

Goddess Temple News

Lammas 2021
Donations Welcome



EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Lammas edition of Goddess Temple News!

Thank you for your support for our flourishing Goddess Temple here in the heart of Avalon, the sacred land of Glastonbury.

As always, I am so inspired by the rich mythology and herstory that arises from the words of our Priestesses in Goddess Temple News. Now is the time of Her burgeoning abundance, as we celebrate the golden season of Lammas. There is a special kind of haze that occurs when sunlight hits the ripening grain fields at this time of year – I call it “Lammas light”. This golden light can also be the light within our own souls, the light of Goddess, the light that we must nurture in order for it to grow and fill our whole beings, just as a Mother nurtures her children.

In this season’s edition of Goddess Temple News, we have some beautiful writings on the Goddess in Her Mother aspect from Susie Quatermass, on sovereignty by Lynne Sedgmore, and on the Mother’s time of ripening from Kristina Turner and Kate Fletcher. We have several new Goddess Temple trainings beginning over autumn 2021 and spring 2022, including the Death Priestess of Avalon training with Bee Helygen. You can read more about the sacred and ancient death rites of the Priestess in Bee’s article inside. Temple founder Kathy Jones also tells us more about her two brand new Goddess books, coming out this year. If you are interested in the movements of the stars over the coming months, Maria Jones, Priestess astrologist,



gives us an insider view into what’s to come in her Lammas to Samhain astrology reading.

We hope you enjoy the rich pickings of this season’s Goddess Temple News. As always, we value your comments and feedback at info@goddess temple.co.uk.

With Lammas blessings from Elsa Field, editor of Goddess Temple News, and the rest of the Goddess Temple Team.

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WE ALL COME FROM A MOTHER

We all come from a Mother sculpture and words by Susie Quatermass, Priestess of Avalon

It is now that we must return to the Mother Matrix, those deep ancient threads that weave the stories of those who went before us, to reclaim our identity and remember who we are in relationship to the Earth, to our ancestors and to all beings here on this planet.

And She waits for us, holding a space for our return. Even though we may have turned away from Her in the past, we now have to look and see what we are turning away from and instead turn towards Her... because She is there in our hearts waiting for our return.

And She is Mother, She is Grandmother, She is Initiatrix, She is the ancestral lineage of all women who walked this earth before us carrying and protecting the sacred seeds of their future and their dream deep within.

And this is the calling of the land, the Sacred land of Avalon where Her Mother Temple awaits.

And the land everywhere is the body of the Goddess, remembering Her leads us back into the ancient Landscape of our own soul. Take the journey, come home.

We all come from a Mother, and in that moment of understanding, there is no other.



Welcome to the Virtual Goddess Temple
Explore our new Madron membership scheme



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from wherever you are in the world.
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www.goddess temple.co.uk/join-the-virtual-temple

Glastonbury Goddess Temple
Bringing Goddess alive in Her World



Please respect social distancing guidelines, as advised by the Melissa

Current opening times:
Monday - Sunday
12-4 pm

We look forward to welcoming you into this sacred space,
dedicated to the Lady of Avalon

LAMMAS SOVEREIGNTY

In the West and Earth direction is Mother Nolava, the Birther of all, and Earth Nolava where we feel our fullest potential, authenticity and power, grounded in the land.

We are connected with all of nature – we are nature, we are Goddess and She is us. We experience Nolava as Sovereign who nurtures us in all we already are, and can become from the fullness and depth of the Goddess power of Mother earth. In this Lammas space of growth, harvest, nurturing and abundance we become able to express our magnificence from our embodied wisdom. Embraced and held by Mother Nolava and deeply grounded in Earth Nolava we are expansive, interconnected, loving, authentic, honest, real, dignified and wise.

Sovereignty is not dominion – we don't take power, or want power – we are power – without arrogance, apology or diminishing anyone. We hold power "through", "with" and "for" others because we want everyone to manifest their own power and autonomy. We know also the joy of serving others through generosity and love. We truly experience our Sovereignty and can express self-authority, autonomy, and personal skilfulness, able to respond skilfully, consciously and authentically in the world. We feel our deep resilience and inner strength, we can challenge and cut through all that is false and unnecessary – with compassion and composure – no longer overwhelmed, hiding or reactive. We hold our boundaries with clarity and skill, fulfilling both our rights and responsibilities.

