

A WORD FROM THE REGIONARY

The Angels and the Eucharistic Tradition

If we wish to understand the nature and the work of the Holy Angels, we must begin by accepting the fact that they exist. We must realize that we are dealing with facts in nature, and that facts in nature remain always the same. It is true that we do not know much about the angelic kingdom, but we must try to learn what we can.

(The Christian Gnosis, Charles W. Leadbeater, Ch. 23. 1)

If we are to consider the existence of the angels as a fact, we should be able, at least, to perceive their existence. But because we live in this rudimentary vestment of flesh when we are awake, we often consider what we see and sense through our body as the only reality. Forgetting all the invisible things that are also part of reality, but hidden to our physical, emotional and mental awareness by our own limitations, we push them outside our normal consciousness and baptize them "esoteric".

The ability to consider a fact, even invisible, is within the realm of our powers as human beings. Do we question the existence of the sun at night, simply because it is dark, or the existence of the moon during the day? The existence of the angels is a fact, inasmuch anything else we are dealing with in our lives is a fact. It is also a fact that humanity is by no means the only path of evolution in this world, not even the highest form of evolution; for the great angelic kingdom stands far above us and also far below. It behooves us to be humble in our study of these matters and to try to understand the reality of the universe as its Creator made it. Because the angelic hosts do not manifest themselves all the way into the dense physical level of consciousness, most of us know nothing about them. The scriptures of all religions report that sometimes these angelic entities manifest themselves, so that men can see them for a few brief moments. All those having had such experiences report them with gratitude, as a special privilege and a grace.

Through the centuries however, man has accumulated knowledge about the angels, and about various methods to contact them. A special branch of the so-called "esoteric" sciences, theurgy, is specially concerned with these matters. It seems however that in the last centuries, most people have lost the traditional knowledge about angels. In the past, their presence was considered as a normal occurrence. Mary, at the annunciation, was not surprised, or afraid; the Apostles don't report the presence of the angels at the

Resurrection as an abnormal apparition; and Jacob was so unimpressed by the angel he met, that he challenged him to an all night wrestling match.

The Christian and Islamic writings simply copied the Jewish tradition as regards the angelic kingdom, often making mistakes through ignorance. The Hebrews classified the different angelic orders many centuries ago. The Christian scriptures name only three Archangels: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Therefore the Catholic tradition does not mention or celebrate festival days in honor of the others. The Oriental churches and Islam have kept the Archangel Uriel.

But all traditions give great importance to the names of the angels, as the most efficient method of becoming aware of their presence. Calling their names will "force" them to appear, says the ancient tradition; and this is probably the reason for the warning: "*Thou shall not call the name of the Lord in vain.*"

The name Michael means: "*the one before God*", "*the one who stands before God*", or "*the one who is as God.*" In the biblical and post-biblical lore, Michael ranks as the greatest of all angels, whether in the Jewish, Christian or Islamic writings. He was first known by the Chaldeans, by whom he was worshipped like a God. Even the monotheist Hebrews included *el*, which means 'god,' in His Name, [*el*' as in '*elohim*']. Michael is the chief of the order of the Archangels, the prince of the Divine Presence. His mystery name is Sabbathiel and he is called Mika'il in the Islamic writings. The Midrash Rabba, a biblical exegesis in rabbinical literature, credits Michael with the authorship of Psalm 85. He has also been identified with the angel who stopped the hand of Abraham, when about to sacrifice his son Isaac.

According to Grinsberg's *The Legend of the Jews* (Chapter 2, verse 303), the fire that Moses saw in the burning bush was Michael, who had descended from heaven as the forerunner of the Shekhinah, the 'Divine Presence.' In the Talmud (Berekot 35, which is a comment on Gen. 18, 1-10), Michael is recognized by Sarah as one of the "three men" entertained by Abraham.

Legend says that Michael assisted four other great angels in the burial of Moses: Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael and Metatron. In Baruch Ch. 3, Michael "*holds the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven*" and as such, at least in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church, he is the predecessor of Saint Peter and his successors on the throne of the Vatican!

The earliest traditions in Muslim lore, place Michael in the seventh heaven "*on the border of the Full Sea, crowded with an innumerable array of angels.*" It also describes Michael's wings as having the color of green emerald. In ancient Persia, Michael was called Beshter, which means "*one who provides sustenance for mankind*" and would, therefore, equate him with Metatron, the chief of the angels on earth, the early appearance of Michael. Christians honor Michael as Saint Michael, the most pictured angel in Christian iconography. He presides over the deliverance of humanity, over immortality and "*leads the souls of the faithful into eternal Light.*" He is truly the angel of Redemption, of the Reintegration of creation into the unity of the original Light.

