exercise and the responsibilities you must carry. And in your daily life, in joyful play or earnest service and study, remember the Angels are near you to talk with you, and to help you to serve others even as they minister unto you.”

- The Herald of the Cross, Vol 8, pages 81 - 82

Returning to the Sheepfold in this Fallen World

Alison Muirhead

While watching the sheep in the field at the bottom of my garden, I often see a worldly example of the nature of Shepherding and the Sheepfold. Shepherding in the sense of nurturing and guiding. Sheepfold, as in a safe place where sheep are brought together as one for a common purpose.



I have learned a great deal about sheep and their care since I moved to our cottage on the farm. Our neighbour is the shepherd. He gives his flock constant attention, being out in the fields literally morning, noon and night. He watches for their welfare, making sure they are well fed and bringing medicine when they are sick. He knows all their individual characteristics. There is a ewe who only feels safe in one field and lives in her chosen corner, content to be on her own. There is one who follows him everywhere and is an escape artist 'extraordinaire' and there are the mothering ones who care for orphaned lambs. There are those who prefer to be in the herd where they find security in numbers. All are watched over and tended well. They all flock to him when he goes into the field and follow him when he leads them out to go to pastures new. Occasionally, we help, when we find an adventurous sheep which has got stuck in a hedge, no doubt while searching for the juiciest grass!

The parallels to our experiences on this planet are plain to see. The old adages of 'As above, so below', and 'As within, so without' are also clear as they unfold in our daily lives. We are watched over constantly by the angels whilst having free will to explore our world in our individual way. On the outer we have freedom to think for ourselves and on the inner to

connect with our intuition. We go astray outwardly and need guidance to find our way again. Often an ‘earth angel’ will step in to provide that nudge, that inspiration, that word or deed that guides us back. Within, we may need to seek the Silence and let our ‘remembering’ what it was like to be in the Sheepfold of our Homeland, let it soak in and help us find and allow that feeling of peace, belonging, and being overshadowed fill us. We experience the feeling of being overshadowed by our great Shepherd, how we are looked after and loved.

Herald 24, page 55

“It is the Day of the Return – The Day of the Return, think of it, to Bozrah! Yes; those who came out from Bozrah in the divine World as Celestial Children are to return to that Homeland; but they are asked to return in consciousness and in estate, and to live the life that was manifest then; to make it manifest in the best possible way, amidst the conditions in the Earth, revealing that they are Sons of God – not claiming to be so, no; there is no need.”

For me, Shepherding happens above, below, without and within. It is necessary and available for all. Nurturing and guidance come in many guises and from many directions: from family, friends, strangers, from books and philosophies, contemplation and fellowship, beautiful music and art, from angelic and archangelic messages, cherubic and seraphic songs. Each has their own pace, direction and realisation yet all with one great purpose, to enable progress for all on our returning journeys.

