

PRIEST~ESS PROCESS™

Facilitator Handbook ©

By Nicole Christine 2008

Updated by Lisa Michaels May 2015

Honoring  
The Sacred  
In All Life

*May 15, 2009*

*Dear Facilitator,*

*Nicole Christine the beautiful being that sourced this process in her unending quest for energetic integrity, did an update on this manual in June 2008 before her transition in October of that year. She spoke to me often about her deep responsibility for energetic integrity to the field of consciousness we all refer to as the "Priest~ess Process."*

*Nicole took the time, some years ago, to trademark the process in order to define and clarify the energy in which it operated. Those doing Priest~ess work outside the TM or trademark were free to function in any way that suited them. Those working within the TM need to clearly uphold the "Precepts" of this process as Nicole originally sourced them.*

*In this handbook, Nicole is quite clear about the Precepts of the Process and the pieces that create the energetic clarity of the field. She was also very clear that anyone who uses the Priest~ess Process TM needs to uphold the energetic frequency she outlines in this handbook. I encourage you to re-read or at least scan this document annually so that the vibration continues to infuse you.*

*Please BE SURE that anyone you apprentice as a facilitator purchases this handbook and understands the Precepts fully. This is your responsibility as someone who trains another to uphold the field.*

*If you sell the manual to another facilitator or apprentice them, you are also responsible for submitting the \$22. in 2009, purchase price to the Nicole Christine Living Memorial Fund. Acct. #1228037; Pima Federal Credit Union. POB 50267; Tucson, AZ 85703;  
Phone: 520-887-5010. All proceeds from every sale of the manual goes to the on-going support of Nicole's granddaughters, thank you for honoring the energetic integrity of equitable exchange for the Priest~ess Process TM.*

*In terms of changes, I have only modified places in the manual where Nicole makes reference to contacting her, added some new contact information, and messages from myself, Anyaa McAndrew who is also an advanced facilitator, and Cayelin Castell who's impact on the field has been vital.*

*As for myself, Nicole and I reconnected this lifetime in Anyaa's living room in September of 1997. We had instant soul recognition when we looked in each other's eyes*

*that first time. For years, every time I looked in her eyes in ceremony I cried. She touched my life in profound ways as a priestess and was a dear and treasured friend.*

*I began facilitating the process in 1999 and in the last ten years have facilitated well over 30 full circles of various levels of the process. I've worked with the field in many ways, just to name a few, I added additional levels to the process, integrated men into my circles early on, am partner to the first High Priest of this process, and sourced the Elemental Forces Mystery School. I created the Priest~ess Process Convergence model and hosted it in 2005, 2007, and 2009. I now also manage the copyrights for Nicole's intellectual property.*

*I tell you this only so you will know my deep connection to this field of consciousness and my devotion to the energy it upholds. As an advanced facilitator of the Process (Nicole's term) I am available for private sessions should you have need of someone to hold space for you as a facilitator in the future.*

*It is with a grateful heart that honor all the wonderful Priestesses, Priests, and Facilitators of this powerful process and the amazing soul, of the being that brought the process through in this lifetime, Nicole Christine.*

*Sincerely yours,*

*Lisa Michaels*

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Nicole Christine

*Nicole Christine established the **Magdalene Mysteries School™**, the **Awakening the Priestess Process™**, and the **Sacred Order of Venus Templars™**. As an Adult Educator, Human Rights Activist, and Peace Advocate, she worked extensively with the international immigrant population, promoted multi-cultural educational programs, and developed Global Citizen projects. She expressed her love for life by holding all aspects of life as sacred, holding the immaculate concept of the fulfillment of humanity's highest destiny, and shared her mystical journey through writing. Nicole authored *TEMPLE OF THE LIVING EARTH*, *MY ASCENSION JOURNAL*, *THE VENUS TEMPLES MANUAL*, and *UNDER HER WINGS: THE MAKING OF A MAGDALENE*.*

*Nicole Christine died peacefully at St. Mary's Hospital at 2:11 pm on October 18, 2008. She was a mentor, sacred sister and beloved friend. We are grateful we had the opportunity to know her, work and play with her, and to be with her in her last days on this Earth.*

## *Message From Anyaa McAndrew:*

*In 1996 I co-facilitated a trip to Scotland with creator of Shamanic Astrology, Daniel Giamario, and co-founder of the Shamanic Astrology Mystery School, Cayelin Castel. Cayelin had been working with Nicole in one of her first circles, and her accounts of the Priestess Process™ immediately caught my attention. I knew this was work I needed to do.*

*A few months later I met Nicole in Sedona at intersecting events, and I asked her to come to Atlanta and facilitate a circle of friends, colleagues and students. Although Nicole later told me she had just decided to no longer travel with the Process, she said yes, feeling into the powerful field that would be created in the Atlanta area. Lisa and I participated together in that first Atlanta circle and then an accelerated Magdalene circle, emerging in 1998.*

*A year after Lisa, I was drawn to train with Nicole, and began facilitating circles in 2000. The need for an apprentice~facilitator training process became apparent in my circles as my work has always moved in the direction of empowering women in their own sacred work. Many were called to apprentice with me. Nicole responded to the call with this manual and an initial 3-part workshop, while Lisa and I contributed our own pieces. Lisa has continued with group training modules, while I have continued to apprentice women in my circles in various parts of the country and now in 2009, in Canada.*

*My mission has been to seed the Process, and build community, while assisting women to come into versions of their own priestessing work in the world, whether it be facilitating the Process or other kinds of Sacred Feminine work. I have found my place on the wheel of Nicole's lineage through my own versions of the Process, which are the Shamanic Priestess Process™, (incorporating Aquarian Shamanic teachings and the work of Linda Star Wolf), and the Sexual Priestess Process™ (incorporating years of psychotherapeutic work as a sexual healer and tantrika). I told the Goddess I would commit to five years of this work. It has now been nine and a half!*

*The Priestess field, as Nicole created it, has been expanded and refined through the years by all of us. The rewards for facilitating continue to pour forth for me and those who are committed to working with and holding the huge container that is needed to fully come through this process. I gently remind you to always see this as sacred work, and embark on this adventure of facilitating with full knowledge, commitment and integrity to the Process. We have no vows, no ancient crusty dogma. We do have Nicole's words, Intentions and Precepts presented here for the highest good of all*

*beings. One of her precious gifts to us is this process that is whole and complete unto itself, a gestalt that can be enriched but is not to be diminished.*

*As a seasoned psychotherapist and Advanced Facilitator blessed by Nicole, I too, offer myself in service to those of you who need another perspective, a listening ear, or a few good stories about facilitating circles! Thank you, Lisa, for your continued dedication and work in all things related to the Process, and for furthering the development of the Facilitator's Manual.*

*Shamanic Blessings,*

*Anyaa McAndrew, MA, LPC, NCC*

*Shamanic~Transpersonal Psychotherapy*

*The Shamanic Priestess Process™*

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*828-788-0773*

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*Message from Cayelin Castell [formerly known as Carolyn Brent]:*

*My life has been immensely blessed by this work. I first heard about the Priestess Process from Initiate Sereena Hogan (she was in Nicole's first Circle) during a Reiki Training I was taking in November of 1994. When she mentioned she was being ordained (prior to the evolutionary shift when we began using the word emergence) as a Priestess I knew instantly I wanted to engage the process. It was as if the word Priestess for me awoke a deep ancient knowing. I felt I had been waiting my whole life to connect with, not only my own Priestess self but, all my Priestess sisters around the world. I emerged as a Priestess on December 2, 1995 with 5 other women in the fourth circle that established the foundation for the New Earth or Celestial Earth as we call it in those days. Soon after Nicole was inviting me to share the As Above, So Below mysteries at all the Priestess Ceremonies I attended in Arizona. Within a few months Nicole shared with me that her understanding was she held the As Within, So Without axis and I held the As Above, So Below axis for the matrix of the evolving Priestess Process.*

*From then on whenever she and I were in ceremony I called in the As Above, So Below mysteries and she called in the As Within, So without mysteries energizing the field with an ancient future connection bridging the pure elements of these mysteries that were so vital to the ancient priest-ess traditions in an evolving understanding and expression. We understood that we were bringing these elements forward in a new*

*way. In 1996 during the first leg of the Pilgrimage to Wholeness I began writing monthly Celestial Timings that were published in the Earth Goddess Rising Newsletter as a service to the growing Priestess community.*

*Nicole knew that an important aspect of Priestess work was to remember and attend to the inner and outer realities as well as the magical link between the Earth and the Sky. In ancient times it was the job of those who were trained to track the celestial cycles to keep their eyes on the sky, so they would know when it was time to perform the ceremonies that assisted their community in honoring and maintaining the sacred balance.*

*Throughout the evolution of the Priest~ess, Magdalene, Venus Templars, and Divine Creation High Priest~ess process Shamanic Astrology has helped to inform and confirm whatever has been unfolding in the field. I encourage all facilitators to consider attending at the very least the first two Shamanic Astrology Chart Analysis Intensives, The Script and Archetypes, and The Shamanic Timeline as well as taking a beginning Cosmology Night Sky Intensive as these courses will teach in 15 days what took years to learn in the ancient mystery schools. (visit [www.shamanicastrology.com](http://www.shamanicastrology.com) for details). Naturally you may not feel you have learned it all in three 5 day Intensives, however, you will awaken an experiential aspect of the ancient Star Priestess codes in ways that will forever change your life and add a dimension to your Priestess work that bridges the ancient future in the here and now.*

*Another course worth considering is the Shamanic Astrology Sacred Marriage and Relationship Intensive for obvious reasons. Also highly recommended is an annual subscription to the daily Celestial Timings as a way to have conscious connection to what is happening in the Great Above as you meet with your circles and plan your ceremonies. The Celestial Timings encapsulate the As Above, So Below mysteries tracking the cycles and teaching the basic principles in small daily doses. These Timings were invaluable to Nicole and helped to inform her work and can help to inform yours as well. You can visit [www.CelestialTimings.com](http://www.CelestialTimings.com) or [http://www.celestialtimings.com/free\\_timings/index.html](http://www.celestialtimings.com/free_timings/index.html) for a free current sample. Also there is an archives page that has the Celestial Timings monthly offerings posted for the past three years.*

*I am deeply grateful to you, Lisa and Anyaa and all facilitators of this work, for carrying on this lineage that began with Nicole Christine and continues to evolve and bless this world through all who engage the process.*

*Joyful Blessings,*

*Cayelin K Castell*

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***PRIEST~ESS PROCESS™ ORIGINS & EVOLUTION ©***

By Nicole Christine

This June 2008 Facilitator Handbook introduction is a revision of the July 2002 handbook introduction. Since that time, this sacred, heart-centered work has evolved from two to three vibrational waves or unified fields of consciousness with many energy streams forged by other Priestess Process™ Facilitators. The following descriptions of these waves of progressively finer frequencies are, in a sense, headwater perspectives. Facilitator trainers are urged to provide material regarding their individual stream.

In the **first** Awakening the Priest~ess Process wave, women initiates delve deeply into their psyches to access the suppressed priestess archetypal consciousness and male initiates re-pattern the modern-day priest identification to reclaim the divine feminine in sacred union with the divine masculine. Both female and male initiates evolve priestess and priest consciousness from Old Earth to New Earth consciousness. This evolving aspect of The Process continues to be inspired by Rowena Kryder's *Gaia Matrix Oracle*. (See <http://www.creative-harmonics.org/art/books/gaiamatrix2.html>.)

In the **second** Magdalene Mysteries High Priest~ess wave, initiates heal wounds of separation, particularly sexual woundings, in an inner and outer journey to wholeness. To be a High Priestess or High Priest is to embody a heightened frequency, balance *doing* and *being*, and take greater response-ability in priest~essing the planet in whatever ways they are inwardly guided, inwardly inspired. Generally, engaging these energies expands one's cosmic consciousness.

The more recently accessed **third** wave of The Process blends second wave Magdalene Mysteries frequencies with Venus Temples' energy. These Magdalene temple nodes are the wombs containing "Seeds of Light" for an Age soon upon us, when Venus, our Sister and Guardian in this solar system will aid us in our transition into finer New Earth Star frequency. These energies are engaged through journeys to any of the seven Venus Temple regions, initiation as a Venus Templar, and/or initiation as a Divine Creation High Priest~ess (DCHP). Venus Templars initiate in service to Divine Creation in accordance with the Divine

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Design and Divine Timing for their lives. The DCHP initiates are emerged priest/esses drawn to the One-Hearted Path and to the Divine Creation Archetype, through which countless Universes are born.

To acquire a deeper cellular imprint of this sacred work, I recommend that all facilitators visit my website ([www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com)) for a current overview. See Website Facilitator Referral (*Appendix L*) if you wish to be listed on the site as a Facilitator. I also recommend reading *Temple of the Living Earth* for background on the early stages of the Priest~ess Process and *Under Her Wings: The Making of a Magdalene*, which moves into the Magdalene High Priest~ess stage. *TLE* is being prepared to be available in e-book format. *UHW* is also available through Amazon or through [www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com). You are likely to glean greater insights into what priest~essing is about for you, personally and as a facilitator, by rereading these books and this handbook occasionally or even randomly opening to a page from time to time.

Greater creative aliveness is likely to be activated even by simply scanning the *Venus Temples Manual* CD (Adobe Acrobat format), which captures the essence of this work from July 2006-February 2007. See *Appendix M* for order information. A second *Venus Temples Manual* volume is now being compiled covering the work from March 2007-July 2008.

### *My function in the Priest~ess Process in the Year 2008...*

I was exhausted when I wrote the 2002 Facilitator Handbook introduction. Writing my portion of the handbook and training twenty plus facilitators in a three-part series with Anyaa McAndrew and Lisa Michaels were acts moving me toward completion of thirteen years of bringing through and facilitating this Process. Because my primary responsibility, as sorceress (she who sources) of this work, is to uphold the energetic integrity and pure essence and original intent, it is essential that I rewrite the handbook introduction in a state of renewed vitality.

During the intervening six years, I regained a life I thought I lost to a life centered on discovering what it means to be a priestess in these time. It was as though I had walked into another dimension when I began “training” to be ordained in the Fellowship of Isis (FOI) as a Priestess of Gaia. In less than a year after my

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ordination, I was a Priestess Hierophant with a FOI Doctorate of Divinity Degree. (Not one for titles, I thought of myself as a *Daughter* of Divinity!) My doctoral thesis contained the Awakening the Priestess Process blueprint that also contained the blueprint for I how I would live the next phase of my life.

The more fully I integrated over a decade of working with/being worked by the Intelligence of The Process, the more clearly I learned to differentiate between the living, breathing life of The Process and my own life and to see when they were one and the same and when they were not. I learned how essential self-care is doing this work and the corresponding need to disengage from work that is no longer mine to do. Accordingly, I am no longer on the Fellowship of Isis rolls nor active in the Madonna Ministry, though I wholeheartedly support those who are. Neither am I downloading new Process blueprints. There are ample ways of creatively working with the energy fields that have already come through, particularly in engaging the Venus Temples and Divine Creation High Priestess wave – in addition to my participation in the *greening* movement in the Tucson community, and playing with my precious, twin granddaughters.

Now I feel more *at choice* about when and how I allow The Process to express through me as me. Now I feel more grateful for the privilege of sourcing this heart-centered work. I have always been amazed by the ways in which The Process evolves and expands and by the hundreds and hundreds of extraordinary women and men who are called by it. Of particular note are the highly conscious, extensive roles Anyaa McAndrew (Shamanic Priestess Process) and Lisa Michaels (Elemental Forces of Creation) to enhance and carry forth this work. Now I realize that those of us engaging these energies are a soul group within concentric circles of interconnected soul groups that are re-assembling on our Return Path to Source, to Oneness.