If Gabriel is the angel of the first Annunciation, when he appeared to Mary to announce the Incarnation of our Lord, Michael is the angel of the second one. Raphael is represented, at the first Annunciation, standing on the right side of Mary, wearing white lilies or a branch of palm. Mary is kneeling or sitting in a passive attitude, and giving the

wonderful reply of the Magnificat. But for the second annunciation, Michael, the angel of the Return, now kneels before her, presenting a taper. He announces to the standing Mary her approaching death and her elevation into heaven as the Queen of the angels. But of what order of angels is she to become the Queen? Is it of all orders of angels, or only of the order of the 'Ishim,' those angels who are not as yet part of the Kingdom, who are the imperfect human souls incarnated in this world? When reaching perfection the Ishim will be recognized by their peers, introduced by their own tenth Archangel named Emmanuel, into the full brotherhood of the angelic hosts.

The forerunners of humanity are those advanced souls: the Hierarchy of Men made perfect. Who are already members of that order of angels "in becoming? " Is this the path followed by the great soul we remember as Mary, the mother of Jesus? The soul who became Queen of the 'Ishim' angels, cooperating with the soul of her Son, of Emmanuel, the Archangel of the tenth Order, which is rarely mentioned, as it is the order of the angels of the Kingdom (Malkut?) (Es. 7:14 & Matt. 1:23)

During the Holy Eucharist, during the Preface, we invoke the nine other orders or hierarchies of angels. Tradition assigns to each order one Fruit of the Tree of Life (Sephirots). Let us concentrate on those orders of Angels we cooperate with during the Holy Eucharist.

The word angel comes from the Latin *angelus* and the Greek *aggelos*, both meaning 'messenger.' The word is at the same time a generic name for all the beings of the angelic kingdom, and also for one of its orders, the one closest to the 'Ishim,' the human souls. According to the Jewish tradition, the Chief of the order of the angels is the Archangel Gabriel, named Shaddai by the Hebrew. The order of the angels is supposedly organized into nine legions, in harmony with the main subdivisions of the angelic kingdom. Eight directing angels head every legion, one for each major direction in space. Thus the total number of directing angels is seventy-two. Their names are derived from three verses in Exodus (19:19 to 21). It should not be a surprise for us to read that these verses relate Moses' vision of the burning bush, which is, according to tradition, the appearance of Michael. In Hebrew, these three verses contain exactly 72 letters each. The name of the first of the ruling angels is made by taking the first (right-hand) letter from verse 19, then the last (left-hand) letter from verse 20, then again the first (right-hand) letter of verse 21. The names of the other ruling angels are formed simply by shifting one letter until all have been used. A terminating syllable 'el' (masculine) or 'iah' (feminine) is then attached, following a simple key. Another surprise: there are no duplicated names in the entire series of seventy-two names. In our services we cooperate with all the orders of the angelic kingdom and we invoke the entire kingdom at the Preface. We also invoke very specific angelic beings at the *Asperges*, at healing services, and at Complin. But often we also invoke them in a less obvious way, when our liturgy translates some names into the vernacular. Sometimes the names are 'coded'. Our founders, the Bishops J.I. Wedgwood and C.W. Leadbeater were both students of the traditional doctrine of the angels, and they made sure that the assistance of the angelic beings was invoked repeatedly during the Holy Eucharist. By way of example let us examine an Invocation of the Trinity, the Ascription and the Sanctus.

We often repeat the invocation '*...to Thee be Honor, Might and Glory...*' The Hebrew translation of these key words relate to the three major Fruits of the Tree of Life, the Sephirots: Honor = *Malkut*; Might = *Chesed*; Glory = *Kether*). By just naming these qualities, we invoke the angelic energies related to the three major levels of manifestation, where humanity has its being: the world of created forms (personality:

physical up to the mind), the world of created energies (soul) and the world of the incarnated divine life (spirit). At the Solemn Benediction, just before the blessing of the world with the Holy Eucharistic Presence, we salute the Holy Trinity, the seven mighty spirits before the Throne, and the assembly of just men made perfect (the Ishim): the Watchers, the Saints and the Holy Ones. As we know, the Kingdom (Malkut), like all the other Fruits, holds within itself a 'miniature' version of the entire Tree of Life. The hierarchy of the 'Ishim' angels, those just men made perfect are invoked as Watchers (Malkut/Hod), guided by Michael/Elohim; the Saints (Malkut/Yesod), guided by Gabriel/Shaddai; and the Holy Ones, headed by Emmanuel/Metatron. There is of course much more that might be said about this, but further explanation has its place in the study of the work performed during the Solemn Benediction.

