



The
Order
Of The
Cross

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

September 2026



*The colours of Autumn and
the Tree of Life*



An illumination by Frank Buist,
a Member of the Order of the Cross.

For more details on Frank's illuminations go to page 13



Welcome to the latest issue of *Spiritual Reflections* - a quarterly publication for Enquirers and also Members of the Order of the Cross.

This latest issue aims to explore the wonderful theme of
The colours of Autumn and the Tree of Life.

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 a spiritual life; 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.

The books are all the work of our Founder, John Todd Ferrier, and can be found on our website www.orderofthecross.org and on many platforms as printed books, ebooks or audio books, by searching for 'John Todd Ferrier'.

Much more about our beautiful Fellowship can also be found on our website.

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

These can be sent to: sreditor@orderofthecross.org



Trees

David Muir

The trees are 'Oh so lovely' at this time of year. I am writing this as the new spring green of the leaves has just covered the old bare branches and the trees now look filled out and amazingly fresh. Their canopy, the freshness and their uprightness are such an inspiration. It is not surprising we have the modern expression 'forest bathing'. Walking amongst the trees is so therapeutic, they give off such an atmosphere.

Continued opposite...



The tree is a great example of the infinite individuality of life and the angelic expressions of life in the plant kingdom. Though there are countless trees growing in the world, no one is identical to another, no leaf in each tree is identical to any other and yet every leaf is important to the growth of the tree. So is our life as human souls, no two of us are alike, and however many we are, we are all important to the growth of the planet.

We can also think of the nature and life of the tree. It is just ‘there’ it cannot move away, it grows where it stands. It just does its own thing where it is. Perhaps a lesson for us? Do we rush about striving to do great things? Maybe just letting ourselves grow where we are will lead to a beautiful manifestation and flowering?

In our teachings, the Tree of Life has great significance. It is a great symbol to teach us of the uprightness of the Life we should live and the balance of the thoughts we should nurture. If we think of the life of the tree – it gathers from the mysterious depths of the roots, assimilates the nourishment and raises it to ultimately express the beauty of its development in the canopy, leaves and flowers. Even during the months of winter, we can imagine the roots gathering in readiness for the spring’s flourishing. So for us, the spiritual lesson is that we gather of the mystery of the unseen, assimilating it as nourishment. During those times of ‘ingathering’ we grow in inner realisation. Finally, when our spring comes we express and manifest our inner growth as our flowers of Love in service.

From our teachings:



“The Tree is used as a symbol of the Tree of Life to us, for in a similar way our inner life grows. Our roots are in God; and as we, through thought, desire, our Love, our service in Life, as we draw unto ourselves of goodness and use it, so we grow speedily, we grow stronger, and we are able in the spring (though it is always spring with us in one sense), to make manifest the Body of God in the form of our life, in the attributes with which He has enriched us, in every branch. We can clothe each branch with the leaves of Love and even with the beautiful flowers of Wisdom.”

- Herald 19, pg 229 

On taking up the Office of Virtual Clerk

Alison Muirhead

During 2020 when the outer conditions of Covid made it impossible for groups to meet in person, the Edinburgh Group started meeting on-line. We felt it was important for us to keep our Worship and Fellowship active. We found that not only did our on-line worship continue to nourish our inner life, but that the human contact, even although it was virtual, was clearly vital for our wellbeing.

So, should we now consider virtual Groups to be real? Yes, I think we should, in the sense that real people join on-line and interact with each other and also that we do generate an atmosphere and generate loving streams which are sent forth to this world for healing. Perhaps we should take the meaning of virtual in its sense of full of virtue, rather than the modern aspect which implies unreality and insubstantial.



Whether we meet in person or on-line we bring ourself to the meeting. We each contribute to the atmosphere created and the Love going forth from that meeting. Fellowship together is important. On-line meetings can make this possible. These meetings can bring together people from all round the world and create a regular communication network which is not possible any other way.

In the teachings we can find:

From Herald 12, page 229:

Brotherhoods were meant to be, *“Lovely centres of spiritual Fellowship, veritable Sanctuaries to which Souls would come for comfort, healing, nourishing and guidance...*

So you will understand the importance of the Fellowships. You will send the streams of your Love into them. You will best do so by your own living embodiment..”

As I have taken up the office of Virtual Clerk, I am pondering these things and the role that I can play in supporting the Fellowship to embody the principles in those quotes. Can we be ‘lovely centres of spiritual Fellowship? I think our on-line groups can be lovely centres. We Love the Message and can come together on-line. From our virtual meeting we can send out the streams of our Love.

