OUR SKY

ASTRONOMY OF LITTLE JOHN

Reading the “Writings” by Maria Valtorta (Little John) several important things discovered are described in the following serial. At the beginning there is a brief summary of astronomy, which may be very useful for those of you unfamiliar with astronomy.



Astronomy has nothing to do with astrology. It tries to explain the celestial phenomena as they occur. Every time we gaze upon the sky we ourselves are astronomers. When we look at the sky our eyes focus on the Sun and the Moon and the evermoving stars, and there comes the realization that time flows. Astronomy was born through the observation and the investigation of what happens in the sky. Our ancestors did some interesting discoveries, but thanks to instruments such as telescopes and spacecraft, we can now have a complete picture of the Universe.



The Sombrero Galaxy NCG4594 (M104) Hubblesite.org

If we were to look up to the sky and there was absolutely nothing, only the void space surrounding the Earth, we would certainly feel lost. We grew fond of being in the company of stars, the Moon, planets... As for the sun, while being itself a physical object, such as star, it is essential, mainly because it makes life possible with its light and its warmth. And yes, looking into the deep sky on a starry night, it's impossible not to feel so very small, compared to the vast magnitude of the universe. The unfolding of the cosmic grandeur leads our eyes to understand that there is an Infinite which fills us with His presence.
Jesus said to Little John that in the Universe "the Father is a bit tight" and that the same universe "is held together by Love".
In 1944 Karol Wojtyla (John Paul the II) wrote this following poem, almost at the same time when Maria Valtorta wrote the "Dictation":

Pieśń o słońcu niewyczerpanym (6)

Te biedne moje oczy, gdy stwarzałeś,
czerpiąc z toni w otwartą dłoń,
o tym wiecznym spojrzeniu myślałeś,
zachwyconym w niezmierna toń

i mówiłeś:
uniżę się, bracie,uniżę,
nie osamotnię nigdy twoich oczu,
naprzód ukryję się w krzyżu,
potem chlebem w dojrzałym zbożu.

Więc myślę:
dlatego tak się uniżasz,
by nie osamotnić w kosmosie
moich ramoin dalekich od krzyża
i mych oczu oddanych tęsknocie.

Song of the inexhaustible sun

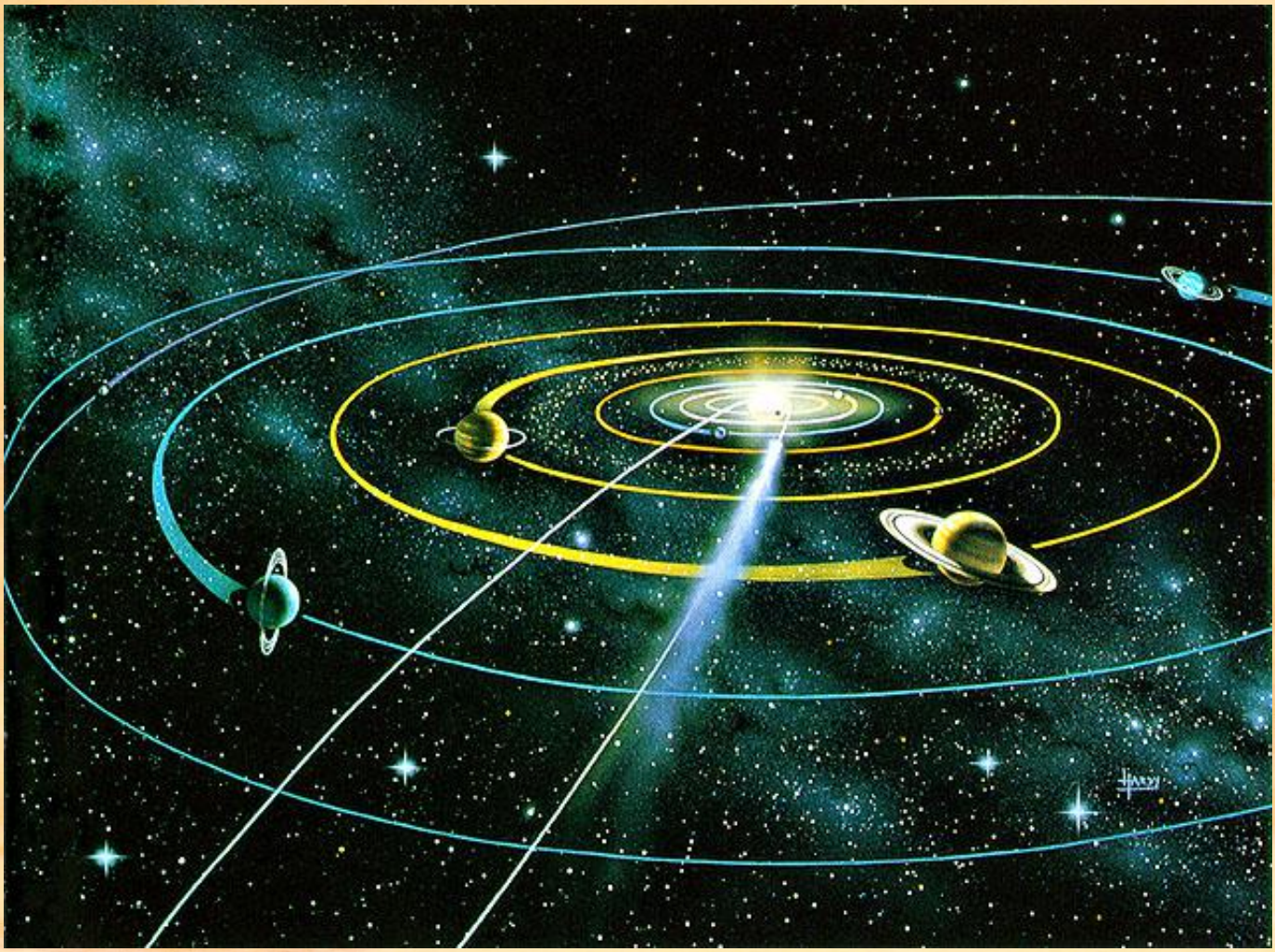
When You created these poor eyes of mine,
drawing them from the deep into your open hand,
You were thinking of that eternal gaze
enraptured by the endless deep