The *Sanctus* is certainly the simplest and most obvious case of 'coded' invocations of the Eucharist. We know that this powerful invocation calls upon the great Angel of the Presence in the Eucharist. He is the true celebrant of the work of Transubstantiation. He is able to operate in this physical world by standing behind the priest and using the priest's features. The chapter on the consecration in C.W. Leadbeater's *The Science of the Sacraments* is a wonderful explanation of the inner work of this holy Sacrament. We salute the Angel of the Presence in the *Benedictus qui venit*. But who is that great Angel? Can we find any indication of his name, his order or his function in the Liturgy? The *Sanctus* is a mighty word of power or 'mantra.' "*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts*" is translated from the Hebrew text: "*Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh, Adonai Elohim Sabaoth.*" In a letter to a student of theurgy, the French Theosopher Louis-Claude de Saint-Martin recommends: "*Take a great care, when you are calling the Great Angel, to include the prayer Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh (Holy, Holy, Holy) in your operation...*" But there is more: The first letters of each word of this invocation form the word KAES, which is the name of one of the eight seraphim, "*eternally present before the Face of God.*" The Seraphim belong to the highest order of the angelic kingdom. KAES is also called KAEL, as in Mi-KAEL. These angels are so elevated, as attributes of God, that it is difficult for us to distinguish what they are, what they do and what is done through them. St. Thomas Aquinas spoke of God as the Primary, and of the angels as the Secondary, explaining that God produced all visible effects through the mediation of these planetary Spirits. In the same way, Basilides, a gnostic writer, speaks of the lowest order of angels as the builders of our material world, associated with the daimones, so well described by the Rev. Van der Stok.

In conclusion another quote from Leadbeater's *Christian Gnosis*:

"We find in Kabala, the secret teachings of the Jews, that the cosmos is divided into seven worlds or planes one above the other, the highest of which are called the Original, the Intelligible and the Celestial. It is in the second of these planes - the intelligible world - that there first appears these Seven Angels of the Presence, which are called the Sephirots.... Man himself may become an angel (Ishim?), if he chooses, at a certain stage of his evolution, when he has passed through ordinary humanity and has become a superman, one of the possibilities before him is to enter that mighty angelic evolution as Our Lady has done... The angels give assistance to every man; but the fact that we know them and expect them, and allow for their help makes it easier for them to give it to us, rather than those who know nothing about the matter, are not expecting it and have not put themselves into a frame of mind to profit by it."

Getting to know you...

Because we are scattered across the country and the world, it's difficult for each of us to get to know the others in our movement. To that end, we would like to include introductory articles in these pages. In this issue, we briefly introduce Revs. Zinzow and White, and a bit about Mark Maxey. Rev. Judie Cilcain has sent in a longer piece, including her journal entries on being raised to the Diaconate. More introductions will be included as they are received.

Introduction of Rev. James . White, Priest, Mission "Excelsior", Blue River, Wisconsin



The Rev. James White

Rev. James is co-founder of the Excelsior Center; an interfaith retreat center dedicated to the support of all faiths, groups, and individuals in their disciplines and traditions. The Center is based on a non-exclusive overall philosophy of "Developing the whole person: physical, psychological, and spiritual." He has studied and participated in interfaith dialogue and comparative religion for over 40 years. He maintains a strong interest in different spiritual traditions and accepts the motto "Truth/God is One: Humans call It/Her/Him by many Names". Although blessed directly in this life by several wonderful teachers, he feels the only true teacher is direct experience. He has been an active priest in The Liberal Catholic Church since 1978, and has a B.A. in Psychology with additional studies in Physics, Mathematics and Comparative Religion.

Introduction of Rev. James Zinzow, Milwaukee, Wisconsin



The Rev. James Zinzow

Rev. James is an engineer, a computer scientist, a professional facilitator, a priest & retired rector of a Liberal Catholic Church, and a consult chaplain for his local hospital. In the tradition of a generalist, he has excelled in many areas: as a computer scientist he developed automation to build components for the Apollo landing module, and managed computer systems integration for repairing medical imaging equipment through phone lines; as an artist he works with oil on canvas, digital photography and videography; and as a professional facilitator he does business reengineering. A Theosophist since 1963, he was the president of the Milwaukee Branch in the sixties and seventies. Practicing yoga and meditation for over 40 years, he follows a natural food, vegetarian life style.

An interest in breakthroughs in subatomic and astrophysics, as well as developments in the formal study of mind-body physics has kept him in touch with man's understanding of himself and the world problematique.

***Introduction of Rev. Judie A. C. Cilcain, Deacon,
Saint Francis Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota***

I was raised a Lutheran and indeed spent eight years of grade school at a Lutheran school. Hence, I learned to love hymns and singing early! I left that church at age 16, however, and became a seeker at that time. I first came to Saint Francis in November 1970 and soon joined as a member. I was a server for some years and when the office of deaconess was instituted, I joined as one of three at Saint Francis. When Saint Francis joined with Bishop Maurice's in 2004, I joyfully began Holy Orders and was eventually raised to the Diaconate on January 20 of this year. I have written about my thoughts on this occasion, and they are included below. It was and is my privilege and honor to serve in any capacity that I have been and am able.



