



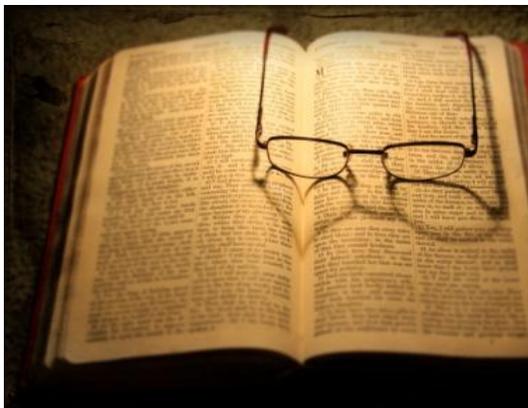
ADELAIDE CHRISTIAN NEW CHURCH Newsletter

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December 2019 and January 2020

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Inspirational Thoughts

“And when they had spread their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” **Matthew 2:11**

Treasures! All our treasures are of the heart. The things we love most are treasures most. The wise men opening their treasures represent you opening your heart before Jesus, that is, if you are numbered with the wise. The three gifts from your treasures are the most costly of all. There is nothing you can give of more value than these. The first is Gold representing your love. The second is Frankincense, representing your thinking of Him, or your faith. And the third, Myrrh, represents your love for the Lord together with your faith in active obedience to His will.

Prayer: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O Lord my God, Though art very great; Thou are clothed with honour and majesty. **Amen**

Adelaide Church Motto

“The Law of the Lord is Perfect”

This motto was created at the time the New Church began here in Adelaide in 1844. As relevant today as it was then.

Be Led by the Lord

Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1.38)

Those who are willing to be led by the Lord attribute nothing of good to themselves; instead they regard all things as received and ascribe them to Him. They wish to be led by Him and not by themselves. They love everything that is good and find delight in everything that is true, because they know and perceive that loving what is good, that is, will and doing it, is loving the Lord, and that loving truth is loving the neighbour. They live content with what is their own – whether it be little or much – because they know that they receive just as much as is good for them – those receiving little for whom a little is useful, and those receiving much for whom much is useful. In addition, they do not themselves know what is good for them, the Lord alone knowing this, who looks in all things that He provides to what is eternal. (Heaven and Hell 287.1)

A longing to know the future is innate with most people; but this longing derives its origin from a love of evil. It is therefore taken away from those who believe in Divine Providence. In place of it there is given a trust that the Lord is taking care of them. Consequently, they do not desire to know things beforehand lest they should in any way set themselves against Divine Providence. (Divine Providence 179.1)

When people newly arrived in the other world have been prepared for heaven, they’re brought to the way that leads upward toward it.

After this, each one is led by the Lord into his or her own heavenly community, which is also effected by various ways, sometimes by winding paths. The ways by which they are led are not known to any angel, but only to the Lord. (Heaven and Hell 519)

Reflection: Worries are an annoying part of life for many of us: worries about our own abilities, worries about people who are close to us, worries about the future, etc. The opposite of worry is trust. Another word for trust is innocence, which can be defined as being led by the Lord. Mary was willing to walk the path that the Lord laid before her. Her words can be a mantra for us: “Let it be to me according to your word.” What are one or two things that you hear the Lord calling you to do this Christmas season? In the coming year? How can you innocently, trustingly orient yourself in each of those directions?

Acknowledgement: From “Christmas Readings 2019”, shared by Rev. Todd Beiswenger and Rev. Howard A Thompson, from the good work of friend and colleague, Rev Mark Pendleton, Pastor from Glenview New Church, Chicago.

For individual copies of this booklet of daily readings, about the Christmas Story, please contact Swedenborg Centre, joe@swedenborg.com.au or go onto the N.C.I.A. website, www.newchurch.net.au for information of it

This is such a beautiful message for Christmas time, it touched my heart and just needed to share it with you all. There are more daily readings in this Christmas Story booklet. With thanks to all the above mentioned people in the Acknowledgement above. Christmas Blessings and peace are wished for you all.

Christmas Thoughts White Eagle

I would also like to share some thoughts from the Spirit teacher **White Eagle**.

"At Christmas time, when you are wishing each other a Happy Christmas, we would like you to think also of the invisible worlds and the mystic presence which is upon the earth at this season; for angelic hosts draw very near to the earth at Christmas, as the Christ spirit is born anew in human hearts.

You sing carols about the coming of angels, but you do not always stop to think about the mighty forces these angels bring.

