

Holy Reconciling

2025

“Unless we start out with a feeling of awe and astonishment – with what is often called a sense of the *numinous* – we shall make little progress on the Way.”

Kallistos Ware



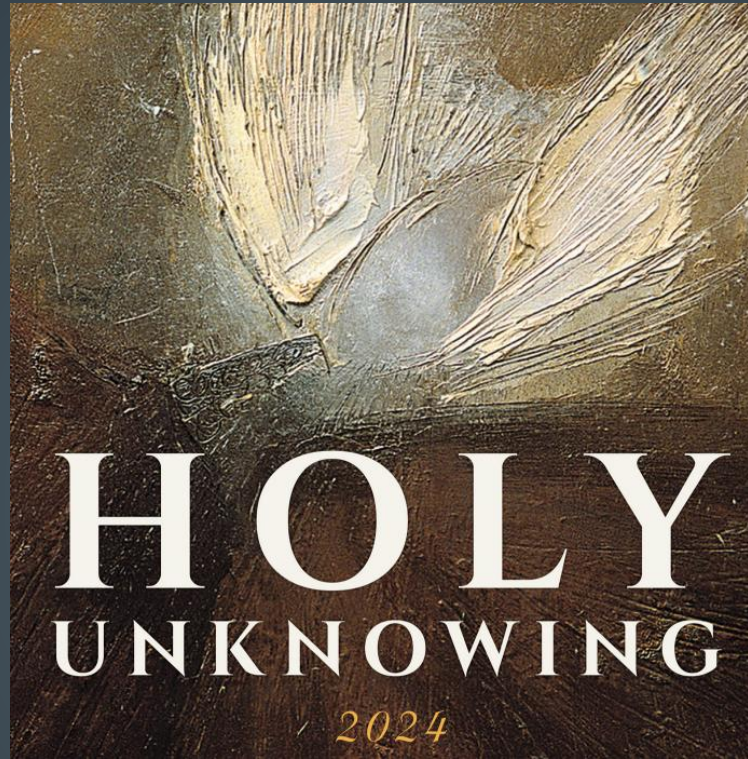
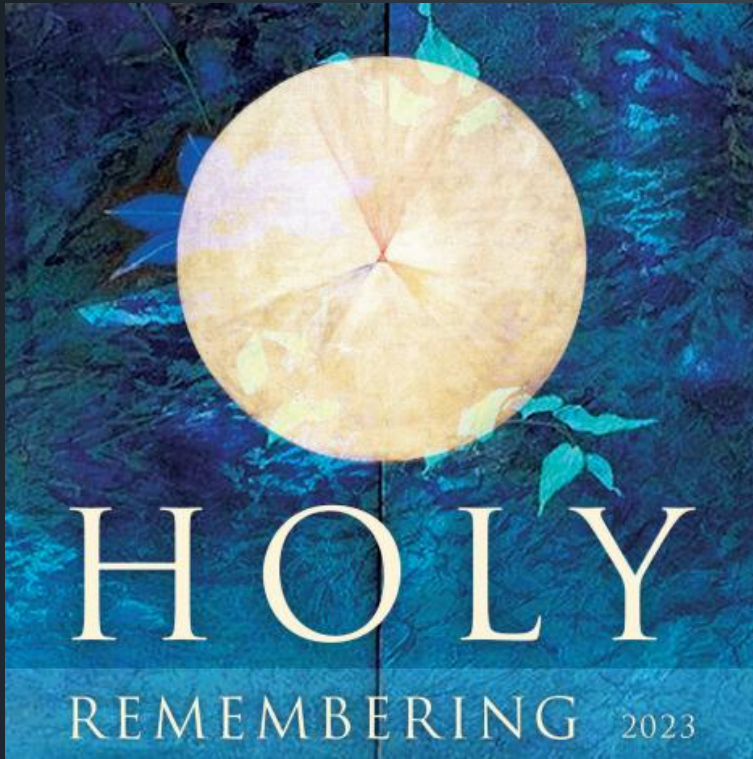
IN THE
BEGINNING...



And God said, "Let there be' ... and there was ..."

- Genesis 1:3

But what was prior to 'the beginning?'





The forces of manifestation...

First Force – Active – “Holy Affirming”



Second Force – Passive – “Holy Denying”



THE FORCES AND THE LAW OF THREE

Newton:

"For every action, there's an
equal and opposite reaction."

The action is First Force,
the reaction is Second Force.



Quick: Can you find 100 examples of Second Force in your life?



The forces of manifestation...

First Force – Active – “Holy Affirming”



Second Force – Passive – “Holy Denying”



There is a third thing between the opposites called variously Neutralizing Force, Connecting Force, Harmonizing Force, Relating Force, Reconciling Force, or simply Third Force....

Maurice Nicoll, *Commentaries*, Vol. 5, p. 1656

Third Force – Relating – “Holy Reconciling”



FORCES



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Maurice Nicoll, *Commentaries*, Vol. 5, p. 1656



FORCES

Could Third Force be a largely unexplored creative principle that governs ... well ... everything?