The Rev. Judie A. C. Cilcain

As regards my personal life, I work as executive secretary to a central administrator at the University of Minnesota, where I have been employed for nearly 27 years. I have one daughter and three grandchildren. My husband David S. Cargo and I have lived in Saint Paul at our cozy home, Cat Whisker Ranch, for over sixteen years. We currently have two cats, Ajax and Bosco. A computer programmer, David is Saint Francis' editor, and together we have produced the weekly bulletin and the Christmas and Easter mailings for over eighteen years. Other areas of my spiritual journey include: Theosophist, 18° Co-Mason, 2° Reiki healer, carrier of a Sacred Pipe, Priestess in an initiatic order. I enjoy reading, knitting, and playing cribbage and euchre with David. I have studied *Tai Chi* and *Chi Gong* with Rev. Lee Dunn and another instructor. My main form of exercise lately is walking. Astrologically, I am a triple Fire sign, with my Sun in Leo, my Moon in Aries, and Sagittarius rising. I look forward to retirement one of these years so I can devote more of my time and energies to church work.

Remembrances of January, 2007 *Items from my journal*

Wednesday, January 17. I feel we are all on the crest of a wonderful breaking wave of positive and good energy. +Maurice began our esoteric and practical training this afternoon. It is so wonderful to have them here and to learn at their feet, so to speak. I have a ton to learn, but I am ready.

Thursday, January 18. After lunch, Joan, Jodi, and I joined +Maurice and Wally at the church and continued in our work of practice and background of what we are doing. The newly (to us) expanded Mass of the Presanctified includes nearly all of the service, except for the Sacrifice. It is wonderful to be able to include so much more than we had been. I practiced the ablutions—very tricky—I had no idea! After our break, +Maurice had us go through the service of healing, which he wants us to bring back, and he wants us all to complete our LCIS work.

Sunday, January 21. I was unable to keep my journal up to date for obvious reasons. We continued our training at church on Friday afternoon and then left a note saying where we would be having supper. Just after we were served, the Revs. Jim Zinzow and Jim White and Roslyn walked in. We had a joyful reunion, then returned to the church and began our rehearsal, which went until about 9:00.

We arrived at church by 8:30 on Saturday morning, January 20. Diana Cabigting joined us at that time. It was wonderful to have so many people back in the sacristy. We began the service right on time. Soon Jodi's orders were over and it was my turn. I listened to the Litany and my heart was full of love for everyone's voice. I went somewhere. I saw a sparkly thing that I cannot describe because there is no equivalent on this earth! Tears! Then I became aware of +Maurice's footsteps on the floor over me and I wondered why they were not doing all the verses! I found out later that there are sixteen for the Diaconate, but still I had no sense of even than many having been sung. Did I fall asleep? Unbelievable if so!

I nearly forgot to give the minor benediction but was kindly reminded—by Wally? I read the Gospel and forgot to sign it with the + at the end. I felt wonderful—my stole felt as if it was enfolding me! +Maurice asked me to distribute communion. The first person in line was dear Lil Brenny. At the end of the recessional (hymn #41) Diana came and gave me the Hug of the Century! She gave me a little gift of hands holding precious stone chips. "We stand together," I told her. People have said that the picture Roslyn took after my ordination looked as if I was glowing. Well, I was, and it was the light of the Holy Spirit shining through clear as day!

After our wonderful catered lunch, +Maurice presented part #1 of his class. We then had a synod meeting and we clergy were presented with our licenses. The Rev. Jims swore their allegiance and we rehearsed for Sunday after that.

On Sunday we had a full church—over 100 people! Lee's friends came out in good force. It was a long and moving service, with over 70 communicants. Diana chose hymn #56 for the recessional, played to the tune of *Ode to Joy*. It was magnificent! It lifted the rafters right up. After the potluck lunch, +Maurice gave the second part of his talk. Everyone loved him, of course!

There was only *one* evening, the final one, that we were not up till nearly midnight. There was so much to talk about, so many words of wisdom to hear and absorb. We were truly blessed to have +Maurice and Joan with us at our home, and also to have our clergy friends with us as well.

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH. HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE....

***Do you want more details about our Congregations?
Visit our web site at: <http://TheLiberalCatholicChurch.org>.***

The Province of Belgium

Ariane Sauvenier and Dimitri de Beaufort announce the birth of their first child, the little boy Adrian. He was born at home, on March 11, 2007. Ariane is a long time member of the LCC, and was baptized in it as a child. She was ordained as Acolyte on May 21, 2006. Mom and Little Adrian are doing just fine.....

Regular services have resumed in Liège. They were suspended after the demise of the V. Rev. André Alexis. The services are conducted in a private home graciously offered for public services.

The Province of Canada

The ordination of Diane Tremblay to the subdiaconate, scheduled for Feb. 11, 2007 had to be postponed because of the sudden demise of her mother. The Ordination will be celebrated on April 15 in the Church of Our Lady, Mother of the World, Rock Tavern, NY. Diane is the spouse of the Rev. Eric Archambault, both are active in the Parish of Our Lady in Magog, Quebec.

