

Holy Nights 2021-22

“The Missing Element: The Human Being as Mediator between the World of Nature and the Stars”

— a talk by Mary Stewart Adams & 2 preparatory lecture readings —

Readings: Wednesday, Dec. 29 & Sunday, Jan. 2 – 7:30 pm

Talk: Wednesday, Jan. 5 – 7:30 pm

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



“If we honestly desire to attain a knowledge of the human being, we recognize that to this end we have to take the Heavens and the Earth for our province and discern the rhythm that beats between them.” —Rudolf Steiner (Lecture 3, *Planetary Spheres and their Influence on Man’s Life on Earth and in the Spiritual Worlds*, London 1922)

During the Holy Nights we experience the full inbreathing of the Earth’s forces into itself. At this season it is as though we bear the substance of the stars within our very being, which becomes our way of informing the Earth about the Heavens. Mary will use the four elements of fire, air, water, and earth in relation to the constellations of the zodiac to show how, as human beings, we carry a particular quality of each element into the seasons of the year.

Mary has suggested two lectures from *The Four Seasons and the Archangels* as preparation for her talk. Since we cannot gather in person, we will each read for ourselves at home, physically distant yet united in spirit.

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Please continue reading for details.

We will each read for ourselves at home, physically distant yet united in spirit:

Wednesday, December 29, 7:30 pm — “The Christmas Imagination” (Dornach, 6 October 1923, *The Four Seasons and the Archangels*). Available on the Rudolf Steiner Archive [here](#).

Sunday, January 2, 7:30 pm — “The Working Together of the Four Archangels” (Dornach, 13 October 1923, *The Four Seasons and the Archangels*). Available on the Rudolf Steiner Archive [here](#).

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Talk on Zoom by Mary Stewart Adams: Wednesday, Jan. 5, 7:30

**The Missing Element: The Human Being as Mediator
between the World of Nature and the Stars**

To receive the Zoom link for this talk, please email nfoster14thst@gmail.com.

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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.

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