

# The Lord of the Rings and the Christ Mystery in the West



A Michaelmas  
Conference  
with Luigi Morelli

at The Christian Community  
366 Washington St. Brookline, MA

**October 5 & 6, 2019**

Please join us for talks, discussion, singing, services, community meals, and a deeper experience of this topic and each other. To preregister, email Veronica at [veronicaschlegelpt@gmail.com](mailto:veronicaschlegelpt@gmail.com)

Conference runs from 2 to 8 pm on Saturday, Oct 5 and 11 am to 2 pm on Sunday, Oct 6. More information at [thechristiancommunity.org/boston/](http://thechristiancommunity.org/boston/)

Donation: sliding scale - \$50 to \$200

# **The Lord of the Rings and the Christ Mystery in the West with Luigi Morelli**

A Michaelmas Conference at The Christian Community  
366 Washington St. Brookline, MA 02445  
October 5 and 6, 2019

Though Tolkien was an avowed Catholic, his imaginations and insights break free of dogma and cultural restrictions.

Tolkien was as much a scientist in his scholarly pursuits in philology as an author of fiction. In his *The Lord of the Rings* there is genuine spiritual insight into deeper dimensions and connections of existence. Science—as applied to an understanding of language, myth, and culture—is allied to art to create something that is larger than either.

Tolkien had a clear understanding of what the human being can receive from the life of dream (big dreams, mind you), visions, and artistic inspiration; he had a disciplined approach in working with all of these. Lastly, in at least one instance he carried a clear memory from a previous life.

One can read Tolkien's trilogy on many levels. At a deeper level there is unsuspected depth, a clever intricacy in the interlacing of events in chapters and books; amazing symmetries and connections; encompassing views of the ages of Middle-earth.

There is so much that Tolkien has allowed us to fathom about the nature of free will and fate; life and death; evil and its role in the shaping of the world; the initiation toward the spirit, as in the examples of Gandalf and Saruman; the nature of the spiritual world itself. And the whole of the trilogy points to the Christ Mystery of 2000 years ago and of the present.

— Luigi Morelli

## **Saturday, October 5, 2019**

2:00 pm - conference opening and group introductions

2:20 pm - artistic reading... helping us to enter the mood of Middle Earth

2:30 pm - lecture: **The Structure of *The Lord of the Rings* and the Progression in the Spiritual Worlds** (elemental, lower devachan, higher devachan)

3:30 pm - coffee/tea break

4:00 pm - lecture: ***The Lord of the Rings* and the Christ Mystery: Gandalf, Aragorn and Frodo. The Initiations of Gandalf and Saruman.**

5:00 pm - singing

5:30 pm - Dinner

6:30 pm - Conversation Cafe

8:00 pm (approximately) - short Close of Day service

## **Sunday, October 6, 2019**

11:00 am - Act of Consecration of Man

12:00 noon - potluck lunch

1:00 pm - lecture: **Tolkien - Biographical Themes:** turning points; Imagination, understanding of Christianity, living in the Word, spiritual experiences.

2:00 pm - conference ends

### **About the Conference Speaker:**

Luigi Morelli graduated with a Masters in Environmental Sciences in 1981 and met anthroposophy in 1982. He has a passion for social change from a cultural perspective, and has extensive experience working with the social therapeutic impulse in Camphill and in L'Arche communities. He presently carries these concerns further in Ecovillage Ithaca where he lives, with an emphasis on Non-Violent Communication and participatory facilitation, in which he has trained extensively. In his free time he gardens and hikes, or devotes time to music.

Luigi is the author of a number of books, including *Spiritual Turning Points of North American History*; *Hidden America: Spiritual Forces at the Birth of a Nation*; and *A Revolution of Hope: Spirituality, Cultural Renewal and Social Change*. Based on his thirty-year study of spiritual science, he approaches culture and history by imaginatively weaving scientific methodology with legends and myths. All of his work is done with the intent of finding the relationships between spiritual impulses, past and present, and Rudolf Steiner's legacy.

Luigi is currently writing a book entitled ***Tolkien, Mythology, Imagination and Spiritual Insight: The Enduring Power of The Lord of the Rings.***

### **To Register:**

Preregistering is preferred, as it helps us plan for meals, seating, etc. Please email Veronica at [veronicaschlegelpt@gmail.com](mailto:veronicaschlegelpt@gmail.com) to register.

### **Donation:**

sliding scale - \$50 to \$200