When we are the best we are capable of, manifesting our fullest potential – we can foster and facilitate the fullest potential of others, to illuminate others, encouraging them to shine brightly, and to be magnificent themselves. Manifesting and maintaining our sovereignty is an art requiring self-care, physical balance, good nutrition and adequate sleep.

For some the word Queen, King, Queer or Fluid One – of their Realm – resonate strongly, instead of Sovereign. If none of these work for you, use a different word. Feel deeply into which word works best for you in a way that is inclusive of your unique gender identity and is an expression of who you truly are. We are all birthed and loved by Goddess. Mother



Lynne Sedgmore
is Priestess to the Goddess,
Priestess healer, and is a currently
a student on Spiral 3 Priestess of Avalon
training. She is tutor of the Goddess
Luminary Wheel training and author of
two poetry collections – *Healing through the
Goddess, and Crone.*

and Earth Nolava want us to express our fullest abundant magnificent Sovereignty. Blessed Be.

Individual reflection and expression

- * Explore how you relate to and experience, or not, your Sovereignty.
- * Describe how it feels and manifests in your body.
- * Name 3 qualities you manifest from your Sovereignty – ones that feel genuinely authentic and enable you to feel and express your magnificence.
- * Share these 3 qualities with someone to publicly name them and to ground them in yourself.
- * Wear something that makes you feel Sovereign and in your full power.
- * Stand as Sovereign, tall, noble, upright, authentic and regal until it is really embodied in you.
- * Walk in your Sovereignty, feeling into your liberating energy and power.
- * Emanate your Sovereignty for as long as feels valuable and empowering to you.
- * Journal on how you are affected by doing some or all of the above.

These words are adapted from the Luminary Sovereignty work of Spiral 1 of the Goddess Luminary trainings, an innovative and radical leadership training that co-mingles Goddess spirituality with collective, feminist and post patriarchal Leaderful ways. It involves four 3 day sessions and the next Spiral 1 begins on 19/20/21 November.

You can find details at:

<https://goddess temple teachings.co.uk/goddessluminary/spiral-one/>

WHAT IS A DEATH PRIESTESS?



Etruscan Chamber Tomb

Why Priestess/Priest?

The Priest/esshood of Avalon has been recorded since the 12thC, when the cleric, Geoffrey of Monmouth, mentions that the Chief Priestess of Avalon, Morgen La Faye, brings the dying Arthur back to the magical isle of Avalon, there to rest and sleep until he awakens again in Britain's hour of greatest peril. We, the Death Priestesses of Avalon walk in the footsteps of those sacred women.

In every culture around the globe of which we know anything today, there has been a cult of funerary rites and death, from the Hypogeum in Malta, the pyramids of Egypt, the Hive graves of Crete, to the Celtic Sky Burials on the Tor. There have always been holy people who prepared and disposed of the bodies of the Dead. Mortuary cults have been recorded since prehistory. Most of what archaeologist know about life on earth comes from grave sites.

These days the funeral industry has become a greed driven business across the world. More people are now buried in pauper graves than in recent memory. Ambulance services report a record number of deaths in the home, where bodies are found days, weeks, months later. The state of our care homes was highlighted in the recent Covid crisis, when people died unattended due to lack of staff. The old are dying alone in the hospitals, cared for in the physical sense but any health care provider will admit that there are simply just not resources to sit

with a dying patient for any length of time. This is where we are re-sourcing the healthcare providers and work with the dying and their families.

As advocates we urge a radical rethink of our society's attitude to the terminally ill, dying and dead. We highlight the needs of those who can no longer speak for themselves. We assist people record their wishes for a 'good death'. We serve to make their final days peaceful and tranquil, so they may leave the earthly plane without fear. We hold their hand when they are frightened of the gathering darkness. We care and listen: to soothe their emotions, hear their memories, make sure they know they are not alone.

