

**FESTIVAL OF VIRGO**  
**New York, September 3, 2009**

Headquarters Staff

Good evening friends and welcome. Tonight we will be observing the Festival of Virgo. Virgo is said to be one of the oldest signs of the zodiac, and one of the most symbolic signs that contains the key to the whole purpose of evolutionary process within our solar system. The keynote of Virgo is *“I am the Mother and the Child. I, God, I Matter am.”* Virgo is the cosmic mother or matter, which is opposite of the Father or the spirit aspect. Both qualities however (spirit and matter), produces a duality in this world that eventually must be united and synthesized to give birth to the third aspect, which is the soul, our true divine essence.

In the keynote of Virgo, the mother symbolizes the feminine aspect, which is matter or form life. She is the protector, nurturer and guardian of the indwelling child or the soul aspect, which is also known as the Christ principle. The mother incubates and broods over the child within the “womb of time” waiting for this hidden spiritual reality to be revealed and delivered into the world. Eventually, through years of incarnation, evolution and spiritual progression, a spark of light emerges and manifests within the form. This light is the awakened spiritual human expressing true divinity. And so, Virgo, the virgin mother gives birth to the Christ child, which is essentially the divine consciousness of humanity. Therefore, the true keynote that embodies this truth as to the purpose and mission of Virgo is expressed as, *“Christ in you, the hope of glory.”* Perhaps it should be clarified that when we refer to the Christ concept, it is not related to any one religion, theology or doctrine. There are many terms describing the Christ principle, such as the soul aspect, the middle principle, the anima mundi, the higher Self, or the solar angel. All of these words describe the same concept and idea of the divine light that pervades within all forms and connects and unites all. We each have the hidden Christ principle or the soul aspect within ourselves, which is the expression of divine consciousness. This spiritual quality is conveyed and demonstrated in the world as true love free from the glammers of the lower personality nature or emotional attachments. It expresses itself as loving understanding, goodwill, cooperation, peace, oneness and unity. The Christ principle is the realization and identification that we are not only created by divinity, by God immanent who dwells deep within us, but we are divinity, we are divine substance—we are both spirit and matter.

The sign of Virgo carries much symbolism during the time of the full moon. During this lunar phase, the sun and the moon stand face-to-face unobstructed with each other. The sun symbolizes spirit or the Father aspect, which is the light that gives us life and sustenance, while the moon symbolizes matter or the Mother aspect. There is an alignment between the sun and the moon (spirit and matter), in which the radiating energies from the sun can directly flow unimpeded to the moon. The earth or humanity symbolizes the indwelling child or the hidden soul that is developing and waiting to be revealed. Just as the sun and the moon stands at a natural alignment during the full moon, humanity represents the hidden spiritual reality, the Christ principle, which we as servers align ourselves with the soul and personality. Meditation at the time of the full moon is an approach to Hierarchy, which we establish a closer rapport with higher spiritual energies that are distributed into the hearts and minds of humanity. It is our ability and willingness as servers to become receptive channels to the incoming spiritual energies. Our responsiveness and sensitivity to these planetary forces and higher ranges of impressions are dependent upon the right attitude of approach. This is through achieving and maintaining alignment with the soul. Virgo expresses itself through service—and so we can be of true service to humanity through our inner spiritual dedication by focusing on the higher aspirations of the spiritual work.

So let us take a moment to align ourselves and link up to the many servers and groups who are meditating as we are.

O Thou Who givest sustenance to the universe,  
From Whom all things proceed,  
To Whom all things return,  
Unveil to us the face of the true Spiritual Sun  
Hidden by a disc of golden Light  
That we may know the Truth  
And do our whole duty  
As we journey to Thy sacred feet.

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In the sign of Virgo, spirit and matter when joined and fused become the Christ principle, the soul or the divine consciousness. It is said that "matter is spirit at its lowest point and spirit is matter at its highest, and that the apparent duality is but an essential unity." Other philosophical literature such as the Bhagavad Gita, describe spirit and matter through Krishna (the Christ principle) who says to Arjuna (the disciple and the developed form aspect), "Having pervaded the entire universe with a fragment of myself, I remain."

