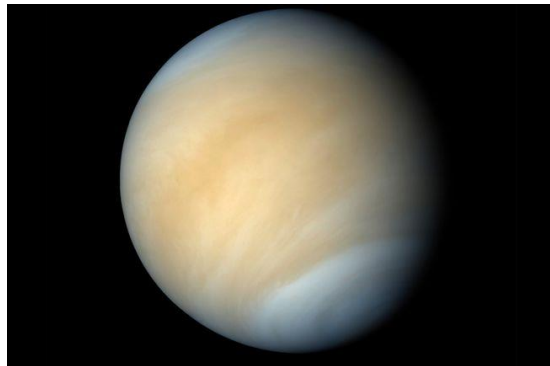


Sphere 4: Victory

What Are Spheres?

Spheres are the levels of training that we offer for the initiatory process of the Tradition. There are 8 Spheres. Each Sphere contains information on the topics relevant to understanding at its level. These topics build on each other and give a foundation for being able to work in the Circle of the Dark Mother. Some of these areas may be something you've already experienced, and you may be very well-versed in. If that is the case, feel free to move quickly through the section. We ask that everyone complete all sections because this is also the training foundation for clergy in the Circle. It is important that everyone is on the same page and can speak the same language for the optimal communication.

After completing each Sphere, contact Mark H. Williams (markw.ohio@gmail.com) with a description of what you've learned and what you've tried out in the Sphere. He will reply back with any additional questions, suggestions, and answers to any questions you have posed in your email.



Sphere 4

This Sphere is called Victory and is associated with the Prophet and Prophecy. This Sphere is also called “the clear mirror of prophecy” meaning that it is associated with prophetic movements that are clear and certain.

Correspondences

Color: Green

Astrological Attribute: Venus

Incense/Plant: Rose, Laurel, Red Sandlewood

Virtue: Inspiration, artistic talent, harmony

Vice: Lack of creativity or inspiration



Personality

This is the realm of the prophet. He/She is the representation of those who receive divine messages both internal and external to us.



Greek Deity

Athena: Athena is a very important goddess of many things. She is goddess of wisdom, courage, inspiration, civilization, law and justice, strategic warfare, mathematics, strength, strategy, the arts, crafts, and skill.



Spiritual Beings:

Archangel: Uriel

The Archangel Uriel is an angel of magic and wonderworking. Uriel helps us to manifest magic in the world.

Order of Angels: The elohim

The word Elohim is usually translated from Hebrew as one God that manifests as many Gods and Goddesses. When elohim is not capitalized it is associated with the order of angels of the same name which are considered dominions, authorities, and principalities. These are the angels that watch over countries, groups, and organizations. It is also important to recognize that every order of angels also has a corresponding order of demons and of archons (dark and mixed forces).

Meditation:

Meditation is an important part of any spiritual practice. For Sphere 4 we will focus on another aspect of mindfulness training.

Primordial meditation with breath is usually practiced with eyes closed, but you can also practice with eyes open and focusing on an object instead of breath.

Perform the primordial meditation as above but keep your eyes open and focus on an object.

Ideas of objects to focus on:

- Candle flame
 - Statue
 - Picture
 - Or anything that holds significance to you
1. Get into a comfortable position.
 2. Push all thoughts aside and begin to breath in a regular rhythm.
 3. Breath in... and out... in... and out.
 4. As thoughts arise, gently push them aside and refocus on your breathing.
 5. Keep your vision focused on the item of your choice.

It is important not to get upset or agitated over thoughts that arise. Our minds are pretty noisy, and it takes time and practice for longer periods of silent mind.

Start with a short session. It is much more important to have consistent practice than to have long practice. You can work your way up.

If you have trouble not thinking about time – set a timer for even 5 minutes for the start of your practice.

Ritual Topic:

Ritual items need to be acquired as part of the process of working with the Spheres. If you do not have money to purchase items, don't worry – you can make do with what you have. For instance, a butter knife be used from your kitchen cabinet. It doesn't have to be anything fancy.



Knife or Athame

The knife can be a traditional Athame or it can be a Phurba (Buddhist 3-sided ritual knife). It is whatever you are more comfortable using. It is typically made of metal or crystal, but symbolically anything with an edge can be used.



Chakra

Heart (Located behind the heart) - The heart chakra corresponds with our higher vital body and the higher vital worlds, and it corresponds with our true intelligence: faith, hope and love, and the knowledge, understanding and wisdom that come with them. Corresponding with the radiant holy breath that kindles the fire snake, and with affinity, empathy, unity, true relationship and connectedness, devotion, healing, this chakra is the seat of true spirituality: mysticism. It is depth of feeling, active compassion or charity, redemption or salvation, balance and harmony, and it corresponds with the elemental power of air and the direction east in the sacred circle.

In the heart chakra we recognize and realize our innate unity with all our relations and begin to enter into communion with the Divine. Humankind struggles to come to the heart and to ignite the heart chakra, as it is the place where we begin to become a true human being and begin to realize the divinity within our humanity. The heart is the seat of the indwelling Messiah, the Human One of Light in us, our true and natural being as we are in the Divine

Mother. This is the place of true self-knowledge, and specifically the knowledge of our purpose in this life. This chakra is the center of our true desires and dreams.

The heart chakra joins the three upper chakras with the three lower chakras, and thus this center is the key to the actualization and realization of the full spectrum of our consciousness or soul, and it is the gate through which we access our spiritual essence, which abides in the heart and crown chakras. Although we may be incarnate in a human form or body, until we are able to open the heart, going within and living within, as yet we are not a human being. The heart is the true life and being of humanity, the “true measure of a woman or a man.” chakra is key, a principle center of focus. of matter-energy-light, pure energy, light or spirit manifest in material form.



Level of the Soul

Upper Ruach (Spirit) – the human intelligence and the divine intelligence. The upper Ruach points toward the Neshamah (eternal soul) and toward enlightenment. When this is engaged our Ruach (or intelligence) is driven by our true self.

Holy Day



Beltane (Height of Spring) – Beltane is the anglicized name for the Gaelic May Day festival. Most commonly it is held on 1 May, or about halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice. Historically, it was widely observed throughout Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man and focuses on fertility.

Completion

When you are finished with the course, Mark will send you a certificate stating that you are a full initiate of the Tradition. You will be then ready to start Adept training which contains more advanced topics.