and You said:
I will lower myself, brother, and never
leave your eyes in solitude.
first I will hide in the cross,
then in the bread of ripe corn.

So I think:
You lower yourself so that my arms,
distanced from the cross.
should not be alone in the cosmos.
Nor my eyes, sunk in yearning.

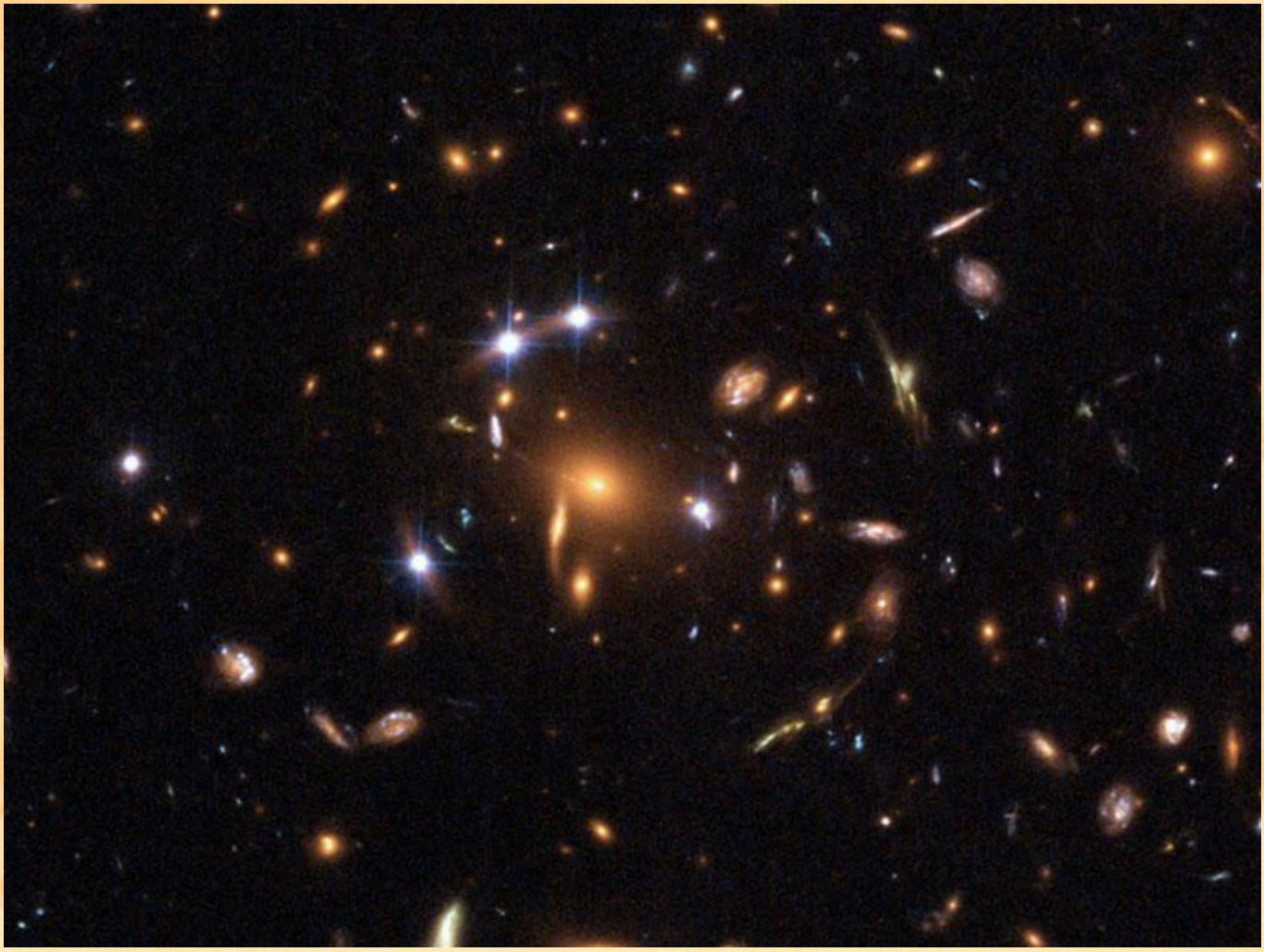
Celestial bodies

The universe consists of visible and invisible objects called celestial bodies, such as galaxies, nebulae, the radio sources, stars, planets, comets and so on. Among the biggest there are galaxies which are composed of billions of stars. Let us consider then, that a star can have its own planets that revolve around, just like in our Solar System. The galaxy in which the Solar System is located is the Milky Way. All the celestial bodies are not static in their position in space, but they follow certain paths called orbits and trajectories.



The forces in the space

A celestial body possesses its own force that, for example, is caused by an explosion due to a reaction, either chemical or nuclear. Now the celestial body has to try and find a balance that allows him to "live along", otherwise, it will crash towards another body, like in the game of pool. Another feature of the celestial bodies is that they interact with other entities according to the distance between them and the mass of which are composed. This magnetic attraction between celestial bodies is none other than gravity. Astrophysicists determined that the very origin of the universe was caused by what is called Big Bang, the initial instant of creation of the universe.



Temperature

One of the things we perceive with our senses is temperature. Temperature is a state and an important feature of the universe, something like an "expression" of matter. Sure enough, temperature is like a witness to what happens to the cosmic material in its various forms: solid, liquid, gaseous. Now, each temperature has a trace of a colour or frequency of vibration. Red stars are cooler than blue stars, and stars have a different composition along their entire life span.



Starry night

All of us definitely made some observations looking at the starry sky, seeing all those tiny little lights, as if we had set our eyes on a shell filled with pearls and diamonds:



Our galaxy, the Milky Way, formed by a spiral that remotely looks like a bright scarf around us observers. Then we have the constellations, like imaginary drawings, that show up out of connections among the brightest stars, and evoke objects, figures of animals and mythological characters. To give an example, we all remember when in kindergarten we used to pierce with a tip: nothing more than a more or less precise succession of holes in the cardboard, but altogether meaningful. Constellations are a good reference point for us amateur astronomers, because they help us to orient ourselves in the night sky in search of nearby celestial objects (by triangulation).