A death priestess is trained to see the sacred in all of humanity, in every situation, in every event, she or he walks the path of compassion and kindness, with unconditional regard for all beings. She, or he, is a sacred Listener without judgment. They are present when they are with the client to changes in energy, they help the soul to heal past hurts and prepare for transformation, for return to source/rebirth into another life. We honour the eternity of the soul, the beliefs our clients hold, and we adapt to their way of thinking and encourage them to freely express all their thoughts.

We create the environment from their wishes to make them comfortable on their journey through the veil. Using scent, music, sounding, sacred touch, ambient light, ritual and ceremony, whatever is wished for, we find a way to provide for their needs; involving loved ones, family and friends, we encourage the "gentle genuine goodbye".

We create and perform ceremonies to the wishes of the client, and send their body and soul on their journeys, safely home.

Find out more on www.goddessstempleteachings.co.uk or email bee@cerridwen.co.uk for further information.



Bryn Celli Ddu

Priestess Bee Helygen
is the tutor of the new
Death Priestess of Avalon Training
beginning in November 2021.

LAMMAS TO SAMHAIN ASTROLOGY

And so, we enter the honey gold month of Lammas, with Sol blazing through the sign of the She Lion. A radiant Leo New Moon on August the 8th reminds us of the joys of being alive, and to offer gratitude for the abundance and beauty that She continually offers us. The New Moon amplifies the ongoing Urania/Saturnia square encouraging us to break free of 'group think' and reclaim our sovereign selves.

With revolutionary Urania slowing down to retrograde in Taurus on the 19th of August, and an electrifying Aquarius Full Moon on the 22nd, we may collectively and personally experience shocks and revelations that force us to break free of old, stagnant patterns as we wake up to the truth of the current global financial and environmental crisis. The Storm Goddess reminds us that chaos ultimately leads to liberation, the breaking down of old paradigms is often a traumatic process. Urania will station direct on the 18th of January 2022.

Sol shifts into Virgo, sign of the devoted Priestess on the 22nd of August, placing our focus upon sacred service and the purification of our body temple. The Virgo New Moon rises on the 6th of September. This is a time for sorting the wheat from the chaffe, as we think about what is efficient and productive and what needs to be released or healed as we head towards the dark half of the year. The Oceanic Pisces Full Moon on September the 20th invites us to surrender into compassion for ourselves as we cleanse our souls in Her silvery light.

On the 22nd of September as Sol glides into Libra, initiating the Autumn Equinox. Mercuria the Messenger begins Her 3rd

retrograde of the year in the Sign of the Scales on the 27th of September. She starts Her journey in square to Pluto, the Dark Mother indicating this will be a period of deep soul work within our relationships, looking deeply at issues of co-dependency and people pleasing. Through the mirror of the other, we face our shadows. We may need to readdress the balance of some of our partnerships and let others go. Mercuria will resume direct motion on the 18th of October.

As we head into October, one by one the outer planets begin to turn direct. First Pluto on the 6th, followed by Saturnia on the 10th and Jupiter on the 18th. We can now reap the harvest for the effort we have been expending since the early summer months as the energy begins to shift once more. What has reached culmination or completion? What goals have we achieved, and what still needs to be worked upon? On the 23rd of October, Sol enters the sign of Scorpio the Sorceress. Mars the Red Goddess follows on the 30th. With Mars now in the sign of Her ancient rulership the Samhain energies are set to be intensely penetrating and richly alchemical as we sink ever deeper into Her cauldron of transformation...

Maria Jones

is a Priestess of Avalon, and course tutor for the
Silver Spiral Star Priestess Training.

Visit www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk
for more information!

BLANKETS – WRAPPED IN THE ARMS OF THE MOTHER

I love blankets. If I am unwell or just in need of comfort I wrap myself in a blanket. I have many blankets. I have some that I inherited from my mother line. They were knitted by my grandmother and great grandmother from the odds and ends of wool and the worn out and unravelled family clothes. These blankets are precious gifts from my mother line. When I was pregnant with my daughter Ivy, my mother Jean and I shared time together mending these blankets and talking about the women of our line, the lives they lived and the blankets that they made. When I was ill as a child, I remember being wrapped in one of these blankets with a hot water bottle for extra cosiness. When I announced to my family that I was pregnant, my auntie Irene knitted a baby blanket for my daughter and then my Mother made one for my son Shiva. Their blankets are the only baby item that I have saved, adding them to the family blanket stash.

