

An Imminent Birth
Festival of Virgo
New York – August 29, 2023

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Good evening friends and welcome to this Meditation Meeting for World Service from the Lucis Trust in New York.

For those of us whose imagination is at least partly guided by the wisdom teachings revealed through the theosophical tradition and especially through the particular light of the ideas contained in the Alice Bailey books, this work at the time of the full moon reflects a deep will to be useful to the working out of the Plan, and to contribute to the construction of the Antahkarana bridge between humanity, the Spiritual Hierarchy of Saints and Rishis, and the Central Spiritual Sun – the essential potency of Divinity. It is a will that is imbued with love – love for the human – love for the process of ripening, and of maturing and of developing that is always occurring in the human kingdom. And it is a will to contribute to humanity's becoming the World Disciple – to the important initiation that marks birthing of the Christ in the human heart.

The keynote given by the Tibetan for the Virgo energies pouring into the minds and hearts of the millions of human beings who are actively treading a spiritual path is captured in the phrase: *I am the Mother and the Child; I God, I matter Am*. This keynote directs our experience to an important stage in the development of a fully embodied self-awareness – an awareness that sees incarnation as a place of becoming whole, as the dualities of spirit and matter come to be understood as two necessary and inter-dependent aspects in the worlds of time and space.

It is worth noting that this follows on from last month's full moon of Leo when the keynote was almost other-worldly: *I am That. And That am I*. The contrast between the Leo and Virgo keynotes is striking. It moves away from the divided self of this and That, here and There to focus on Here – on the place of incarnation; focusing all our attention on the incarnated separated self, and viewing this self as providing the perfect environment, the space and the time and the substance needed for higher and lower aspects of self to recognize themselves as forming one whole; and in the process to be born into a new life, a Christ in the making. Following the birth of the Christ in the human heart a whole new drama begins as spiritual purpose starts to shape and direct the individual life lived and the life experienced. The worlds of mutability, fluidity and constant change transform into a world where the soul is now a fixed and permanent part of identity, bringing with it a sense of responsibility and moral direction. Whereas before the birth, and before the 1st initiation, it was an embryonic potential, after the birth initiation the soul is a factor in the life, and the crises, conflicts and struggles of development are now all about the long process of the soul taking control of life and all events.

Virgo is an earth sign. When we look for the evolutionary potential which Virgo brings to humanity, we need to look onto the face of the earth, focusing less on the starry heavens and more on the worlds of time and space and history and the 'here and now'. Virgo invites us to

ponder the material world in which we are incarnated; to learn through experience that it is a place where the Divine Self is becoming present – not just in the lives of individuals but in some mysterious way in the life of the entire human kingdom. As the Divine Self becomes a presence in the world, it lifts and transforms the material world.

One of the delights of working with the full moon in Virgo, is that it gives us a perspective on the world of incarnation, of personality and separation as the world of the Universal Mother, pregnant with child and with future possibilities; as a warm, nourishing nesting place where the inner Christ, the Soul, which has for countless generations been a hidden, mystic Christ – hidden from the prying eyes of an increasingly materially-focused mental and astral consciousness – has begun to take shape and embryonic character within the womb and is now almost ready to push itself out into the world of time and space where it can be a robust and willful factor in human affairs.

This view of the world of incarnation, personality and separation as the world of the Universal Mother, pregnant with child and with future possibilities, and approaching the moment of birth has the power to heal and transform the enduring myth which has portrayed the worlds of the incarnated personality with its accompanying sense of separation, as not just unpleasant, but as somehow repulsive, sinful, evil, and just plain ‘bad’.

Let us pause for a moment of silence before sounding together the Noontime Recollection. As we link in silence, we can imagine ourselves as one poised group mind, absorbed in the energetic essence of the thought: ‘I am the Mother and the Child; I God I matter am” ... and we dedicate that thought to the process of transformation constantly underway in the Universal Human

We know O Lord of Life and Love about the need. Touch our hearts anew with love that we too may Love and Give.

One of the characteristics of our work together in Virgo is that in the light of this sign and of the constellations and energies informing this sign, it is natural and right for us to stand fully with humanity – or rather with Hierarchy as it works in and with and through the darkness and moisture and silence of the consciousness of soul immersed within the depths of matter. The incarnated soul takes all the time that is needed for its embryonic presence to begin to find itself, to grow its organs and muscles so that it can emerge as a presence in the consciousness of the personality.