So, what is the function of the office of Virtual Clerk? Firstly, acknowledging the contribution that virtual meetings play in the life of the Fellowship. and supporting the contribution the other virtual group leaders make. My role looks to be as a communicator, and co-ordinator and a centre of information, advice and expertise. It is important to ensure that all the on-line groups are supported and have a central point of reference and an officer who ‘looks after them’.

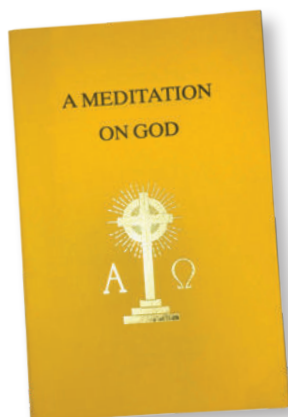
Although there are responsibilities which any group leader or host must be aware of such as, awareness of data protection for contact details, issues of safe-guarding around vulnerable situations and, of course, the technical

things. These are usually nothing to be overly concerned about. Nevertheless, these responsibilities are real and need to be remembered. Anyone wishing to start an on-line group should be aware of them. Anyone who would like to start an on-line group please ask for advice and support.

It is wonderful that there are already fifteen virtual groups supporting and nourishing members world-wide. These virtual meetings create an additional network of beautiful love-streams adding to those generated by 'normal' group worship and gatherings. It is all a very valuable addition to the life of the Fellowship and the furtherance of the Work. ✦



Painting by John Moreton, a Member of the Order of the Cross.



“So, Beloved ones, *meditate*. This is not merely to repeat mantras. Meditate on His Goodness, that you may be good; that is, the exposition of all that is truly beautiful, noble, pure, true. Meditate on Truth; not as mere knowledge, but as that equipoised state of being wherein Righteousness obtains and Equity becomes manifest. Meditate on His Love. And fear not. Oh, dwell in the consciousness of Him! In the measure in

which you can realize that – and such Meditation which is the motion of the Being unto Him, concerning Him, is a prayer, it is a continual prayer – it will flood all your Being with Light and lift you to the threshold of His Dwelling where you will behold His glorious Presence.” ✦

From a Meditation on God, pages 18-19.

This booklet can be ordered for free from our website.

Music for Autumn

The Mamas & The Papas

- California Dreaming

Fanny Mendelssohn

- Das Jahr (piano cycle)

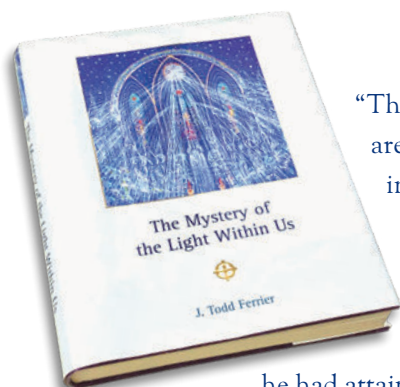
Nat King Cole

- Autumn Leaves

Tchaikovsky

- Autumn from The Seasons





“The story of Eden embodies the divine qualities which are latent in every human Soul. These are revealed in the story of Eden perfectly realized, wherein it is said God walked “in the cool of the day”—an expression full of wonderful tenderness and mystery. Man was able to hear the Voice. He was able to understand what the voice said. Nay,

he had attained to that state of conscious realization wherein he had the right to the Tree of Life—not only the right by his creation, but the right by his attainment. He was in that state wherein he could approach the Tree of Life in the midst of the Garden – which was the Tree of Divine Mystery—and partake of it. The estate of the Adamic Race is therefore revealed in this, that they had attained to such a spiritual and even divine consciousness that they were able to partake of the Tree of Life consciously, and eat of its fruits. For the Tree of Life represents the central Mystery of Being. It represents that Mystery in the Eternal Heavens. It represents the same Mystery at the heart of every Celestial embodiment. It represents the magnetic centre by which all staral systems are held. It represents the magnetic pole of even a world like this. *It represents the magnetic pole of God in you.* ✨

- From *The Mystery of the Light Within*, page 104. This book can be ordered for free from our website.

Colour

What is pink? a rose is pink
By a fountain's brink.
What is red? a poppy's red
In its barley bed.
What is blue? the sky is blue
Where the clouds float thro'.
What is white? a swan is white
Sailing in the light.

What is yellow? pears are yellow,
Rich and ripe and mellow.
What is green? the grass is green,
With small flowers between.
What is violet? clouds are violet
In the summer twilight.
What is orange? Why, an orange,
Just an orange!

Christina Rossetti

Rose's recipe for Tahini dressing

Tahini is a smooth sesame seed paste and staple of Middle Eastern cooking. The word tahini comes from the Arabic word which translates as 'to grind' and describes the way sesame seeds are ground to create this paste.