Could Third Force be actively used to mediate or neutralize the First Force - Second Force dynamic, and hence alter the manifestation or outcome of ... well ... everything?



You're First Force: you want to do or accomplish something.
Along comes Second Force, which by its nature opposes (or resists) First Force.

Now comes the BIG question: What Third Force relates these two for you? Here are some possibilities...

Fear	Anger	Desire to overcome
Desire to control	Curiosity	Love
Understanding	Desire to be right	Desire to go with the flow
Why me?	Sadness	Fatigue ("I've had it")
Gratitude	A Work Principle	Welcoming Prayer

EXAMPLE

A story from Cynthia



Note that what's fundamentally changing is your *inner context* relative to the situation. Our aim is *inner development*, not outer effectiveness.

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Desire to control	Curiosity	Love
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EXAMPLE



There *is* a third thing between the opposites....

Maurice Nicoll, *Commentaries*, Vol. 5, p. 1656



THE PROBLEM

The problem,
says the Work,
is that we're
Third Force Blind.



Our minds are wired for a linear, Newtonian cause-and-effect understanding of things.



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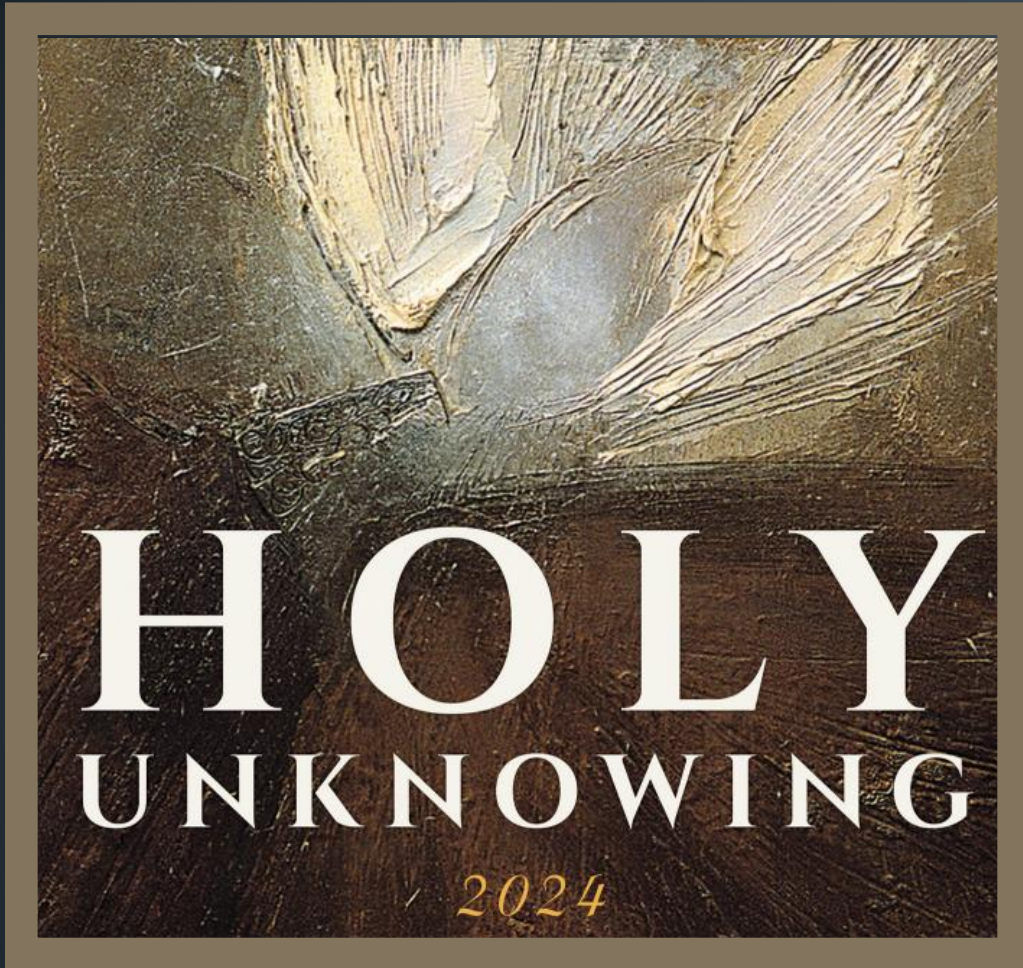
as...

Neutralizing

Connecting

Harmonizing

Relating



Consider the power of...

UNKNOWING

...as a

Reconciling force

When I'm sure I know...

- What he/she/they should do
- What is right and what is wrong
- How it should be

“A higher level of being lies immediately above all of us at this very moment. It does not lie in the future of time but in ourselves at this very moment, now. All work on oneself is concerned with a certain action that can take place in oneself at this moment - now. That is to say, the Work is about a certain transformation of the instant, of the moment, of the present....”