I have some that I made myself, each stitch a prayer and intention in the making. When my sister Penny was ill and then dying of cancer my sister priestesses and I made a blanket for her from squares of crochet that we stitched together with prayers for her journey. She felt so loved and held by this gift especially as she had never met some of those who had woven their wishes of wellness and ease into it. During Penny's illness while sitting with her I crocheted blankets for my children. They have one each from this time affirming the preciousness of life, love and family. When my first husband Dom died I wrapped him in a blanket that I had used for many years in healings and ceremony. It was his favourite of my blankets. It went with him on his onward journey.

From my time living in Seattle I have some magnificent Pendleton wool blankets with traditional patterns. In Navajo



myth the tradition of blanket weaving is a sacred task given to them by Spiderwoman. The blanket is often given as an honouring gift. There is a saying 'to go under the blanket' which means go and rest under your blanket until you are well and whole again. I do this with my blankets and also offer one of my blankets to friends when they are in need of blanket time. The making and gifting of blankets is a priestess art which some of us are reviving within our circles – if you are interesting in being a part of this please contact me for further details.

I have been ill this past year with long covid symptoms and was hospitalized a couple of months ago with a severe reaction to my covid vaccination. I am currently making myself a healing blanket stitching in the gifts of my journey back to wellness and blessings of health and wellbeing as I would do for others. I am spending time under the blanket – particularly my heavy blankets that I made to promote good sleep and to feel like a hug. Recent research indicates that heavy blankets are beneficial to calm, and relax children with neural diversity who are finding their way coping and thriving in this complex world. I think we can all benefit from the hug of a heavy blanket. Resting in the arms of the Mother Goddess.

Luna Silver is a Priestess of Avalon and is course tutor of Spiral one and Spiral two of the Priestess of Avalon training. Find out more about our world-famous Priestess of Avalon training, now in its 23rd year, at www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk

LAMMAS – TIME OF RIPENING, TIME OF BIRTH

THE WAY OF THE SACRED BIRTHKEEPER

At the time of the grain harvest, Lammas, we come together to celebrate abundance. We honour the Grain Goddesses and give thanks for a time of nurture, nourishment and plentiful food. The first grain is ground to flour and baked to bread, milk and honey are abundant, and more babies are birthed than at any other time of the year.

Just like the grain ripens in the field in ways that are at once timeless and never the same, the Mother's belly swells at its own secret pace. It cannot be rushed or slowed, or attuned to any human understanding of time.

Ripening is a time-less unfolding; nothing can be done other than watchful waiting in the still-standing heat of summer.

At the same time, when we harvest the grain we are doing it in the knowledge that change is coming. The unstoppable cyclical flow continues, the nights are already starting to draw in a little, and we prepare for a time of less abundance.

But for now, the Grainmother offers her gifts in fathomless generosity, grain after countless grain, sheaf after abundant sheaf, for collection and storage.

Like the evolving seed deep within the pregnant Mother, the grain itself knows when it is ready to cast off its sheath and fall to the ground. It knows not what is to come. If it falls on fertile ground, it may allow it to yield all its inherent potential once more in the mystery of eternal recurrence. But this cannot



Kate Fletcher, Priestess of Avalon, held the first Sacred Birthkeeper training in 2020. She will be holding this training again at Imbolc 2022.

Visit www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk for more details.

Kristina Turner, who trained as a Sacred Birthkeeper with Kate, will be holding her own Sacred Birthkeeper training in Sweden, starting at Imbolc 2022. Find out more here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/790804644914382>

be known in advance. The grain may also be crushed underfoot, rot away in the rain or blown away by the wind. Not all potential can unfold in fullness.

This the Grainmother knows.

The nights are darkening a little each day. The low-hanging moon starts to appear as a yellow lantern on the horizon at night. The last sheaf from the field is collected and made into a Corn Mother and kept for seeds to be planted in the following year.