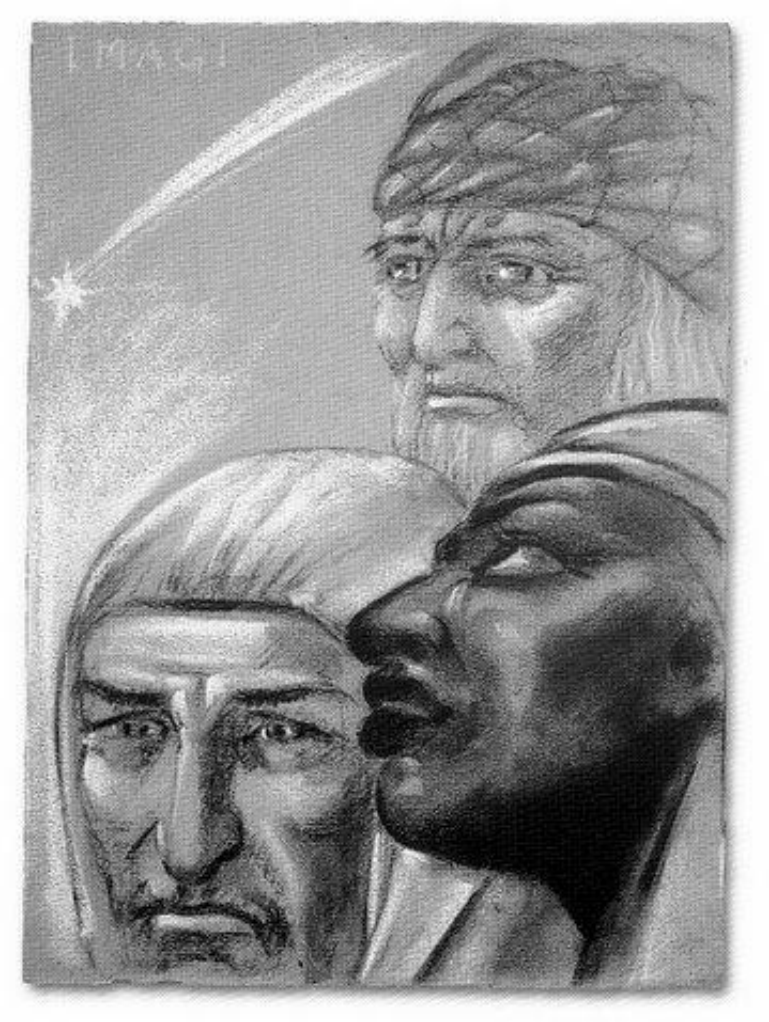
The Moon that our Lord wanted for us is the same apparent size of the Sun, and it is capable of causing earth tides, eclipses and even...blossoming love, for lovers that find it so romantic. The planets and satellites, like the Moon, do not shine on their own light, but reflect the light from nearby stars. Comets, passing through the solar system, are composed from material mixed with ice, that is then dispersed and enlightened as they pass by the Sun, forming the peculiar tail. Shooting stars are instead the same very dust of the (comets) released material that burns and creates a show by friction with the Earth atmosphere.



The comet Hale-Bopp photographed on Easter Day of 1997

The three Wise Men

"Gaspar, Melchior, Balthazar came to light in the world from three points of the Earth on the patient camel... African, Asian, Southern, ... ". In the Notebooks of 1943 [1074] Jesus confirms the names and the regions of the three Magi. We also have the contribution of L.Ferri with the drawings suggested by Little John (Pag.148 Valtorta and Ferri published by CEV).



The three Wise Men (Lorenzo Ferri)



Gaspar (Tree of Faith)



Melchior (Tree of Faith)



Balthazar (Tree of Faith)

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What the Little John has written of the Magi:

- The Magi were astronomers and they were able to do some research believing that the sky could tell something important about their own lives.

- The Magi were not Jewish and did not have direct knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. They examined the position of the stars deducting the coming of the Messiah.

- The Magi saw a star appearing, and named it 'Messiah'. This star led them to the place of birth of the Redeemer.

- They came to Bethlehem each on his own and from three different places escorted by their servants. Then the three Wise Men met and continued along the road to the unknown village of Bethlehem.

- After the worship of Jesus the Messiah, they fled to avoid the army of King Herod..

We know that King Herod was a savage and brutal man, and the Massacre of the Innocents was just one of his misdeeds. He had three son, three brothers-in-law, a wife, a mother-in-law and several hundreds of political opponents killed. A ruthless unscrupulous man.

Along with that, we also know other very significant facts, stated by Jesus on February 28, 1947. (The notebooks from 1945 to 1950, ed. CEV).

Regarding the number of Saints Innocents perished in the massacre, Jesus says:

"Their number is 320 of those of Bethlehem and the countryside. And even more specifically 188 of them were those of Bethlehem, while 132 of them were children killed in a wide-range in the campaigns by the messengers of Herod. Among those ones were killed also 64 young girls not identified by the assassins, who had killed in the darkness, in the confusion and anger as soon as possible, before others could intervene to end the slaughter".

(continues...)