In this return journey, it feels important to retain the following segment of the 2002 Handbook introduction that begins with a 1995 excerpt from *Temple of the Living Earth*.

*By the year 2000, humanity will be conscious that they are priest/esses, stewards, and co-creators to and with the Earth. The thought form of the Priest and Priestess to the World will be so internalized that this consciousness will manifest everywhere in everyone in everything we do, feel, say. (TLE, p. 46)*

A few months ago, when I happened on these words anew, my first thought was that humanity had fallen way short of this timeframe, but then I realized that an internal quantum shift has taken place in the psyche of enough of humanity to move us into the early stages of a hundredth monkey effect. The many faces of the Goddess and her priests and priestesses are widely visible, even commercially popularized. While this commercialization is highly superficial, it is an indication that that which has been buried deeply in the collective psyche has resurfaced. And more significantly, increasing numbers of women and men feel safely open about their love for the Goddess and the God as they experience their sacred expression, within and without. My personal experience is that the more I empty of what it meant to be a priestess in ancient times or a re-emerging priestess as the millennium turned and the more I give up the greater of what has been, I am, indeed, freer of the lesser and discover the basic understanding of what it means for me to be a priestess, a sorceress, a *Process* facilitator in these times.

Archetypes evolve and grow! My experience in running priestess archetypal energy, particularly that of a high priestess, is that she wants free of accumulated distortions and outmoded pictures imprisoning her in what has been – just as the high priest wants freedom. My sensing is that the New Priestess and New Priest in the Temple of the Living Earth will find their fullest expression by consciously attuning to their unique function in the world that they have been training lifetimes to fully, clearly, and cleanly run this energy. This will further the fullest expression of the priestess and priest archetypes and of the *Priest~ess Process*.

Recently, I re-attuned to the identity I most strongly resonate with as indicated in my 1997 Mayan Solar Birth Chart reading by Holly Davidson. According to this system, I came in as a Yellow Planetary Human vibrating with the following consciousness:

Galactic Statement

I perfect in order to influence, producing wisdom.

I seal the process of Free Will with the  
planetary tone of manifestation.

I am guided by the power of Universal Fire.

**I am a galactic activation portal.**

Enter and fulfill your destiny.

Sacred Mayan Year Of Blue Storm Power of  
self-generation, which is to **catalyze**.

Planetary Tone #10

Creative Power: **Perfect Manifestation**

Action: Motivate desire through heart

Wavespell #15 – Blue Night Power of  
abundance, which is to **dream**.

Solar Seal – Human

Power of Free Will which is to influence.

The **open vessel or chalice**, opening to the harvest, the cornucopia.

Throughout my lifetime, unconsciously so until recent times, I have been an **open vessel or chalice** and a **galactic activation portal** for many streams of consciousness that I **catalyze** and **dream** onward by responding to dream body messages and by facilitating, rather than directing, flows. The past decade, the dominant stream has been that of the *Priest~ess Process*. What needs to be clearly understood in order to further the flow is that my **perfect manifestation** role is to frame the skeletal design of this process that is fleshed out and organ-ized by others who have lineages, institutes, communities, and projects to establish.

I work with those who engage *The Process* directly through me by holding space and maintaining a creative edge for the emergence of their true, unique expression. For some, through self-selection, this means facilitating their own circles. While I work with them, in varying degrees, to get underway, I do not

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supervise or direct. I do mentor upon request for a consultation fee. And I do stipulate what is required to use and uphold the energetic integrity of the trade name registered *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup>. In the physical world, I report my income as an educator, writer, and minister. In the etheric or dreamtime worlds, I operate energetically and perceive the physical accordingly. Taking the skeletal design metaphor further, it could be said that each facilitator is responsible for holding the energetic of a given *Priest~ess Process* body organ and draws to her or himself those who vibrate with the frequency of that organ. For example, a facilitator holding the heart energy would draw those motivated by or seeking love and compassion. A facilitator holding the spleen (spiritual center) energy, draws those who are very spiritually-center or need to fill a spiritual void. Each organ has its own consciousness knowing what it takes to be a heart or a spleen. As a galactic activation portal, I function as the *opening* where the *Priest~ess Process* intelligence enters the body and activates or enlivens the unified field of each organ.

Adding in a Shamanic Astrology interpretation of my Venus, Mercury, and Moon in Sagittarius, it is obvious that I need to travel light and that I did not come in to build, create, head, or direct an organization or establish a lineage or wear a mantle or herd a flock. I came to energize resonating core groups that circle together around a common purpose on a short or long term basis. The work of Margaret Mead, Barbara Marx Hubbard, and even historians and revolutionaries, indicate that focused cells or circles of 8-13 participants are much more powerful than large groups or organizations. Metaphysically, the power of 13 (the number of the Goddess) or of 12 around 1 (Christ and his disciples) is acknowledged to be a highly activational frequency.

Many often imagine that *The Process* revolves around me and my life revolves around it. In actuality, I must consistently individuate out in order to sustain the inner focus needed to do what is mine to do. I function more as the Stranger going from temple to temple and camp to camp or circle to circle to catalyze change and to be changed. In Sagittarian style, I tend to camp on the periphery of a community that I engage as long as it fosters unity through diversity rather than tries to force unity through conformity and as long as I can sustain mobility to move among diverse circles, camps, and temples. If I take on other roles, I not only inhibit fulfillment of my destiny, I usurp the role of another whose destiny it is to fill that function.

I deeply sense that tremendous creative, re-visioning energy will be freed up if it is understood that my function as the originating facilitator of the *Priest~ess Process* – be it in facilitating *The Process*, training facilitators, and/or bringing in new expressions – is as a **galactic activation portal, manifestor, catalizer, dreamer, and chalice**. For these times and this *Process*, nothing more, nothing less.

According to the Mayan solar birth system, I am of the Yellow Root Race. This Race is of the South and are *Ripeners into flowering ... flowering fulfilled*. Indeed, one of my greatest joy is witnessing and celebrating the flowering of those who pass through the *Priest~ess Process* portal. I am amazed and delighted by the myriad ways those passing through the *Priest~ess Process* portal have carried this energy forth as facilitators and priestesses and priests expressing in kaleidoscopically colorful and unique ways. As each of us blossoms into the fullness of our True Selves and thrill for one another, the planet and we truly flourish and become the Sacred Garden. And I give thanks!

Together, we are tilling, expanding, and tending this Sacred Garden. Already, planted in soil richly composted by the first wave of re-emerging priestesses and priests are the seeds of new crops. These *seed thoughts* and *shoots* include the New Priests; Priest~esses of Color, Young Generation Priest~esses; Dawn of Creation Priest~esses, Festivals, the Arts, the children, a sustainable spiritual economy, global responsibility, and Earth-honoring lifestyles. By gratefully developing our co-creative relationships with the Elemental Forces of Creation and being conduits of the fertile new energies of our ancient future, we vibrate together in the center of a resonant field that magnetizes other New Earth gardeners. It is done and it is so! And Heaven and Earth rejoice!

These are activational times. The work that all of us done individually and with The Process Intelligence is resurging in enlivening and unimaginable ways. We are at a threshold of heightened consciousness, well prepared to cross, baggage-free, into a New Earth Fulfilled as co-creators with Spirit, Nature, and one another. The way is brighter and easier due to our strengthened capacity to hear and respond to inner guidance. We are on rich virgin soil. Let us plant and tend a field of evolved consciousness to nurture ourselves as we proceed into a new cycle

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of existence – A New World, as the Hopi say, of Peace, Plenty, and Illumination for all.

**To the Creative Process, I offer this work. To the Creative Process, I commend my spirit. To the Creative Process, I give my thanks.**

With deep respect and gratitude to you all,  
Nicole Christine (*Transitioned Oct 18, 2008*)

### ***THE PRIEST~ESS PROCESS*™ ©**

**Primary Precepts:** *The Priest~ess Process*™ is a living intelligence expressing as an enlivening initiatory process for women and men open to an entirely new, **direct spiritual experience** in which they, as initiates, 1) embrace their own Inner Authority and Co-Creative Divinity, 2) work with the Power of Sacred Intent, 3) Co-create Living Ceremony, and 4) Self-Proclaim as a Priestess or Priest upon fulfillment of their initiatory cycle. All aspects of *The Process* are facilitated according to these primary precepts.

***Priest~ess Process*™ Facilitators:** These individuals are emerged high priestesses and priests who have been mentored by/apprenticed to an experienced *Priest~ess Process*™ Facilitator. They have the authority to use the trade name provided they 1) appropriately credit Nicole Christine, as the originator or creatrix, and their mentor or apprenticeship trainer, 2) uphold the energetic integrity of the Primary Precepts, 3) bring through and activate their own Mystery School, and 4) generally adhere to the *Priest~ess Process*™ Components and Principles.

Note: Any emerged priestess or priest is encouraged and supported in developing and facilitating their equally valuable, important, and unique expression of their sacred workplay – independently or in ways that interface with and expand the larger priest~ess community. However, one who is not an emerged and mentored/apprenticed high priestess or priest and/or who does not choose to align with the four precepts above, may not represent her or his expression as the *Priest~ess Process*™. This is so simply because if any of these intrinsic *Process*

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factors are altered, it is no longer the *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup> and should not be presented as such.

While the *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup> clearly lives, breathes, evolves, and has a life of its own; just as clearly, it has its own energetic integrity that expresses diversely through those who engage it. Anyone can connect and work with the priestess or priest archetypes and bring through corresponding process templates. If this is the case, facilitators are asked to make this distinction and to, if their work was inspired by the *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup>, indicate this in their promotions and presentations. *Priest~ess Process* facilitators or facilitators of their own sacred work process may, with appropriate credit, copy and use the appendix material provided in the 2008 Facilitator Handbook.

**Ordination Option:** The *Priest~ess Process* is a unified field of consciousness. It is not an organization – legal, religious, or otherwise. Emerged priestesses and priests live, move, and have their being on the basis of inner knowing and self-proclamation. In many circles, those desiring to serve humanity in the capacity of a legally recognized minister, have the option of being ordained as a Madonna Minister by a Madonna Ministry bishop at the time of, or after, their *Priest~ess* Emergence. See [www.madonnaministry.net](http://www.madonnaministry.net). This entitles one to use the title “Reverend” and to perform weddings and other ministerial functions in accordance to the legal requirements in the jurisdiction where one chooses to *minister*. In some circles, facilitators, ordained in other churches, offer corresponding ordinations.

### **Initiate Process**

Everything is energy! The *Priest~ess Process* is a path of enlivenment and empowerment that facilitates the running of regenerative life force energy. *Process* activities are designed to get and keep participants' *juices* flowing in clear, life affirming ways.

Everything and everyone has a vibration. Accordingly, a priest~ess interfaces with life at the non-judgmental level of vibrations, frequencies, archetypal patterns, systems, and energy flows rather than at the judgmental/interpretive level of personalities and issues. It is essential for a *Process* facilitator to attune to the *Priest~ess* Oversoul of the *Process* and to continually refine her or his heart-centered capacity to recognize, engage, and facilitate energy in order to

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appropriately work with the visible and invisible realms which, in reality, are not separate. This can be accomplished simply by free movement or dance or setting a clear, heart-centered intent and opening to corresponding guidance. Another approach is that of many indigenous medicine people who, before a healing or ceremony, make themselves into a “hollow bone.” They do this, in private, by inwardly scanning their body to identify blockages created by pockets of anger or grief or resentment stored in their cells. Each time they find pockets, they *pluck* them out with their hands until they sense that their body is a clear channel for spirit, a *hollow bone*.

This energetic refinement can be furthered by working with living intelligence energy fields such as Reiki. *Process* facilitators, just as Reiki practitioners, know that they are conduits, not directors, of the intelligence they are bringing through. Such intelligence knows where it needs to go and how. Facilitators are charged with the responsibility to *source* the intelligence of the *Priest~ess Process* by keeping their personal *channels* as clear and open as possible and to facilitate initiates in doing the same. Journal writing and artistic creations assist in this regard and interweaving movement and dance into the *Process* keeps it and participants alive and lively.

The *Process* is a Lunar Initiation (feminine) in which initiates surrender to the Goddess of *Being-ness* in contrast to a Solar Initiation (masculine) in which initiates perform for the God of *Doing-ness*. In other words, in a solar approach, the initiate must perform or do acts of courage. Whereas, in a lunar approach, the initiate must surrender to courage until s/he becomes, s/he is courage. Many initiates and facilitators find it more challenging to surrender than perform! However, factoring in the innate action-orientation of males, priest initiates often benefit by performing a task or function in service to the planet, their spiritual soul group, and/or larger community. The presence of male guardians enhances the capacity of female initiates to surrender to their innate state of beingness that may be overly protected by their animus (inner male). Conversely, as male initiates embrace their anima (inner female), they often become more sensitive in their doings.

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To address the question that arises from time to time about high priestesses facilitating priest initiations, it's important to point out that they are facilitating a spiritual awakening process, not "men's work." When men in Sedona asked me to facilitate a priest process for them, I suggested bringing in a man active in the men's movement to work with me. The Sedona men made it clear that they weren't looking for "men's work." They wanted to find and serve the Goddess and wanted to be initiated by someone who *knows* Her and embodies the Sacred Feminine. Almost every man who has gone through The Priest Process was associated with a priestess and wanted to experience the depth of transformation that these women had in their Priestess Process initiation. One remarked, "We have *priestess envy*."

The Process is quite adaptable to facilitation of mixed gender initiation circles. Both Lisa Michaels and I have experience in working with women and men in this way. Whatever the gender composition of any circle is The Process frequency draws forth the authentic self, which often means liberation from gender specific traits of the false self.

The Process is just that – a *process*. Not to be confused with endless *processing* of personal stuff. It is a fluidly enlivening archetypal-level method of honoring the sacred union of the divine feminine and divine masculine, nurturing spiritual awakening, personal discovery, and soul expansion. The whole-brain, interactive approach assists facilitators and initiates in developing strong, internal reference points. It fosters heart-centered feminine attributes of accepting, allowing, being in women and men. It is not an ideology, teaching, arena for debate, or therapy. No dogma is imposed nor are vows required. Initiates are free to retain personal religious or spiritual practices and to incorporate aspects of said practices and symbols in their initiation process as long as they are not imposing their beliefs on others. The Process is a celebration of the sacredness of life in a circle of individuation and oneness, tears and laughter, dance and song, food and fun, and inner barrier-breakdowns and realization-breakthroughs. Enjoy!

No mind-altering substances are used in any Process activity. Anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol inhibits her or his capacity to merge with the Priest~ess Process energetic field and, in effect, cancel out their initiate status and, in some cases, the initiatory status of their entire circle. All gatherings that I

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facilitate are designated as drug and alcohol-free. Some facilitators are open to alcohol at post-ceremony feasts. In these cases, I urge that there is consensus within the circle to do so and that this be limited to light consumption of wine or champagne. Much of the mystery and magic of The Process is the *natural high* induced through direct connection to Source! *Ecstasy is the Next Frequency* is the title of one of Chris Griscom's book and she's talking about living in our natural state, not about taking the drug "ecstasy." Keep your circles and ceremonies open to natural access of that frequency.

Be it a lunar or solar initiation, the words of West African Dagara tribe shaman, Malidoma Some, apply: *In an initiation, the initiate either dies or gets to the other side. There is no turning back. Death will stop chasing the initiate when it is clear that the initiate fully intends to get to the other side.*

In tribal societies, physical death is often an initiation possibility. In both tribal and *modern* societies, physiological death is an initiation inevitability. Life, in and of itself, is an initiation filled with many initiatory cycles. In tribal societies, the village holds the initiatory container for initiates who are ceremonially facilitated by elders, medicine people, and/or shamans. Those who "get to the other side" as well as those who physically give up the body are witnessed and celebrationally received by their community. The lack of defined initiation containers, facilitated living ceremony, and celebratory witnessing and reception has created a tremendous void in the soul's journey. *The Priest~ess Process™* is a contemporary way of consciously filling this void.

