



ORDO TEMPLI ORIENTIS NEW ZEALAND

December 2011, Anno IVxix

“DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW”

As the festive season draws near I find myself reflecting on the Lodge - the past year and the year to come - and these reflections make me a very happy man indeed.

For me the highlights of 2011 have been the trip to Queenstown in January, the Man of Earth initiations in July, and my first ever experience of a Gnostic Mass in this country as a congregant. The latter of these three was especially pleasing, for our new Priest and Deacon were both outstanding, and together in concert with our ever-marvellous Priestess they produced a Mass that was a wondrous shining jewel, a reflection of the infinite love and beauty that is Our Lady of the Stars.

Also, as I survey where we are at as a Lodge, I feel quite blessed. With so many terrific

new members coming into and through the Man of Earth Triad, the future of our Order in this country is very bright indeed. I never fail to be amazed at the diverse talents of our membership, as well as their delightful and inspiring natures. Without fail the people whose company I enjoy most, and derive the most insights from, are OTO initiates.

Looking ahead to 2012 we have a superb new Priestess in the wings, a Lodge retreat at the end of January, Man of Earth initiations, and a great deal more group ritual. It is also exciting to note that a Camp is now being established in Wellington, and I offer my hearty congratulations to Brother Gavin on his appointment as Camp Master; I know he will be truly excellent in the role.

I'd like to finish with a small request (for it is the "giving" time of year) – as the Lodge can only function with our collective financial support, please consider starting a

Always nice to have visitors!



monthly AP into the Lodge account if you haven't already. We incur many expenses in our day-to-day running such as hall hire, equipment purchases, web fees, postage, and a great deal of other incidentals. Even just \$5 a month helps immensely and one-third of whatever you donate can be claimed back from the IRD each financial year. Our account details are:

Ordo Templi Orientis New Zealand Trust, BNZ 02-0100-0481032-000.

Have a wonderful summer break everyone, "There is no law beyond Do what thou wilt."

Fr Nomad

STAY IN TOUCH



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PRIEST

It's the 30th of October 2011 and I'm standing at the back of the temple, with my eyes closed as I am, for all intents and purposes, dead. I'm gripping the lance and hoping nobody notices as I wobble on my axis. I focus on my breath, to steady my nerves that are currently being assailed by every impression of failure I've ever endured, while I wait to be resurrected by the Priestess.

It's my first time as Priest in the Gnostic Mass. I've been your Deacon since 2006 and it's taken me a long time to get here; I've had to learn lots of lines, go to rehearsals and practice a great deal, all of which has been a great privilege.

I started learning the role late in March this year, talking to myself in the car on the way to work. It took me nearly a

month of daily line-learning to get the three speeches on the steps together; the Greek bits took a little longer.

Now I can hear our wonderful new Deacon, reciting the creed and I'm trying very hard not to count the voices in the congregation. The noise settles down and I can now hear the footfalls of the Virgin. I'm bid to arise and I open my eyes to stare into the beautiful face of the Priestess and issue, with due ceremony, from the tomb.

With a smile, I am consecrated and lustrated, the water sticking the robe to my skin. I watch as the Deacon brings the robe and crown.

"I Priest and King" ... I get the feeling I'm watching myself do this almost

AUCKLAND DATES TO DIARY

GNOSTIC MASS

Sunday, 22 January 2012

- New Mass team!

Sunday, 26 February 2012

Sunday, 25 March 2012

NATIONAL STRATEGY MEETING

Saturday, 21 January

12 noon , Venue TBA

Planning for the year
including Wellington visits
and Gnostic Mass.

MINERVA INITIATIONS

17 & 18 February 2012

Venue in Auckland

from some other place. I remember the rehearsals in the lounge and at Tim's house. At the rehearsals I felt disingenuous saying this, but not this time.

As I lead the Priestess to the East, I keep my focus on the Stele.

I do my best to lustrate and consecrate the already very Holy Priestess and, as I draw the veil over the altar, I suddenly feel quite alone. I remember the Deacon behind me and begin the circumnavigations.

I've not learned the speeches ad nauseam but you have no idea how pleasing it is to remember the lines!

Opening the veil, revealing the beauty of the Priestess, the golden light shining from the candles, the velvet red roses inside their polished brass vases and the perfection of the altar... these are not the same planks of wood I was hammering together half an hour ago. Kneeling down, I listen to the

collects with a tear drifting down my face.

I manage to consecrate the elements, and as I begin the anthem, I feel so much happiness. I believe every word and really feel it – it's magic! I think I've only ever communicated at two masses, both overseas and I was really looking forward to communicating as Priest and I can tell you, it really is worth it.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me become Priest, the lovely people who initiated me into KEW, our wonderful Priestess and our new Deacon, and our patient and warm Lodge Master for showing me the ropes.