And so in this sign, humanity stands at the cusp of the "birth of the new age, of a new consciousness and the new civilization and culture" which is imminent and waiting to be expressed. This hidden spiritual reality, which is the indwelling Christ principle is eventually manifested in the sign of Pisces, the world savior. The Tibetan states that when a sufficient number of people have grasped this ideal of the indwelling Christ principle or the divine consciousness, "then the entire human family can stand for the first time before the portal which leads to the Path of Light." This path of light is the initiation of the human race. This expansion of consciousness within the form life is considered to be the first initiation, also known as the "Birth at Bethlehem", in which the disciple struggles and strives towards revealing divinity on the physical plane.

Virgo is a sign related to our highest spiritual nature, which is the Monad, the Father or the spirit aspect. It not only enables us to connect to our deepest spiritual expression in this world, but enables us to realize "the purpose for which form life exists." The energies of Virgo help us to begin to awaken towards true spiritual consciousness. As a result of this awakening, the personality life begins to shift towards the inner spiritual life. The soul assumes more control over the lower personality nature, and eventually the indwelling Child or the Christ principle is released into the world expressing its true divine nature through form life.

It is in the sign of Virgo, which we as humans can rise above from the grips of material control. Today, humanity as a whole is struggling to overcome the pain and suffering of material desire due to wrong orientation and wrong focus on the physical life. The Tibetan has hinted that the idea of sin came about due to the incorrect emphasis upon the form side of life that conditioned humanity from then on, which brought humanity on the reverse wheel of involution. We see the results of selfish material desire and material gain in the world today through the economic downturn and the financial crisis. This wrong orientation and relation with the form life further creates separation between spirit and matter. Because spirit and matter must have right relations with each other, we must therefore, rethink and spiritually and practically seek how to relate and consciously live in the material world through right living and right relations with the material goods and resources that have been given and provided to humanity.

Today humanity is entering into a new age with more expanded and inclusive awareness. The sixth ray of idealism and devotion is passing out, and the incoming seventh ray energy of ceremonial order is making its presence felt. Throughout a great portion of human existence, the forces of materialism have separated

spirit and matter. However, with the increase potency of the seventh ray, its purpose is to facilitate the process of grounding and bringing together spirit and matter by anchoring the qualities of the incoming energies, and “make physically visible the results” of this divine work. Therefore, the underlying function is “to clothe spirit with matter,” and build the forms or the outer life which will synchronize with the higher vibrations of spirit. The seventh ray energy relates to Virgo owing to the fact that this ray is the relating factor between life and matter upon the form side. When spirit unites with matter, this is the result of white magic. With the help of the seventh ray energy coming in, the disciple is able to build and construct forms “through which the divine will can express itself.” The disciple has to learn the dual function of “lifting up the lower energies into the light” and—at the same time—of “bringing down the higher energies into bodily expression.”

With respect to its inherent nature, Virgo is a sign related to service, which relates to the sixth house of the zodiac. Service is the true purpose of the Christ principle. In Gemini, we are told that the duality of spirit and form emerge as separate entities and the form serves the soul. Whereas, in the sign of Virgo, matter exchanges or interchanges their service with spirit, and each mutually serves the other. Spirit serves matter and matter serves spirit—each gains, transforms and becomes the other producing the Child, the soul, which are life, love and their united manifestation as one. It is through service, which gives this unique and inherent quality of Virgo the capacity to bring spirit and matter towards right relations with each other through their divine intent.

Virgo involves “the service of the immediate present”, in which God who is emanating and pervading throughout our very existence, evokes within us and puts forth reaction from the form side of life. This reaction could produce changes, disturbances, crises, progress or unfoldment. We not only build the forms to hold the divine energies as a co-creative process, but God immanent “creates the needed new forms and vitalise and qualify that through which the immediate divine intention is expressing itself.” Thus, in the sign of Virgo, the purpose and objective of the whole creative process of spirit and matter are served.