And so, in Virgo, we observe the collective world of time and space and matter and personality as if it were a womb, a place where all the nutrients needed for the growing embryo of the Christ child are available. The world we know today has grown out of a history rooted in industrialization, colonial empires, and competition. Yet through the history that has produced this world a new consciousness of freedom with its respect for the integrity of the human being and for human rights and responsibilities has been steadily growing – bursting out into world events from time to time – the defeat of the principles of separation at the heart of the Axis

powers during the Second World War; the formation of the United Nations with its goal to become a centre for “harmonizing the actions of nations” in solving international social and economic problems and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; the hugely significant Universal Declaration of Human Rights that has become a core part of the UN’s identity; the defeat of separation as a guiding principle at the heart of law and governance with the ending of the apartheid regime in South Africa.

And so it is that while forces of competition and separation continue to be the dominant forces at the heart of governance, science and technology – new seeds of a universal consciousness have been developing in the womb of time and space. The thinking and culture of the New Group of World Servers now exists as a well-developed embryo, symbolically the Tibetan suggests, in its eighth month. Much of what we see in the world reflects this embryonic consciousness preparing to push itself out of the womb so that it can take centre stage in the emergence of a reoriented, reborn, humanity.

So many of the tensions and crises of outer world events today can be understood as reflecting the preparations for the inevitable trauma of birth. Yet in focusing on the outer stresses and divisions in society we too often miss the deeper reorientation of thought and desire that is being nurtured and prepared for. Within the consciousness of the New Group of World Servers, often hidden and unnoticed by those who are focused entirely on measurable, material gains in sustainable development and poverty alleviation, seeds of mythical imagination, intuition, and an instinctive sense of the sacred have been quietly developing at the heart of the New Group of World Servers. Beyond the prying eyes of the materially focused, ideas of wholeness, sacredness and a reverence for life have been steadily growing in their influence and are now at a stage where they have the life and the substance and the energy needed to push their way out into the professions, institutions and powers conditioning, not just spirituality, religion and academia, but also science, medicine, technology and economics.

It’s easy to forget that DK wrote about humanity entering into the eighth month of the gestation of the Christ child during the years between 1939 and 1942. Since that time there have been several generations and many momentous events affecting the people of the world.

When the mother is eight months pregnant the baby is moving around inside the womb independently (even if rather restricted by the enclosed environment). The eyes are closed when the baby is sleeping and open when awake. Most of the body organs, except for the lungs, are developed. The electrical impulses in the brain are firing, the development of the brain proceeds rapidly during the eighth month, and the baby will be getting into the position it needs to be in for birth. This is often a hugely uncomfortable time for the mother in her pregnancy because the yet to be born baby is so strongly present.

Perhaps we can now assume that we are as a kingdom in nature well into the eighth month of gestation – perhaps even in the early stages of the ninth month. Whatever our understanding of the womb of time with its cycles and historical periods, it does seem clear that both mother and child are firmly present in human consciousness. The mother’s pains and discomfort of the later

period of pregnancy are clearly part of this current period, and while the final birthing of the child may well be imminent what is worth noting is that the figurative child to be born is still not expected by large numbers of people. The dream of 'future possibilities' has not yet reached into anything like the popular imagination. Beyond small segments of thinkers and religious believers there seems little sense of the possibility that a new culture and civilization is about to push its way into the world. When a new birth is imminent it is accompanied by a sense of expectancy and hope, and a sense that a new life is coming into the world and things are about to change. There is, of course, also a sense of the dangers and unexpected possibilities surrounding an anticipated birth. But we are in a time right now when it is the sense of danger and doom that seems to loom largest in the collective imagination of the future rather than the sense of possibilities for something new and exciting and different from anything known before.

The sense of danger will certainly be present during the High Level Week at the UN in Virgo this year, but it will also be accompanied by a strong sense of future possibilities. On Monday September 18th the event of most significance from a Virgo perspective to this years High Level Week, a two-day SDG Summit, begins [<https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>] with the goal to "to reignite a sense of hope, optimism, and enthusiasm for the 2030 Agenda".

When we think that Virgo directs our attention to the changes to take place on the face of the earth, it is difficult to imagine any vision more well established in the realities of today's world that offers a potential for a transformation of every area of human relationships than the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. While we can debate aspects of the Goals they reflect the only real vision of future possibilities that has taken a hold of the human imagination in a way that reaches deeply into all levels of human affairs – and that offers possibilities for transformation. This is a vision that is already having a lasting impact in local, national and regional governance; that is inspiring thinkers and key workers in every profession, in religious and faith-based organizations, and amongst organized goodwill movements. It is of course also inspiring opposition – some inspired by high ideals, others drawing on more material and national ambitions. It seems important in the full moon work for us to support both the outer movements working, often but not always through the UN, as well as and alongside those pioneering members of the New Group of World Servers who are focusing attention on a more spirit-centered view of future possibilities. Movements like The Inner Development Goals are now playing a significant role in the global conversation around the SDG's, and this will be reflected in the international [Inner Development Goals Summit](#) is scheduled to take place in Stockholm in October.