Ingredients

3 tablespoons light tahini
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon ground cumin
Fresh chopped garlic or garlic powder to taste
And a small amount of salt.

Cooking instructions

Gradually add sufficient hot water to blend the ingredients into a smooth paste. Add the ingredients gradually to get the right consistency for you.

This dressing is good both hot and cold. It was originally a salad dressing but it goes well with oriental dishes, for example a buddha bowl. It is particularly good with tofu and quinoa and also with vegetables.

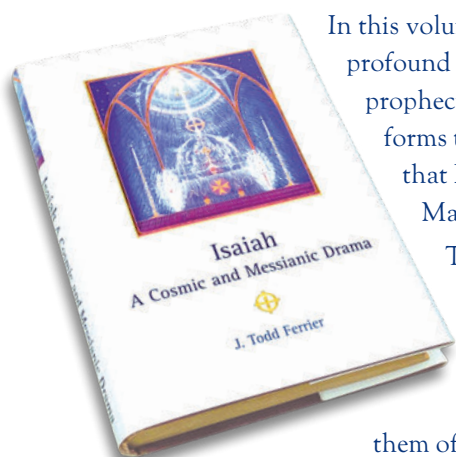
It's a really versatile sauce so do experiment and enjoy!



The Order of the Cross Publications

This issue's featured book is '*Isaiah - a Cosmic and Messianic Drama*'
by John Todd Ferrier

Prior to the Manifestation by the Master known as Jesus Christ, there were many Prophets of whom Isaiah was one. All the prophetic writings in the Old Testament are cryptic. They often present the Eternal ONE in terms contrary to the ways of Divine Love, ascribing human failings to the Divine World.



In this volume the text of Isaiah is re-interpreted with many profound and illuminating notes. The main themes of the prophecy are explained in the accompanying text which forms the major portion of the book. From it we learn that Isaiah's message and the later teachings of the Master are one.

The prophecy is addressed to those who can recognise it as that which they once knew, but had forgotten. It is a clarion call to Israel, not an earthly nation, but to all those who embodied Issa-Ra-El, the presence within them of the Living Flame and Radiance of the LORD

Presence. Isaiah appeals to them to awaken and arise in consciousness to reclaim their spiritual inheritance.

The narrative removes events from local and geographical constraints. It is a story of the Eternal World and its ministry to this planet through great ages. ✚

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: literature.uk@orderofthecross.org

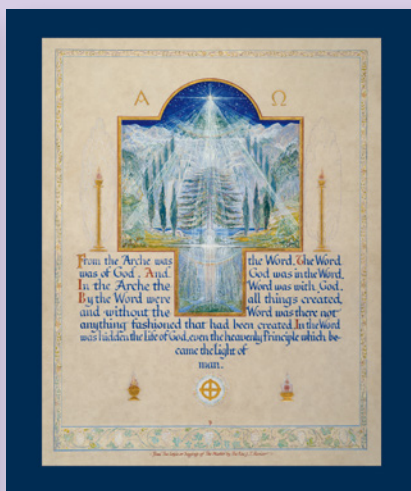
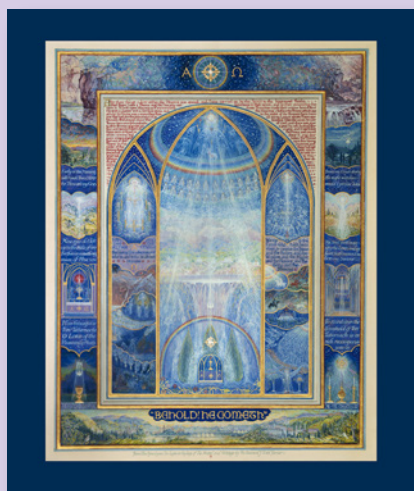
North America - contact: literature.usa@orderofthecross.org

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

The Illuminations of Frank Buist

Available on our website, we have a series of beautiful illuminations by the mid 20th Century artist, Frank Buist, who was a Member of the Order of the Cross. Frank was a gifted artist and all his illuminations were inspired by the writings of John Todd Ferrier. ✚

www.orderofthecross.org/publications/



Farming with compassion in Australia

Patricia Sherwood

Part
Two

Editor's prologue

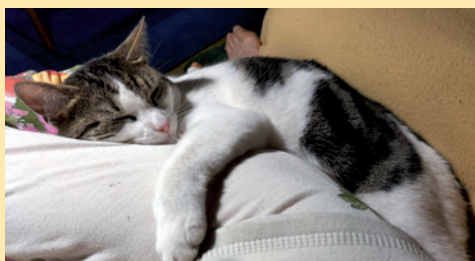
Patricia Sherwood lives in Western Australia near Perth. Strictly vegan, for decades she ran a homestead where compassion for the creatures was the prime management plan. We asked her to write of her experiences and she has given us a lovely glimpse into her life at that time. We have made her article into a series of three. Here is the second part.