As a lunar or feminine initiatory experience, *The Process* works with natural cycles and elemental forces. Whenever possible, this initiation process transpires over a nine-month period in which the initiate is pregnant with her or his priest~ess self that emerges and is self-proclaimed at the completion of the initiatory *term*. Initiates who complete their initiation cycle in less than ninemonths or *go-over* term, tend to experience similar consequences as a premature or over-term infant. Likewise, emerged priest~esses who enter into a high priest~ess initiation cycle before their year and a day post-emergence cycle is complete, tend to have experiences similar to that of back-to-back pregnancies and births. Similarly, those who go longer than nine months, tend to feel much like mothers whose pregnancies go over term. Whatever the length of the

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initiation cycle, it is wise to approach these differing situations as consciously prepared as possible.

Generally, a circle of 8-12 initiates meets 10-15 hours a month (one day and one evening or a full weekend). It is recommended that initiates meet several times throughout the initiation period independent of the facilitator in order to strengthen their independent sense of self and to co-create and interact without the guidance of *The Process* facilitator. Additionally, each initiate has, at minimum, a one-hour private session with *The Process* facilitator prior to the Rite of Initiation Ceremony and one prior to the Emergence Ceremony. Each facilitator determines and maintains her or his energy exchange agreements for facilitator services.

It is also recommended that initiates read *Temple of the Living Earth* and *My Ascension Journal* by Nicole Christine and utilize Lisa Michael's audio book *Elemental Forces of Creation*. See Resource List (Appendix N).

Three-Night Guideline: In general, it is beneficial for initiates to “sleep on” their initiation statement, story, and Self-Proclamation Declaration for three nights before finalizing a draft. In other words, wait three nights before completing each writing. This allows time for the piece to *settle* and possible revisions to surface. It is important to pay particular note to early wakeup thoughts, feelings, and images each morning.

### First Trimester Focus: KNOW THYSELF

*Know Thyself* is the ancient directive inscribed over the inner shrine door at the Temple of Delphi. *Know Thyself ... Be Thyself* is the Prime Directive of the *Priest~ess Process*.

First trimester emphasis is on self-knowing and self-honoring. This involves embracing the Stillness where Oneness resides, developing strong inner-directedness, listening intently and open-heartedly, and speaking and living one's truth. This is done in the context of personal discovery of the many names, faces,

and ways of the Goddess who often expresses in Sacred Union with her Divine Counterpart. While *The Process* can be engaged as a solitaire, it is basically designed to engage the power of the Circle Archetype in which the circle of initiates give definition to the circle proportional to how fully each participant knows and expresses her or his True Self. The potential of the circle evolving into a resonating core group is proportional to the degree of authenticity each participant expresses. To the degree one knows one's self, one can more aptly discern what is so and not so for them in every circle of life. Resonance occurs in a circle or a relationship when each party speaks her or his truth which is heard and received by the other(s) and is integrated into a synergistic whole. This also means that the facilitator must come from her or his center and not lock into the form of *The Process*. The art of facilitating *The Process* lies in celebrating and engaging the mystery and magic of what's seeking expression through each individual and the group.

A circle's capacity to strike a resonating chord is greatly inhibited when any participants compare themselves to others. This diminishes the possibility of everyone holding his or her unique place of personal empowerment in the circle and thus diminishes the innately inclusive power of the Circle. Celebration of another timeless directive, *To Thine Own Self Be True*, reinforces the *Know Thyself ... Be Thyself* intent of the first trimester and insures a strong, healthy beginning. Many emerged priestesses and priests indicate that the opportunity to *show up* in safe, sacred space for nine months greatly facilitates their capacity to unselfconsciously *show up* in the world as their True Self.

#### Self-Awareness Components:

- 1) New Priest/ess Orientation
  - a. Participants attune to their own knowing of what it means to be a priestess or priest in these times. (See suggested journal writing activities Appendixes A & B.) Complement their personal knowing and *The Process* concept of the priestess archetype with the "Priestess Within: Your Direct Divine Connection" CD by Nicole Christine, Anyaa McAndrew, and Lisa Michaels. This CD is of benefit to male and female initiates and carries the Priest/ess Process frequency through Nicole's voice. <http://www.naturalrhythms.org>

- b. Overview of Initiation Mysteries and initiation cycle format. Allow for thorough discussion of the difference between a lunar and solar initiation, the import and impact of being an initiate, and creating an intention statement\*. See first four paragraphs of Appendix E.
  - c. Introduction to Living Ceremony (Appendix D) and co-creating sacred space (Appendix J). Initiates explore the significance of ritual and ceremony in daily life and co-create and experience a Puberty Rite of Passage. Keep in mind that co-creation of Living Ceremony is one of the Primary Precepts of The Process.
  - d. Introduction of mediation procedures. (See page 15)
- 2) Rite of Initiation (see Appendixes E & G). Only initiated priest/esses are present as witnesses and co-ceremonialists.
- 3) Footwashing Ceremony
- a. This may precede the Initiation Ceremony, be incorporated into the Storytelling process, or stand-alone.
  - b. Half of the circle honors the other half with a footwashing ceremony. Then the process is reversed.
- 4) Storytelling
- a. Each initiate writes the story of her or his sacred journey to now and, in sacred, safe, supportive space, reads twenty minutes of it to co-initiates. The process of writing one's story takes the storyteller much deeper within than does simply speaking extemporaneously, with or without notes.
  - b. The other initiates' respectful, attentive **listening** to the story honors the storyteller. No feedback is given and stories, like everything else that transpires in circle, are not discussed outside the circle.
  - c. The intent of the storytelling is to integrate one's journey in order to be fully present in the now, to embrace all that has shaped each initiate and prepared her or him to engage this initiation process, and to simply and truly be heard and received.

Second Trimester

Focus: *Knowing Self Through Nature*

Ancient priestesses and priests were strongly linked to the energies and natural cycles of earth, the elemental forces of creation, and the inter-related energies and natural cycles of the sun, moon, planets, and stars. In these times, it is essential to reclaim and evolve that connection in order to establish personal and planetary balance and harmony. Basic to the *Priest~ess Process* is recognition that Earth is a living organism within the universal living organism. She is a sacred site. She is our church, temple, sanctuary, home and mother. Known by many names such as Gaia, Pacha Mama, Tara, she is a living spiritual being in her own right, with her own mind, consciousness, destiny, and development. No longer cloistered behind temple, convent, or monastery walls, it is incumbent for priest-esses and priests in these times to celebrate life and awaken to its cocreative partnership with Earth in the Temple of the Living Earth. (See *Principles of Earth-Centered Spirituality* Appendix H.)

We *make sacred*, by bringing our sacredness to every place and every situation. Indigenous people are often saddened by those who go to sacred sites to *take* that which is sacred rather than to *give* to it. When we know and experience all life as sacred, be it taking out the garbage or engaging in high ceremony, we connect with our own divinity.

It is said by some that woman knows herself best alone in nature where she can sort herself out from her relationship-centered existence and nurture her relationship to her Essence Self. And it is said by others that every man needs a woman in his life (sister, mother, lover, friend, wife....) that is a clear window to nature so that his system-building, construction-oriented perspectives align harmonically with the natural world. One may look at this from an externally referenced gender perspective or in regard to the feminine and masculine aspects within both genders. In both cases, impact of *The Process* on initiates is greatly enhanced by a strong earth-based component. Facilitators are urged to design gatherings that strengthen initiates' connection to the earth and to cosmic currents influencing all life hereon. As much as possible, these activities are to be held in natural environments to energize cellular aliveness and connectedness.

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I received inspiration for the Priest~ess Process from Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Mission of Sun in Tucson. This is where Tucson priestess and priest initiation ceremonies have taken place, as well as many other ceremonies and celebrations. Following a special occasion in this rock chapel and built by artist Ted DeGrazia with the help of Yaqui friends, I stopped by his nearby grave to give thanks to him for having created this sacred place. Thinking aloud, I said, “If I am ever to partner again, I hope it is with a man who loves the Earth as much as you did.”

He responded, “A man cannot truly love a woman unless he loves the Earth.” As I absorbed his words, he added, “And a woman cannot be truly loved unless she knows herself as the Earth.”

In these times of raising environmental consciousness, I encourage facilitators and initiates to honor the Earth in very practical ways by being conscious of the ecological footprint created each time a circle gathers. There are many ways we can do this individually and in circle, one gentle step at a time. Carpool. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Eat locally grown, in-season, organic food. Buy from and get to know local farmers. Plant trees. Make carbon offset givebacks to the bioregion and/or particular location where the circle gathers and in our travels. (Google “Carbon Offset Calculator.”) Just as important as the practice of leaving a gathering place in as good or better condition than it was in when the circle gathered, is the practice of asking the spirit of place and elemental forces for permission to gather and to do so in respectful ways. Offer a plate of food, corn meal, and/or tobacco to the Earth and Spirit of Place. Remember that nature and inanimate objects all have consciousness that is impacted positively or negatively by our behavior.

My personal experience that choosing to lighten my footprint, be it in my personal life or in facilitating an event, is not a “sacrifice” in the way many interpret it. But it is a *sacrifice* in the original meaning of the word, which is *to make sacred*. In so doing, I feel more connected and response-able to All Life. And as a *Gramma Priestess*, I am even more aware of import of living in accord with the Great Law of the Iroquois Confederacy: *In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations*. The circle may want to consider creating a collective Earth-Honoring commitment statement or lifting up the Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream declaration of the Pachamama Alliance: *I am (we are) committed to bringing*

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*forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, and socially just human presence on this planet as the guiding principle of our times.*

Nature Components:

- 1) Hold Council to develop listening and speaking skills and a resonant field; co-creating Earth-honoring ceremonies, medicine wheels, moon circles; and working with the elemental forces.
- 2) Work with these resources:
  - a. *Gaia Matrix Oracle* by Rowena Kryder (see <http://www.creativeharmonics.org/art/books/gaiamatrix2.html>.)
  - b. *Medicine Wheel Earth Astrology* by Sun Bear and Wabun.
  - c. *The Shamanic Astrology Handbook* by Daniel Giamario and Carolyn Brent, n.k.a. Cayelin Castell. (See <http://www.shamanicastrology.com/books.html>.) Facilitators who do not have at least a foundational level of mastery with this material are urged to bring in a knowledgeable *Process* facilitator to work with their circle. It is also recommended that each initiate has a personal Shamanic Astrology reading with a qualified Shamanic Astrologist.
  - d. *Elemental Forces of Creation* and/or *Natural Rhythms* by Lisa Michaels. (See <http://www.naturalrhythms.org>.)
  - e. *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. *Ecological Literacy: Educating Our Children for a Sustainable World* edited by Michael Stone & Zenobia Barlow. *Anastasia* by Vladimir Megre.

### Third Trimester

Focus: *Co-Creating the New Earth*

The New Earth is a dimension or vibratory field in which all creatures contribute to Creation by co-creating with Spirit, Nature, and one another. To do so, emphasis is now placed on initiates altering their frequency in ways that bring about inner and outer sacred union of heaven and earth, spirit and matter, mind, body, and feeling, masculine and feminine. Then focus evolves to visioning the New Earth, rebirth, initiation cycle integration, and emergence. In this last trimester, the synergy of the Emergence Ceremony is energized through individual and collective emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual attention and

intention. It is time to be in consistent communion with one's Priest~ess Self so that the co-created ceremony is a true celebration of her or his re-awakening and re-emergence.

New Earth Components:

- 1) Sacred Inner Marriage Ceremony or Mystery Drama – Working with Shamanic Astrology archetypes, a female initiate weds her Mars and a male initiate weds his Venus.
- 2) Visioning the New Earth – Identify, share, and activate visions of the New Earth in which the priestess in every woman and the priest in every man honors Earth as a Living Temple and holds all life as sacred.
- 3) Rebirthing the New Priest~ess. – Participation in this death and rebirth ceremony is a pre-requisite for Emergence.
- 4) Integrating The Process – Journal writing and sharing. (See “Rememberings” technique in Appendix A and page 33 of *My Ascension Journal* by Nicole Christine.) It is beneficial for initiates to re-read and reflect upon their Initiation Intention Statements.
- 5) Pre-Emergence Mystery Drama – co-created enactment of the circle's collective journey and/or essence.
- 6) Emergence Ceremony and optional ministerial ordinations – co-created by self-proclaiming initiates who may choose to have, or not have, guests present. Emphasize the empowerment significance The Process Precepts of Self-Proclamation and Inner Authority. Power cannot be bestowed on an individual by an outside authority. One must wholeheartedly claim it for her/himself and embody it on the basis of Inner Authority. This potency of this proclamation is amplified when joyfully and respectfully witnessed by others.

The boxed section below describes the energetic nature of the Self-Proclamation Ceremony as written in *Temple of the Living Earth* in 1995. Today, I would add that if a priestess or priest aligns with a specific Goddess or God, it is essential that s/he is highly conscious of the light and shadow aspects of that archetype, be they aspects innate to that archetypal pattern or accumulated cultural and religious projections. By pointing this out, initiates often realize they want to align with particular qualities rather than the whole package. In other words, one might choose to Self-Proclaim as a Priest/ess (of the God/dess) of Compassion or (of the God/

dess) of Wisdom. Note that the section below was written when only women were engaged in The Process.

Temple of the Living Earth Proclamation Ceremony

From the Temple of the Living Earth perspective, the ordination ceremony is one of self-proclamation by the Initiate as a Priestess to the World. The components and intent reflect the calling identified by the Initiate. To *self-proclaim* one's self as a *Priestess to the World* is to live, move, and experience Beingness in the high vibrational energy field of this Celestial Earth archetype ... it is to dance with the New Earth archetypes revealed through the Gaia Matrix Oracle. As a Priestess of Gaia, you embrace your role in the Divine Design of Earth, Nature, and humanity's ascension into higher consciousness bringing about the marriage of Heaven and Earth, spirit and matter, within and

without, mind and body, thought and feeling, masculine and feminine.

In the ancient ways of the Goddess, a Priestess chose to serve the Divine Feminine Principle in one of two ways: 1) to do service to the Goddess you were dedicated to when She asked it of you, or 2) devote your life to serving Her. In the evolving ways of the Goddess, a *Priestess to the World* commits to co-creating a New Earth Fulfilled with Gaia, other self-aligned Gods and Goddesses, and the New Earth Archetypes. In so doing, the New Priestess commits, according to her own Guidance, to honor the Great Goddess by honoring herself, to uphold the thoughtform of the *Temple of the Living Earth*, and to evolve into Goddess-Realized consciousness. This frees her from Warrior consciousness and the belief in/battle against *good and evil* and moves her through Healer consciousness into the consciousness of Co-Creators and Celebrants of Life.

*Temple of the Living Earth*, p. 145

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Private Sessions: The pre-initiation and pre-emergence sessions between individual initiates and their facilitator greatly enhance the overall initiatory process. This is an essential opportunity for each initiate and facilitator to experience one another outside the group energy. This is private, confidential time for initiates to be heard, to express, and integrate their personal process without any apprehension that they will be treated like they need *fixing* or be told how they should think, feel or be. Full acceptance of being just where one needs to be in their personal journey is vital and perfect for themselves, the circle, and *The Process*.

