## Preparing to Enter the Secrets of the Womb of the Earth

Readings: Monday, Sept. 27 & Tuesday, Sept. 28 – 7:30 pm Talk: Wednesday, Sept. 29 – 7:30 pm

The Branch Festivals Group, Greater Washington Branch of the Anthroposophical Society



Once again Mary Stewart Adams will guide us into an understanding of how the stars offer pictures that can enable us to begin to unravel the mysteries of the cosmos. Her focus will be the mission of the Archangel Michael today, and the possible meaning of the dragon — given to us in three different guises in the constellations Draco, Hydra, and Serpens. The above image for Virgo, who shines over the Michaelmas season, was created by Patricia DeLisa, based on the etched-glass work of Margot Rössler rooted in Imma von Eckardstein's images for the original edition of *The Calendar of the Soul*.

Mary has suggested two lectures as preparation for her talk, which will take place on Zoom. Since we cannot yet gather in person, we will again read at home, physically distant yet united in spirit. We invite you to join us and let us know you plan to participate. We will email those who have responded, so that we can be mindful of our reading companions and feel a sense of community. To respond, please email <a href="mailto:jodygrossman@msn.com">jodygrossman@msn.com</a>.

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<u>Monday, September 27, 7:30 pm</u> — *Michaelmas and the Soul-Forces of Man*, Lecture 1 (Vienna, 27 September 1923). Available on the Rudolf Steiner Archive <u>here</u>.

<u>Tuesday, September 28, 7:30 pm</u> — *The Four Seasons and the Archangels, "*The Michael Imagination" (Dornach, 5 October 1923). Available on the Rudolf Steiner Archive <u>here</u>.

Please see page 2 for information about Mary's talk.

<u>Wednesday, September 29, 7:30 pm</u> — Mary's presentation, via Zoom, will be inspired by contemplation of the Michaelmas verse 26 of Rudolf Steiner's *Calendar of the Soul* (translation by Ruth and Hans Pusch):

Nature, your maternal life
I bear within the essence of my will.
And my will's fiery energy
Shall steel my spirit striving,
That sense of self spring forth from it
To hold me in myself.

To receive the Zoom link for this talk, please email jodygrossman@msn.com.





Mary Stewart Adams is a Star Lore Historian and host of the weekly public radio program and podcast "The Storyteller's Night Sky." Through her research in spiritual science and her education in literary arts, Mary has developed a unique, humanities-based approach to understanding our relationship with the stars. Her work is further augmented by an extensive knowledge of ancient mythologies and fairy tales, which she relates to the research and ideas of

contemporary astronomy in order to understand the new star wisdom of astrosophy.

Mary has traveled extensively in fulfillment of her mission to safeguard the human imagination by protecting our access to the night sky and its stories, and has received numerous honors for her work advocating for dark skies. As a global advocate for starry skies, Mary led the team that established the 9th International Dark Sky Park in the world in 2011, which later led to the State of Michigan protecting 35,000 acres of state land for its natural darkness.



If you access the lectures from the Rudolf Steiner Archive, we encourage you to make an online donation in support of their service.