



2023 April Celestial Timings

by Cayelin K Castell

Didn't get time to edit this so please forgive any errors!

Abundance is a dance with reciprocity - what we can give, what we can share, and what we receive in the process.

— Terry Tempest Williams —

True community is based on upon equality, mutuality, and reciprocity. It affirms the richness of individual diversity as well as the common human ties that bind us together.

— Pauli Murray —

Revisiting Reciprocity

March is my Birthday Month and in my later years I have been enjoying celebrating in bigger ways than in my younger years.

In 1985 when I was 29 years old, I had boy girl twins just two days after my birthday. This photo shows them at age 4 now 34 years ago. My oldest son was 2 and ½ so you can imagine I was a hyper busy Mom.

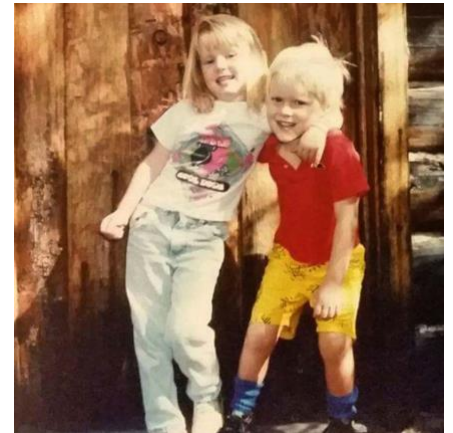
At the time, I figured my birthday wouldn't be a big deal for the next many years because I would be more focused on celebrating their birthday. I wasn't wrong about that and one of my great joys was witnessing my twins (and my other children as well) have a fun birthday experience celebrating there growing up years.

I did manage to create many magical ceremonial birthday moments when I learned to be more intentional. I have shared about some of them here.

<https://cayelincastell.com/ceremonial-solar-return-birthday-magic/>

Then about 17 years ago I decided I was ready to have a different kind of birthday experience. It took a few years to really get the hang of it with the help of my beloved partner who loves to say - my birthday is the Holy Day the rest of the world turns around and we have had some grand adventures.

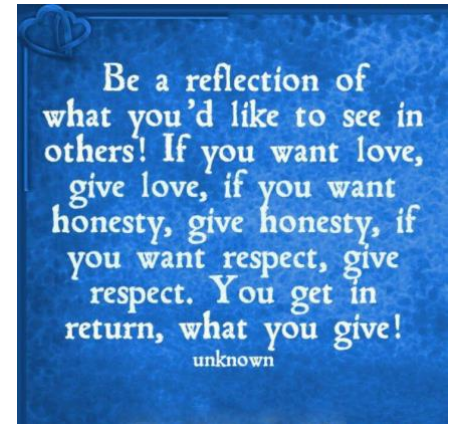
This year we were gifted a week in Sedona where I have spent past birthdays but it had been a few years. I am still marveling at all the magical synchronicities we got to experience.



One of the unexpected high magic moments for me was returning to Bell Rock and remembering how transformative it was to be there back in 1987 for the Harmonic Convergence when my twins were 2.5 and their older brother was 5. It is a story I will share more about in the future because though I didn't know it at the time, that experience was about to change my life in ways I had no idea were possible.

So I am celebrating the gift of reciprocity, the balance between giving and receiving having learned how to receive in greater balance with what I am giving.

Now...it feels like the universe is delighting in my delight as I find myself living a magical life that grows more magical all the time. YAY...



Stars worth noting in the Night Sky this Month

The constellation of the Virgin Priestess (a.k.a. Virgo) contains seven main stars. Of these seven main stars the most visible is Spica, meaning "spike of grain." Higher in the sky and off to the right of the Virgin Priestess is the constellation of the Lion. Prominent in the Lion's tale is the star Denebola marking the end of the tale. Gazing from Spica to the bright red star above it is the bear star known as Arcturus. These three bright stars Arcturus, Spica, and Denebola form a star group that has been called the Spring Triangle or the Virgo Triangle. The best time to view this triangle is April through June looking South Southeast Sunset.