There was a wonderful Tibetan Buddhist nun in the nearby town with great compassion. In Buddhism releasing animals facing death is a very important compassion practise so she would collect donations and together in my old station wagon and a trailer with my two children who were 4 and 7, we would go to the local battery farms where the chickens at 12 months were going to be killed. For a dollar a chicken we would buy them 200 or 300 at a time, and we'd be seen going through the local villages with trailer loads of featherless chickens. The most remarkable heartwarming experience is



to see a caged creature like a chicken, who's never seen the sunlight, never felt the wind upon its face, or the touch of the earth under its feet, stand in absolute amazement and astonishment at the beauty of the sky, scan the trees and feel the earth under its feet. The Buddhist nun would do blessings over them and my children helped them learn to walk again and to eat and to scratch. I bless that nun for her great goodness of heart and compassion. She even went to Chinese restaurants where they keep living lobsters in small aquariums till someone orders them and then they go to cook them. She would buy these creatures and then bring them in hessian bags to the big dam on the farm and would release them all into the water.

Well compassionate farming isn't all a bed of roses. Australia has endless feral creatures that cause havoc to the native wildlife and to the environment. Domestic cats the urban people love to throw in the Bush when the fluffy little kittens grow up. They survive by killing everything for miles around. I used to trap these cats, get them desexed and then advertise them to people who were compassionate and who wanted an adult cat not a kitten. 'Greenie' was



'Greenie' at rest!

a domestic cat but had interbred with a wild cat and arrived on my front lawn with three very feral looking kittens. Trapping Greenie was no trouble and finding a house for her among some very wealthy people in the neighbouring city was no problem. They called her Ruby and she lived on fine leather couches overlooking the

harbour. Her 3 kittens were another challenge. They were never quite going to be domestic enough. Two of them I managed to get jobs as stable cats in a nearby equine farm. But one of them was truly damaged.

To go near her one had to wear gloves, face masks, protective clothing because she would just rip you apart regardless of how nice we were, how much we fed her, how much we told her we loved her. Finally, I went to the vet and I asked for some sedatives for the kitten which I gave over the period of a week. She slowed down, let us pat her, and by the end of the week she no longer thought we were the enemy. She was born again as a quiet gentle creature and became a stable cat. 🍀



Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892 -1950)

An American Poet and feminist

Cathy Oerter

Thomas Hardy said that America had two great attractions: the skyscraper and the poetry of Edna St. Vincent Millay.

As a very young girl on a farm in middle America I pondered many things. I would lay upon the green lawn looking upward into the blue cloudless sky wondering where it all began and where it all ended. If there was a brick wall saying, 'the end', what was on the other side of the wall? My spiritual journey of understanding was just beginning.



Edna St. Vincent Millay

Later in life I discovered Millay's poem, *Renascence*. Her words reached into my heart and pulled me into this rather long poem answering my questions in each stanza. Great poets have the gift of being able to tell an entire synopsis of ages in one poem. Edna had just summed up my passion.

Her first person narrative encompassed the relationship of individuals to humanity, nature and the ultimate outcome of knowing those mysteries.

Here is the first verse of the 20 verse poem:

*All I could see from where I stood
Was three long mountains and a wood;
I turned and looked another way,
And saw three islands in a bay.
So with my eyes I traced the line
Of the horizon, thin and fine,
Straight around till I was come
Back to where I'd started from;
And all I saw from where I stood
Was three long mountains and a wood.*



The poem gives a 'permission' to know all things as the heavenly hosts know. But with that knowing comes, regrettably, the pains of becoming the suffering on earth. She begs to return to the world she once knew.

The story is told as a compelling description of how our lives connect with the higher universal spirit within us and throughout the universe. The lesson given was patience. Until we are able to fully comprehend these great mysteries, it may be too difficult to bear. And lesson two, to fully awaken to the seemingly simple beauty around us.