Facilitators are urged to use a shamanic approach in which they do not give an initiate input unless invited to do so or without asking permission. Shamans, mystics, and master teachers practice non-interference and do not give answers to questions not asked, impose their perspectives, or assume they know what is best for another. No matter how psychically accurate they may be in their perceptions, what they see is of little value to those who do not see it for themselves. Shamans, et al, see everyone as whole, perfect, and complete with different life lessons and equations to work out and as running energies that must be played out. They hold sacred space for others to, in their own time and own way, discover and work out what is resolved and unresolved within themselves – and when invited, appropriately assist in drawing out that inner knowing. They support each initiate's choices.

While it is often fitting for a facilitator to share aspects of their own process as *medicine*, they keep their personal processing apart. Likewise, if a facilitator has a particular teaching, therapeutic, or healing modality that a initiate might be responsive to and benefited by, it is recommended that this be engaged as separate from/additional to *The Process* private sessions.

SEAL: One Year and One Day

The cellular and energetic integration of the internalized New Earth Priestess or Priest is complete in one year and one day after self-proclamation and emergence. Celebratory acknowledgement of this completion is a joy to the Soul of the Awakened Priest~ess!

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NOTE: It is recommended that the celebrating priest~esses co-create their celebration and gather *without* the participation or presence of their initiation *Process* facilitator.

### ***Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup> Practicalities**

Facilitator Handbook: It is essential for facilitators and their apprentices or trainees to have and regularly reference their own copy of the latest Facilitator Handbook. Whether the facilitator makes a hard or electronic copy available to an apprentice or trainee or has them contact me directly for an electronic copy, a \$22 intellectual property payment per person is to be paid to the Nicole Christine Living Memorial Fund, Acct. #1228037; Pima Federal Credit Union. POB 50267; Tucson, AZ 85703; Phone: 520-887-5010 or it can be sent to Lisa Michaels 4045 Five Forks Trickum RD Suite B-8 #275~ Lilburn, GA 30047. Please include the email address where the copy is to be sent. The added cost of any supplemental material particular to a facilitator's mystery school is determined and collected by the facilitator.

**Mediation Procedures:** Have mediation structures in place to assist in clearing discordant energies that may develop among initiates or between initiates and facilitators. Explain the purposes and procedures during Orientation. These structures may include identified mediators or councils within the priest~ess network or the larger community and/or a council or other clearing process that to be internally utilized by the circle. These measures are taken only when the involved parties have exhausted their efforts to resolve things between themselves. Mediations take place at mutually agreed to times outside scheduled *Process* gatherings. Through consistent alignment with the Priest/ess Oversoul, initiates and facilitators are better equipped to relate in "priest/ess frequency," which engages at the level of archetypes, energy flows, vibrations, systems, and patterns, rather than at the level of personalities and issues.

### **Equitable Energy Exchanges**

Each facilitator determines what are equitable energy exchanges for facilitation services – whether monetary or in trades – and whether or not it is feasible to offer scholarships. This includes *Process* tuition, private sessions, travel related

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expenses, and resource materials. It is essential that there are clear lines of communication and exchange follow-through, that initiates understand they are required to pay the monthly tuition on time whether present or not, and that all exchanges are complete prior to any given circle's Emergence Ceremony. It is also important for facilitators to have healthy boundaries regarding personal availability beyond agreed to services. Creation of a functional, spiritual economy is vital to the sustainability of the *Process* and will do much to heal splits around spiritual and monetary belief systems. Once a facilitator's training is complete and s/he is independently facilitating circles, it is customary for mentoring facilitators to receive consultation fees for mentoring requests that exceed brief inquiries.

It is wisdom for facilitators and initiates to gratefully *giveback* to the *Priest~ess Process* in sacred, honoring ways that keep it healthy and vibrantly alive and to all forces that contributed to their initiatory passage. This includes participatory deities, angelic realms, nature spirits, elemental forces, spirits of place, etc. Creation of a scholarship fund for those not in a position to pay in full or part is an empowering way to giveback and to make The Process available to a larger number of people.

**Professionalism & Self-Care:** It is essential that a facilitator upholds a code of confidentiality that respects the privacy of individual initiates and the group process. Additionally, while we are not a secret society, it is important that neither facilitators nor initiates diffuse the initiatory energies or minimize the experience by inappropriately discussing it in or outside of circle. Even seemingly harmless chitchat can dissipate individual and group life force and diminish the energetic integrity of The Process. Discernment is an important skill for all to develop.

Having healthy boundaries and taking responsibility for clearing one's own stuff go hand in hand with self-care and sustaining personal and group vitality. Facilitators are encouraged to have another facilitator hold sacred space in which they can work through inner conflicts related to this work and/or to arrange for mentoring the facilitator who trained them or from an advanced facilitator (see Appendix N). Not having any one to do this for me in the early years of doing this

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work, I cannot stress the importance enough of facilitators assisting one another in this way. Facilitating is an initiation in itself and it is important that we compassionately honor our own process and respect and nurture ourselves just as we do the initiates in our circles.

### **Legalities**

Emerged Priestesses and Priests, *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup> facilitators, and Madonna Ministry ministers and bishops, function independently and are responsible for compliance with the laws of the legal jurisdictions where they live and minister. One may obtain religious, non-profit status or a business license as a selfemployed minister operating under the licensing category deemed appropriate by the licensing agency. Tax regulations apply at the federal, state, county, and city levels.

A New Earth Priest~ess consciously aligns with cosmic laws. S/he does not enmesh herself in patriarchal laws or energize these passing ways through hostile opposition. In New Earth consciousness, the Creative Mother/Empowering Father principle is upheld and the God/dess within us governs. Thus, we are called upon to co-create ceremonies, rituals, and guidelines for personal and global wellness.

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***Priest~ess Process Facilitating Principles***  
(*Space between principles is for note-taking during training.*)

Remember *where attention goes, energy flows.*

Empty. Be the chalice, the hollow bone. Allow *The Process* to flow through you.

Be IN the energy of *The Process*, of the moment, of the Circle, of the Great Mystery.

Witness/allow/attune to what is seeking expressing/evolving through us as us.

BE *The Process*, the priest~ess, the New Earth, the dreamer and the dream dreaming.

Celebrate each one in her or his own time and own way.

Activate Life Force and emphasize Direct Experience. Information is secondary.

Encourage initiates to take initiative in facilitating their own process.

Surrender to your own initiation as a facilitator.

Honor the priestess in every woman and the priest in every man.  
Read and work with patterns, systems, energy fields, archetypes, and frequencies.

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Know Thyself. Be accountable. Prioritize self-care.

Co-create with Spirit and one another. Experience Life as Ceremony.

Hold safe, psychic space for what's coming in, expressing, releasing, and leaving.

*Round* out your thinking. Feel your wholeness, the wholeness of life.

Transparently facilitate initiate authenticity as the force that defines their circle.

Emphasize development of strong internal reference points, clear inner-direction.

Honor the innate intelligence of the *Priest~ess Process* and uphold its energetic integrity.

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(Appendix A)

## **JOURNAL WRITING GUIDELINES & PROCESSES ©**

**By Nicole Christine**

Journal writing is an exploration of one's inner landscape that potentially takes the writer into the depths of the subconscious and the expanse of the superconscious. Through it, an individual can chip away at her or his sense of limitation and burst through into fields of limitless potential. It is an opportunity to clear out mental and emotional debris, to source the vast pools of mental and emotional intelligence, and to anchor life-affirming visions, dreams, realities. It is an opportunity to develop your personal "how to" manual for all areas of your life, to enhance your creative expression, and to enliven your process of ever-expanding consciousness and selfdiscovery.

### **GUIDELINES:**

- Situate yourself comfortably in your favorite place.
- Write on unlined colored paper with colored pens or pencils.
- Write for yourself!
- Let go of concerns about spelling, grammar—even legibility.
- Date your entries.
- Draw, doodle, scribble. Write sideways, upside down, in circles and spirals.

### **... THEN WHAT?**

Read what you have written! Sit with it. Let it speak to you. *Receive* what you have written. Journaling is much more than a writing activity. By silently reading what you have committed to written form, you will greatly strengthen your self-awareness.

Next, read your entry aloud. Written words are congealed energy that is empowered, magnified, and allowed to move, when given voice. If you have written about a challenging circumstance, you are likely to experience a cathartic release as you write. By reading the words aloud, the release or insights are maximized and you allow trapped energy to move, to be liberated, and your life force to flow unrestrictedly.

Releasing creates openings in the emotional body that leads to greater access of one's innate knowing. Fill these spaces with beauty, self-love, and appreciation. Take a nurturing bath or a walk in nature, play inspiring music, dance. Be gentle with yourself. Moving *dark-night-of-the-soul* energies is liberating. Moving stagnant, unexpressed emotions of joy, love, and compassion is exhilarating. Through journaling, you may discover that your deepest pain is due more to the suppression of love and creativity than to the suppression of anger, fear, hate, or resentment.

## **JOURNAL WITH OTHERS!**

Journaling with a friend or a group enhances this very personal process and diminishes one's sense of separation and secrecy. Often when we talk with others—even trusted confidantes with whom we are closely attuned—we say the obvious and get caught up in the storyline. By writing and then sharing what we have written (with people who honor our process), we find ourselves quickly delving into deeper, clearer, more expansive realms of consciousness and wholeness.

## **LISTENING**

Communication is an art. Listening—truly listening—is the finest aspect of this art. All life is in constant communication with us. Tuning in—or not—is a decision we each make within ourselves. Whether or not we listen to the still voice within, the song of creation playing in the wind, or one another is a choice we make moment-to-moment basis. Writing, sharing, and listening with our hearts transforms the art of communication into an act of communion.

## **CLUSTERING**

Whether you believe you cannot write or you are a proficient writer, clustering works! In her book, *Writing the Natural Way*, by Gabriele Rico offers a superb presentation of this generative writing activity. Clustering ideas (sometimes called making an Idea Map) is an effective and efficient way to organize your thoughts for your spiritual journey story and *Guardian of the Well Maidens* book.

Clustering is an excellent way to focus clearly and to tapping your creativity for any writing or planning activity. Clustering activates both hemispheres of the brain simultaneously. In contrast to strictly rule-governed, left brain outlining, a cluster provides a whole-brain picture of what you want to write about or design in ways that stimulate your creative expression and give you room to spontaneously add more ideas as they spring forth from your pool of inner knowing. This technique facilitates a free flow of consciousness and triggers interaction of both hemispheres of the brain by the use of circles (the right brain perceives wholes) and the lines (the left brain perceives linearly).

To cluster, follow these basic guidelines: (see examples page 5 & 6)

- 1) Use blank, unlined paper (colored paper and colored pens or pencils are ideal).
- 2) In a circle in the middle of the page, write your main idea. Write **ONLY key words** or two (2) to three (3) word phrases.
- 3) Through free association, in smaller circles write down **key words** in whatever order they emerge.
- 4) Draw arrows to show the connections between the different circles.
- 5) No rhyme or reason is required. You know your cluster is complete when you feel the “aha!” that’s generated. This is the “aha!” of inner knowing and readiness to write or formulate your plan. What you incorporate in writing or plan design may encompass all

the words you clustered, some, or none. It matters not. The intent of clustering is simply to liberate your innate creative flow and natural capacity to express.

## **REMEMBERINGS**

*Re-* means *again*. *Member* means *a part of a whole*. Another way to make ourselves whole again, to integrate our fragmented consciousness, is through the process of re-membering. By focusing on remembering experiences or situations, your authentic self will select and retrieve those memories that most need integration at any given time. Identification of key words or key phrases is central to this journaling activity. If you find yourself writing long phrases or sentences instead of key words or phrases, your ego-self has too much latitude for interpretation. The authentic self is clear, concise, matter-of-fact, and to the point. Remember that you are writing for yourself. In these activities, key words trigger greater inner awareness and mastery of your outer reality than do descriptions of explanations written for the benefit of others.

### **GUIDELINES FOR REMEMBERING**

- 1) Date your page.
- 2) Head your page with the word *Rememberings*. Then indicate the specific aspect of experiences you want to retrieve and integrate. (e.g., *Rememberings: First Sexual Experiences*; *Rememberings: Sexual Fears*; *Rememberings: Sexual Joys*)
- 3) Allow memories to surface freely. Using key words or key phrases, list eight (8) to twelve (12) rememberings in whatever order they come, without trying to interpret or evaluate their significance.
- 4) Read your Rememberings list and look for the patterns they contain – the golden thread that weaves them together or the synthesizing concept that integrates them into a whole. Relax. Allow this inner awareness to surface on its own.
- 5) Record this pattern, tapestry, or synthesis in just two or three sentences. Remember that your authentic self expresses clearly and concisely.

### **EXAMPLE:**

*March 26, 1993*

*Rememberings: Spiritual*

1. *adopting David*
2. *adopting Steven*
3. *lake shore communion*
4. *laughter by moonlight*
5. *walk with God*
6. *Madonna Ministry ordination*
7. *Priestess ordination*
8. *Ascension Knoll*

*Embracing life more fully by experiencing the unordinary has quickened my spiritual reawakening. I live, move, and have my being by moving beyond societal norms into the everexpanding “more” of the unfamiliar, the unknown.*

I am always amazed at how quickly and easily deep processing occurs through this simple remembering activity. I love taking it further in layered sets by selecting the memory that calls most for more exploration. For example: 3. *lake shore communion*

*Rememberings: lake shore communion*

1. *escape from Sunday sermon*
2. *welcomed by trees*
3. *embraced by beauty*
4. *soothed by gentle waves*
5. *nurtured by black earth* 6. *warmed by sun*
7. *whispered to by breezes*
8. *sung to by robins*
9. *dined with ducks*
10. *inspired by nature*
11. *awed by Creation*
12. *turning point*

*I returned from that lake shore communion unwilling to be preached at from behind closed doors. On Sundays and weekdays, I now commune with All That Is in the great open spaces of the Temple of the Living Earth.*

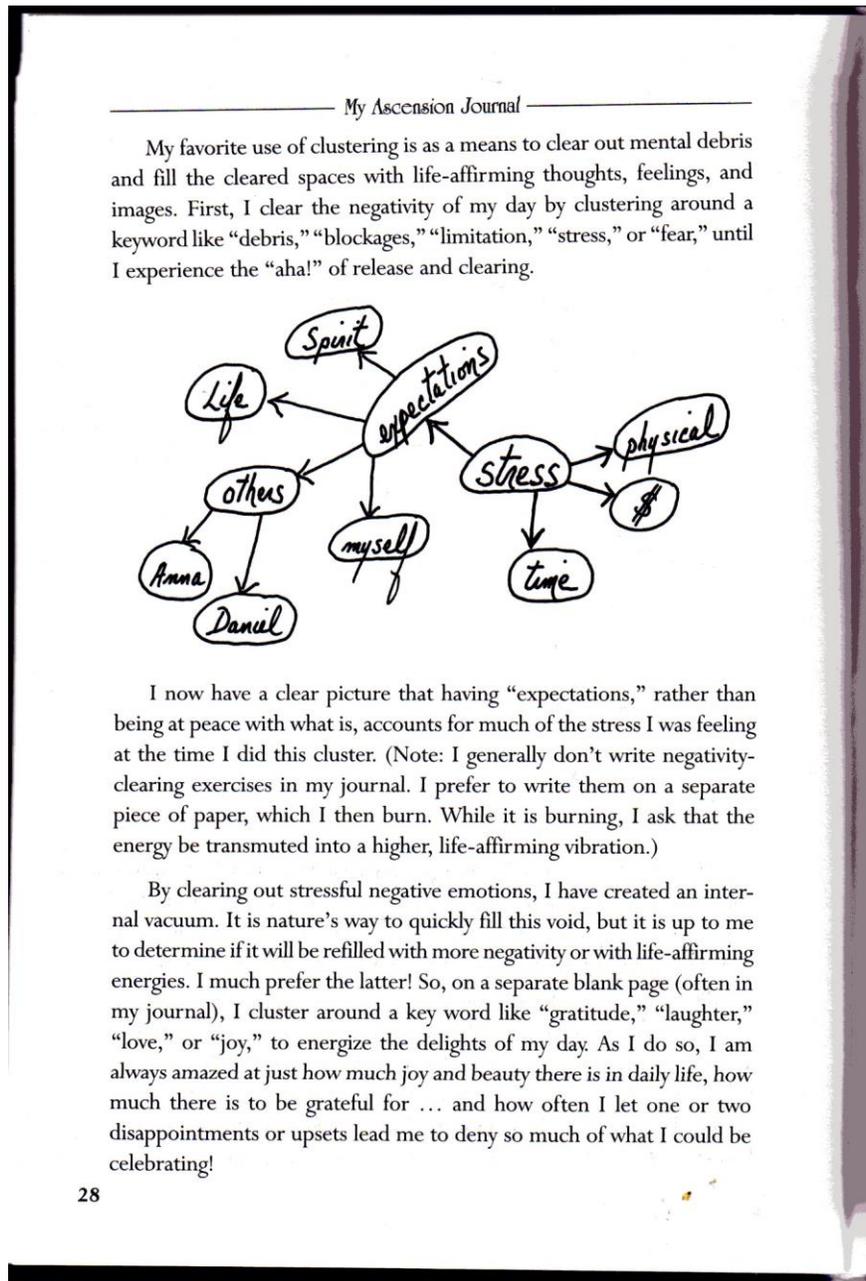
At this point, I go deeper still with a Rememberings set on 12. turning point:

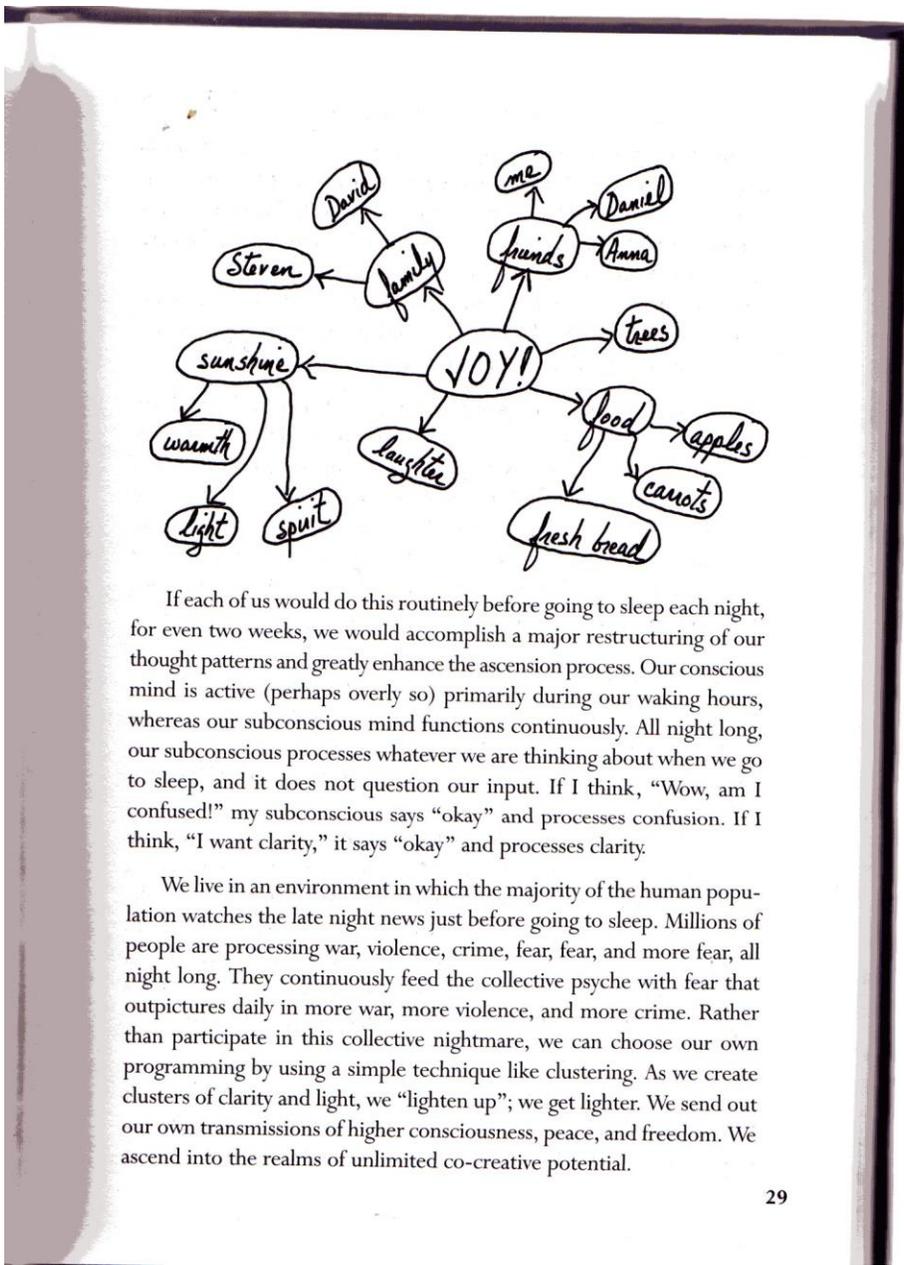
*Rememberings: turning point*

1. *Isadore*
2. *Virgin Islands*
3. *return to Wisconsin*
4. *“Greening of America”*
5. *Oregon*
6. *older student*
7. *Professor George*
8. *Phyllis & VW*
9. *Tucson & Drew*
10. *Women’s Center*
11. *graduation & employment*

*At every crossroads, there has always been a person, a special place or circumstance, a book, an open door that points the way. When feeling down or afraid, I must remember this to keep from forgetting the blessings that are there for me at every turn.*

Now, I read everything I have written starting with the first Rememberings set. **Then I write in stream of consciousness style – a free flow of thoughts, feelings, and images– without concern for order, topic sentences, grammar, and spelling.** Be sure to read over your stream of consciousness writing, too, to maximize your awareness of what your *rememberings* bring to the surface.





If each of us would do this routinely before going to sleep each night, for even two weeks, we would accomplish a major restructuring of our thought patterns and greatly enhance the ascension process. Our conscious mind is active (perhaps overly so) primarily during our waking hours, whereas our subconscious mind functions continuously. All night long, our subconscious processes whatever we are thinking about when we go to sleep, and it does not question our input. If I think, "Wow, am I confused!" my subconscious says "okay" and processes confusion. If I think, "I want clarity," it says "okay" and processes clarity.

We live in an environment in which the majority of the human population watches the late night news just before going to sleep. Millions of people are processing war, violence, crime, fear, fear, and more fear, all night long. They continuously feed the collective psyche with fear that outpictures daily in more war, more violence, and more crime. Rather than participate in this collective nightmare, we can choose our own programming by using a simple technique like clustering. As we create clusters of clarity and light, we "lighten up"; we get lighter. We send out our own transmissions of higher consciousness, peace, and freedom. We ascend into the realms of unlimited co-creative potential.

(Appendix B)

**NEW EARTH PRIESTESS & PRIEST ARCHETYPES**  
*~Journal Writing Activity~*

*The mystery of the One is in our cells, brains, and blood. Through the subatomic waves within the atoms of our bodies, we can reveal the potent forms of the universe through ourselves. As a microcosm, we are cocreators.*

From "Archetypes in Sacred Design" by Rowena Kryder

Archetypes are universal primary patterns that pervade all human experience and reveal how our universe functions. Fire, as an archetype is not literal fire, yet is inherent in every fiery substance. Similarly, New Earth Priest~ess archetypal energy honors every new dawn of creation as sacred.

The path to become a New Earth Priest has been quite different from the one taken to become a New Earth Priestess. Four thousand years ago, the ways of the Goddess were lived and Her-story was told. During the past two thousand years, the feminine principle, exemplified by the priestess archetype, was buried deep in the human psyche and excavation and renewal did not take place until the dawning of the Aquarian Age was upon us. Conversely, during this time of the telling of His-story, the priest of the God functioned in the context of male principles that have only recently begun to break apart and dissolve. Learning from and honoring that which was ours to experience in the Old Earth, we now have the opportunity to live and tell the whole story, the True Story, the Trustory as New Earth Priestesses and priests.

In Priest-ess Process Initiations, each initiate ceremonially lifts up his or her personal intent for their initiation cycle. Collectively, the intents become the group intent. Keith Gregory was the first initiate to voice his intent in the Sedona Priest initiation ceremony in 1997. It was short, direct, and powerful. To step up and forth and be the New Priest.

He tells of his initiation journey in the article below “Emergence on the Red Rocks” written for the December/January 1998 issue of *Four Corners Magazine*. (Permission to reprint is granted by the publisher, Lane M. Badger. See [www.fourcornersmagazine.net](http://www.fourcornersmagazine.net)).

*As a two-part journal writing activity to bring forth initiates own sense of the New Priestess and New Priest. Part 1, the facilitator reads initiates the following “New Priestess” excerpt from Temple of the Living Earth (page 106) to stimulate journal writing about what it is to be a priestess in these times. Part 2, the facilitator reads “Emergence on the Red Rocks.” Keith’s article is long so feel free to edit as you see fit. At the end of each reading, the facilitator holds space for initiates to write, and then share their journal entries.*

### **The New Priestess**

By looking into lives of the Priestess Past, I learned more about what the New Priestess is not. In Marion Zimmer Bradley’s book *Forest House*, the High Priestess took trance-inducing potions in order to deliver the oracles of the Goddess to the people. Worldly

politics were gaining dominance over spiritual principles. The High Druid *interceded* and made sure the words the people heard supported his political interests. The potions were slowly poisoning the body of the High Priestess and the twisted words of the Goddess were poisoning the minds of the people.

I do not believe the New Priestess is to replicate the old ways. I believe she becomes her own Oracle and encourages others to do the same. Nor do I believe that she abdicates her own power or way of life to serve a God or Goddess outside herself or promote worship of external forces. I believe the New Priestess consciously aligns with the Archetypal Gods and Goddesses to co-create with the Great Mystery and that she intentionally embodies the highest qualities of her Goddess Self. She knows herself as Woman, Priestess, Goddess. She remembers how to see into the Invisible and bring forth into the visible what appropriately serves in this period of transformation. She holds the vision and the energy for All Life as we complete a 26,000-year cycle in our evolutionary journey through time and space. She does so conscious of the oneness of the darkness and the light, death and rebirth. She does so with the consciousness that preparing a meal, partaking of it, cleaning up afterward and taking out the garbage is as much a sacred ritual as preparing a ceremony, taking communion, and being sure the ceremonial ground is in as good or better shape after the ceremony as it was when she entered it.

Centered in a rich inner life, the New Priestess learns to walk in beauty and balance, magnifying the energy of the Temple of the Living Earth. She learns and uses Gaia's language. She lives in heartfelt communion with the Divine. By consciously embracing life with focused intention and attentive, guided response to synchronistic flows, she is not dependent on amulets, formulas, mantras, or spells to connect with Source. As a Priestess to the World, she does not see herself above or apart from others or consider her spiritual life and her worldly life as separate. She knows there is a Priestess in every woman and a Priest in every man who holds all life as sacred. She honors her process and the process of others.

Discovering the qualities of the New Priestess entails discovering the qualities of the new woman who finds a balance between the masculine urge to DO and the feminine need to BE. I am among those who feel that the re-emergence of women will heal the world. I do not want to wound or be wounded any more. I believe there is more to life than warring and healing, only to war again. I believe that activation of our Creative Life Force is the

best way to prevent wars and to heal. By holding sacred space for everyone to come into his or her greatness, we will co-create a reality surpassing our wildest present day imaginings as priests and priestess to the world.

*In the Silence...In the Silence... In the Silence...*



### **Emergence on the Red Rocks: An Inner Journey** by Keith Gregory

Hidden behind a bush, I sat in silence, centering, awaiting the signal to emerge from my isolate vantage point. Seven of us had chosen to begin our Priest Emergence Ceremony scattered, separate, and alone. We were above the red rock ledge where Nicole Christine stood waiting to perform the ceremony. Because of our separate wanderers' paths, both as men and as priests, in this and previous lives, we decided it was appropriate to emerge from the distance. In essence, we were "coming in from the cold" to once again join our ranks at this auspicious time in humanity's evolution.

The day was September 21, the Fall Equinox, nearly nine months after we stepped into the Priesting Process together. Our journey of awakening became a vehicle for monumental personal transformation. And now, our beloveds and chosen friends gathered on this day to hold space and witness our Emergence Ceremony. It was time for us to announce to the world that we, the first Sedona circle of male initiates, were taking our places as ordained priests in the Fellowship of Isis and Osiris.

I was nervous, eagerly and anxiously awaiting this event that I had looked forward to for months. As the seven of us emerged from our separate places in the red rocks of Sedona, we gathered in circle with Nicole standing between our guests and us. We bowed to one another in recognition of our arrival from our respective and solitary vantage points on the land and within our lives. We stood in silent meditation, resonating with the frequency of this important rite of passage.

Nicole began to speak, asking if I was now ready to emerge as a Priest to the World. Upon my clear consent, I chose to kneel to receive her blessing and anointing. With a rush of current, I felt the vibration of Isis and Osiris flow into my being. At that moment,

I was instinctively aware of a powerful alignment of Heaven and Earth converging within me. Later, others told me that a golden shaft of light had poured into my crown, connecting me to the earth's core. In retrospect, I remember little of what I said during my Self-Proclamation, but I know that I felt empowered speaking the words.

Gratefully, I was now able to witness each of my brother's proclamations to the world. Each expression was unique and vibrantly alive. Having shared in this intense and focused process of self-examination and discovery together, I was especially touched by each statement. A knowing existed among us that we spoke not only for ourselves, but also for one another and for all men. Over our initiation period, there was a gradual blending of personal energies in the group. However, some of us were able to be more vulnerable than others.

Over time, through the group process, we became aware that our individual expressions archetypically demonstrated how men relate to one another. We clearly observed how difficult it was for us to bond. As men, we were not comfortable exposing and expressing our intimate feelings with one another. Yet, bond we did, in our own way. It took practice. We realized that there were no road maps, no tangible "new male blueprints," to follow. Each of us knew that we were creating the new role model – the prototype – setting the stage for what is to come.

Initially during the process, I felt plenty of growing pains. Often feeling lost and alone, empty and unaware, I found myself continually calling in the Priest Oversoul for guidance. I needed to be fully cleansed in order to fully receive this Divine aspect of Self into my life. Ouch!

However, in no way did any of us face this alone. I have absolutely no doubt that we could not have come this far without the women, the priestesses in our lives, holding space for us. It was the Priestess Consciousness that forged the way for us. It has been the Goddess Essence, flowing and residing, primarily through the female form, that has held the resonance for humanity to step into this expanded awareness.

Reflecting on the initiation process, I realize that the Priest Process has been a dream come true for me. But first, as the price of passage, I had to experience my nightmares. I had to wade through my dense, dark, and dead belief systems, and the products of

personal and mass masculine consciousness. I had to look at how I perpetuated these patterns within myself, my life, and in my intimate relationships. In so doing, I had to confront Love and embrace and integrate all my disowned selves, in short, my shadow side. Each step of the way, I had to choose between doubt, fear, and separation (longstanding companions) or align with my Christed Higher Self – the truth of my Being.