We would like you to remember your angelic and spiritual visitors, and to throw open the door of your soul to receive them at Christmas time.

For angel visitors come today even as they came to the shepherds of long ago.

Truly the Christmas festival is as old as the world. Perhaps you have not thought of the origin of the little lights on your Christmas tree? It comes from antiquity and these little lights signify the light of the Sun in every human heart."

In your imagination picture a temple that has been constructed of the healing rays of the Universal Christ. In its centre stands a huge Christmas tree that is aglow with millions of lights. This evergreen tree is a symbol of God's unshakeable and eternal love. You can seek the shelter of this love to meet with your loved ones and friends who have passed into the spirit world before you, not merely at Christmas but always.

'During the Christmas period human hearts tend to yearn and ache even more than at other times for some kind of contact with their loved ones in the world of light. Whenever such feelings threaten to overwhelm you, take comfort from knowing that all they have done is leave the darkness of earthly life behind. They are not dead but alive and well in the world of light where death does not exist.

During the Christmas period the power of the Christ energies are felt much more strongly on the Earth plane than at any other time.

This brings your loved ones closer than usual and the Christ love enables them to bring the gift of their love to your heart.

You may sense the presence of the Angels around the throne of God. Listen to their message the way the shepherds of the Jesus legend did on the hills of Bethlehem, a long time ago. Imagine you can hear the Angels singing: 'Love is born and comes to the Earth at Christmas.'

Contributed, with thanks, from Elizabeth Welling

Sending Christmas wishes to you all, with love and peace for the New Year. May you all have a Happy and Prosperous New Year for 2020

New Church Retreat in Adelaide January 2020

In January 2020, the N.C.I.A. are holding the Summer Camp at Nunyara Centre, Belair. Carolyn Heldon is the contact person at N.C.I.A. New Church people from all over Australia will be attending and Adelaide people can either choose to book to stay at the Centre, or go as a Day visitor. There will be a Coach Trip on the Thursday, for families and the coach will be a picnic lunch, across the Riverbank bridge to plenty of facilities for refreshments, probably at Elder Park, after a little sightseeing. The coach stop will be in Memorial Drive, where the Adelaide Oval is; tours of the Oval are available. The Sir Donald Bradman display rooms are for viewing. Then coach stop probably with the afternoon at Glenelg beach, for family fun and games, sunbathing, swimming, water slide and Beach House fun activities. The Marina Pier worth looking at, with all those lovely expensive boats moorings. Adelaide Botanical Gardens are a short free tram ride from North Tce, Central Station, make sure to catch the Botanic Gardens Tram. There is the Art Gallery and the Museum on North Tce too. Rundle Mall is for Department Stores and plenty of speciality shops. Apple Store in Rundle Mall. Trams go down to Victoria Square where the Central Markets are; walk around the produce stalls, through to further shops and cafes as well. Trams are free for travel around the City centre. Activities for all are planned at the Conference Centre for the week, with fun and games planned. Bookings for Summer Camp to book online. N.C.I.A. Web site is where the online booking forms are to fill in. www.newchurch.net.au Even if a late decision, contact N.C.I.A. and maybe possible to still book in.

Service Dates for August and September 2019

December 2019

1st - N.C.I.A. joining us; Traditional Service and Shared Luncheon

15th - Carol Service, shared Christmas BBQ and break up

January 2020

6th to 12th - Nunyara New Church Family Retreat

February 2020

Church and Activities resuming – will be in next Newsletter 2020

December 2019 Activities

Coffee & Chat The Church Hall is open on Thursdays between 10.30am – 12.00pm, beginning 24th January 2020.

Angel Meditation Monday 9th December at 7.00pm in the Church Hall. As yet, the dates for January 2020 have not been confirmed. We will give dates out personally to those who would like to join us. 0417632207

Reading/Study - and discussion time: - This is being planned as a Skype group meeting, to accommodate those in different suburbs, or during a time at the Church Hall. Beginning in February 2020.

Computers are available for use/work or research on Thursdays from 10.30am – 12.00om. Just arrive.

Children are welcome, as we have facilities – Apple TV and colouring in for them and a rear garden lawn area and a childproof gate on the driveway, making it a secure play area for young ones.

Further Information for any of the above, please phone 0417632207

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Our email and postal addresses are listed to the left here.
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Contributions for Newsletters

Any Articles, Poems, News, photos or Submissions for our Newsletters, would be greatly appreciated.

Please submit via email to admin, or post to P.O.Box.