See this link for in-depth article on the Spring Triangle.

http://www.space.com/spacewatch/070608_ns_spring_triangle.html

Lyrida Meteor shower peaks April 20-22. The waning Moon supports the viewing of this meteor shower under dark skies. These meteors are swift and bright disintegrating after hitting our atmosphere. They move at a moderate speed of 29.8 miles per second and are known to produce luminous trains of dust that can be observed for several seconds.

Reminder: All the events listed in the Celestial Timings have a minimum three day impact including the day before and the day after. In many cases, the planetary effects extend into weeks, months and even years. Noting the sign and degree of the aspects and planets helps you to know if these events are directly affecting your own natal chart. The Celestial Timings then are a great guide to sensing into how these energies affect us collectively and also when to pay extra close attention to the personal initiations we all go through.



All our life activities are structured by the day, month, year cycles but we forget that these cycles are founded on astronomical data used by astrologers since very ancient times. ~ Cycles of Becoming by Alexander Ruperti (available through Earthwalk School of Astrology <http://www.earthwalkastrology.com/>)

[The Sacred Hoop of Stars](#) (as they were known to the Lakota Sioux and other Plains Indians) are high in the sky after Sunset. This configuration of stars is what astronomer's sometimes call the 'winter hexagon' though the Sacred Hoop

includes the Pleiades on the outer edge rather than Aldebaran, the eye of the Bull. The top star of the Hoop this month is Capella and moving clockwise includes the Pleiades, Rigel, Sirius, and Procyon, and Pollux and Castor.

The Ecliptic (plane of the solar system and the path the planets travel) and the Milky Way (plane of the galaxy) intersect near the middle of this hoop of Stars forming a cross within a circle. The place of the intersection occurs at what is called the Galactic Edge, where we look out beyond our Galaxy. The center point of the cross is located between the feet of the Twins and the horns of the Bull. This intersection is the place in the sky where the summer solstice (0 degree Cancer) is currently located.

Orion and the Hyades are located inside the Sacred Hoop and are easily spotted this time of year. Interestingly, the Mayans perceived the sword of Orion as a sacred fire of creation inside a fire pit. Modern astronomers have discovered this is a place where new stars are being birthed!

Heaven's Gate is a configuration of Stars that form a great equilateral triangle with two stars that form the outer edge of the Sacred Hoop already mentioned and they are Sirius and Procyon. The third star is Betelgeuse marking the shoulder of Orion.

These stars were known as 'Heavens Gate' to Alaskan Shaman's and represent another version of an entry point or entrance into incarnation. Sacred Hoop Article <http://cayelincastell.com/the-sacred-hoop-of-stars/>

Another stellar triangle is also becoming more visible this month rising later in the evening marking the tail of the Lion and featuring the bright star Denebola, 43 light years away.

Celestial Timings for April 2023

all times are PDT unless otherwise specified

April 01, Saturday. All Fool's Day. The genesis of our current understanding of April Fool's Day grew out of the 1582 change in the calendar instituted by Pope Gregory shifting New Year's Day from April 1 to January 1. News traveled slowly in those days and for various reasons many continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April First.