The Revs. Gratia Chatel and Reynoud Wijkman, deacons, are back home in Montreal, after several months of Winter residence in Mission, Texas. Both have celebrated the Sunday services as Liberal Catholic ministers for their neighbors at the camp ground, with an average attendance of 20 people. They have been accepted by the "winter birds" community as their official ministers. Gratia and Reynoud are resuming the regular services in Montreal and Valleyfield.

The LCC in the Democratic Republic of Congo aka Congo-Kinshasa



The Rev. Joseph Kalambayi, who had been so seriously ill last year, and received the help of many Liberal Catholics, has resumed his activities in the Parishes Saint Michael and Raphael in East Kasai. On the day of the Festival of the baptism of Our Lord, nine people were baptized by him: five children and four adults. The Rev. Kalambayi has now fully recovered and sends his gratitude to all who helped him.

Rev. J Kalambayi

Mr. Evariste Mbaya is traveling to the Parish of Bena Kalambayi. At the request of the President of the Clerical Synod, he will contact the five priests who have been isolated for many years due to the civil war. He will give these priest some ecclesiastical and financial support, and also the Holy Oils for their ministry. The news of this mission begin to come, and are very satisfactory.



In Kinshasa, the Church has no buildings. The services are celebrated in open air. Here is a photo of the introcession on Easter Sunday. The Rev. Jean Pierre Kayembe is the celebrant assisted by Mrs. Thérèse Mujinga.

In Kinshasa, the clergy has met regularly for study sessions. They have studied Bp. Warnon's *Open Letter to the Candidate to the Priesthood*, and *the 99 Questions about the LCC*. The V. Rev. Jean Pierre Kayembe is chairing these meetings, which many people attend, including members of other denominations who are interested in the teachings of our Church.

On Maundy Thursday, the members of the clergy living in Kinshasa came together for a co-celebration of the Holy Eucharist. A special recommendation was made to them to practice the teachings of the Church in their daily lives, and about the role they have to play in the awakening of the souls of our members, to the responsibility of our Church in the DRC and the values they should support to help their country to take its rightful place in the concert of nations.

From March 22 till March 25, 2007 violence has once more erupted in Kinshasa. The recently elected vice-president of the Republic made an attempt to cease power. The "coup d'état" failed, but there were up to 600 people killed, the number of wounded is not known. More victims are expected as unexploded ammunition is spread all over town. Taking advantage of the weakness of the democratic government, about one thousands farmers from Uganda, under the protection of Ugandanian army have invaded the east provinces and seized the land and farms from their Congolese owners. Troops from other nations have began yet another invasion of the Congolese territory. Because their embassies were partially destroyed, the governments of Greece and Spain have suspended their humanitarian assistance, and the members of the European Union contemplate a severe reduction of their economical help. The American Press didn't report the incident.

The Province of Central Europe

The Province of Central Europe will hold its Spring Meeting from May 16 till May 20, 2007 in Wolfenhausen, Germany. The event will have an international character as all the members of the LCC have been invited to participate. Although some services will be celebrated in Swedish and English, the major language used during the meetings will be German. Are already expected to be present: Bp. Evert Sundien from Sweden, the Rev. Diana Cabigting and Joan Warnon from the USA, and the Presiding Bishop.

Mrs. Elfriede Hafner will be ordained as Exorcist and Acolyte on Saturday May 19, and Mrs Jeanette Binder elevated to the subdiaconate, on Sunday May 20.

Registrations and/or further information may be obtained from the V. Rev. Johannes van Driel, General Secretary of the Province at: sekretariat@liberalkatholische-kirche.de . The V. Rev. Johannes is fluent in French and English.

The Province of Denmark

The mandate of the Rt. Rev. Kai Jørgensen as Regionary Bishop for the province of Denmark, Norway and Iceland has been extended by the General Episcopal Synod, after a favorable vote by the Cleric Synod of the province. The extension of the mandate was required because of the age limit imposed by Canon Law.

The Province of the Netherlands



Rev. E.Kempering

On Saturday Jan. 27, 2007, the Rt. Rev. Peter Baaij, Auxiliary Bishop has ordained the Rev. Eleonore Kemperink, deacon, to the priesthood in the Church of Saint Michael and All Angels in Naarden. A reception was held in "Ashrama", one of the buildings of the Center St Michael. The Rev. Eleonore is the second female priest in the Dutch province. She is active in the Parish of Our Lady, in Amersfoort, where she has celebrated her first Eucharist on Sunday January 28.

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NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Midwest Diocese.

Two Wisconsin Priests, Rev. James White (Blue River) and Rev. James Zinzow (Milwaukee) pledged canonical obedience to Bishop Maurice Warnon after the ordination at St. Francis on 21 January 2007. We welcome them with warmth and gladness!

Church of Saint Francis, Minneapolis, MN.



