



The Wind Call

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN
AND AROUND CAPE TOWN

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2021

The journey to Michaelmas.

We are now on the ten week journey of transformation between St John's and Michaelmas during which the task is to make John's call to 'change your heart and mind' a personal reality. To the extent that we do this, we become that much more of an effective co-worker of Michael's in his striving to keep human thinking connected to the spiritual reality of life.

In the Gospel readings for the Act of Consecration of Man this journey began with the so-called confession of Peter to Christ in which he momentarily becomes conscious of who and what it is that works in and through Jesus. This conscious recognition is the key to all that follows during these ten weeks.

We know all about keys in this country because we have so many of them and everything has to be locked up all the time. We also know how frustrating it is when we lose our keys or arrive somewhere with the wrong key.

A key is a tool that open up something which before was closed to us. It allows us to move from one space into another. It makes things possible which would not be possible without the key. There are many different kinds of keys apart from physical keys that open locks. Being literate is a key which opens up the possibility to read everything that is written. Education can also be a key to open us up to new understanding. Knowing someone may be a key to a new circle of friends.

However all of these keys only open us up to earth bound realities. What Peter expresses is a key of a quite different nature. It is a key that open up the possibility to understand the true nature and potential of our essence as a human being. It allows us to grow in understanding about the reality which underlies all physical manifestations - their origin; their being; and their intended future.

During the time between St. John's and Michaelmas we hear the trinity epistle in which all the riddles of the key of Peter are contained as an open secret. Just dwelling on the first line of each of the three stanzas of this epistle can open up worlds of discovery concerning our task as a human being.

It begins with the words "Conscious of our Humanity we feel the Divine Father". How conscious are we of our humanity? Can I come to a feeling of all that has been poured out by all the hierarchies of the spiritual world (their own self is poured out) into the body, soul and spiritual constitution of the human being - of my being? The eons of time invested in our humanity becoming what it is today! When we delve into this in our thinking we can develop a feeling for the Father world which continues to focus on us with the deepest of interest and to subsist as the foundation of our humanity every second of our lives on earth.

The second stanza begins with the words “In experiencing the Christ in our humanity we feel the Divine Son”. This is not just about knowledge of the Christ – but experience – for which we need to develop the organ of perception. This organ of perception is the heart as we hear at the beginning of the Gospel reading prayer where we ask that our heart be filled with the pure life of Christ; in the Easter epistle “the heart is full” and in the St. John’s epistle where we ask that his word of flame may burn in our hearts in longing for Christ. It is of great importance that we learn to enter into our heart space with our thinking and there learn to breathe and to listen. Only here will we experience the Christ in our feeling and at the same time become a little more aware of our true human nature and our task with regard to humanity and the earth.

The third stanza begins “In grasping the Spirit through our humanity we feel the healing God”. Here our inner activity of striving to understand the spiritual realities of existence is called upon. I cannot sit back passively and wait “for everything to work out as it should”. The healing God brings about healing by revealing to me spiritual truths about life which are ‘born’ in my thinking. For this to be possible my thinking has to ‘show up’ in active striving in the realm of the Healing Spirit – the realm of spiritual consciousness. Then the fruits of my spiritual striving can be bestowed on me as new insights and new understanding through grace – and it is in this that I feel the Healing God.

All three of these areas of striving are implied in John’s call to change our hearts and minds and are aspects of the key of Peter’s confession of Christ – who receives the creation from the Father and makes it whole through the Spirit with the co-operation of humanity. This co-operation begins with us recognizing Christ and aligning our striving with His.

Participating in the Act of Consecration of Man from home.

For those who do not feel that they can adequately participate in the Act of Consecration of Man from home because they are not so familiar with the text, I would like to make the following suggestions:

Not knowing the text is not a problem at all. First of all try to come to peace and connect in your mind’s eye with all the people in the community and in our region who are connected to the sacraments. Take this sense of community into your heart and hold it there for a moment. Then:

Imagine that you are “going to church at home”. This means that you create a worthy atmosphere and space. Light a candle and sit on an upright chair. Close your eyes and “be in the church as you know it”. See the candles being lit, hear the music, the server ringing the bell and imagine the celebrant and servers walking to the altar. Imagine the colour of the altar (lilac at the moment), the lit candles, and the altar pictures. Call to mind the mood of the time prayer or Epistle. (See the article above).

Imagine the book being moved to the left. Read the Gospel reading for the week as mindfully as you can and think about it for a moment and what it says to you in your life.

Now read the creed and choose any one sentence from it and ponder it a little. Every time you can take another sentence.

Imagine the book being moved to the right side of the altar and the chalice being uncovered. At the same time “uncover your heart” – your inner chalice.

The offering begins and we hold up to the spiritual world the best that our soul can offer – namely an openness into which something new can be poured – and also our weaknesses and inabilities to be healed. Imagine the wine and water being poured into the chalice and being elevated to God.