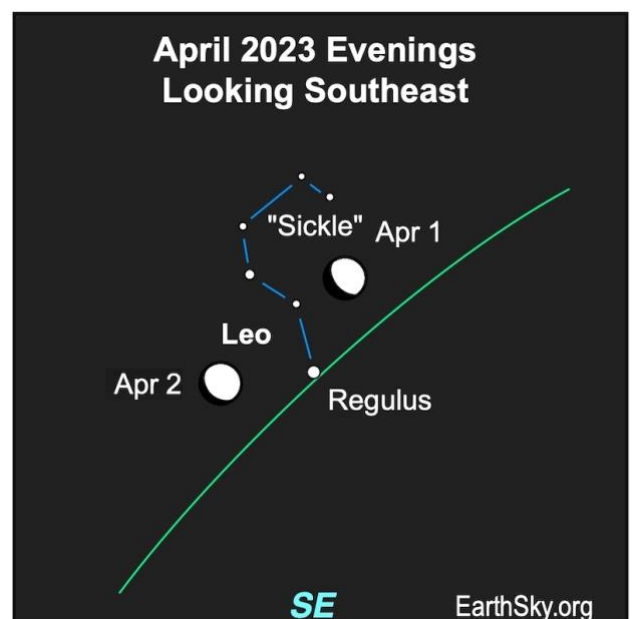


Those who continued to celebrate New Year's in April became known as April Fools and was a way to pressure individuals into conforming to a calendar that was designed to focus awareness on physical evidence and promote materialism and commerce.

It has been highly successful not only in focusing consciousness on materialism but also in disconnecting us from the magical world including the natural cycles of the Earth and Sky.

This is a time to remember our magical connection between the Earth and Sky and the natural cycles in ways that enhance our intuitive knowing and consciousness connection to Great Mystery.

April 02, Sunday. The Moon enters Virgo at 3:37 am and passes Regulus (00°Virgo 04') the heart star of the Lion linked with the hall of records we carry in our own DNA. What are the hidden messages the Moon is transmitting now to support our journey through life?



April 03, Monday. Mercury enters Taurus at 9:22 am PDT <https://cayelincastell.com/mercury-in-taurus/>

This is energizing the mysteries of personal intimacy, sacred pleasure and the art of authentic receivership. All of these mysteries have been severely wounded by the current cultural beliefs that train us to believe intimacy is scary, pleasure is a sin and giving is more blessed than receiving.

One of the quickest ways to reverse these misconceptions is to practice daily, moment by moment, Gratitude. Truly Gratitude is one of the primary keys designed to raise our vibration and support a genuine experience of fully savoring and enjoying life. Here are some thoughts on gratitude to further inspire your own experience of this highly transformative vibratory energy.

Gratefulness is the key to a happy life that we hold in our hands, because if we are not grateful, then no matter how much we have we will not be happy -- because we will always want to have something else or something more. ~ Brother David Steindl-Rast

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others. ~Cicero

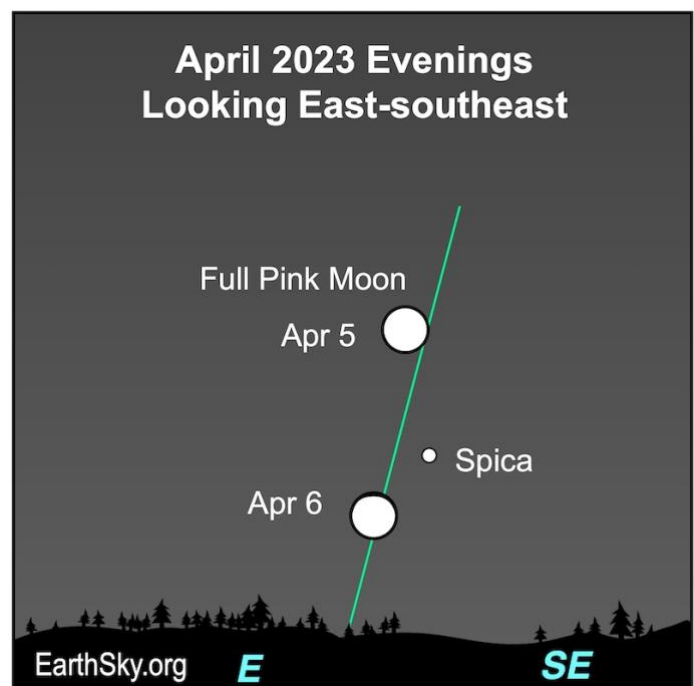
Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude. ~Denis Waitley

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~ John F. Kennedy

April 04, Tuesday. Moon enters Libra at 2:51 pm as we enter the Full Moon window highlighting the mysteries of cooperative, collaborative and co-creative relationships reminding us we can accomplish far more together than on our own.