The Rev. Lee Dunn, priest

On Sunday, January 21, our Presiding Bishop, the Right Reverend Maurice Warnon, ordained Rev. Lee Dunn to the priesthood. He was assisted by visiting priests Rev. James Zinzow (Milwaukee) as Master of Ceremonies, Rev. James White (Blue River, Wisconsin), Rev. Diana Cabigting (Chicago), Rev. Wallace Zick, (Stockholm, Wisconsin), and Rev. Joan Warnon (Rock Tavern, New York). More than 100 people were in attendance for this solemn event and for a luncheon that followed.



The laying of hands by the priests present to the ordination of the Rev, Lee Dunn

On the preceding day, Bishop Warnon raised Rev. Judie Cilcain to Deacon and Jodi Christenson to Acolyte, with 40 people attending. Bishop Maurice also conducted classes for clergy on Wednesday through Friday, and for clergy and laity on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, following the services. We are very grateful to Bishop Maurice and Rev. Joan Warnon for their presence and the gifts they shared, and also to all of the other clergy and friends who made the trip to Minnesota in the dead of winter to be with us for these joyful events.

<http://TheLiberalCatholicChurch.org> Menu: VIDEO



J. Christenson, Acolyte

In December, St. Francis was written up in the *Southwest Journal* (which has a circulation of 66,000) in an article entitled "A Hidden Gem." A *Journal* reporter was interviewing one of our neighbors when he saw our church and was curious about it. He came to church for a couple of weeks, took some pictures, and then wrote the article which is available on-line at: <http://www.swjournal.com/articles/2006/12/18/neighbors/nn01.txt>

Church of the Holy Sophia, Stockholm, WI.

The church of St. Sophia in Stockholm, Wisconsin, continues its trend toward more regular attendees and generally fantastic Sunday after-service potluck meals. We continue to have a schedule of the Eucharist on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month and Prime plus a discussion group the 2nd and 4th Sundays. The next topic for discussion will be the nature of the Eucharist and the hidden side of worship. For a small rural church, we have an interested and interesting core group of seekers who are very active in learning and discussing the nature of life and the greater truths. Our core group consists of almost thirty members with another dozen "friends" who come from time to time.

It is interesting to see how St. Sophia has developed into an important part of life for people in this area who had no vehicle for their spiritual growth prior to the start of this church. Indeed, there was no "market analysis" performed prior to startup, so the outcome was far from certain, at least to us. An understanding of how this process unfolded should make it easier for others to strike out and start a new church wherever they think it might prove fruitful.

We are planning, along with St. Francis in Minnesota, and the Revs. Jim Zinzow and Jim White in Wisconsin, a fall retreat in central Wisconsin for September 28-30. It will be held at a retreat center run by Jim White and his wife Christina.

Church of Our Lady, Mother of the World, Rock Tavern, NY.

The attendance to our services has been affected by the severe weather conditions of last Winter. Snow and ice blocked the driveway to the Church making its access rather dangerous. Furthermore the central heating system decided to break down and could not be repaired for several weeks. However a public Holy Eucharist was celebrated every Sunday and all the services of the Holy Week as well. The Holy Oils blessed on Maundy Thursday are destined for congregations in Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, both Congos, and the USA.



The Rev. Buck Lawrence

In the immediate future, Diane Tremblay will be ordained here to the diaconate on April 15, the Eucharist will be celebrated in English, while the ordination will be in French.

On Sunday April 22nd, our brother Buck Lawrence, deacon, will be ordained to the Priesthood by the Rt. Rev. Michael Warnon, diocesan bishop for the Northeast diocese. The Rev. Lawrence, who was received in our Church in New Orleans has served our congregation in various capacities for a number of years, as president of the Vestry and in various function at the altar.

The Parish of Saint Raphael, Tulsa, OK.

We have had a great winter and look forward to the new spring. We did experience several back-to-back snowstorms, which resulted in lower numbers turning out for our services. Joyce Johnson a long time member (20 years) has been very sick lately. We have added her to our healing list...and ask that all members worldwide remember her for a quick recovery.



The Rt. Rev. John Schwarz III (right) and Mark Maxey (Left) at St Raphael, Tulsa OK

They were friends of our latest Holy Order candidate, Mark Maxey. On Palm Sunday we had approximately 10 persons celebrate Mass with us, of which two were new to the Liberal Catholic Church. They were friends of our latest Holy Order candidate, Mark Maxey. Mark has been baptized and received the first Minor Order, and is participating in the Liberal Catholic Institute of Study (LCIS) which is on the website of the LCC. Mark began his work towards Holy Orders in Tulsa in the early 1990's and recently decided to finish what he started back then.

He is also assisting Rt. Rev. John Schwarz, III, with various projects, particularly with increasing our media presence locally and globally.

Oratory "Excelsior", Blue River, WI

Mark your calendars now for Friday through Sunday, September 28, 29 & 30, 2007 when a fall retreat is planned for Liberal Catholics from all over. You won't want to miss this opportunity to share friendship, thought, good food, and serenity in the natural beauty of rural Wisconsin.

