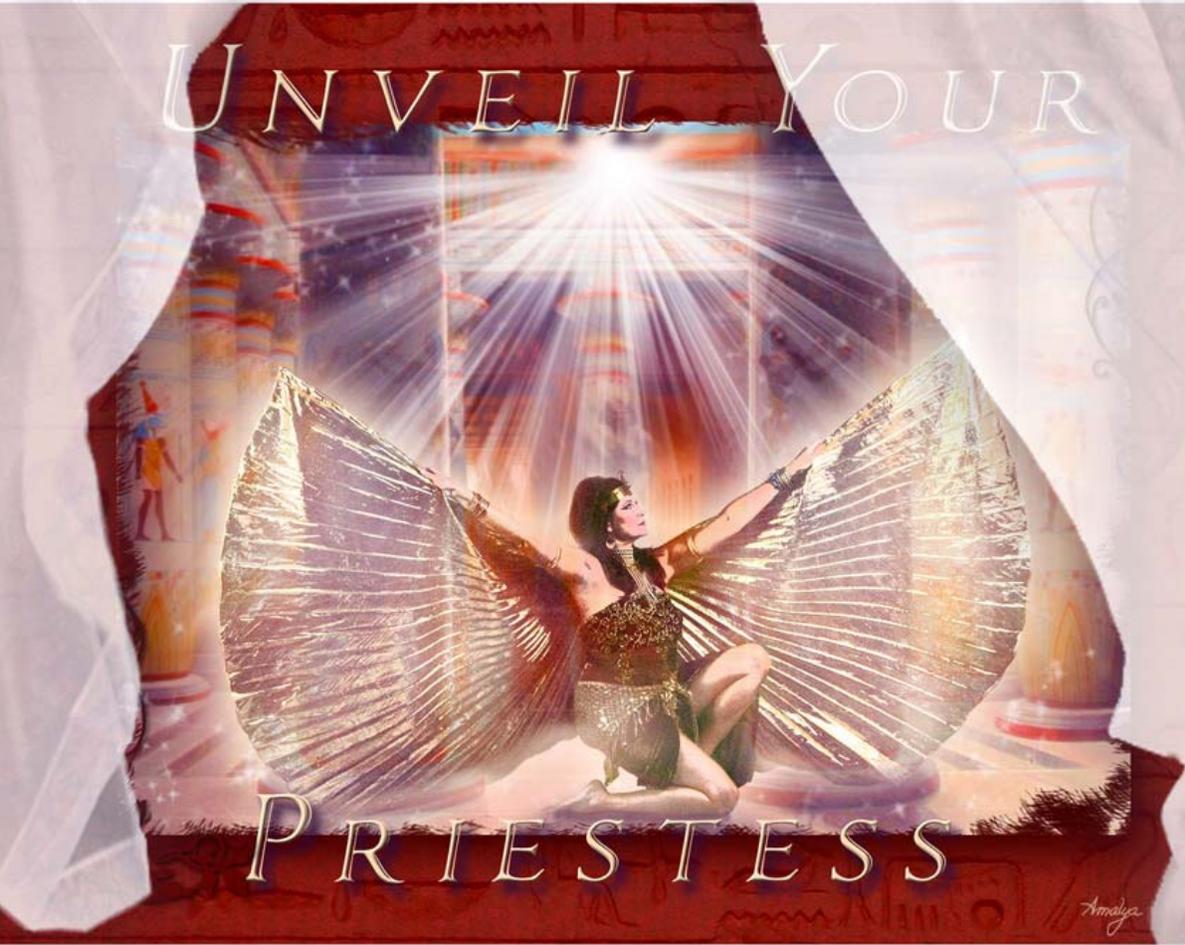


*The Goddess Studio of Escondido
Presents
"First Veil Priestess Path"*

UNVEIL YOUR



PRIESTESS



*A Full Year, in person,
Priestess Training Program
2022-2023*



***** COURSE SYLLABUS *****



The Goddess Studio of Escondido, CA *Presents the “Hive Three”*
“First Veil Priestess Path” 2022-2023
A full year, in person, Priestess Training Program for Women
(Beginning Jan 23, 2022 through Feb 12, 2023)