Today, I continue to ponder with that same yearning but am satisfied to unfold gently in my quest to know the secrets of the universe. And they are coming every day. ☸



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>	

Communal Sharing Schedule

September - December 2026

September

- 6 'Electricity, Magnetism and Gravitation', Herald 12, page 28 - *Michael Arcese*
- 13 'The Mystery of Sun Worship', Herald 27, page 58 - *Elsie Danielsson*
- 20 'Palm Sunday', Herald 11, page 119 - *Patrick Barnes*
- 27 'Seven Great Initiations', Part 1, Herald 30, page (to be determined) - *Lindajeane Stewart*

October

- 4 'Divine Omniscience', Herald 26, page 128 - *Michael Arcese*
- 11 'The Life Immortal', Booklet, page 9 - *Elsie Danielsson*
- 18 'The Continuity of Consciousness', booklet - *Richard Palmer*
- 25 'The Secrets of God', The Mystery of the Light Within Us, page 139 - *Lindajeane Stewart*

November

- 1 'the Divine Law of Motion', Herald 10, page 111 - *Michael Arcese*
- 8 'Habukkuk', Minor Prophets, page 147 - *Elsie Danielsson*
- 15 'The Continuity of Consciousness', booklet - *Richard Palmer*
- 22 'Zechariah', Minor Prophets, Part 1, page 182 - *Lindajeane Stewart*

December

- 6 'The Science of Being', Herald 29, page 91 - *Michael Arcese*
- 13 'Mans' Place in the Universe', Herald 18, page 72 - *Elsie Daniellson*
- 20 'The Christ Festival', booklet - *Richard Palmer*
- 27 'Zechariah', Minor Prophets, Part 2, (page to be determined) - *Lindajeane Stewart*

Meeting Times

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

The Western USA Reading Circle - contact: Peter Burk at peterburk@earthlink.net or (909)406-1420. Meets every Monday afternoon at 1:00 pm, Pacific Time.

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

Lindajeane Stewart | ljstwr_69@yahoo.com | 484-358-6681

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

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

Join from your digital device 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)



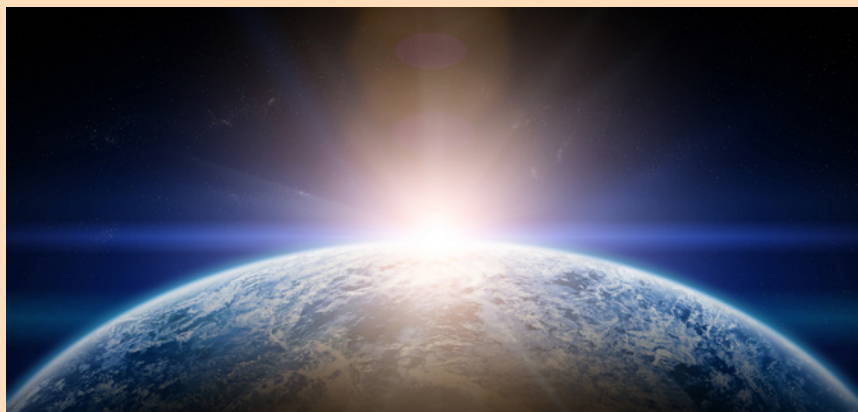
Lake District stream in the Autumn

A Cosmic Vision

“It is possible to have a Cosmic Vision of GOD. Many think that they have this Vision when they have but a representation of ADONAI in a planetary constitution even like this one in the unfallen days, but that is only a comparative Cosmic Vision. ... Yet even greater and grander is His Fashion in a Divine Kingdom, as in a Realm like Sirius. And yet still greater and grander in His Fashion when another form of Cosmic presentation of HIMSELF is made to the Being, as if the whole Universe were gathered up into one concrete exposition of His Sacred Mystery as it is in the Divine Vision of ADONAI, when HE is seen as KING, the Regnant ONE of all the Reigning Kings of the Worlds, and LORD of All, the Administrator, the ONE Who gives and receives, Whose Law commands and it is fulfilled.

Now it is not unnatural to feel overwhelmed with Divine Awe in the conscious approach to the Eternal ONE. We cannot be too reverent. ... When HE approaches, our Being bows before HIM; the whole Being bows before HIM. You will understand how, when that Prayer of Prayers is spoken ... I myself feel the dual motion, the centrifugal and the centripetal, in the hands and arms making the Sign of the Cross before HIM Who is THE SIGN OF THE CROSS, as we pray to HIM that Prayer so Soulic, so intimate, so lowly, so transcendent, so expressive of our Childhood of our absolute dependence on HIM.” ✚

Herald 26, page 152



Autumn Colours

Bev Mills

I have always loved the season of Autumn and the vibrant colours: the reds - deep crimson, terracotta, rich burgundy; the oranges - vibrant amber, pumpkin spice and burnt orange; the yellows - bright gold and mustard yellow and the greens - warm olive and moss green.