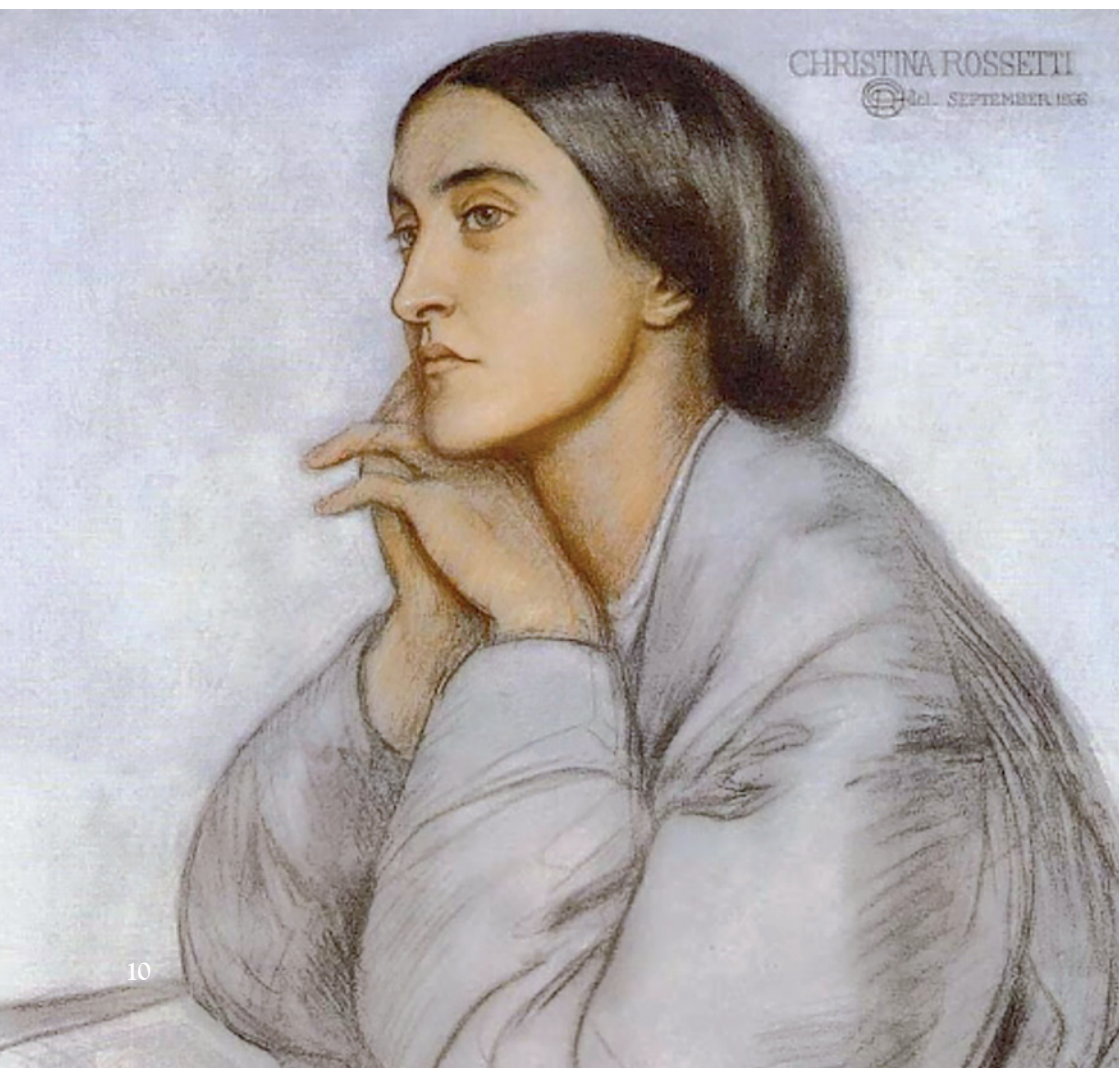




Christina Rossetti (1830 - 94)

Paul Renshaw

This sensitive innovative Victorian is so apt for our Christmas issue. Her work includes favourites such as *A BIRTHDAY* (My heart is like a singing bird), *REMEMBER* (Remember me when I am gone away), but perhaps best known for *IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER* a staple of almost every



Carol Service in the land. But I would like to quote two of the three verses of another Carol, LOVE CAME DOWN AT CHRISTMAS which is in the Order's hymnal.

*Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love Divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and Angels gave the sign.*

*Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.*

This harmonizes so well with the Order Teachings of Love. In this short tribute I would like to delve into her 'NURSERY RHYME BOOK' to extract the following gentle yet pertinent verse; just one from over a hundred brief rhymes!

*Hurt no living thing;
Ladybird, nor butterfly,
Nor moth with dusty wing,
Nor cricket chirping cheerily,
Nor grasshopper so light of leap,
Nor dancing gnat, nor beetle fat,
Nor harmless worms that creep.*

We do not know for certain if she was a vegetarian but she was known for opposing animal experimentation and cruelty. So, not the fey maiden lady she has sometimes been mistaken for.