April 05/6, Wednesday/Thursday. This Libra Full Moon features Sun conjunct Chiron is an ongoing theme where the Aries/Libra wounds of the past are being illuminated for powerful healing around the mysteries of relational awareness with ourselves, others and the planet. Co-creative relationships enhance the energy and creativity of those involved be it one on one or a group inspired relationship experience.

We were not designed to be loners but rather to co-creatively relate to each other and all of life. Now is a great time to assess how you are doing with all of your relationships and what areas are ready for improvement?



April 07, Friday. Good Friday. For many Catholics and Christians around the world this begins the Easter with Easter Sunday on April 09 is the celebration of his Resurrection. Good Friday and Easter Sunday have been celebrated as the two feasts of the Pasch; the *Pascha staurosimon* (the passage to death), and the *Pascha anastasimon* (the passage to life – as in the Resurrection). Any Friday is considered a Holy Day.

Good Friday is the holy of holy Fridays and there are those who believe that the expression Good Friday *Good* came from the historical reference that it is "God's Friday." These Feast Days, or Holy Days, commemorate aspects of Great Mystery or the Sacred Mysteries depending on the cultural traditions in ways that are intended to inspire greater commitment to a spiritual life.

The waning Full Moon entered Scorpio either late last night or early this morning depending on your time Zone. Scorpio features the mysteries of death, rebirth and edgewalking. The concept of edgewalking is often scary and takes us out of our comfort zones.

Some willingly walk the edges of life while others only do so when forced by circumstances. In these times it can be most helpful to be willing to walk the edges of the old and the new ways, bridging what has been with what is emerging. Embracing the mysteries of death, trusting there is always a rebirth emerging out of what has been – this is edgewalking - pushing beyond known edges into unexplored territory where new life and growth occur.

<https://cayelincastell.com/edgewalking-scorpio/>

April 08, Saturday. Easter Sunday is tomorrow.

<https://cayelincastell.com/easter-and-eostare/>

And a great time to revisit this parable by Neale Donald Walsh on Forgiveness.

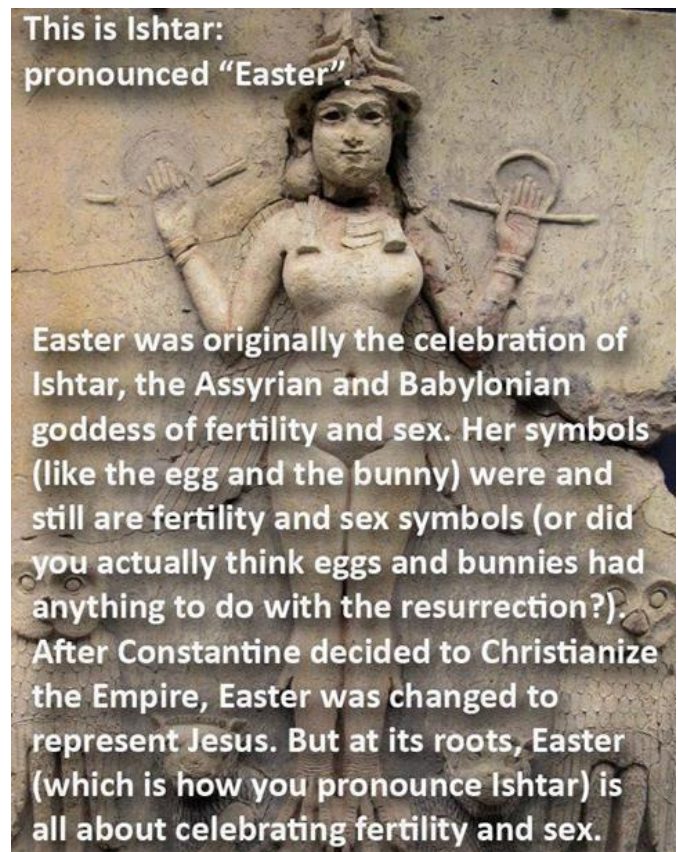
<http://www.sapphyr.net/largegems/littlesoul-thesun.htm>