Fr Ascendas

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DARK NIGHT

I must surely be experiencing a "Dark night" as mere months ago I enjoyed a Samadhi-like experience and have felt myself being inched out of heaven since.

My meditations are rubbish at the moment; it really sucks to know what can be, and what, for all intents and purposes currently isn't. Daniel Ingram says this is a typical phase in the scheme of things, in the cycles that surround the spiritual path. We go from trying hard; to the "Arising and Passing Away" where everything is amaaaazing, all manner of wondrous things come from seemingly nowhere; and this is followed by the "Dark Night" phases 1 to ad infinitum, until by some miracle and a good stroke of luck, we come out the other side.

I asked V. from Kriya about it today. He said, "If your meditation isn't going well, it's because you are mistaking yourself as the doer. There is no you; it is only God. Invoke God and ask that you be blessed that your body be used for meditation, then give it over. Whatever happens has nothing to do with you." [Actually he qualified that there is no such thing as invocation of God and Gurus as they are omnipresent, but you get the idea.]

It sounds like sober advice, and causes me to reflect on the following:

The Proclamation of the Perfected One

My hair is the hair of Nun!
My eyes are the eyes of Hathor!
My ears are the ears of Ophois!
My lips are the lips of Anubis!
My teeth are the teeth of Selqet!
And my teeth are the teeth of Asi!
My arms are the Ram, Lord of Mendes!
My breast is the breast of Neith!
My back is the back of Set!
My Phallus is the Phallus of Asar!
My belly is the belly of Sekhmet!
My anus is the Eye of Hoor!
My legs are the legs of Nuit!
My feet are the feet of Ptah!

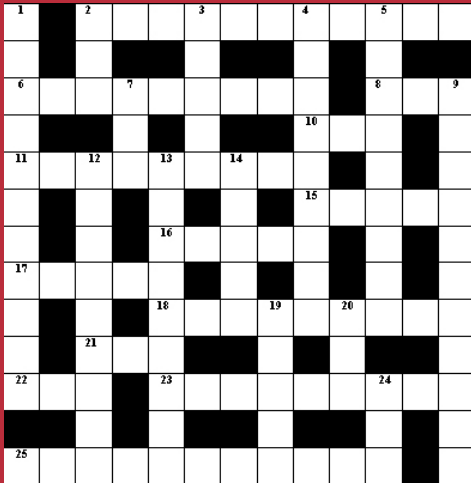
My fingers and toes are living
Uraeus Serpents!

There is no member of the body of Asar
which is not a member of God!



GNOSSWORD

Fr Nomad



ACROSS:

2. Scarlet Woman [6,5] 6. Dwellers of the Nile regions 8. Title 9. Obtain 10. Obtain 11. Numbers in 777 key scale [6,3] 15. "Immortality jetteth from my skull, And music from my ___" (Liber 418) 16. Type of purple 17. Bisect 18. His sequence: 1,1,2,3,5,8... 21. "To ___ is human" (Alexander Pope) 22. Age 23. Chemical philosopher 25. England's Bard

DOWN:

1. Key scale number of the Hanged Man [6,5] 2. Line 3. Diurnal 4. Manage poorly 5. Desirous of the past 7. Each 9. Returned home 12. Virus 13. Period 14. Digit 19. Earthy pigment 20. Purpose 24. "To Go" (Latin)

Squeeze that into your meditation and you'd know all about it...

Hey, here's another thought to throw into the mix: "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law" implies no concept of "I."

On a separate note, I recently interviewed a multi-millionaire real estate "guru" – it was funny to me that he should give such similar advice as a spiritual master: "There is abundance out there," he said, "The difference between successful people and unsuccessful people is that unsuccessful people will not develop the habits of engaging in the activities that successful people will do."

He spoke of the importance of finding people more successful than you, and spending some time with them to learn their secrets. Have you heard of the word, Satsang? It means (according to one internet description) "the company of the highest truth, or the company of a guru, or the company with an assembly of persons who listen to, talk about, and assimilate the truth." My guru says the term stretches to what you eat, what you watch on TV... I guess it speaks of osmosis, as the very lovely real estate man said, "We absorb that with which we surround ourselves."

In ending, we trust that our humble wee OTO gatherings will continue to be good Satsang too.

Fr Sol Invictus recently emailed you a copy of the International, Camp, Oasis and Lodge Master's Handbook, which we recommend cast your eyes over it annually to keep on track with basic administrative processes. It is the opinion of at least some, that Liber Oz forms the Mission Statement of our Order, so it wouldn't hurt to take a regular look at this wee exposition too.

Wishing you every joy over your summer break and whatever Holy days you chose to celebrate.

Sr OSIS