When I was a teacher I loved taking my class outside to enjoy the colour and texture of this wonderful season, whether it be to play in the Autumn leaves, kicking them up and crunching through them, or collecting Autumn treasures - chestnuts, acorns, jewel-like berries and the great variety of leaves in numerous shapes and colours - a real sensual treat!





Whilst walking amidst the warm, rich hues which are seen in the brilliant Autumn colouring of trees and shrubs that so touches my heart, I am reminded of John Todd Ferrier's writing on colour rays in *Life's Mysteries Unveiled*:

“Red: Love that gives Life with Joy. Orange: Love that is illumined with the Counsel of Heaven. Yellow: Love that teaches Adoration as the great power for the ascension of the Soul. Green: Love that knows no limitation in its Compassion, nor even in its pity.”

It is no wonder Autumn is such a beloved season which touches so many people with its beauty and why we appreciate the outdoors at this time.

We are reminded by John Todd Ferrier in *Herald XI* to: ***“Walk through life with your eyes open that you may see Him in everything that is truly beautiful and fruitful... So many of us walk through the world of beautiful Nature without seeing the Presence of the Great Creator in the midst of it.”***

So, next time you are enjoying the beauty of the Autumn palette, stop awhile and ponder, because if you have right vision and perfect trust, God will be recognised and known in Nature during this special season. ☸

The Tree of Life amidst the Crystal Sea

“On either side of the Stream there grows the Tree of Life. ... Wheresoever the Crystal Sea flows and becomes life to the Being in realization, the Tree of Life, the sacred Mystery of GOD, becomes manifest on both sides of the Crystal Sea—its Centrifugal power as it flows, its Centripetal power as it enables those it touches to appropriate, to gather in. And the Tree of Life is the symbol of the Eternal Mystery of the cross itself. Wheresoever the River flows there springs up the Tree of Life, the Cross of GOD in you, which takes on HIS fashion.

The dual Mystery, the positive and the negative, the outgoing, and the incoming, the receiving and the distributing, brought forth “twelve manner of fruits”, every fruit in its season. We cannot live in the consciousness of the Crystal Sea without bearing fruit, We cannot live upon its banks, upon its shores, the shores of its channel ... we cannot live upon the shores of that River and fail to see, to become conscious of, the growing up of the Tree of Life. ... Yet not through knowing good and evil; for there is no evil in GOD—there is none in HIS Crystal Sea.

Oh, to possess the Tree of Life is to have come into the consciousness of living in that River, that Crystal Sea; of drinking in of its Holy Mystery, for the more you drink the stronger you grow. The Tree of Life is GOD’s Mystery bearing all manner of fruits, ripe fruits, each fruit in its season. We cannot know GOD and not be fruitful to HIM. We cannot live on the banks, even, of the Holy Mystery of the Crystal Sea, without bearing our fruit; and there is the sense in which it may be said that the Soul lives upon the banks whilst it is growing, until it can enter into the Great Sea itself in its consciousness and dwell there.” ❖

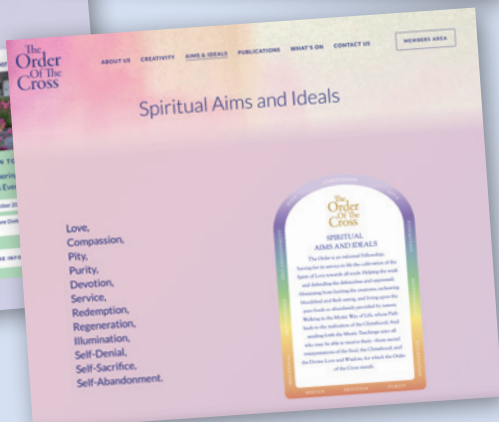
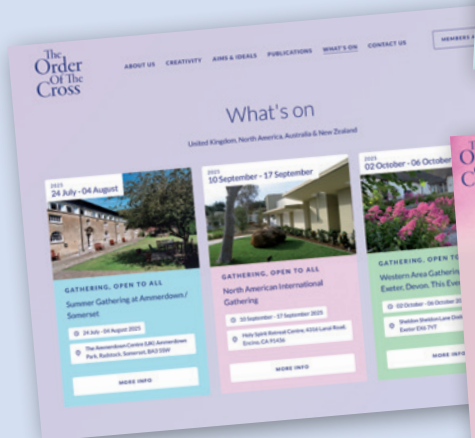
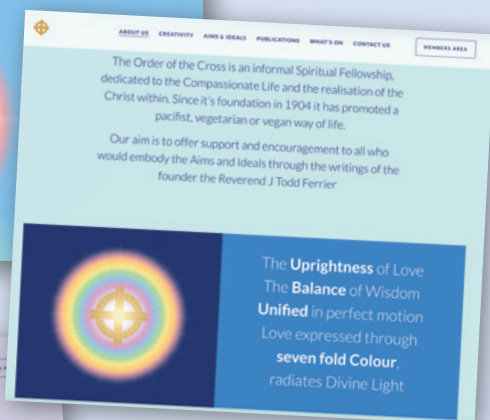
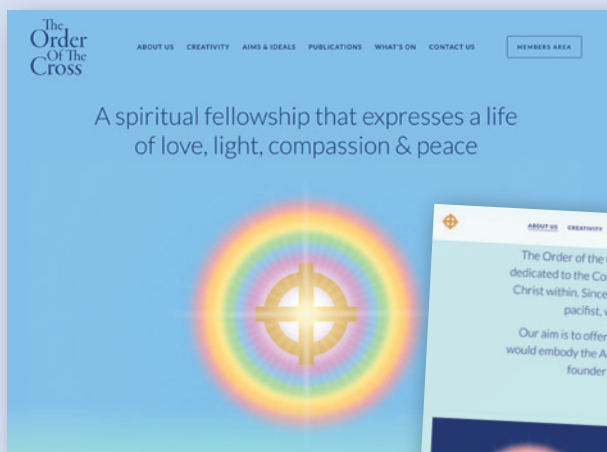
Herald 19, page 161