Prolific in output this devout High Anglican's work is worth searching for many lesser known but still sparkling gems. Much of her 'soon' is found there.



The 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 from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Readings taken from the books are referenced on the schedule on the next page. Local call times, dial-in numbers and internet access link are listed on the following pages. Please call in before the scheduled hour.

International phone numbers for communal sharing calls	
Country	Phone Number
Australia	+61 2 9091 7603
Canada	+1 647 497 9373
France	+33 430 001 242
Ireland	+353 15 360 756
New Zealand	+64 9 913 2226
Sweden	+46 853 527 818
United Kingdom	+44 808 178 0872
United States	+1 571 317 3116
Access Code: 506-112-581 # <i>(same for all areas)</i>	

Schedule - December 2025 to March 2026

December 2025

- 7 'At the Altar' (Divine Renaissance Vol 1, p361) – Michael Arcese
- 14 'The Comfort of God', (Herald 30, p56) – Elsie Danielsson
- 21 'All Aspirations Aspect the Divine' (Isaiah, p5) – Christopher Nye
- 28 'Dreams, Visions & Recoveries' (Herald 13 p36) – Lindajeane Stewart

January 2026

- 4 Abraham and Sarah (H XXIV p3) – Michael Arcese
- 11 The Presentation in the Temple (H XXX p43) – Elsie Danielsson
- 18 See Spiritual Linking – Christopher Nye.
The Church of the Living Christ (DR II p209)
- 25 The Living Streams (H XXVIII p98) – Lindajeane Stewart

February 2026

- Absolute Pacifism (H XXII p259 & H XIII p8) – Patrick Barnes
- 8 The Benediction (H XIX p71) – Sara Smolen
- 15 Prayer in the True Place (H XXIII p 151) – Patrick Barnes
- 22 The Passion of the Soul (LMU p290) – Richard Palmer
- 29 Holy Convocation (LMU p71) – Michael Arcese

March 2026

- 6 Mystery Named Will of God (H XXV p161) – Michael Arcese
- 13 Transformation House of Israel (H XXVI p67) – Patrick Barnes
- 20 Mystery of Prayer in Divine Gov (DRII p477) – Richard Palmer
- 27 Can the Christhood Arise (H XV p53) – Ian van Zyl

Meeting Time is: California time (PST/PDT), 9am Sunday morning, all year round regardless of standard or daylight time. (see Time Conversion Chart overleaf).

For up-to-date information, contact one of the Communal Sharing Coordinators:

Lindajeane Stewart | ljstwr69@yahoo.com | 484-358-6681

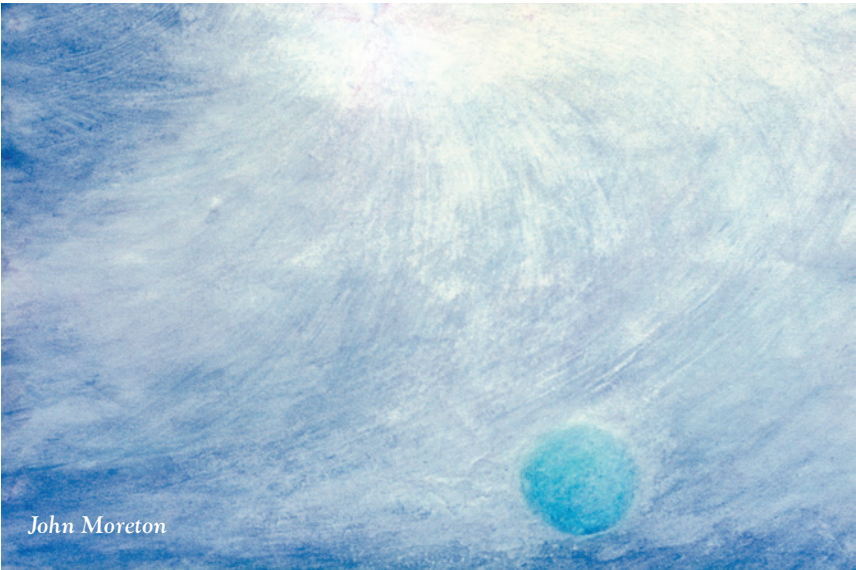
Elsie Danielson | elsiedanielsson@outlook.com | 760-835-4579

