

KNIGHTS OF MICHAEL And The New Grail Community

Michaelmas Festival: Sunday, 11th October, 9:30am to 2pm, Stonehaven, Hershey, USA

*Throughout the ages, the Regent of Cosmic Intelligence, which streams like light over the whole world, has been the Spirit known by the name of **Michael**...in the course of centuries, the Michael-Impulse must find its way into the world of human beings if civilization is not to perish from the earth. –Rudolf Steiner (Torquay, England, 21 August 1924)*

The Corps de Michael will celebrate Michaelmas with keynote remarks, conversation and study, a hands-on Michael Imagination, singing, procession, eurythmy, plantings around the Corps sign, Michaelmas potluck, and a special surprise dedication by Corps members. We open by honoring the “founding-Knights” of Emerson College (England). Nearly fifty years ago, Francis Edmunds, John Davy, Adam Bittleston, Ann Stockton, and others performed a Michaelic deed by establishing ‘a world college to serve a world need.’ David Lenker will offer vignettes of the founding Knights—many of whom have crossed the threshold—drawn from his student days as well as a recent speaking engagement at Emerson, “Templar Courage Comes of Age.”

We pick-up the thread of the Corps de Michael’s highly successful Knights Templars Inter-branch Conference and St. John’s Festival with a Michaelmas study, “Knights of Michael.” In this lecture, given in conjunction with Rudolf Steiner’s moving visit to the ruins of King Arthur’s Castle at Tintagel (England), we contrast the Michael Community represented by the Knights of the Roundtable with the more inward heart-forces of the Grail stream represented by Parzival. In the former Michael Community we see an outwardly visible castle as the seat of valiant and legendary Knights, who *drew into themselves from the Sun the strength to set forth on their mighty expeditions through Europe to do battle with the wild, demonic powers still dominating large masses of the population, and drive them out of human beings. Under the guidance of King Arthur, these Twelve Knights were battling for outer civilization. (R.S.)*

By contrast, the Grail Castle known as ‘Munsalvaesche’ has no earthly reference point. Shrouded in mystery, Munsalvaesche defies GPS coordinates. Many seek for Munsalvaesche without success. This Grail Castle is surrounded, as it were, by *a trackless forest, sixty leagues deep on every side*. One only comes upon her when one’s inner life and destiny are in alignment with her meaning and purpose. In this Castle reside the heart-forces which are the meaning of earthly civilization, the Christ-Impulse come to earth to live as the brother of all human beings. In this stream we see the seed of a new Michael-Grail Community, a universal sister-brotherhood valid for all human beings and radiating from the Grail of group-life.

At Michaelmas we celebrate the union of two streams: the cosmic knowledge of Sun-Knights committed to representing Anthroposophy to the world, and the inner heart forces of the Grail revealed and brought to fulfillment through the sisterly-brotherly mission of group work—

We must become conscious of a higher form of community, founded in the freedom of love among sisters and brothers as a breath of magic that we breathe into our working groups. (Rudolf Steiner, Dusseldorf, 15 June 1915). Thus, the Anthroposophical Society has placed this principle of brother and sisterhood foremost, made it the most important of its ideals. (Rudolf Steiner, Berlin, 23 November 1905)

The sweetest Michaelites on earth cordially invite you to join us at Stonehaven in the serene splendour of the Hershey countryside on Sunday, 11th October at 9:30am. For more information or an electronic copy of the reading please call: 717-964-3376, or write: thecorpsdemichael@yahoo.com or visit our website: www.corpsdemichael.org