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.

www.orderofthecross.org



The background of the page is a warm, golden-yellow bokeh effect, with soft, out-of-focus light circles. In the upper left corner, there are several autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and green, some with serrated edges. The text is centered within a white, rounded rectangular box.

Trees (from the song)

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast.

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray.
A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

1913

Joyce Kilmer 1886-1918

Freewill is a sublime reality

“Just because the Divine Love and Wisdom are perfect, and find expression in embodiment. Stars and Souls are not mere machines driven by irresistible force wherein there could be no room for any volition which was as the result of choice and willingness; rather are they conscious co-operators in the universal activity, and share in the grand Celestial Drama. They are sufficiently free agents to have the right of choice in all the ministries they may be asked to share in. Within a certain area of activity, every member in the Divine, Celestial Angelic and Human realms has the right of

choice. *Freewill is a reality. It is a most sublime*

gift of the Creator to all His Children. The

Laws of GOD are perfect. Their operations

produce that which is perfect. To violate

them would be to intercept their perfect

motion and have as a resultant, an

imperfect manifestation. Divine

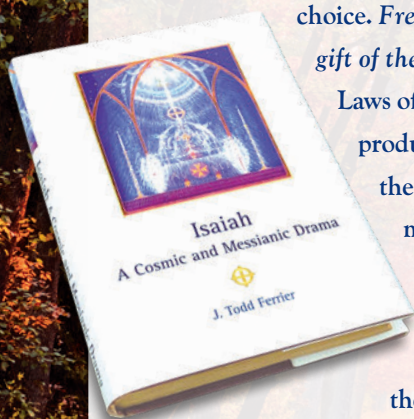
Love and Wisdom do not make

mistakes; but the interception of

them, or opposition to them, would

lead to mistakes. It was in such a way there happened that which brought about “the Fall” of this Planet, an event resulting in all the Earth’s tragedies.” ❖

Isaiah, pages 75-76



Autumnal Equinox

September's beauty is a tug of war
As nature bears its mutability
The change of course will stir us to the core
With shifting poles, how vulnerable we be.
The planet's turmoil must now send us down
Until the bending force adjusts its path
Life's hues revert from green, to gold, to brown
Recoiling in from shoot to root and hearth.
Reverberations! Tides may rock our fears
Come near or fly, make nests, we're shaken up!
Concentric drive is thrust on northern spheres
Abide, to trust our constant loving cup.
Whilst silent webs encage and spread their spores
A giant network swathes our forest floors.

Stella Ballack

- Order of the Cross Member from Germany

Video conference groups

Through the gift of modern communication, it is now possible to come together with others across the world in fellowship through video conference calls. Within the Order of the Cross, we meet regularly in small groups of around 5 to 10 people to reflect upon and share the teachings together. Many have found these gatherings to be a quiet source of encouragement, helping to deepen their understanding of the spiritual message and to feel more closely connected on the shared path. If you feel drawn to join such a group, Alison Muirhead, our Virtual Clerk, would be very pleased to help you find one. You can contact her by e-mail at vcclerk@orderofthecross.org.