As a group of seven men, we realized early on that we were coming together to reestablish honor and integrity among men as an expression of the Divine Masculine. In order to do this, I had to discover the presence of my Divine Feminine aspect within by re-awakening to Loving myself just as I am. To be whole, I had to, deeply and completely, forgive myself for “not being good enough.”

As a result of The Process, all parts of myself that did not resonate with this truth were stirred up, big time! At times, my anger was nearly overwhelming. Other times, my grief was unbearable. At all times, I felt it was make or break, almost do or die. This initiation was a Shaman’s Death, dying to the small story so that the Big Story could live in and through me. Now I know that Love is my birthright.

*In the Silence...In the Silence... In the Silence...*  
(Appendix C)

### **CREATIVE PULSE ©**

Excerpt from *Temple of the Living Earth* by Nicole Christine

*(Facilitator Note: This can be a journal writing generative activity to foster creative expression as an intrinsic aspect of the Priest/ess Process. It is often a valuable activity to incorporate when introducing the concept of co-creating Living Ceremony.)*

I can stop writing, stop priestessing, stop trying to find a hearth that fires my Creative Flame. I can even stop eating and Life will continue. Then what is the inner force compelling me to keep writing and striving for a brave new world? I sat with the question and the feelings of this inner force and this compulsion, sinking into the consciousness of these energy flows. In the Stillness, I felt a deep pulsing, a throbbing at

the core of my being. This is the impulse to create! All existence rises out of this pulsing vibration. The compelling inner force is the cosmic urge to create!

I reconnected to the center of the Universe! I felt the heartbeat of Creation; saw this glowing ember of creative energy. This is Goddess-Realization! By vibrating with the Creative Pulse, the Gods and Goddesses create their universes. All my compulsions to repattern, clear the past, heal my wounds and make amends rise out of a primal need to keep the Creative Channels open. My world is a panoramic landscape of my spirit's insatiable desire to create. The Voice I respond to as Guidance is the Voice of my Creative Self seeking ever-expanding avenues of expression.

To the Creative Process, I offer this work.  
To the Creative Process, I commend my spirit.  
To the Creative Process, I give my thanks.

*(Note: End journal writing reading by repeating "In the Silence..." three (3) times to prompt those writing to go deeper within and begin writing.)*

(Appendix D)

## **LIVING CEREMONY**

by Nicole Christine ©

*"Going back and copying rituals from the past is a very dangerous thing because their rituals did not come from the past, they came from their present. So should yours," warns Master tracker and tracking instructor Charles Worsham.\**

Living ceremony takes us into a *concept-free zone*. Here Heaven and Earth dance and create anew. Here we co-create in harmony with nature and All That Is. We emerge with new conceptualizations of the life process.

Living Ceremony energizes and activates aliveness and nurtures intimacy. Institution-alized ritual – directed rather than facilitated, **form**-ulated rather than flowing –restricts and demands conformity and fosters impersonal relationships. Note the way the media and mainstream religious, political, economical, social, and cultural rituals promote **uni-form**-ity, rather than unity in diversity.

Living Ceremony activates our emergence! Living Ceremony lands our visions and our dreams of a New Earth, of a world of wholeness where we evolve as unique expressions of the One. Indigenous people know that we land our dream selves and dream the dream onward through sacred ceremony. The patriarchal rituals that we have created over many lifetimes attempt to

contain the dream, to fragment it into parts that get frozen in time. Think about what gets energized and manifested by our participation in these rituals.

Earth is a Mystery School. As God/Goddess initiates being trained to create Universes of our own, we are given koans or equations to solve. We are more alert to the clues all around us when we live in ceremony.

Living Ceremony returns us to wholeness. It will bring us into harmony with All Our Relations and free us from systems and behaviors that do not support the true spirit of our earthy journey. Life is ceremony. Intimate relationships are those that constantly express sacred ritual qualities of pure experience free of storylines, agendas, and dogma.

Many of these awarenesses were triggered by a tape called “We Have No Word for Sex” by Malidoma and Sobonfu Some of the Dagara Tribe of Central Africa. Their words fortified my increasing commitment to ceremony and created a bridge between the dream I dream of cocreating an actual village that draws and supports persons ready and willing to emerge into the Fifth World of Peace, Plenty, and Illumination. The village cornerstones are ceremony, celebration, co-creativity, and cooperation. I include segments of this talk for they may inspire you, too, and, potentially, activate resonating core groups of beings who dream of similar dreams of community.

Dagara life is inspired by nature, rather than by dominion over nature. The relationship of nature, existing prior to the village, coming into nature is directly translated into the building of community and its relationships among people. The whole concept of the intimate is primarily derived from ritual. Outside of ritual, nothing can be truly intimate. Every feeling is ritualistically understood. Human relationships, when they begin to deepen, borrow from or enter into the channel of ritual. The closest relationship is a relationship that is constantly happening as a ritual.

*Dance is integral to ritual village life. We do not communicate only with our mouths. Our whole apparatus is a communication system with all that is around us. Do not say you cannot dance because you do not know how or because you are sick. If you do not dance you will die. Dance without thinking of where to put your feet or how you look. Just dance. Dance is aliveness!*

*The Dagara village is a place where everybody is addicted to collective ritual. Unlike the western world where relationship is about moving from the “I” to others, the collective ritual of the village is about moving from the many back to the Self. Collective intimacy permeates the village because of the repeated involvement with ritual. The ritual energy gives a three to four day high that sustains collective highs and elevates village life. Most dialogues going on are about a ritual that just ended or the insuperable need for a ritual to happen.*

*Ritual, rather than economics, is the determining force of the community. Economical structures create imbalances and defeat creation of community because everyone must keep working for and responding to whoever is in economic control. Living ritual, inspired by nature and spirit, attunes us to the higher plan and to sacred relationships.\*\**

This inspiring tape, which discusses sexuality, parenting, and community, helped me trust the dream and my intuitive knowing that there is a better way. Additionally, reading Mary Sainte Marie's book, *Galactic Shamanism*, further assured me that the dream is evolving, as did learning from her about a Bolivian mountain retreat center where the community "lives in sacred ceremony."

Knowing of the Dagaras and this Bolivian community inspires me to continue to hold the Celestial Earth vision and channel it into form through ceremony. Sobonfu Some's name means "keeper of rituals." Her people say that whoever is struck or grabbed by the Spirit has to learn the containment and dance of that Spirit by learning the way of rituals. In these times, I feel life urging each of us to come to know ourselves as ceremonialists, as keepers of the rituals, to trust our inner knowing and live our dreams, live our lives in ceremony.

Ceremony reveals the ways and means to stay in the flow of the process, to engage in sacred relationships, and to live abundant, celebratory earthly lives, while dancing to celestial music. As each of us step forth from the place of our own inner knowing, we land the dream and dream it onward.

Living Ceremony is co-created by a group of people who set an intent and lift it up to greatest good for all concerned. Together they create a bridge between the reality of spirit or soul and the physical reality. And they do so in ways individually and collectively meaningful to them. In her book *The Spirit of Intimacy*, Sobonfu speaks of a ritual as a shared meal where everyone brings their own ingredients. When all the ingredients or elements are gathered the ritualists codetermine which ones work best. No two meals or rituals are alike so it is important to carefully determine what ingredients or elements are most appropriate for any given ceremony.

Carrying the meal metaphor further, sacred space is created by setting a beautiful table – an altar or shrine with objects significant to the participants and reflecting the ceremonial intent. The meal ceremony begins with appetizers – a centering in which spirits, including the spirit of place, and the ancestors are acknowledged and the intent is stated. This is followed by the main course – activation of the intent. The meal always ends with dessert – a closing to seal ceremonial energies and give thanks to spirits, the spirit of place, ancestors, and one another. Just as at a dinner table, it is best to stay for the full meal and to respectfully excuse one's self if there's a need to leave before the ceremony or meal has ended.

Incorporate music, song, and dance in whatever ways are natural and enlivening for participants. Allow for flow and spontaneity, tears and laughter. Many indigenous peoples say

that the spirits only stay around if there's food and laughter. The components and intent of a ritual or ceremony, from a Hopi perspective, are 1) form/rules, 2) symbols/objects/place, 3) song/performance/words, and 4) dance/rhythm. The intent is to excite emotions and a sense of aesthetics and to bring forth power for good for all clans. The ritual or ceremony has universality – hope for life through faith, industry, cooperation, and love.

The potency (immediate and long term, personal and universal) of any ritual or ceremony is proportional to the participants' sustained, focused consciousness and intent preceding, during, and after the activity. The primary consideration regarding co-created ceremonies is that the components are personally significant and relevant to the participants so that a harmonic cord is struck within their feeling realm. The essence of a ceremony has four key aspects: 1) energetic attunement with place, purpose, and participants seen and unseen; 2) personal relevance, 3) cocreative synergy, and 4) focused celebratory attention – even grieving ceremonies are celebratory in the sense of engaging life on life's terms.

Life is ceremony. Life is celebration. By ceremonializing and celebrating our joys and sorrows, our dreams and our nightmares, we honor Life and fully embrace the human experience. We cocreate a unified energy field in which we fully and consistently feel the frequency of sacredness. Unlike the sterile sameness of some mechanistic rituals, Living Ceremony is of the Eternal EverChanging Now. Living Ceremony quickens because it is spontaneously alive, never repeating itself, always evolving into the more Life is becoming. By ceremonializing our lives, we establish an open path between the worlds and continually experience our wholeness.

For more information see [www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com).

\*Worsham, Nature and Vision Tracking School lecture notes taken by Owen Couch, 5/1/2000

\*\*The excerpt is included with permission from Malidoma and Sobonfu Some and Oral Traditions. For more information about this work, write [malidoma@earthlink.net](mailto:malidoma@earthlink.net) or [sobonfu@aol.com](mailto:sobonfu@aol.com). To order call Oral Traditions at 1-800-779-1116.

To order *Galactic Shamanism* contact [marysaintmarie@snowcrest.net](mailto:marysaintmarie@snowcrest.net).

(Appendix E)

## RITE OF INITIATION

This is a ceremonial ritual to re-awaken the inner priestess or priest in the Name of the Goddess by activating the corresponding vibrational field of the initiate. Only initiates and emerged priest~esses may be present. It is recommended that the rite take place at twilight when the solar activity of the day is yielding to the lunar influences of night and the veils between the worlds are thin.

To be an Initiate is to be a candidate for an entirely new ***DIRECT EXPERIENCE*** of spiritual significance. An initiation is the focusing of energy in a pattern that serves evolutionary processes. This Rite of Initiation is performed through the power of each Initiate's own Inner Authority and Divinity.

The facilitating priest~ess and each initiate create written intention statements to be verbalized in the initiation ceremony. An example of an *impersonal* facilitator statement is offered at the end of this appendix. Note use of the words "joyfully" and "gratitude." Words such as "joyful" trigger the limbic portion of the brain and release pleasure endorphins and because "gratitude" is a very high frequency, expressing it verbally sets a high frequency field. Point this out to initiates for consideration in composing their intention statements along with the importance of using language in the present tense (e.g. *I now choose...* rather than *I will* or *I want...*) affirmative (*I embrace my highest good* rather than *I reject my addictions.*)

Remembering this and that *where attention goes, energy flows*, each initiate is encouraged to carefully prepare an intention statement that reflects her or his highest intent for the initiation period. It is wise to keep the statements clear and simple and focused on soul development rather than personal gain. The Universe will handle the details in ways beyond anyone's imaginings. Through the alchemical, cauldron power of the Circle, the combined intents of the facilitator and all the initiates become the group intent, all of which merge with the Priest~ess Process initiation intent to awaken the inner priest~ess. (*Fine Print: Anything of a lesser frequency than the individual and combined intents will surface for resolution. Be sure the initiates are aware of this!*)

Initiates create an artistic copy of their statements for the altar. These copies are kept in the sacred care of the facilitator until they are returned right after the Emergence Ceremony or when an initiate disengages from the initiation cycle prior to completion. Initiates are to keep a copy for themselves. In addition to the statements, each initiate brings a contained candle and a gift for the Goddess to the ceremony. In this, as in every ceremony or gathering, initiates dress according to his or her own preferences.

The Rite of Initiation is the only ceremony that is basically *form*-alized rather than cocreated by circle participants. This basic uniformity helps amplify the unified field of the *Priest~ess Process*<sup>™</sup> and allows initiates to fully surrender and receive. However, each initiation rite is enhanced by the creative expression of the facilitating priest~ess and participating priest~esses. This includes creation of an altar that contains a central candle and beautifying

altar objects. Ample space must be kept available for placement of all the intention statements, Goddess gifts, and candles.

The rite begins with a procession to the entrance of the ceremonial space which has been prepared by the priest~ess facilitator and possibly other priest~esses. At the entrance, the facilitating priest~ess looks each initiate in the eyes and asks, "Are you aware that by participating in the rite, you are re-awakening your priest~ess self?" Receiving an affirmative answer, the facilitator then asks, "Are you ready to enter?" If the initiate is ready, s/he is smudged with sage or blessed with water (by another priest~ess).

The initiate then **crosses the first threshold into the initiatory realm** and takes her or his place in the ceremonial circle. When all are present, the ceremony begins with a centering. At this time, the facilitating priest~ess indicates that ceremonial space is being held open for spontaneity, tears and laughter. Then the facilitating priest~ess steps to the altar and states her or his intention to willingly hold sacred space for the re-awakening of the priest~ess within each initiate. The facilitator places the statement and gift on the altar and lights her or his candle from the central candle. Then s/he stands ready to hold sacred space for each initiate as s/he **crosses the second initiation threshold** to perform the same sacred act in which **s/he surrenders to the initiation process**.\* The energy builds and circle bonds are strengthened as each initiate's intent is voiced.

Next, the initiates are offered gifts from the Goddess. Water that they may never thirst. Bread that they may never hunger. Honey that they may know the sweetness of life. (And a crystal for clarity in their awakening process.) The *Charge of the Goddess* and *The Call of Osiris* is then read. (Appendix I)

The facilitating priest~ess now moves her or his arms like wings blessing the initiates with these words: *I now place you and all you hold dear under the protective wings of the Great Goddess Isis.*

Next, the facilitating priest~ess asks all present to circle and join hands (establishing circuitry with left hands up to receive and right hands down to give). Together, they invoke and align their individual and group energies with the energy of the Priest~ess Oversoul. The ceremony is then ended with a closing that includes expressing gratitude for all forces seen and unseen that contributed to the rite.

\* From the moment that each initiate completes her or his initiation declaration, the facilitator automatically takes spiritual responsibility for holding safe, sacred initiation space for that initiate. Once all have completed their declarations, the facilitator then becomes spaceholder for each individual and for the group as a whole. This primarily entails being a conduit through which the intelligence of the *Priest~ess Process* can flow into the container created by the initiate circle. S/he also has direct access to the Priest~ess Oversoul of *The Process* and the circle and to the priest~ess within each initiate. Throughout the initiation cycle, it is essential to sustain conscious psychic communion with the Oversoul and each inner priest~ess in support of that priest~ess within finding outer expression. Likewise, it is essential for the facilitator to gently disengage from this psychic connection as each initiate crosses the

emergence threshold or disengages from the initiation process prior to completion. This cuts the spiritual cording established between the facilitator and initiates during this rite and frees everyone up to express their sovereignty as priestesses and priests.

### **Facilitator Intention Statement**

Note: This is offered as an example. Each *Process* facilitator is spiritually accountable for the words spoken, thus it is essential that the declaration is truly her or his own. Further, it is always impersonal in the sense that it speaks to fulfillment of one's facilitator function and not to personal matters.