Michael Arcese | arcesem@gmail.com | 425-531-178

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

<https://meet.goto.com/506112581>

Time Conversion Chart	
A – Daylight Saving Time in Northern Hemisphere; Standard Time in Southern Hemisphere	B – Standard Time in Northern Hemisphere; Daylight Saving Time in Southern Hemisphere
IA: 00:00 UTC (= GMT) 5pm PDT (Previous eve.) 8pm EDT (Previous eve.) 8am AWST 10am AEST 12pm NZST	IB: 00:00 UTC (= GMT) 4pm PST (Previous eve.) 7pm EST (Previous eve.) 8am AWST 11am AEDT 1pm NZDT
IIA: 16:00 UTC 9am PDT 12pm EDT 5pm BST (UK) (12am next day AWST) (4am next day NZST)	IIB: 16:00 UTC 8am PST 11am EST 4pm GMT (U.K.) (12am next day AWST) (5am next day NZDT)



John Moreton

Spiritual Linking - Christopher Nye

The Reading for December is:

‘All Aspirations Aspect The Divine’

Isaiah, part 1, pages 5 - 15.

It will take place on Sunday 21st of December.

The Reading for January is:

‘All Aspirations Aspect The Divine’

Isaiah, part 2, pages 15 - 22.

It will take place on Sunday 18th of January.

The Reading for February is:

‘The Soul’s Divine Inheritance’

Life’s Mysteries Unveiled, page 174.

It will take place on Sunday 15 of February.

The Readings will take place at 1600 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.



Winter scene - Lancashire, UK



Vegan Asparagus Tart with Herbed Cashew Cream

Prep Time: 15 minutes. Bake Time: 20 mins.

Total Time: 35 minutes. Serves 6.

An easy and delicious appetiser. This vegan asparagus tart with herbed cashew cream is the perfect way to start any gathering.



Ingredients

1 sheet vegan puff pastry (26x26cm / 10.2x10.2 inches or similar).

Herbed cashew cream.

1 cup / 140g raw cashews, soaked*.

2 tablespoon lemon juice .

½ teaspoon French or Dijon mustard.

1 large garlic clove

1 tablespoon nutritional yeast.

½ teaspoon salt.

¼ cup water.

1 cup fresh herbs, roughly chopped (you can use whatever you have on hand. I used dill, oregano, basil, and chives).

1½ bunches asparagus, tough ends trimmed.

Olive oil, for drizzling.

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 200°C (390°F) and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Remove your sheet of puff pastry from the freezer and place it on the baking sheet to thaw out as per packet instructions and set aside.

Add all the cashew cream ingredients besides the herbs to a small food processor (or high-speed blender) and process for around 90 seconds to 2 minutes or until you reach a silky smooth consistency. Make sure you're scraping down the sides as you go.

Add the fresh herbs and pulse a few times to incorporate.

Spread the cashew cream over the puff pastry evenly, leaving about an inch / 2.5cm around the edges.

Wash and trim your asparagus and then layer it over the top of the cashew cream.

I like to do the alternating top to tail method and drizzle lightly with some olive oil.