For your thoughts and questions about Spiritual Reflections contact the editor at sreditor@orderofthecross.org. We'd love to hear from you! Do please visit our website. It has everything you would like to know about the Order of the Cross, including gatherings where you would be most welcome. You will find it at www.orderofthecross.org

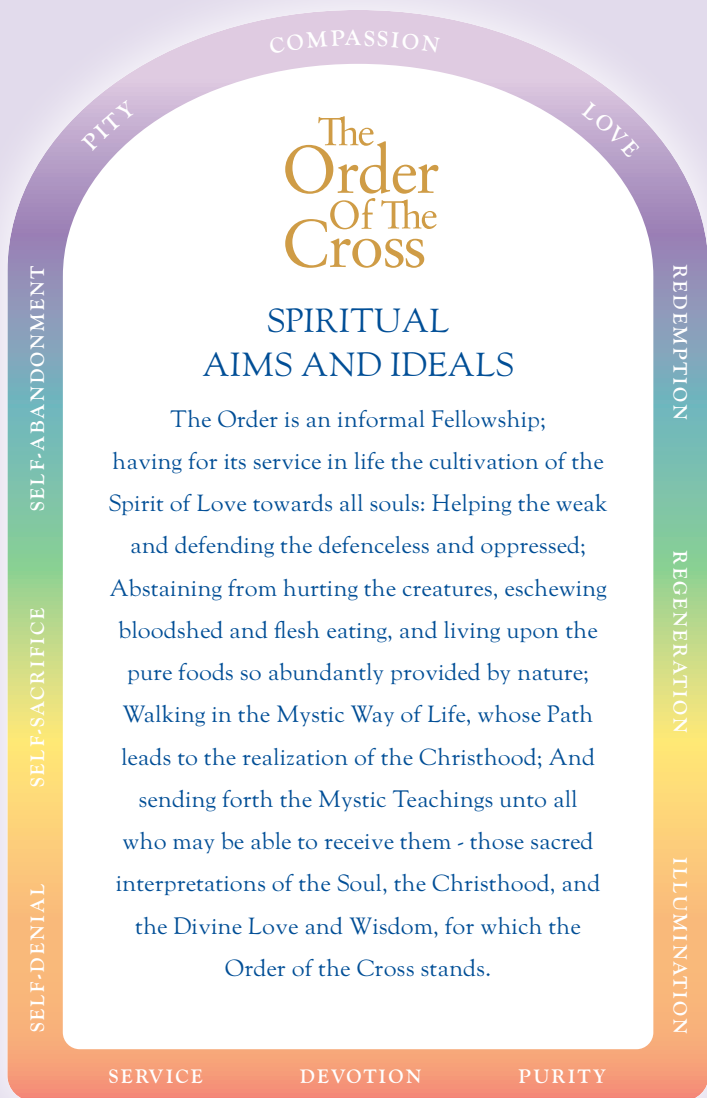


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Inspiring quotes from John Todd Ferrier

“You cannot know GOD except in HIS Passion as Divine Love; you cannot realise GOD except through Love. Love is the Divine Passion in us. ... If you respond unto the call which the motion of HIS Presence gives to you, you will be able to live, be in harmony with HIM. You will have exaltation; lowliness with exaltation; humbleness, gentleness. ... HE fills you with HIS Potency. Think what it is to be so embraced of GOD. ... HE revealeth HIMSELF through HIS Bow; it is the Sacred Bow, the Arch of the Heavens, the Glory of the ELOHIM.”

Herald 26, pages 156-157 March ‘27

“Seek Faith, cultivate your Faith, let the Light increase within you and radiate with an increasing glory through you, and instead of blaming the shadow you see on the threshold of another life, bring the glory of the indwelling light with you and chase it away. That is the way of Faith. Have the Faith of GOD. You say – “Have Faith in GOD?” Have the Faith of GOD in you – that is, the Light of GOD. ... What a delightful thing it is to know that HE is our Light and that HE never fails us.”

Herald 20, page 165

“A spiral may be represented as a winding staircase. The Spiral Breath which gives life to all things, is the Spritual Life-stream. It applies to the planet and to the individual. You can understand the atmospheric breaths. Just now you feel them in the equinoctial winds that are blowing, owing to the magnetic disturbance of the planet as it is passing through the stream of divine magnetism known as the Divine Ecliptic, during this autumnal equinox. ... The winds are as breaths.”

Life's Mysteries Unveiled, pages 51-52



The Blessing

The Overshadowing ONE
is with you to enfold you,
and uphold you,
and go with you,
guiding you
and guarding you
and accompanying you on
your way.

HIS Peace is unto you, it
is HIS Great Gift to you.

*Psalms and Canticles
for Worship, page 88*



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