In this time of abundant giving, the time towards the end of pregnancy when the breasts are full of milk and women are ready to give birth, we welcome those who hear the call of the Sacred Birthkeeper.

We welcome those who long to support women to find their way back to their innate wisdom. We welcome those who wish to honour the sacred creativity of Motherworld.

By approaching birth from a perspective of ceremony, tradition and Goddess spirituality, we gather the resources we need to do this important work.

At Lammas, this time of fullness and fruition, the birthing time, we welcome you to join us as Sacred Birthkeepers.



COMING SOON: NEW BOOKS FROM KATHY JONES

TEMPLE FOUNDER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

At Lammas I am giving birth to two new books which are being published in August 2021.

The first is a major production which I have been writing through the many moons of the pandemic lockdowns. It is called "In the Mysterium of the Lady of Avalon: Exploring Her Secret Hidden Lands" (Ariadne Publications).

Several years ago I became intrigued by the Secret Lands of Avalon which lie hidden beyond Glastonbury's outer world landscape, and I began to look for and explore them further. I had read about Secret Lands in other world cultures, which have some of the most sophisticated understandings of life, consciousness and land. The book is a product of my journeys into the physical, psychic and spiritual landscapes of Avalon, taken in many ceremonies with other people and some I have taken on my own. The book itself is a Mysterium, a Sacred Space set aside for the exploration of the Mystery of Goddess, for spiritual development and the expansion of our consciousness.

"Only rarely glimpsed from the outside world the inner Secret spaces of the Isle of Avalon are varied and enthralling. There are high hills, steep mountains, cliffs and deep gorges, hidden by mists and clouds. There are flowing rivers, waterfalls, springs and wells, sacred gardens, sweet meadows, Her Temples on high hills and deep in caves in the earth. Wild creatures live here too, fleet-footed deer and hares, badgers and foxes, horses and horned creatures, swans and bees, Morgen crows and Her ravens, wolves and bears."

I hope that you will enjoy this new work of revelation which further explores the Mysteries of the Lady of Avalon.

The second book I hope to publish in August/September 2021 is "MotherWorld: A Vision Whose Time has Come" (Ariadne Publications). It was also written during the pandemic, and is a deeper exploration of MotherWorld, the Society which places Mother Earth, Mothers and the values of Mothering and Caring, for all people and all of Her nature, in the centre of our lives and communities, rather than leaving them out on the periphery. In the Goddess Temple we have been working for some years with these values and what they mean for us as a living Goddess community and why it is so vitally important to change the ways in which we live upon our Mother Earth, especially in these times of climate change and pandemics.

"MotherWorld is the world in which we fully acknowledge that all women, all men, all genders are born from the body of a woman, from a human



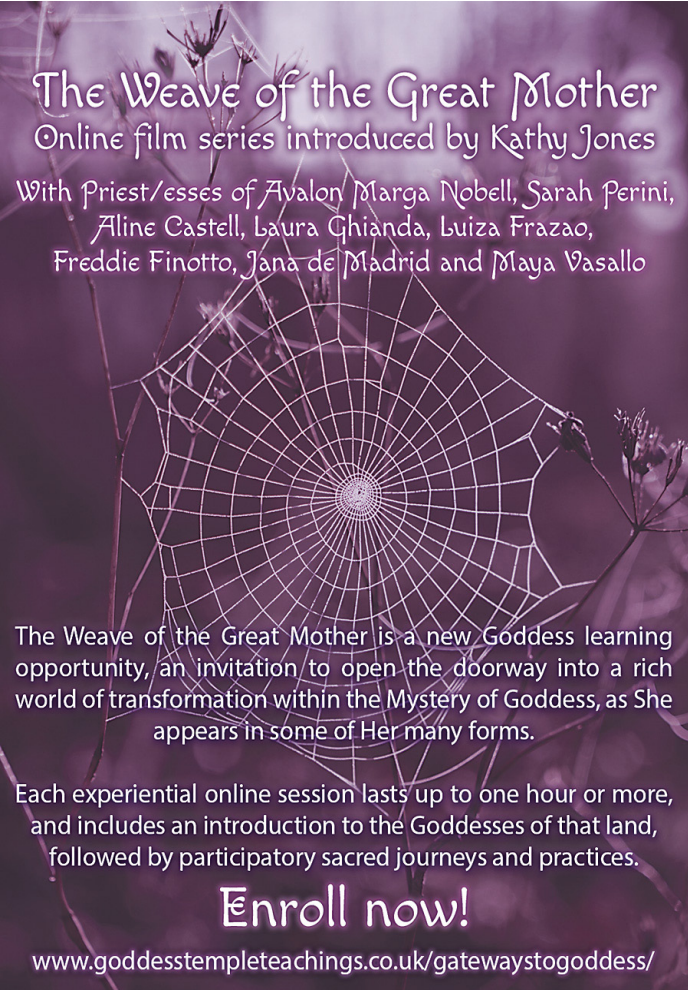
Mother, and what that truly means. We are also all children of Mother Earth. Our bodies are made from Her material substance, Her body, Her earth, water, fire, air and space. She in turn is made of Star Dust, which was formed long ago in the Womb of the Great Mother at the beginning of this Yoniverse."