April 09, Sunday. Easter Sunday. The Moon enters Sagittarius at 5:57 am PDT energizing the spiritual quest for truth. Not humanity's made up truth but the divine truth, the unchanging pure essence of truth. What do you believe is true today that you did not believe was true a few years ago? Is what you believe really true or only true because you believe it?

April 10, Monday. Venus enters Gemini at 9:47 pm PDT as the Divine Feminine is reclaiming her ability to love herself in healthy, creative and fun ways.

April 11, Tuesday. Sun conjunct Jupiter at 3:07 pm PDT.

Aries is a Solar energy committed to restoring (when needed) upholding and protecting the cosmic order.



The Sun with Jupiter is an entrance point for writing new stories about the Solar Heroes and Heroines who have entered this dimension for a specific mission or purpose further activating the latent light codes of awakening that support the successful fulfillment of our divinely ordained mission or purpose.

One way to participate with this activation is to greet the Sun as it rises, or passes overhead, or sets, with the intent that this is aligning you with the Divine light frequencies that are yours to express and these light frequencies are filling you with a deeper understanding of your mission or purpose.

April 12, Wednesday. Today begins the Capricorn Last Quarter Moon window exact at 2:11 am PDT tomorrow morning. (23° Capricorn) This is a time to consider how effectively you are engaging your personal domain of life? How do you contribute to the health and well-being of your personal and collective environment? Are you doing engaging in healthy earth sustaining practices? Do you take cloth bags to the grocery store? Are you buying locally grown food whenever possible? Are you wisely using water? Do you waste it by leaving the faucet running when you brush your teeth or wipe off the counters? Do you turn off lights when you are not in a room? Do you walk or bike whenever possible?

April 13, Thursday. The Last Quarter Moon enters Aquarius and connects with Pluto in Aquarius further illuminating the possibilities of releasing old outmoded ways of perceiving this reality that have limited our perspective on what is really real.

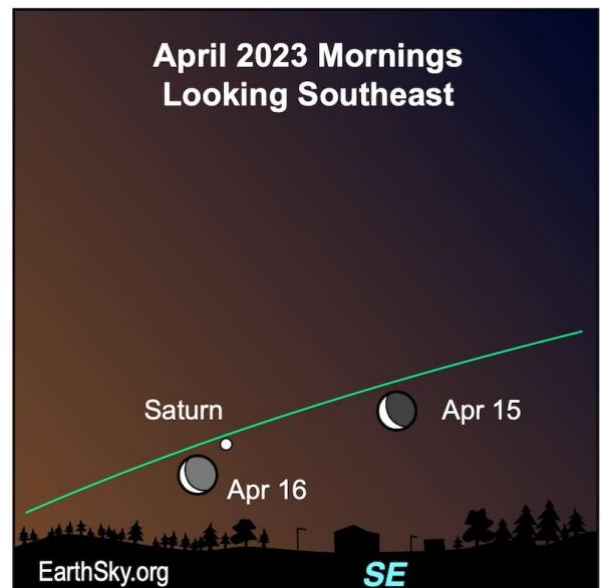
April 14, Friday. Venus in Gemini is Square Saturn in Pisces.

April 15, Saturday. Moon passes Neptune and then enters Pisces and catches up to Saturn

April 16, Sunday.

April 17, Monday. Moon enters Aries

April 18, Tuesday. Moon catches up to Chiron and Jupiter further energizing the massive healing opportunities for us personally and collectively restoring justice within and without.



Here is a great reminder of a more just approach that occurred in 2013 when Pope Francis was quoted in New Yorker magazine.