Maurice Nicoll
Commentaries, Vol. 1, p. 2



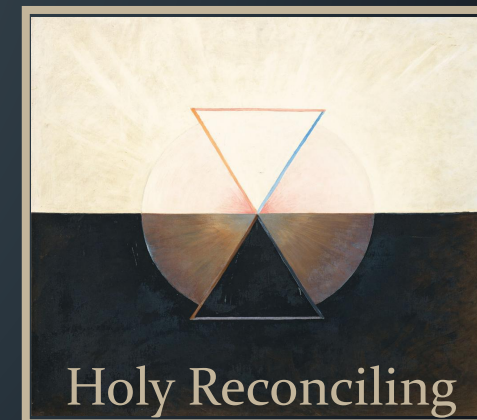


Let's be practical: Where am I stuck?

What could be reconciled?

- Relationships – with others
- Relationship – with God (*the **Mysterium tremendum et fascinans***)
- Relationship – with myself
- My conflicting beliefs or values
- My relationship with polarizing conditions

STUCKNESS





“To become conscious in Third Force is mercy and release.”

Maurice Nicoll

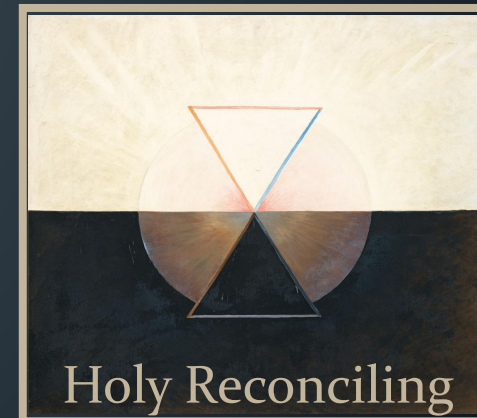
Commentaries, Vol. 5, p. 1656

MERCY

Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”

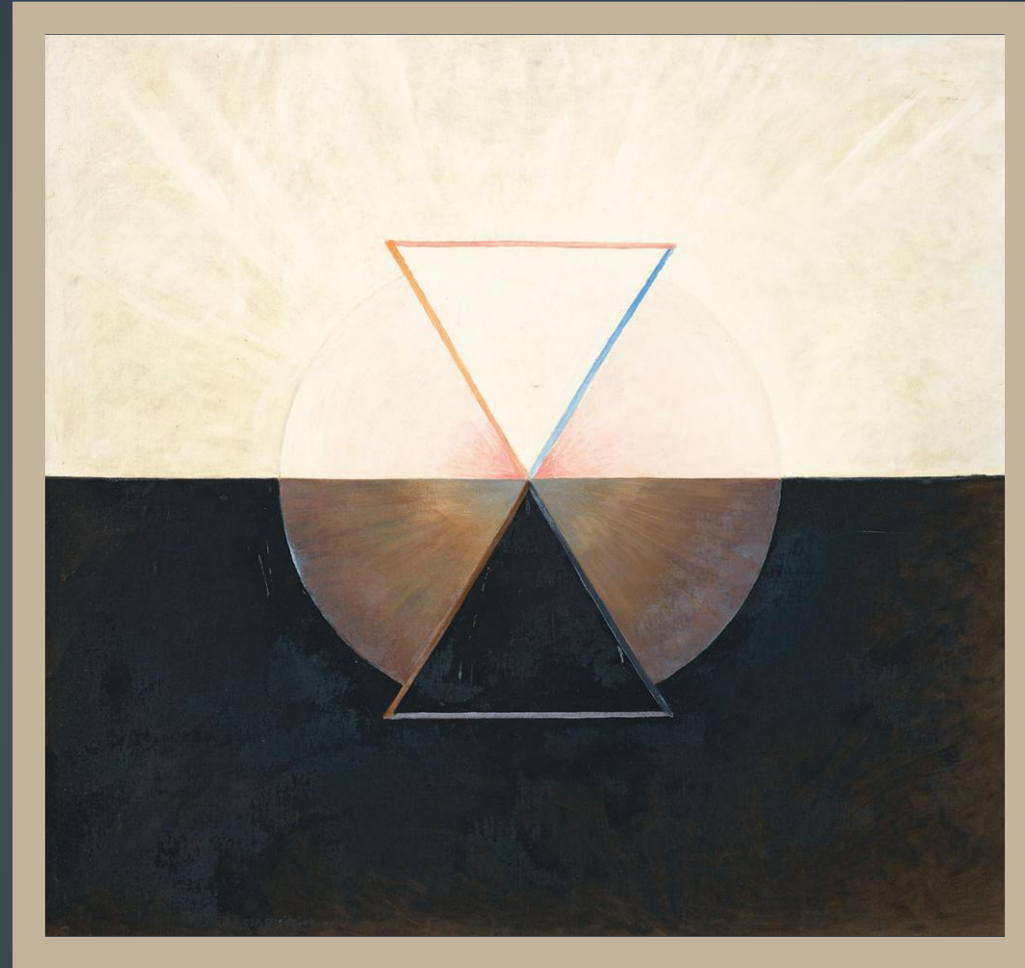
“Lord, I want to see,” he replied.

(Lk 18:40)





SETTING AIM



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