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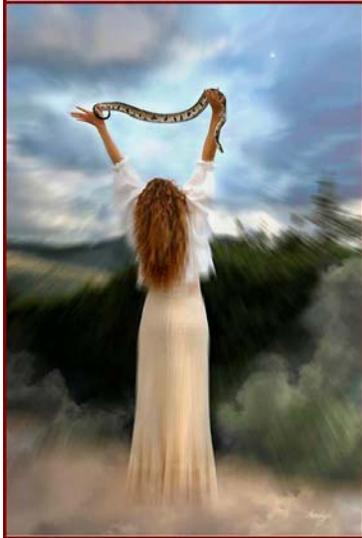
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1) INTRODUCTION:



Do you yearn to learn more about Women's Spirituality? Are you being called to make a deeper commitment to your spiritual path as it relates to the Sacred Feminine? Do you want to clarify and formalize a path of service dedicated to the Divine "SHE" and become Her visible advocate, activist, or "minister" (aka PRIESTESS) in the world?

Do you intend to be a facilitator/officiant of women's circles, ceremony and rites of passage? Are you wishing for a clearer connection to the Divine Mother in one or all of her forms? Do you desire to be a wiser Grandmother, Mother, Daughter, sister or friend? Do you want to empower your uniquely female creative, artistic, intuitive, or healing abilities?

Do you want to understand your uniquely female life experiences in the context of the Sacred, and experience greater Self love? What does it mean to be a Priestess of The Goddess today?

If these questions resonate in your heart, I invite you to join in a unique circle of women and journey together along this path of unveiling our sacred gifts, talents and transformative visions that we, as women, have to offer the world! I have designed this Priestess Training program to edify you with a broad overview about the ideal of the Sacred Feminine and the legacy of Goddess mythology, as well as to encourage a deeper understanding of your own spiritual path as a woman and to offer you tools for ritual and personal growth. This program incorporates wisdom from diverse spiritualities including, but not limited to, WICCAN, PAGAN, Shamanic, Woman's spirituality and other metaphysical teachings.

Over the course of the year we will gather together at the private Goddess Studio of Escondido, CA as we study the ancient Herstories and myths of Global Goddesses, learn about Sacred Space and ritual, review "tools of the trade", heal our wounds, reclaim our heritage and reinvent our future roles as women in service to the Sacred Feminine.

Classes will involve learning through a combination of professional workshops, lectures and experiential processes facilitated by Rev. Priestess Amalya (Amy Peck M.A.) and Priestesses of the Goddess Studio. We also plan to have well-known guest presenters possibly including, but not limited to, scholars such as Rev. Dr. Karen Tate, Max Dashu, and Dr. Linda Savage; plus ceremonialist/psychic Rev. Judith Laxer; artist & scholar Constance Tippet; astrologer Simone Butler, and drummer Miranda Rondeau. *(NOTE: At the time of preparing this syllabus, the presenters are still being determined and thus are subject to change. Due to pandemic uncertainties, it is taking longer than usual to confirm with everyone and work out whether presentations can be in person or virtual. Thank you for your patience.)* Learning participation will include videos, Power Point slide shows, group discussions, reading/research, journaling, ceremony, crafting, and yes, a little bit of homework too!

Topics will include subjects such as: Overview of Goddesses of the World; Wheel of the Year/Sabbats & Elements; Creating Sacred Space & Designing Ceremony; Blood Mysteries & Rites of Passage; Sacred Sexuality; Loss of the Goddess; Finding the wisdom in our wounds; Tools & Crafts of the Priestess and Magic and Manifestation! (See full course outline below.)

You will learn not only "Theology" of the Goddess and the concept of the Wheel of the Year, but practical skills as well such as designing a ritual, calling in the directions/elements, holding space, crafting altars, how to present yourself as a leader and Priestess, how to sanctify and bless, and methods for manifesting your intent. Plus you will also be introduced to drumming techniques and a few oracular methods. In addition you will enjoy experiential processes involving group ritual, meditation, dancing, chanting, and healing art expressions. Most importantly, you will experience a sacred sisterhood of like minded women.

The training culminates with a final initiation as a "Priestess of the Sacred Feminine ~ First Veil". Additionally, you will be given an option to take one further step to receive Ordination by making a vow of Ministry to authorize you to be regarded as a spiritual officiant or Minister and receive the title *Reverend*-Priestess.

2) COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS: Time, Effort & Tuition

This year long program will consist of at least 18 SUNDAY gatherings, several short research/class group assignments, homework, and a final presentation. Yes, this is a big commitment, but it is one that will serve you well whatever your life's journey may be, for when you set your intent, magic happens!