Who am I to judge?" With those five words, spoken in late July in reply to a reporter's question about the status of gay priests in the Church, Pope Francis stepped away from the disapproving tone, the explicit moralizing typical of Popes and bishops.

*This gesture of openness, which startled the Catholic world, would prove not to be an isolated event. In a series of interviews and speeches in the first few months after his election, in March, the Pope unilaterally declared a kind of truce in the culture wars that have divided the Vatican and much of the world. **Repeatedly, he argued that the Church's purpose was more to proclaim God's merciful love for all people than to condemn sinners for having fallen short of strictures, especially those having to do with gender and sexual orientation.*** [From the New Yorker](https://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/28/us/politics/pope-francis-who-am-i-to-judge.html)

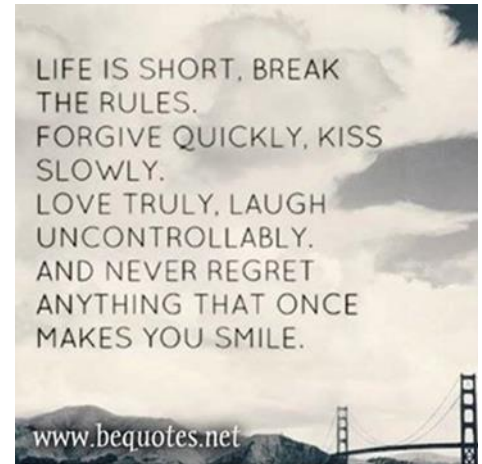
April 19, Wednesday. New Moon Total Solar Eclipse 29°Aries 50 is exact at 9:13 pm PDT so not visible in this part of the world. More about this eclipse here <https://cayelincastell.com/solar-eclipses-new-timeline/>

April 20, Thursday. The Sun enters Taurus and then squares Pluto at 1:14 am PDT. Whenever the Sun squares Pluto it signals the slowing of Pluto's progress through the sky just before its retrograde station. In this case Pluto stations retrograde on May 1 for the first time in Aquarius.

The Sun is further illuminating any fear and shadow places that are operating from limited points of view. These shadow elements include limiting beliefs about who we are, our forgotten and/or denied talents, abilities and skills, our buried feelings, and our unconscious wounds especially around relationship with self and others.

For those with planets or angles between 27° Capricorn and 1° Aquarius in the Cardinal signs (Capricorn, Cancer, Aries, Libra) or Fixed Signs (Aquarius, Taurus, Leo, Scorpio) you are on the leading edge of this Pluto initiation suggesting it is time to die to who you believe yourself to be and open to an empowered rebirth. Surrendering your attachments and letting go of the old forms is a powerful way to engage the Pluto initiatory process.

When we are willing to turn toward what we fear and integrate it in our life we are no longer driven by it. When we are no longer driven by fear - it loses its power to choose where we are going. We shift our experience from being at the effect of what we fear and being driven by that fear to incorporating the fear in such a way that it becomes our strength, our gift, the medicine we carry. Willingness to engage your shadow including any fears, or ideas, or beliefs, or things you are hanging onto, releasing whatever is ready to leave your life, supports the empowering process Pluto initiations intend for us.