There is much to ponder in the Tibetan's perspective on the role of the three zodiacal Crosses (the mutable cross, the fixed cross and the cardinal cross) in esoteric astrology. They tell the story of the path of a soul's development through the round of incarnations, just as they tell the story of the soul or the Christ's incarnation in and through the human kingdom. Virgo is one of the four arms of the Mutable Cross, which is also known as the Cross of the Hidden Christ or the Cross of the Holy Spirit. The four signs, four arms of the cross, (Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces) are of special interest because they condition and layout the evolutionary path for the vast numbers of people whose lives are about the "strictly human stages", building up and

integrating personality vehicles in preparation for a great turning of the wheel when they will become aspirants on a discipleship path of responsibility and service, immersed in a process where life is about the relationship between soul and personality. The Mutable Cross, we are told, “is the conditioning influence in that great planetary centre which we call the human”. [EA 558] The Tibetan writes that the four energies of the cross work together to produce “that constant flux and periodic change in time and space which will provide a field of adequate experience for the unfoldment of the Christ life and consciousness.” [EA 345]. We are certainly in a time of constant change and movement - a time of intense mutability with a painfully noticeable absence of stability, order and structure. While this can be upsetting and apparently chaotic, it is not difficult to see that in all the intensity of the final period leading up to the birth, a psychological and historical environment of uncertainty and openness to dangers as well as possibilities is a necessary part of the intensity of the period immediately preceding birth. The Christ life and consciousness is gaining strength and identity through all the uncertainty as the minds of countless people of goodwill are forced to think for themselves about the values and principles that they want to bring into the world. This intensity of thought can be seen now at work in institutions, systems, communities, nations and peoples. Mutability is needed for the heart of materialism to be broken, allowing consciousness to undergo a radical reorientation to the spirit of synthesis and to a new sense of the sacred.

Merriam-Webster speaks of mutability in terms of a capability to change or be changed (as in mutable laws) and a capability or liability to mutate (as in a mutable gene, or mutable vowels). The Mutable Cross, as the cross of the personality, precedes the Fixed Cross of discipleship – the Cross of the soul. It highlights the contrast between the fluidity of change with the fixedness provided by a purposeful treading of a path. [EA 553 -4]. We are reminded of this in the twelfth year of the life of Jesus when he made the decision to begin his work as the Christ, stating that “I must be about my Father’s business”.

Our work in these mediations is to recognize and train our eyes to ‘see’ the potential for transformation that the energies flowing through the sun in any sign bring to humanity. By seeing this potential and holding it in the light, a group of thinkers, working together with a formula like the *Letting in the Light* meditation we will shortly be using, can help to anchor this potential in the collective mind of humanity – making the thought of this potential more accessible to thinkers within the New Group of World Servers.

As we reflect on the significance of the Mutable Cross we need to remind ourselves that it is as if the energies and potencies of all four signs of the cross are especially available at this full moon. Virgo brings with it the opportunity to bring the form (the etheric/physical, emotional and lower mind-brain elements of the personality) under the influence of the hidden Christ, and to recognize that the Christ needs the mother in order to become anchored in substance – and that the mother needs the Christ in order for the Mother to evolve and develop into a new form with new possibilities for development. As this recognition begins to emerge out of the depths of the unconscious, it affects the way life is experienced. The desire for “personality satisfaction begins to change and the desire ... for interior recognition of the indwelling Christ begins to

assume increasing control until the inner spiritual reality is eventually released from the thralldom of matter and becomes manifest in its own true nature in the world.” [EA 259-60]

At the same time Virgo brings with it the energies of the other arms of the Mutable Cross: a Sagittarian opportunity to develop one-pointedness; a Piscean opportunity to transform a mediumistic awareness of the sacred into a clear sensitivity to higher impressions that can then be wisely interpreted and understood; and through the influences of Gemini, opportunities to fuse and unite the dualities of time and timelessness, sacred and profane. Thus, when we think of humanity as it is today in the light of Virgo and the Mutable Cross we have this picture of a humanity pregnant with the opportunities of moving from a consciousness dominated by the forces of Matter into a new era which will be dominated by a more conscious relationship between soul and personality – where soul is a stronger factor in the relationship - where the will of the soul is present alongside the sustaining will of the personality.

The Mutable Cross prepares humanity for its momentous transition to become the World Disciple. And so let us work with the incoming energies of Virgo, captured in the keynote “I am the Mother and the Child; I God, I matter am.”