Think of the incense rising up with all our prayers and offerings and at the same time creating a protected space in which the transubstantiation can take place both on the altar and within our hearts. In this process the creative fire of love is born, newness streams in and we participate in what is eternal to the end that the good prevails and endures.

The book moves to the left. Christ unites with our offering and the substances are transformed into His resurrected formative and life forces. What does this mean for the world? Now say the Lord's Prayer aloud and mindfully. The book moves to the right.

The communion follows for all (even you at home). The time prayer follows.

The book is closed, the celebrant and servers leave, music sounds, the candles are extinguished.

Sit quietly for a while and listen to the after image of the service. Think about everyone in the community, about the whole city, the country, the world, the celebrating priests. Take this mood into your day.

The importance of following the daily celebration of the Act of Consecration of Man from home:

First of all I would like to express my deep thanks to all those of you who have been faithfully living actively with the daily celebration of the service from your homes. It has been really noticeable that the mood, the depth and the sense of presence in the celebrations at the altar have all changed considerably since the beginning of lockdown last year and that they continue to deepen. This means that the service is becoming more and more effective in the world as people's participation increases. This is real medicine for all that is going on around us.

What continues to disturb me is the level of fear and anxiety that I constantly meet in so many people. This state of soul is truly our worst enemy and we need to work hard to confront it and overcome it through a growing sense of spirit connectedness. Inwardly participating in the Act of Consecration of Man is a wonderful way to come to peace within ourselves and with a little practice we can take this peace into the rest of our day. The moment we manage to do this in even a small measure, we notice that our life has changed dramatically – as has our body's immunity – we become altogether stronger.

It would be a real deed for the world if as many of us as possible made it our business to spend this whole year deepening our own inner experience and inner participation in the Act of Consecration of Man whether from our homes or in the church whenever that is possible. It is a real deed because in the service we enter into the healing world of reality behind all the smoke and mirrors and deception out there. We facilitate the streaming of real healing into the world and into all of humanity. The more a sense of this fact awakens in us – the more we feel a responsibility towards the spiritual world to deepen our efforts.

It is also very important to always bear in mind that the real motivating force behind all that is happening in the world is none other than the reappearance of the Christ in the etheric realm – the realm of life. What manifests now around us is the desperate attempt

to thwart this deed of Christ from becoming a reality in the souls of all human beings. Christ is infinitely more powerful than the shadow that the light of his coming throws in the way of opposition. However – his power is only as effective as human souls are able to be receptive to it. He cannot prevail without our active participation.

To the end of making this more conscious for us all, the whole of our region is taking on the task of studying Hans–Werner Schroeder’s little booklet “The Second Coming Of Christ” which I will make available to everyone as a PDF.

Richard Goodall

Thank you.

A big thank you to Tanya and Andreas van Breda for installing the beautiful ‘stain glass window’ which Tanya created for the last Whitsun Festival. You can admire it on the window to the left of the altar.

New gardener.

As some of you may know our church gardener of many years – Monde – decided to pack up and return to his home in the Eastern Cape. We are very grateful for all that he has done for us over the years. Now Howard Chireseri has joined us and we are very happy to welcome him as our gardener and handy man. Howard is a trained gardener and very enthusiastic about both decorative and food gardens. We look forward to our church surroundings taking on a new life under his capable care.

Confirmation classes.

Confirmation classes have started again with a strong group of lively young people. We will be meeting every Sunday morning during school term time at 08:45 – before the children’s service. Because of the size of the group we will have to have the lessons in the church space. **Please be mindful of this and try to be as quiet as possible in the foyer and courtyard during this time.**

The Church Fair.

As it seems to be an impossibility for us to hold our normal style of fair on the 11th September, we would like to have another community forum on the 29th August during which we will have conversations about how we can have a ‘fair in instalments’.

There are three main objectives to the fair: 1, to raise much needed funds for the church; 2, as a community building activity; and 3, to make ourselves more visible to the world out there.

Thoughts that have been proposed so far each cover at least one aspect of these objectives. To date they are:

- Trying to get a place at the market at the police house at the end of our road to sell crafts and deli products.
- Having an online raffle (possibly for a weekend in a nice Airbnb venue for two).
- A music event at the church with only 50 pre–sold tickets.
- A car boot sale on the church property.
- Workshops at the church.

Please come on the 29th with any new and workable ideas that you can think of.

The Christian Community website.

The link below will take you directly to the church website where you will be able to access newsletters, programs, talks etc around the whole region. Please make use of it.

<https://www.thechristiancommunity.org.za>

Please remember to let us know if your Email address changes or if you want to be removed from the mailing lists.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CAPE TOWN

**39 Timour Hall Road, Plumstead 7800
Tel: 021 762 0450**

[E-mail: christiancocpt@gmail.com](mailto:christiancocpt@gmail.com)
www.thechristiancommunity.org.za