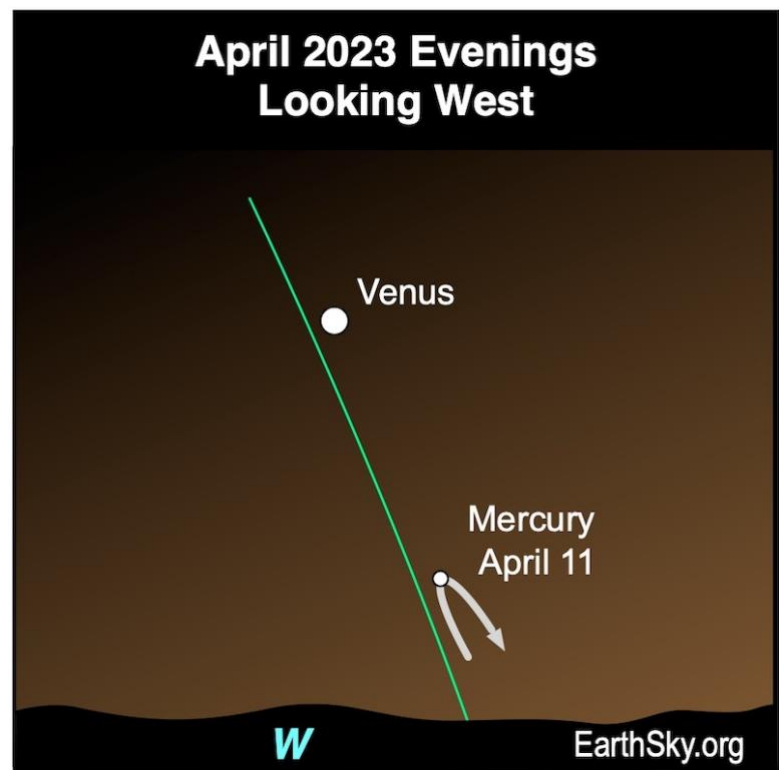


April 21, Friday. Mercury (15°Taurus 37' Stations Retrograde at 1:35 am and stations direct at 5°Taurus on May 14. <https://cayelincastell.com/mercury-in-taurus/>

Mercury is taking us into a deeper dive around the mysteries of sacred pleasure. In *The Charge of the Goddess* found in Starhawk's book *The Spiral Dance* the Goddess tell us: *All acts of love and pleasure are my rituals.*

This references a time when sacred pleasure was valued as a highly spiritual experience. 6500 years ago as the matriarchy was ending and the patriarchy was beginning many of the ceremonial traditions were overturned in favor of religious concepts designed to remove people from a direct spiritual connection with the Divine so they could be more easily controlled.

This began the erosion of the understanding and experience of sexuality and pleasure as important expressions, creating instead a belief that that these things were evil. This was when pain and suffering became the primary sacrament.



Along with this the major religions also carry with them threats of even greater pain (i.e. burning in the fires of hell for all eternity) if you sin (or break the rules). Again this has proven to be an effective fear-based control program.

Thankfully humanity is waking up to these deceptions. As Mercury moves more deeply into these mysteries it is a time for noticing how pleasure enhances your life. Do you allow yourself to enjoy the pleasure of life as one of the highest most sacred experiences we humans can have??? Are you willing to return to the Garden of Earthly delight as your divine heritage by embracing the gifts of sacred pleasure?

April 22, Saturday. Earth Day. Peak of the Lyrids Meteor Shower (see intro).

April 23, Sunday. Moon conjunct Venus in Gemini at the Throat Chakra Gate

April 24, Monday. The Moon moves into Cancer crossing the Galactic Edge at the center of the Sacred Hoop or the Great Shining Circle in the sky. The Moon is transmitting the refined light codes that are coming in from beyond our Galaxy. This is a time when we have an opportunity to receive an inter-galactic download that is creating a whole new vibrational frequency.

April 25, Tuesday. Moon passes Mars.

April 26, Wednesday. The Moon passes Pollux (23° Cancer 27') exiting the Sacred Hoop of stars.

More about the Sacred Hoop <http://cayelincastell.com/the-sacred-hoop-of-stars/>

April 27, Thursday. The First Quarter Moon in Leo is with the Beehive. <https://cayelincastell.com/the-beehive-cluster/> This is emphasizing the mysteries of healthy self-love. When we love ourselves in a healthy way it means we can more effectively shine the divine light of who we are changing the collective vibration, thus changing the world.

April 28, Friday.

April 29, Saturday. Moon enters Virgo and passes Regulus. See April 1 and 2.

April 30, Sunday. Sun is about to conjunct Retrograde Mercury in Taurus exact May 1 at 4:28 pm and Pluto Stations retrograde.

Stay tuned for the May Timings...