Theme: 2007, A Turning Point for Humanity?

Location: The Excelsior Center near Blue River, Wisconsin

Reading: "WAKING the GLOBAL HEART, Humanity's rite of passage from THE LOVE OF POWER to the POWER OF LOVE" by Anodea Judith, PH.D.

You may read book reviews on Amazon.com at: <http://tinyurl.com/23q8cy>



The Chapel at Excelsior Center

If interested, get on the email list for further details as they emerge at: jzinzow@wi.rr.com

The Excelsior Center has grown from the combined vision, intention and effort of Father James White and Christina White over the last 29 years. It is an interfaith, ecumenical retreat center based on a non-exclusive overall philosophy of *Developing the whole person: physical, psychological, and spiritual.*

We are dedicated to supporting and facilitating all faiths, groups, and individuals in their disciplines and traditions by providing them with a safe and sacred space for their work.. Excelsior Center is our attempt at *Right Livelihood* We pray and intend that all who visit us here will be blessed with a deepening of the heart in their true Being which is ultimately beyond all names and forms.

Registration information will be included in the Summer Newsletter.
Please pencil in the dates in your calendar.

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I stand before God



I speak for God



I heal for God



I burn for God

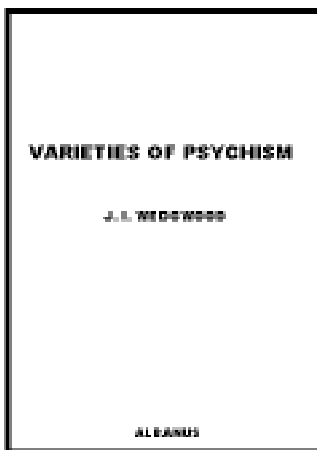
ALBANUS Press.

In the Summer of 2008, ALBANUS will celebrate its 20 years of existence. It began as a modest attempt to translate and publish Liberal Catholic Literature in other language than English, as Saint Alban Press didn't publish any work in other languages than English. During the meeting of the General Episcopal Synod in Woudschoten (the Netherlands), it became apparent that more than half of our members didn't speak English, and that something needed to be done about spreading the teachings of the Church. Local publishers as the Ruysbroeck Foundation in the Hague, Editions Saint Alban in Paris has published a small number of translations and original works, but none of the material originally written in other languages than English would be translated and appear for the English speaking members by lack of funding.

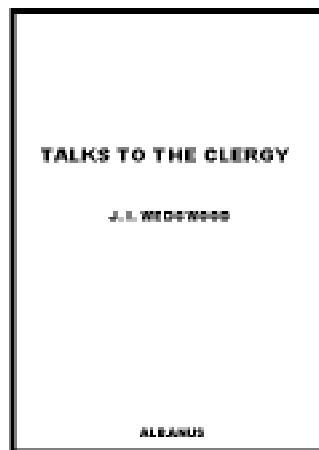
ALBANUS Press pursued a modest life style for many years, concentrating on the publication of liturgical booklets and brochures. Slowly it began to print larger works mostly in French. In 1997 it created a web site for the sale of its publications and for the distribution of the works published by Saint Alban Press. In 2004, Saint Alban began to refuse to honor the orders coming from ALBANUS' customers, and our little publishing house had to convert again. Today, ALBANUS operates exclusively on the internet. Its catalog consists of literature published by the Theosophical Society and by Quest Books, with its own publications.

During the last year, ALBANUS has published a few works in English. mostly works out of print which are still of interest today; in particular a new and completed edition of TALKS TO THE CLERGY, by the Rt. Rev. James I. Wedgwood, a fac-simile edition of THE PARTING OF THE WAYS, by the Rt. Rev. Frank W. Pigott

ALBANUS is owned and managed by the Belgian Province of the Liberal Catholic Church. It is operated by volunteers who work without financial compensation of any kind, and therefore the published works, which are usually printed in a small number of copies, can be sold at competitive prices. Clergy and congregations may register to obtain discount. [<http://kingsgarden.org/ALBANUS>]



Reprint of this forgotten work by Bp. James I. Wedgwood.



New edition, augmented by recent notes found in St Michael, Huizen.



Fac simile edition. A classic of the Liberal Catholic Literature.

The Liberal Catholic Church in cyberspace.

The *LiberalCatholicChurch.org*, over the years, has become the largest Liberal Catholic web site on the internet. On April 5, 2007 it celebrated the 25th anniversary of the presence of the Liberal Catholic Church in cyberspace. In 1982, the first information data about our Church was published over a predecessor named FidoNet, on the Third Ring RBBS.

At the time, only short texts could be sent and received, and the transfer of data was painfully slow. Most of the exchanges were by email [already] and a note from New York would probably take 2 days to arrive to San Francisco. For the first two years the system was working only from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, and it became an all time service in 1984.