In the world of material living and being, Virgo expresses itself through the details of practical work, through getting things done, and through cooperative efforts. It expresses the quality and the capacity for hard work and gained experiences, attention to detail, and steady tenacity. Certainly, these qualities are needed for the busy modern world of material living—but these qualities are especially needed when treading the spiritual path. What is needed today among many servers is the practical approach towards service. We need to bring to use the Ageless Wisdom teachings in our life, in order to achieve the practical value so the inner qualities of spiritual livingness is retained, and become an outer reflection of the material world. It is the integration and identification of the spiritual teachings in our lives, which we practically demonstrate in the outer form of living and serving.

It is said that each sign of the zodiac has its tests. In Virgo, cooperation is perhaps the test. Because spirit and matter must exchange and support it each other through service, there must be an active and dynamic expression of cooperation. This is through loving understanding, goodwill and universal love, eventually leading to unity and oneness. Even in our daily life of work and service, the ability to cooperate is a necessary quality that makes group work and service possible. We may feel at times that we are physically, emotionally and mentally working alone, but we rely on many people, colleagues, groups, friends, family, and the community at large. We live in an interconnected and interdependent world in which “No man is an Island, entire of itself.” There are those on the inner side of life or the inner Ashram, which we may not be consciously aware of who facilitate and assist us in our work making possible those right connections and rare opportunities to further the work and the Plan. As humanity's consciousness further expands, group consciousness is gradually replacing the individual self-consciousness. When there is a spirit of cooperation, we are able to overlook the non-essentials, drown out personality ambitions and selfish interest, and maintain that steady inner contact with the life of the

soul. As we further embark into the Aquarian Age, group work and group life become increasingly important. It becomes a key component and a requirement for successful group activity. Aspirants and disciples are gathered together physically and subjectively to work in group formation, thus able to cooperate intelligently and lovingly with the unfolding purpose of the work. The energies of Virgo help us to live, serve and interact in a spirit of cooperation between individuals, groups and nations. The soul and personality when truly aligned and purified cooperate with each other producing a transformative and healing affect upon both spirit and matter.

The qualities of Virgo emphasize purity both of form and of spirit. It is not only purity of the physical vehicle, through diet, exercise, cleanliness and good health. The purity of our thoughts and motives through right speech, harmlessness and right thinking is an essential requirement to walk the spiritual path. No other sign expresses and requires the highest level of purity as does Virgo. Perhaps this is why Virgo continuously strives towards perfection, both in the spiritual and personality sense. The form or the lower personality nature must be gradually equipped, prepared and aligned before the soul or the indwelling Christ can manifest. When we purify the mental, emotional and physical body, the lower nature becomes more refined, and it increases the rate of vibration and the quality of the form. When we nurture and give care to our thoughts, emotions, our physical body, as well as our environment we also nurture the soul, which is the soul of humanity. Eventually, the lower nature becomes magnetic as an irradiated light, and reflects the higher quality and radiance of the soul. However, when a form that is unready and unprepared receives higher spiritual energies, the form can become unstable, over-stimulated and can even be destroyed. This is why a certain degree of development, refinement and purification is needed to safely receive the higher spiritual energies. We need to build the forms, which not only include our physical bodies but our entire range of environment to anchor the incoming energies. This is through the process of purification, which the experience of Virgo provides. And so Virgo, through purification and refinement, helps us to build form life that is able to withstand the higher vibrations and impact of spiritual energies. It renews us to become a pure channel and instrument through which spiritual force may flow waiting to be expressed through form life.

*I am the Mother and the child. I, God, I matter, am.* This keynote of Virgo has simply, yet beautifully summed up the whole essence of this sign—the uniting of the mother and the child, of spirit and matter, through the medium of form. The new consciousness is emerging. As we further enter into the Aquarian age, the seventh ray increases its potency helping to unite and anchor in the spiritual qualities into form life. Virgo gives us the gift of realizing our true spiritual potential. We are divine substance of both spirit and matter. Through practical spiritual livingness, hard work and cooperation, we are realizing our highest spiritual nature from within. Thus, humanity is awakening and experiencing the “hope of glory”.