A) TIME COMMITMENT: This year long program will consist of at least 18 Sundays with required meetings in person as follows:

- ❖ 13 CLASSES: 6-hour classes (One Sunday a month from 9:30-3:30. BYO lunch. We will have a 45 min-1hr lunch break.) PLUS,
- ❖ 4 SABBAT CEREMONIES (Also on Sundays): participation in minimum of four of the eight Sabbat Ceremonies, (1-2 Sabbats you will co-plan & present). PLUS,
- ❖ 1 FINAL INITIATION CEREMONY: The training culminates with a final initiation, if you have met course requirements, as a "*Priestess of the Sacred Feminine ~ First Veil*".
- ❖ 1 other optional day may be added for possible additional "Ordination" ceremony that would be open to family and friends. See additional discussion in the "Q & A" below. (Some additional nominal fees may apply.)

B) EFFORT COMMITMENT / PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: In order to qualify to receive the final Initiation as “Priestess of the Sacred Feminine ~ First Veil” and to receive the final certificate of program completion, all these class requirements must be met: including...

1. Attendance in person: of at least 11 of the 13 classes, and 4 Sabbats, & Initiation day.
2. Completion of 2 class project contributions: (Resource Review & a Goddess Gallery page)
3. Co-plan/present 1 or 2* of the Sabbats (*this will depend on the number of students)
4. Final Project of your choosing: something that you will research, or write or create, or offer and then present as a final project in a 15 minute presentation at our last class.
5. Misc homework assignments (various writings/poems/pictures of art, etc) will be shared in class.
6. Tuition payment in full by Sept 2022 class.

C) TUITION COMMITMENT: Total cost for all 13 instruction classes + Initiation Day is \$1,200**.

Note: Meeting all the time requirements will be equal to a value of about 90-100 hours of instruction and experience.

- **Payment due in 3 installments as follows:** \$400 initial deposit due by December 31, 2021 with the application; + 2nd installment of \$400 due by May 2022 class; and final installment of \$400 due by the Sept 2022 class. See Application Form for further payment instructions.
- If you are fully committed but financially challenged, please talk to Amalya regarding options.
- **CLASS SIZE LIMITS:** To make the program viable we need a MINIMUM of 8 students. If we don't meet the minimum requirement, I will have to postpone the program and you will be refunded. Conversely, the maximum number of students is limited to 18, at which time I will close the enrollment. Thus, thank you for enrolling sooner than later!
- ****IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE:** *There are no refunds for missed classes, or for leaving the program.** However, if part or all of the program is cancelled by Amalya due to failure to fill, or to an emergency situation with Amalya or the Goddess Studio, Amalya will refund your money for cancelled classes. Thank you for understanding that once the Priestess Training process has begun, tuition payment is required for the entire program regardless of attendance. This energetically ensures integrity to yourself, the facilitators and the circle. If you choose to withdraw from the program before completion, you are honor-bound to responsibly pay the remaining full balance of the tuition. Thank you for honoring your commitment in integrity.*

3) SUMMARY OF CLASS TOPICS:

(Note: This is a general outline—Order of Topics, dates, and presenters are subject to change.)