*I, Nicole Christine, Magdalene & Crystal Priestess of Gaia and Green Man, joyfully hold the Immaculate Concept of the fulfillment of the Divine Design for these sacred initiates' lives. I commit to being a respectful and supportive witness as they re-awaken the priest-ess within and engage these sacred mysteries.*

*In gratitude, it is done and it is so, on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year 200\_ in the Names of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Divine Consorts Isis and Osiris. And Heaven and Earth rejoice!*

(Appendix F)

## SOLITAIRE RITE OF INITIATION

This is a ceremonial ritual to re-awaken the inner priestess or priest in the Name of the Goddess by activating the corresponding vibrational field of the initiate. Only initiates and emerged priest/esses may be present. It is recommended that the rite take place at twilight when the solar activity of the day is yielding to the lunar influences of night and the veils between the worlds are thin.

To be an Initiate is to be a candidate for an entirely new ***DIRECT EXPERIENCE*** of spiritual significance. An initiation is the focusing of energy in a pattern that serves evolutionary processes. This Rite of Initiation is performed through the power of each Initiate's own Inner Authority and Divinity.

The facilitating priest~ess and each initiate orally present their written intentions. An example of an *impersonal* facilitator statement is offered at the end of this appendix. Note use of the words "joyfully" and "gratitude." Words such as "joyful" trigger the limbic portion of the brain and release pleasure endorphins and because "gratitude" is a very high frequency, expressing it verbally sets a high frequency field. Point this out to the initiate for consideration in composing her or his intention statement along with the importance of using language in the present tense (e.g. *I now choose...* rather than *I will* or *I want...*) affirmative (*I embrace my highest good* rather than *I reject my addictions.*)

Remembering this and that *where attention goes, energy flows*, the initiate is encouraged to carefully prepare an intention statement that reflects her or his highest intent for the initiation period. It is wise to keep the statements clear and simple and focused on soul development rather than personal gain. The Universe will handle the details in ways beyond anyone's imaginings. Through the alchemical, cauldron power of the Circle, the combined intents of the facilitator and the initiate merge with the Priest~ess Process initiation intent to awaken the inner priest~ess to create the overall intent. (*Fine Print: Anything of a lesser frequency than the individual and combined intents will surface for resolution. Be sure the initiate is aware of this!*)

The initiate creates an artistic copy of his or her statement for the altar. This copy is kept in the sacred care of the facilitator until it is returned right after the Emergence Ceremony or if an initiate disengages from the initiation cycle prior to completion. The initiate keeps a copy. In addition to the statement, each initiate brings a contained candle and a gift for the Goddess to the ceremony. In this, as in every ceremony or gathering, initiates dress according to their own preference.

The Rite of Initiation is the only ceremony that is basically *form*-alized rather than cocreated. This basic uniformity helps amplify the unified field of the *Priest/ess Process™* and allows the initiate to fully surrender and receive. However, each initiation rite is enhanced by the creative expression of the facilitating priest/ess and participating priest/esses. This includes creation of an altar that contains a central candle and beautifying altar objects. Ample space

must be kept available for placement of all the intention statements, Goddess gifts, and candles. The rite begins at the entrance of the ceremonial space that has been prepared by the priest/ess facilitator and possibly other priest/esses. At the entrance, the facilitating priest/ess looks the initiate in the eyes and gently asks, “Are you aware that by participating in the rite, you are re-awakening your priest/ess self?” Receiving an affirmative answer, the facilitator then asks, “Are you ready to enter?” If the initiate is ready, s/he is smudged with sage or blessed with water (by another priest/ess).

The initiate then **crosses the first threshold into the initiatory realm** and takes her or his place in the ceremonial circle. When all are present, the ceremony begins with a centering and alignment with the Priest/ess Oversoul. At this time, the facilitating priest/ess indicates that ceremonial space is being held open for spontaneity, tears and laughter. Then the facilitating priest/ess steps to the altar and states her or his intention to willingly hold sacred space for the re-awakening of the priest/ess within the initiate. The facilitator places the statement and gift on the altar and lights her or his candle from the central candle. Then s/he stands ready to hold sacred space for each initiate as s/he **crosses the second initiation threshold** to perform the same sacred act in which **s/he surrenders to the initiation process**.\* The energy builds and the bond between those present physically or in spirit are strengthened as the initiate’s intent is voiced.

Next, the initiate is offered gifts from the Goddess. Water that s/he may never thirst. Bread that s/he may never hunger. Honey that s/he may know the sweetness of life. (And a crystal for clarity in their awakening process.) The *Charge of the Goddess* and *The Call of Osiris* is then read.

The facilitating priest~ess now moves her or his arms like wings blessing the initiates with these words: *I now place you and all you hold dear under the protective wings of the Great Goddess Isis.*

Next, the facilitating priest/ess asks all present to join hands (establishing circuitry with left hands up to receive and right hands down to give). Together, they invoke and align their individual and group energies with the energy of the Priest/ess Oversoul. The ceremony is then ended with a closing that includes expressing gratitude for all forces seen and unseen that contributed to the rite.

\* From the moment that the initiate completes her or his initiation declaration, the facilitator automatically takes spiritual responsibility for holding safe, sacred initiation space for that initiate. This space-holding responsibility primarily entails being a conduit through which the intelligence of the *Priest/ess Process* can flow into the container created in the ceremony. S/he also has direct access to the Priest/ess Oversoul of *The Process* and the circle and to the priest/ess within the initiate. Throughout the initiation cycle, it is essential to sustain conscious psychic communion with the Oversoul and each inner priest/ess in support of that priest/ess within finding outer expression. Likewise, it is essential for the facilitator to gently disengage from this psychic connection as each initiate crosses the emergence threshold or disengages from the initiation process prior to completion. This cuts the spiritual cording established

between the facilitator and initiates during this rite and frees everyone up to express their sovereignty as priestesses and priests.

### **Facilitator Intention Statement**

Note: This is offered as an example. Each *Process* facilitator is spiritually accountable for the words spoken, thus it is essential that the declaration is truly her or his own. Further, it is always impersonal in the sense that it speaks to fulfillment of one's facilitator function and not to personal matters.

*I, Nicole Christine, as a Magdalene High Priestess, respectfully  
and supportively hold sacred initiatory space for  
(full legal or spiritual name) to fully re-  
awaken to the Priestess Within  
in accord with the Divine Design for her life.*

*In so doing, I place her and all she holds dear under  
the protective wings of the Great Goddess Isis.*

*In joy and gratitude, it is done and it is so on  
the eve of (month, date, year)  
in the Names of Beauty, Wisdom, and Divine Love.*

[7.15.07]

(Appendix G)

### **THE CHARGE OF THE GODDESS**

I who am the beauty  
of the green earth and the  
white moon upon  
the mysteries of the waters,  
I call upon your soul to arise  
and come unto me,  
For I am the soul of nature  
that gives life to the universe,  
From me all things proceed  
and unto me  
they must return.  
Let my worship be in the  
heart that rejoices,  
for behold  
all acts of love and pleasure  
are my rituals,

Let there be beauty and strength,  
power and compassion,  
honor and humility,  
mirth and reverence within you.  
And you who seek to know me,  
know that the seeking and yearning  
will avail you not,  
unless you know the Mystery:  
for if that which you seek,  
you find not within yourself,  
you will never find it without.  
For behold,  
I have been with you from the  
beginning,  
and I am that which is attained  
at the end of desire.

## THE CALL OF OSIRIS

Adapted from *Earth God Rising* by Alan Richardson

Let us go back to those impossibly distant days in the First Time, as they called it, when Osiris was the Green Man who taught his people how to raise crops, cultivate vines, and make peace – that was the best of all. Here was the true son of the Earth God who contained within himself the patterns of birth, growth, death, and renewal on all levels, and in all ways. Here was the figure, who held the secret and source of fertility, both within the land and within the people who worked that land.

When we focus upon Osiris, we see that his relationships are concerned with involving humanity in a direct and living relationship with the Earth, in particular with the specific geographies in which individuals conduct their lives, whether they are in the depths of the city or the heart of the forest. He can teach us about the *place of spirit*, and so take our positions in the dance of nature from which we have become sadly separated. He teaches us the Law: *as without, so within* – there is no difference. The fate of the Earth itself hangs on how well we learn this. Osiris, as Green Man, calls to you to be true sons and daughters of the Earth God. **Will you answer?**

(Appendix H)

## TEMPLE OF THE LIVING EARTH

The Earth is a Living Spiritual Being in Her Own Right, with Her Own mind, consciousness, destiny and development. The Earth, Gaia, is a living organism within the Universal Living Organism. She is a Sacred Site. She is our Church, Temple, Sanctuary, Home, and Mother.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF EARTH/GAIAN-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY

Honor Earth/Gaia as a Sacred site and partake of her Fruit joyfully and gratefully. Honor the Life Force in ALL. Honor your body, hearth, and workplace as Temples of the Divine.

Live every moment as a Sacred Act in Alignment with Divine Source as you know and experience It.

Know Self as a unique, actualized, multi-dimensional, regenerative Being of unlimited creative and loving potential within the Cosmic Whole.

Live open-mindedly, thinking and feeling independently, for the Greatest Good. Unlearn false and outmoded teachings and conditionings. Gratefully exercise the gift of the right of free will, responsibly and honestly.

Live in Freedom by breaking through form into formless form into Spirit and Wholeness.

Know the Silence and merge with It. Honor the creative power of the Word. Avoid unnecessary, unclear verbiage and waste of the priceless Breath of Life.

Live and speak the Highest Truth, as you know it, moment-to-moment, for the Highest Good. Honor and encourage the Highest Truth of others in the darkness and the light.

Stimulate inner awareness and multi-sensory perceptions to heighten communication with ALL LIFE and enhance Cosmic consciousness. Commune with Father Sky and Mother Earth as directly and respectfully as a Loving Child communes with Loving Parents.

Commit to the Sacred Marriage through inner union of the Divine Feminine and Divine Masculine, of feeling and thought.

Live responsibly in co-creative, co-operative partnership with the Earth, Nature and One Another.

Live in Balance, Beauty, Love, Harmony and Good Humor.

Live attentively. Trust, attune and respond to the synchronistic Life Process.

Live in the natural flow of Abundance, Simplicity and All Good Things. Give and receive generously.

LIVE LIFE FULLY AND GRATEFULLY! CELEBRATE CREATION!

© Nicole Christine 1995

(Appendix I)

## WHAT ABOUT HEALING

*The very concept of healing implies that you are not whole.*

*Healing implies that something is wrong with you.*

*We can't accept that.*

*If you start from wholeness, then you won't need to be healed.*

IN THE THIRD DIMENSION, people often take on warrior consciousness—they're fighting an enemy of some sort. Whether they are the female warrior or the male warrior, whether they are submitting to the warrior or fighting back and being a warrior themselves, it's all part of the warrior/enemy consciousness. Well, eventually people get tired of killing and being killed, fighting the enemy, being run over, and being treated as the enemy, and they decide to rise above it.

AS THEY MOVE INTO FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS, they decide that the next logical step is to become healers to try to undo all the harm that has been done. As a result of all of these people killing and being killed by each other, they have been manifesting physical, mental and emotional dis-ease, so it then seems to be a logical next step to heal them. So they do that for a while. They are either healing or being healed until eventually, they get tired of that, too.

THEN THEY BEGIN TO MOVE INTO A FIFTH-DIMENSIONAL PERSPECTIVE, and they begin to see that beings actually co-create realities with the universe. They recognize that their pictures of reality and what they focus their attention on implies a reality that the universe then rearranges itself to accommodate manifesting for them.

SO, THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP BEYOND HEALER IS THE LIFE OF THE CO-CREATOR.

*From the perspective of the co-creator, it is no longer logical to be a healer because being a healer implies that disease is a reality.* And with that message, the universe must continue to manifest realities that include disease and victims and everything else that goes along with that. We cannot wear the identity of a healer because we cannot imply disease as a reality. We are a co-creator, and we co-create wholeness. We co-create love. We co-create a reality in which we are all masters who are whole and complete, divine and perfect beings.

—ALARIUS; from *Light Speed Newsletter*, POB 2846; Sedona, AZ 86336  
Dialogue from *Anastasia* by Vladimir Megré, Chapter 7, "Co-Creation" (p.30).

Vladimir: What does the Creator desire?

Anastasia: Conjoint creation and joy from its contemplation.

**CO-CREATING SACRED SPACE** by  
Nicole Christine (May 1997)

Persons who co-create with spirit attune to the sacredness in all life. Co-creators trust in the natural abundance of life. Together, they tap the always regenerating Source and the unlimited field of possibility. Persons who seek to create through will compete with Self, nature, and other beings. Competitors try to out-perform one another. They focus on *getting* all they can from a supposedly limited supply of resources, money, love, time, and opportunities. The choice to co-create or compete determines the nature of relationships, livelihood, business, religion, government, land use, shelter, and community. Everything is innately sacred. We bring forth and experience the sacred through conscious participation with spirit. Conversely, the sacred goes unnoted when we are driven by our will.

Celestial Earth visionary, Rowena Kryder, distinguishes between *having ideas* as a personality and *receiving inspiration* as a co-creator with spirit. She indicates that those who function in idea-based realities lose touch with Source by grasping for effects. This leads to tunnel vision, holds back life-force energy, and limits potentiality. Rowena outlines the co-creative process of creating sacred space – be it a building, a garden, a relationship, or a lifestyle. She indicates that, first; one must rest in a field of receptivity to **receive inspirations**. This is what I call living in a state of “listening grace.” Second, when an inspiration is received, it needs to **incubate**. This stage is often bypassed. In our action-oriented society, we try to make things happen as quickly as possible. Often, visions I’ve received were so vivid that I was sure I was to make it all happen immediately. Gradually, I learned to allow for a gestation period and patiently wait to see where the first shoots of new life sprouted. These, I tenderly tend; noting who and what else is in the garden with me.

The third stage of creating sacred space is **action**. Each process, project, relationship, or lesson, has its own action-release timing. When I remember not to impose my ideas on a person or situation or not to force actualization of inspirations, I tune into the innate rhythm of the relationship, project, or process. I can even relax into the awareness that only portions of a vision are to be fully implemented in my lifetime ... that sometimes the only appropriate actions are to seed or anchor the consciousness of a vision that will be brought to fruition by future generations. Sometimes, I acted on an inspiration thinking it was whole in itself. In actuality, it was part of a much greater

pattern or design. Had I stayed receptive and allowed for incubation, before leaping into action, the interlocking pieces would have slipped into place. Precipitous actions set me up for considerable efforting and limited results. In zealously, I interfered with the flow.

**Release** is the fourth stage of co-creating sacred space. Once the fullness of the inspiration is realized, we need to let go. This is essential to regeneration. Participants in competitive, idea-based realities tend to tightly hold on when they achieve their ideas. They hoard resources, cling to success, clutch onto love; not understanding why what they perfected is degenerating.

My acceptance of this stage healed old wounds. I, unconsciously, cycled with these stages most of my life. Like a tree dropping her fruit when it is ripe, I intuitively knew when to let go. Invariably, I received stabbing criticism from those who did not realize that the ripe fruit fed the soul or fell to the ground as compost for new inspirations. How dare I quit at the pinnacle of success or not stick things out to the end. Be it an inspiration realized or lessons learned through success or failure, I could not mechanistically perpetuate that which was fulfilled. To do so closed me off to the unexpected, from new inspirations seeking expression from ever-evolving consciousness.