I hope that this book will encourage all who read it to truly acknowledge the fundamental importance of mothers, of women and of Mother Earth in all our lives.

I will publicise the publication dates for both books via emails and Facebook and invite you to come to publication parties for each book, as soon as we have dates. Let me know if you want to know more. You will be able to find them on my website www.kathyjones.co.uk.

May the Lady fill your hearts with joy and great realisations.

With many blessings, Kathy Jones



The Weave of the Great Mother
Online film series introduced by Kathy Jones

With Priest/esses of Avalon Marga Nobell, Sarah Perini,
Aline Castell, Laura Ghianda, Luiza Frazao,
Freddie Finotto, Jana de Madrid and Maya Vasallo

The Weave of the Great Mother is a new Goddess learning opportunity, an invitation to open the doorway into a rich world of transformation within the Mystery of Goddess, as She appears in some of Her many forms.

Each experiential online session lasts up to one hour or more, and includes an introduction to the Goddesses of that land, followed by participatory sacred journeys and practices.

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www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk/gatewaystogoddess/

POETRY FOR THE EARTH MOTHER

Lover Nolava

*As we approach the time of the harvest,
enjoy this beautiful and evocative poem from Jan Alexander on the Earth Mother Goddess.*

A whisper on the wind.
As I stand skyward she calls me.
New blood coursing through my veins,
An anticipation of her energy, that will sharpen through my bones to my very soul.
The pull is strong.
To lie on a bed of forest leaves,
To drink deeply the perfume of flowers,
To be silent under a starlit sky,
To stand at the Tor at Solstice and know the promise of warmth.
To feel her essence filling every fibre of my being on the wind torn moor.
And, as the moon-hare gallops past he stops to look at me, and in that moment we share a knowing of her.
I bow my head to her, as the ancestors did, and I know that we are one.

Jan Alexander

WELCOME BACK TO GODDESS TEMPLE GIFTS!

Goddess Temple Gifts is our magical Goddess shop in the heart of Glastonbury. We are so happy to be open again and to greet people as they arrive in Glastonbury seeking Goddess.

We are now open every day and we are really happy to offer you unique and unusual items for your sacred spaces, for your ceremonial spaces and for your life. We have just so much gorgeousness to offer you so please come and see us in Glastonbury when you can. We are located in the Courtyard of the Glastonbury Experience opposite the Goddess Temple. Or you can visit us online at www.goddess temple gifts.co.uk or email us at sales@goddess temple gifts.co.uk... For all is kindness and compassion and all is alive and peaceful in Her love. *Susie Quatermass, manageress of Goddess Temple Gifts.*



The new painting of the Lady of Avalon in Her land by Jonathan Minshull, now on display in the Glastonbury Goddess Temple. We have A4 prints of this wonderful painting available now in Goddess Temple Gifts: visit us in store or online for more information!



Bringing Goddess Alive
in Her world

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