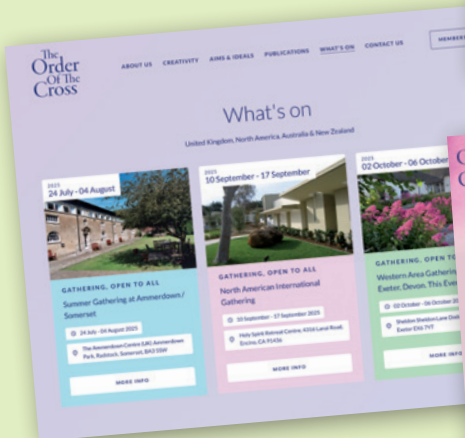
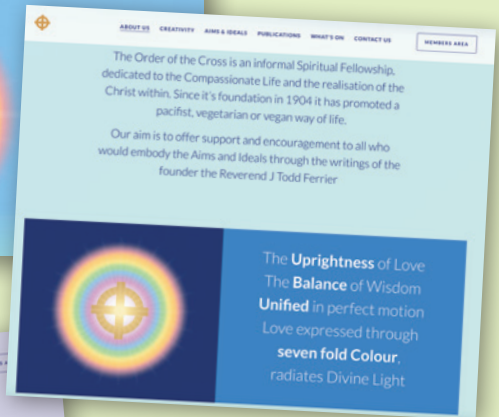
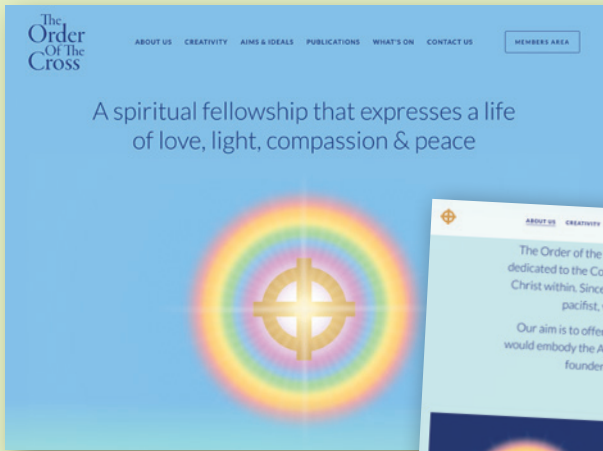
Place in the preheated oven and bake for around 20-25 minutes or until the puff pastry is golden and crispy.

Cut into 6 equal portions and serve while warm.

Visit our new website!

Our new website is now available to visit. You will find lots of information about our Fellowship - our publications and how to order them, examples of our Members creativity from music to poetry and details on our regular Gatherings throughout the world. Please enjoy!

www.orderofthecross.org



Gatherings in 2026

Here is a preview of the Gatherings planned for 2026. Enquirers are very welcome to attend any of the Gatherings below.

To find out more information and to book, please visit the 'What's On' section of our website: www.orderofthecross.org/events/

Swanage Creative Gathering - Wednesday 25th - Thursday 2nd April

Held in the town of Swanage, Dorset, UK.

Glenthorne Spring Gathering - Tuesday 12th - Tuesday 19th May

Held near the village of Grasmere in the English Lake District.

Ammerdown Family Week - Tuesday 28th - Monday 3rd August

Held near the town of Radstock, Somerset, UK.

Sheldon Gathering - Thursday 1st - Monday 5th October

Held near the City of Exeter, Devon, UK.



The Glenthorne Gathering, May 2025

Dance of the Angels

Angels spiral to the Centre,
from a ring around the World,
Like a flag of sevenfold light,
unloosened, spreading, and unfurled,
Blessing Judah's Children, dancing
with their hearts aflame,
Blessing Him, the Lord of Love,
from Whom their blessing came.

Over cities filled with evil,
over forests dense,
Over deserts, warring nations,
politicians tense,
Dance the Angels in the Love Dance,
with the beat of winged feet,
Hear ye not the Music, ye who walk
along the crowded street?