- CLASS 1. -- INTRODUCTION: “Remember the Goddess”:** Welcome & Orientation; Introductions of each of us & logistical overview of class structure/ethics/expectations; and FB group setup. **CLASS TOPICS:** What is the Sacred Feminine, who are the Goddesses, review the Herstorical and archeological timeline of the Goddess Millennium--the Age of the Goddess and matrifocal societies. Entering the Labyrinth: First steps of the Priestess Path.
- CLASS 2. -- Sabbats & Wheel of the Year:** Explore early community seasonal (Sabbat) celebrations that honored earth's cycles and the re-appropriation of those Holy Days by patriarchal religions. Discuss different systems of WHEELS of the Year from Celtic traditions, Native American and Wheel of Place, and Amalya's unique “Training Wheel”. Additionally: Introduction to Amalya's Ritual “Agenda/Outline” Template for designing Sabbat rituals.
- CLASS 3.-- Elements & Directions, & Pentagram:** Discuss the significance of the cardinal directions (N, E, S, W, & Center) and the fundamental "Elements"-- Earth, Air, Fire, Water, Ether/Spirit & the symbol of the Pentagram. Meet the Elementals: Gnomes, Undines, Sylphs, & Salamanders. Experiential process of communing with the Elements outdoors. Invoking & calling in the Directions/Elements & casting a circle.
- CLASS 4.-- Tools and CRAFTS of the Priestess:** “HOW” do we connect more deeply to our inner divinity and wisdom? What are the tools and crafts that a Priestess can use to assist in channeling divine or oracular wisdom, inspiration and healing? In particular we will discuss meditation, drumming, chanting and movement and some of the arts of divination like Tarot. Also review of traditional tools of WICCAN practitioners such as the wand, athame, chalice, oracle cards, etc. (Possible **Guest Presenter: Rev Judith Laxer** on chanting + developing our oracular skills. And Pannthera on Tarot.)
- CLASS 5. -- Goddesses of the World.** Explore Archetypes of Goddess and Priestess, and Maiden/Lover/Mother/Queen/Crone. Discuss the roles of ancient Priestesses and of paths of Priestesses today. (**Guest Presenter: Max Dashu** -- Possible topic about the Bee Priestess/ Melissae and the sacred symbol of the Bee in Goddess cultures.)
- CLASS 6. -- Creating Sacred Space & Designing Ceremony:** What is ceremony? Why do ritual? Creating sacred space and altars; holding "space" and managing group energy; cone of power concepts; safety and circle management; and counsel sharing and conflict resolution. How to craft a personal or group ceremony. How to sanctify and bless. Space clearing, Handfastings & other rites of passage. Spiral Dance
- CLASS 7. -- Blood mysteries and Rites of Passage & MOON PHASES.** Women's cycles & The cycle of WOMAN. Integration of woman's passages and physicality in our spirituality. Seeing the sacred instead of shame in our blood. Recognizing our natural blood offerings such as menarche, loss of hymen, birth giving, miscarriages, and last menstruation or hysterectomies as “Sanctified” not sacrificed. Correlation of women's Life Cycle with Moon cycles. (Possible Guest Presenter: Simone Butler)
- CLASS 8. -- Sacred Sexuality & the Holy Vulva:** The ancient role of the Temple “Prostitute” and discussion of sacred marriage. The relationship of “spiritual” energy and “sexual” energy and the impact that vilification of female sexuality has had on woman's self

esteem and spirituality. Understanding, sanctifying and working with sexual energy. (Possible Guest Presenter: Dr. Linda Savage.)

CLASS 9. -- Loss of the Goddess. Discuss how the concept of the once revered Great Mother and her ways were appropriated or condemned by the onslaught of patriarchal religions. Discuss the Inquisition times, the persecution of “witches” and its impact today on society, women and woman's self esteem and sexuality.

CLASS 10. -- Wounds to Wisdoms. A day of sharing, meditation and ceremony for processing our feelings of loss of the Sacred feminine in our culture and in our lives; and for healing our mother wounds, sexual wounds, and bloodtime wounds. Explore metaphors of the Inanna's and Persephone's journey to the underworlds.

CLASS 11.-- Magic & Manifestation & Spells (+ Intro to Frame Drum.) Amalya to present her process of crafting positive affirmations/spells. (Possible Guest Presenter: Frame Drumming with Miranda Rondeau.)

CLASS 12. -- Considering the Priestess Path: How do I see myself serving the Sacred Feminine in my life; what would be my role as a Priestess? Discussion of “Ministry” vs “Counseling” or “Coaching”. Code of Ethics. Feminist perspectives & political activism. Metaphor of the Labyrinth & Spiral Dance. Setting our intentions to commit to our spiritual path. Discussion of vow preparation and possible ordination. (Possible Guest Presenter Karen Tate.)

[OPTIONAL an added “BONUS” class may be added here in December, depending on consensus, no extra fee.]

CLASS 13. -- Presentation of final projects (Jan 2023)

CLASS 14. -- Final private Initiation Ceremony: Ritual of the First Veil and Ceremony of Offering of Vows, or for those who don't want to take vows, they can offer blessings & witness those who do make vows. Presentation of Certificates & Tokens and final celebration of completion of course.

4) CALENDAR: Schedule of Classes & Sabbats

... see CALENDAR chart, next page...

CLASSES: 6-hour classes (Usually One Sunday a month from 9:30-3:30 *unless otherwise noted*. We will have a 45 min-1hr lunch break.) BYO lunch.

SABBATS dates and times vary. (Sabbats will be the regular “Meetup” clan gatherings and will be open to the Goddess Studio community as usual. You are required to come to a minimum of 4 and co-priestess/plan 1 of those with a partner.

OPTIONAL LECTURES or SPECIAL EVENTS: Some guest presenters may stay for the weekend and offer an additional workshop on Saturday. This will depend on the Covid situation and if the presenter will be coming in person. I highly encourage you to try to come! (Priestess will be given discounted rate from the public fee.)