The migration of The Third Ring from FidoNet to Internet occurred in 1992, only one year after the service was available in the USA. At the time, our congregation was served by a very small telephone company and enormous technical problems had to be overcome. For many reasons, after two years, partly because of pressures made on commercial sites in Roman Catholic countries (Italy, Spain, Germany and Belgium) it was decided that the pages of the Church would be loaded on a private server to avoid any form of censorship. The other reasons were to avoid unwanted advertisement regularly included in commercial providers, sometimes degrading women by advocating sexually explicit material or recommending foods involving the killing of animals. We wanted to place the information about the Liberal Catholic in a "clean" electronic environment.

Today, this web site is making an attempt to provide equal services to all the branches of the Liberal Catholic family, regardless of jurisdiction. It is also a well appreciated provider of Christian literature to all Christian. Many writings are available on line besides Liberal catholic authors and the Bible: the complete writings of Saint Augustinus, of Mystics from the 12th to the 20th century, the complete texts from Nag Hammadi and the Dead Sea, etc...

This month of April, the old internet server, an old Macintosh G3, will be upgraded with new hard disks and an automated back up system. If its 60,000 + pages would be lost because of disk failure, it would take months to recover. As from next month, the system will have arrive to the state that it can be easily transported anywhere and operated by anyone with basic knowledge of the internet practices.

There is enough space on this server to provide practically unlimited space to every Liberal Congregation in the world. A temporary page for each one has been installed already and waits to be replaced by the members of the congregation themselves. So, what are you waiting for? It is free, because the work is done by volunteers. It is constantly improving and new material added. So don't forget to put its address in the list of your favorite web sites. [<http://TheLiberalCatholicChurch.org>]

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THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Parish of Saint Francis

3201 Pleasant Ave South
Minneapolis MN 55408

Rector: The Rev. Richard W. Curney
1-612-823-4276

Email: lcc.minneapolis@kingsgarden.org

Parish of Saint Raphael, Archangel

2714 East 15th Street,
Tulsa, OK 74104

Rector: The RT. Rev. John Schwarz III
1-918-749-3580

Email: lcc.tulsa@kingsgarden.org

Church of the Holy Sophia

PO Box 3
Stockholm, WI 54769

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. Wallace Zick
1-715-442-2519

Email: lcc.stockholm@kingsgarden.org

Mission of Saint Gabriel

Route 3,
Jones, OK 73049

Priest-in-charge: Enos Jones
1-405-399-2746

Email: lcc.Jones@kingsgarden.org

Oratory of Saint Uriel

P.O. Box 270,
Wheaton, IL 60189-0270

Priest-in-charge: Diana Cabigting

Email: lcc.wheaton@kingsgarden.org

Parish of Our Lady, Mother of the World

King's Garden
460 Station Road
Rock Tavern, NY 12575

Rector: The Rev. Michael Warnon
1-845-496-4344

Email: lcc.newwindsor@kingsgarden.org

Saint Raphael's Mission

211 Coachlight Square,
Montrose-on-Hudson, NY

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. Edward Fagan
1-914-749-3580

Email: lcc.montrose@kingsgarden.org

Oratory of Saint Alban

6601 North Pike Circle,
Larkspur, CO

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. Maximo Cumsile
1-303-681-2943

Email: lcc.Larkspur@kingsgarden.org

Oratory "Excelsior"

31187 Chitwood Hollow Drive
Blue River, WI 53518

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. James White
1-608-537-2973

Email: lcc.BlueRiver@kingsgarden.org

Oratory of Saint Michael

PO BOX 707
Waukesha, WI 53187-0707

Priest-in-charge: The Rev. James Zinzow
1-262-650-0827

Email: lcc.waukesha@kingsgarden.org

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THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC CHURCH GENERAL INFORMATION

WORLD HEADQUARTERS

THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
27 Old Gloucester St
London WC1N 3XX
UNITED KINGDOM
Email:
LCC@kingsgarden.org

SOUTHERN DIOCESE

The Rt. Rev. John R. Schwarz III
2714 East 15th Street
Tulsa, OK 74104
Email:
lcc.tulsa@kingsgarden.org

LCC PUBLISHING HOUSE

ALBANUS
“Shanti”
Rue de Spontin, 14
B-5360 Natoye-Hamois
BELGIUM
<http://TheLiberalCatholicChurch.org/ALBANUS>

PRESIDING & REGIONARY BISHOP

The Rt. Rev. Maurice Warnon
“King’s Garden”
460 Station Road
Rock Tavern, NY 12575
Email:
presiding.bishop@kingsgarden.org

NORTHEAST DIOCESE

The Rt. Rev. Michael Warnon
Genung Street
Middletown, NY 10940
Email:
lcc.newwindsor@kingsgarden.org

THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC WEB SITE

<http://TheLiberalCatholicChurch.org/>
Email:
lcc.usa@kingsgarden.org

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