Breaths are blowing,
Love o'er flowing,
Healing every land.
Peace bestowing –
Trust is growing – as from heart and hand.
Spreads the Fire from HIS High Altar
Poured through Angel throngs,
Bringing joy and radiant loving,
Healing Judah's ancient wrongs.
“See the Angels Dance, my People, hear the
Music swell,
Join them in the joy of healing,
O MY IS-RA-EL!”

By Mary Constance Evans



How May I See an Angel?

Question: How may I see an Angel?

Answer: In my Childhood I used to love to read about Angels. And I longed to see them, to hear their voices, and to feel their touch. There was a time when they could be seen by other than what is called clairvoyance. But Angels on the Earth planes now-a-days, are not seen that way, because of Earth conditions. The day will come when it will be possible even for the Children of the Earth to see the Angels. Yet you can now feel them; and you can become conscious that they are with you.

I will give you an illustration. I should say to you that I have seen Angels many, many times, though I did not when I was a little boy and greatly longed to see them. I had to wait to see them. When I go into gardens and walk amongst the flowers, I know Angels are with me, and also many of the Little People, whom we speak of as Fairies. The Little People attend to the trees and the flowers. Walking amongst the trees and looking on the flowers, I can see and hear the Angels.

So I would say to you, the day will come when it may be possible for you to see the Angels; yes, actually to see them in their lovely forms. But do not be over-anxious about that. Rather seek to feel their presence with you day by day as you walk through life. Remember that they are never far away, that the Great Love we name our FATHER-MOTHER, sees that we are ministered unto constantly. If we keep our faces to the Light, His Light will fill us. Be therefore full of hope.

- *The Rev John Todd Ferrier*



Glenthorne

I am in a bowl of beauty
Sunlight scratches
the surrounding hills
Scraggy with grandeur and grace
The trees – Oh the trees – heal;
sure with their tender strength
Birdsong is a benediction
a symphony of effervescence
I turn my face to the Eternal
My arms embrace this bowl
of Love.

By Paul Renshaw



Virtual Clerk

A few years ago, an online Clerk was appointed and given the name, Virtual Clerk. The purpose of this Clerk was simply to help all members and enquirers to find an online group that would suit their needs. Some of the groups listen and read by telephone link, for example Communal Sharing, set up in North America by Esther Gowan and now loved by many worldwide. Others like the face to face of Zoom groups, and along with the 'phone groups, these are now part of spiritual life. Many groups were formed during the Covid epidemic, and many members and enquirers are finding them very helpful.

Support is given with setting up the App on the PC, laptop or iPad and learning how to join in. If you would welcome more information, please get in touch with Andrea Kerr 01698 712647

or email dm.akerr26@btinternet.com. You can also find out more, by contacting your area clerk who will help with any further questions and if you wish, refer you to Andrea.



Changed your address or other details?

Please let Ian Heathcote know: membership@orderofthecross.org
This will ensure that you won't miss an issue of Spiritual Reflections and that your contact details are updated on our mailing list.

If anyone wishes to reproduce a portion of Spiritual Reflections, permission should be sought from the editor in advance:

editor@orderofthecross.org

*All articles are the individual responsibility of the writers
and should not be taken as authoritative.*



A Message for Everyone this Christ-Mass

“It should be a time of joy and gladness wherein none lacked,
and all should feel the call to serve one another and thus to
render high service unto the Divine Lord.

For not only should associations most blessed and sacred
be gathered up into the thought of the Season, but the most
beautiful and illumining radiations of Love and Wisdom
should proceed from the central thought of the Season, and be
manifested unto all souls and all creatures.”

*The Rev John Todd Ferrier,
from Volume 8 of the Herald of the Cross
(also as a separate booklet THE SEASON OF THE CHRIST-MAS)*

Greetings to all our readers from the
Spiritual Reflections Team



THE ORDER OF THE CROSS

At The Abbey, The Green, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, OX14 4AF

light@orderofthecross.org | www.orderofthecross.org

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