There are no right or wrong choices, only indifferent feedback from the universe. The way we engage life either flows or takes effort. We have the choice to shift perspectives by surrendering to our essential nature or to continue performing as idea-driven personalities. Rowena defines free will as the right to procrastinate until the inevitable happens. We have the choice, at this turning of the ages, to willingly release the old. Regeneration is inevitable. These are inspiring times. By consciously participating in the process of making sacred, we live in conjunction with the divine design and the regenerative process. As co-creators, we bring the hologram of the Celestial Earth into being.

(Appendix K)

## **DREAMTIME & PRIEST~ESS FACILITATING**

By Nicole Christine (September 2002)

Note: This communication is offered to help you more consciously tune into the mysteries seeking expression through you as a facilitator. If what is shared is applicable to you, what to “do” will reveal itself in accord with your own way of relating to life and to priest~ess~ing.

I work largely with living myth and the Dreamtime, in general relationship to my life and to priestessing, in particular. Legends and history are of the past. Myth is everpresent, generating the aliveness or mystery of the now. The myth or cosmology of the *Priest~ess Process* origins is written of on pages 53 and 54 of *Temple of the Living Earth*.

....a past life memory flashed before me. We were running through an underground tunnel with several other priestesses dressed in white and carrying scrolls under our arms. The Temple was being destroyed by invaders hostile to the teachings of the Goddess and we were fleeing with as many recorded mysteries as we each could carry. [...]

As we ran, we vowed that the teachings would not be lost. Alchemically, we encoded the contents of each scroll we carried into our genetic codes to be brought forth at a time when it was again safe for the Goddess to return. We had not known how many, many, many lifetimes we would have to reincarnate in one disguise after another before we could come forward again as priestesses and live the teachings, live the Great Mystery. That time is now! At last, that time is now! At last! At last!

Printed in the scrolls I carried, encoded in my consciousness, is the teaching that we are, each and every one of us, Priest and Priestess to the World ... and that there will come a time when the world again becomes the temple and there will be no intermediaries for anyone between Heaven and Earth. This will soon be followed by yet another re-awakening. Encoded in the RNA-DNA genetic code of each of us is the memory of our own Divinity as Sons and Daughters of our Mother Goddess/Father God. In the not so distant future, we will again walk the Sacred Earth as gods and goddesses, as the new archetypes of the New Earth in the every unfolding, sacred story of Creation. We will know the Great Mystery in the only way it can be known. By *living* it, by *being* it!

By tying in your personal myth to our shared *Priest~ess Process* myth and you'll begin to see that everything that's ever happened to you has shaped you, prepared you to express your mysteries and so you have no past, all is now.

The Magdalene Mystery School evolved out of the *Priest~ess Process* and my Dreamtime mythological understanding of my personal sexual journey. When I speak of the Dreamtime, I'm not referring to sleeping dreams, but to experiencing life as a waking dream. This means I interpret what occurs around me in much the same way many people interpret their sleep time dreams as messages or feedback from the subconscious or the unconscious.

This Dreamtime explanation from Jamie Sams' *Sacred Path Cards* text is one of the best I've read. "These waking dreams are out-of-body Journeys that come when you are totally aware of your body in the physical world, but are also aware of being inside the dream. The Dreamtime is a parallel universe. All things that occur in that parallel time and space directly affect our physical reality. The parallel Dreamtime reality is where your soul or spirit is operating on a continual basis to send you information that will allow you to be aware of all things happening in physical life because your spirit or double-body has picked up a piece of information you need to know."

Accordingly, set the intent to bring through your Mystery School and be alert to what's playing out in your day-to-day life, working with the inner and outer resources at hand. Note that until you develop or tap innate Dreamer consciousness, where you then stand on the boundary between the parallel realities, there may be overlay into sleep time if your spirit can't get your attention while you're awake. Just allow this to unfold for you – or not. !

What the Dreamtime demands of a Dreamer is maintaining multi-dimensional perspective. This means releasing 3D tendencies to manipulate forces to make things happen. Often Dreamtime information indicates that what you think you want threedimensionally is not what your multi-dimensional soul wants or needs to expand and evolve.

*Voices of the First Day* author Robert Lawlor's explanation of Aboriginal Dreaming in the Summer '93 Issue of "Parabola Magazine" (page 13) speaks to me even more than Jamie Sams' words. "The Aboriginal Dreamtime is like the unconscious, all-prevailing continuum that fills everything from the interior of an atom to the interior of the galaxies. They believe everything has a Dreaming, that is, an inner consciousness that flows out of this vast original continuum. Sunlight, gravity, rocks, and trees – **everything has a creative interiority**. These internal states in nature are similar to our creative internal states such as desires, dreams, and imagination. And, in both humanity and nature, internal states move outward and manifest in physical forms. Instead of using mechanical interpretations of creation as our society does – mechanisms like the Big Bang – they use a biological model. Instead of saying it was an explosion, the Aborigines say creation is like the unfolding of a flower or the germination of a seed. Ultimately, these metaphors of moving from internal states to external forms are like a creation that emerges out of a vast, cosmic dream."

**To work with the Dreamtime is to have a greater sense of interiority than exteriority.** Given that our external socio-cultural reference points are rapidly shifting, it is essential to develop strong internal reference points whether or not you relate to life as a Dreamer. If only for the fun of it, ask your Dreamer self to reveal the creative interiority of your Mystery School and be alert to what unfolds in your waking states as an external form. See you in the Dreamtime....

**Don't ask yourself what the world needs.  
Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and then go do that.  
Because what the world needs is people who have come alive. -  
- Harold Thurman Whitman**

(Appendix L)

### **WEBSITE FACILITATOR REFERRAL LISTINGS**

Initially, Nicole's purpose in establishing a website ([www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com)) was to promote *Under Her Wings: The Making of a Magdalene*. However, as this venture progressed, the site seemed like an ideal vehicle for furthering the sacred work of Priest/ess Process™ and Magdalene Mysteries™ Process facilitators by providing interested site visitors with contact information. Thus, Nicole added an *Initiations* page that provides a facilitation work overview and a geographic listing of *qualifying* facilitators.

Some of you are already listed. If you are not, but might like to be, please carefully review the site, particularly the Initiations page, to see if you, as a facilitator, are in alignment with the information communicated on the site. <http://www.magdalenemysteries.com/initiations.htm>

Since Nicole's transition facilitators who wish to be listed will pay \$50 for their contact information to be listed. This fee goes toward the web master and web fees. Changes to your contact information are at the same rate. Please send the \$50 fee payment to Lisa Michaels (Check payable to ICE) 4045 Five Forks Trickum Rd Suite B-8 #275 ~ Lilburn, GA 30047 and send your information via email to [lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org](mailto:lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org).

See boxed website facilitator identification paragraph and sample listings below.\* For added clarification, see **\*\*NOTE:** below.

Whether or not you choose to be listed, use of Priest/ess Process™ and Magdalene Mysteries™ in association with your work\* requires that the ™ symbol is used and that the lineage is acknowledged beginning with me and including the high priestess(es) who trained you. Check with your facilitator trainer to see how she wishes to be referenced. Refer to the examples below.

At minimum, in referencing Nicole on your flyers, brochures, and website, indicate *Priest/ess*

*Process*™ Founder, Nicole Christine. See [www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com). Or *Magdalene Mysteries*™ School Founder, Nicole Christine. See [www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com).

Anyaa McAndrew and Carol Rydel use the following reference in their promotional material: This 9 month process comes through the lineage of Nicole Christine, author of *Temple of the Living Earth* and *Under Her Wings: the Making of a Magdalene*. Her inspiration comes from Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Dark Madonna previously known as the Goddess Tonantzin.

This is one of Lisa Michaels' approaches: *To find out more about the High Priest/ess Process read Under Her Wings: The Making of a Magdalene by Nicole Christine. Nicole brought through the matrix of the Priestess Process™ and was a powerful visionary leader. You can order her book at [www.Authorhouse.com](http://www.Authorhouse.com) ISBN: 1-4208-3637-4 or call 1-888-280-7715 or order through your local bookstore. Find out more about Nicole at [www.magdalene-mysteries.com](http://www.magdalene-mysteries.com).*

**Comment:** Recommending *Under Her Wings* and *The Priestess Within: Your Direct Divine Connection* CD to your initiates provides them with solid background perspectives. Order information for the book and CD is at <http://www.magdalenemysteries.com/orders.htm>.

**Additional alignment factors:** The use of recreational or ceremonial drugs or alcohol before or during *Process* activities is not in energetic alignment with this work. While some circles choose to have alcoholic beverages at celebrations following key ceremonies, my personal perspective is that a deeper sense of *The Process* potency is achieved by riding the natural high of inner attunement, co-created ceremony, and the spirit of community.

**Private Facilitator Mentoring Sessions: Currently available through advanced facilitators Lisa Michaels, [lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org](mailto:lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org), 770-823-8718 or Anyaa McAndrew, [anyaa@vzemail.com](mailto:anyaa@vzemail.com), 828-788-0773.**

**Where It All Started Pilgrimage:** Many of you have been to DeGrazia's Mission in the Sun Chapel (dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe) where *The Process* was inspired, all Tucson initiations took place, and we still have many ceremonies. During chapel visits, one is gently infused with the originating energies and the overlighting Presence of the Dark Madonna Guadalupe/Tonantzín. First visits and revisits are encouraged. Even a virtual reality visit is a transmission! See <http://www.rozylowicz.com/retirement/tucson2006/grazia1-ss.html>.

**\* Priest/ess Process™ Facilitators**

These individuals are emerged high priestesses and priests who have been mentored by/apprenticed to an experienced Priest/ess Process Facilitator. They have the authority to use this trade name provided they 1) appropriately credit Nicole Christine as the originator and credit their mentor or apprenticeship trainer, 2) uphold the energetic integrity of the **Primary Precepts**, 3) bring through and activate their own Mystery School, and 4) generally adhere to the **Facilitating Principles**. Each Facilitator functions autonomously according to these guidelines. Upon request, several of these facilitators travel to facilitate initiation circles beyond their resident state. Contact individual facilitators for more information.

**Listing Example**

StarFire/Shari Lowe  
(Georgia)  
[sharelight@mindspring.com](mailto:sharelight@mindspring.com)  
[www.SoulPhoenix.net](http://www.SoulPhoenix.net)

**Listing Example**

Anyaa McAndrew (North Carolina)  
[anyaa@vzemail.com](mailto:anyaa@vzemail.com)  
[www.goddessonthehouse.com](http://www.goddessonthehouse.com)

*\*\*NOTE: The following paragraph from Nicole's website applies to facilitators who choose not to align with The Process requirements. Thus, you are not listed on [www.magdalenemysteries.com](http://www.magdalenemysteries.com).*

**Facilitators Other Facilitators & Processes**

All emerged priestesses and priests are encouraged and supported in developing and facilitating their equally valuable, important, and unique expression of their sacred work-independently or in ways that interface with and expand this larger priest/ess community. However, one who is not an emerged and mentored/apprenticed high priestess or high priest and/or who does not choose to align with the Process requirements above does not represent her or his work as the Priest/ess Process™ or Magdalene Mysteries™ Process. These highly conscious and capable facilitators offer a wide range of processes and teachings ranging from the healing and creative arts, astrology, community involvement, and cultural diversity.

To further activate your creative juices take 7 minutes to watch the *You Are Worth the Time* video: <http://www.youtube.com/user/jannypantsthegre> at.

**I feel this excerpt from "The Book of Understanding" by OSHO captures the core essence of the Priest/ess Process ... the Total Way....**

Live life in all possible ways; don't choose one thing against the other, and don't try to be in the middle. Don't try to balance yourself - balance is not something that can be cultivated. Balance is something that comes out of experiencing all the dimensions of life. Balance is something that *happens*; it is not something that can be brought about through your efforts. If you bring it through your efforts it will be false, forced. And you will remain tense, you will not be relaxed, because how can a person who is trying to remain balanced in the middle be relaxed? You will always be afraid that if you relax you may start moving to the left or to the right. You are bound to remain uptight, and to be uptight is to miss the whole opportunity, the whole gift of life.

Don't be uptight. Don't live life according to principles. Live life in its totality! Drink life in its totality! Yes, sometimes it tastes bitter - so what? That taste of bitterness will make you capable of tasting its sweetness. You will be able to appreciate the sweetness only if you have tasted its bitterness. One who knows not how to cry will not know how to laugh, either. One who cannot enjoy a deep laughter, a belly laugh, that person's tears will be crocodile tears. They cannot be true. They cannot be authentic.

I don't teach the middle way, I teach the **total way**. Then a balance comes of its own accord, and then that balance has tremendous beauty and grace. You have not forced it. It has simply come. By moving gracefully to the left, to the right, in the middle, slowly a balance comes to you because you remain so unidentified. When sadness comes, you know it will pass, and when happiness comes you know that will pass, too. Nothing remains; everything passes by. The only thing that always abides is your witnessing. That witnessing brings balance. That witnessing *is* balance. "

[6/5/08]

(Appendix M)

### MANUAL CD ORDER FORM:

#### ***Temples of Venus: Returnings & Rememberings July 2006-February 2007***

A 124 Page Manual is made available to you in Adobe Acrobat Format. Using your PC or MAC, access the complete text, photographs and illustrations, beautifully incorporated into this cohesive manual.

1. Read the manual on your computer.
- OR-
2. Print the entire manual, or just the pages you choose, using your home printer, or a print service bureau (Kinko's, Office Depot, Staples, etc.).

*What I originally thought would be handouts for the February 2007 Venus Temples Gathering grew into a manual. This activation material is a lot to absorb - even for me as the recording weaver of this tapestry. ~ Nicole*

The intention is to make the Venus Templar Manual available in an electronic downloadable format.

For questions call Lisa Michaels at 770-823-8718 or email [lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org](mailto:lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org).

(Appendix N)

### RESOURCES

#### **Advanced Facilitators**

Anyaa                      McAndrew  
[www.goddessontheloose.com](http://www.goddessontheloose.com)

Lisa Michaels  
[www.naturalrhythms.org](http://www.naturalrhythms.org)

#### **Audio Resources**

*Elemental Forces of Creation* and/or *Natural Rhythms* CD by Lisa Michaels. <http://www.naturalrhythms.org>

*Priestess Within: Your Direct Divine Connection* CD by Nicole Christine, Anyaa McAndrew, & Lisa Michaels. This CD carries the original frequency of The Priest/ess Process via Nicole's voice.  
<http://www.naturalrhythms.org>

### **Books**

*Anastasia* by Vladimir Megre

*Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver

*Ecological Literacy: Educating Our Children for a Sustainable World* edited by Michael Stone & Zenobia Barlow

*Medicine Wheel Earth Astrology* by Sun Bear and Wabun

*My Ascension Journal* by Nicole Christine [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*Natural Rhythms: Connect the Creational Dance of Your Life to the Pulse of the Universe* by Lisa Michaels <http://www.naturalrhythms.org/pages/products.html>

*Temple of the Living Earth* by Nicole Christine [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*Under Her Wings: The Making of a Magdalene* by Nicole Christine  
<http://www.magdalenemysteries.com/orders.html> or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Manuals**

*Priest~ess Process Facilitator Handbook* by Nicole Christine (electronic copy \$22)

Contact Lisa Michaels [lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org](mailto:lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org)

*Shamanic Astrology Handbook* by Daniel Giamario and Carolyn Brent, n.k.a. Cayelin Castell  
(See <http://www.shamanicastrology.com/books.html>.)

*Temples of Venus: Returnings & Rememberings July 2006-February 2007* CD by Nicole Christine Contact Lisa Michaels [lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org](mailto:lisamichaels@naturalrhythms.org)

### **Oracles**

*Elemental Forces of Creation* by Lisa Michaels

<http://www.naturalrhythms.org>

*Gaia Matrix Oracle* by Rowena Kryder

<http://www.creative-harmonics.org/art/books/gaiamatrix2.html>