Priestess Training CALENDAR of CLASSES & SABBATS (as of 12-18-21)

<i>CLASS # or SABBAT</i>	<i>DATE (Subject to change)</i>	<i>NOTES (Presenters subject to change)</i>
CLASS 1	Sun Jan 23, 2022	
First Sabbat (Imbolc / Brigit's Day)	Sun Feb 6	
CLASS 2	Sun Feb 13	<i>NOTE DATE REVISED from Feb 20th to Feb 13. (rev 12-18-21)</i>
CLASS 3	Sun March 13	
Second Sabbat (Ostara / Spring Equinox)	Sun Mar 20	
Optional Special Event maybe	Sat April 23	<i>With Judith Laxer. To be confirmed.</i>
CLASS 4	Sun April 24	<i>With Judith Laxer. To be confirmed</i>
Third Sabbat (Beltane / May Day)	Sun May 1	
Optional Special Event maybe	Sat May 14	<i>With Max Dashu. To be confirmed</i>
CLASS 5	Sun May 15	<i>With Max Dashu. To be confirmed</i>
CLASS 6	Sun June 5	
Fourth Sabbat (Litha / Summer Solstice)	Sun June 19 or 18th?	<i>June 19th is Fathers Day. So we could meet on Saturday the 18th instead.</i>
CLASS 7	Sun July 10	
Fifth Sabbat (Lammas /1st Harvest)	Sun July 31st	
CLASS 8	Sun Aug 21	
CLASS 9	Sun Sept 11	
Sixth Sabbat (Mabon /2nd Harvest)	Sun Sept 25	
CLASS 10	Sun Oct 9	
Seventh Sabbat (Samhain / Halloween)	<u>Sat NIGHT</u> Oct 29	
CLASS 11	Sun Nov 13	
CLASS 12	Sun Dec 4	
OPTIONAL BONUS CLASS:	Sun Dec 11	<i>possible DATE for extra class or Makeup class</i>
Eighth Sabbat (Yule / Winter Solstice)	Sun Dec 18	
	2023	
CLASS 13 ~ Final Presentations of projects	Sun JAN 15, 2023	
INITIATION	Sun Jan 22, 2023	
Imbolc Sabbat (optional)	Sun Feb 5, 2023	
ORDINATION (optional)	Sun Feb 12, 2023	

5) QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

a. What is the Sacred Feminine?

[\(See full essay at this link\)](#)

By Amalya: The Sacred Feminine is a paradigm of Universal Motherhood. It is a principle that embraces concepts of the Holy Mother, the Goddesses of ancient mythologies, the Divine Self within, Mother Earth doctrines and lore of indigenous peoples. It is a spiritual model that weaves concepts of wisdom, compassion and unconditional love, plus other metaphysical, shamanic, pagan and magical practices. And it is a principle that returns the lost knowledge from prehistoric matrifocal societies around the world to contemporary application and appreciation. The Sacred Feminine ideology does not seek to supplant patriarchal belief systems but to augment and reinstate equality, wholeness and equilibrium. The Sacred Feminine paradigm restores the balance of the spiritual, cultural, and pragmatic relationship between God/Goddess, Feminine/Masculine, Mother/Father; Women/Men and Earth/Spirit ideals.

b. What will I gain from doing this Priestess Training Program?

It is my deepest hope that you will gain knowledge, wisdom, broader perspectives of the nature of spirituality, and most importantly a deeper commitment to your own spiritual path. Ultimately this training is intended to foster self empowerment, self esteem, and a greater acceptance of your own sacredness as a female being so that you can be the role model, leader, or self-actualized being that you aspire to be.

I have designed this Priestess Training program to edify you with a broad overview about the ideal of the Sacred Feminine and the legacy of Goddess mythology, as well as to encourage a deeper understanding of your own spiritual path as a woman and to offer you tools for ritual and personal growth.

Whether you decide to make an outward commitment to presiding as a Priestess in some manner or other in service to the community; or whether you decide to make an inward commitment to yourself, the objective of this program is to offer you knowledge and tools that support your intentions. If your desire is to design and lead ritual or facilitate women's circles, or be a "minister" to others in some capacity (be it healer or counselor, artist or activist, mother or daughter etc), then you will gain from this program the practical information and resources, and new Priestess Sister allies to aid you along your path! You will also receive a certificate of course completion and a token of initiation.

There are many paths for spiritual advancement and service, and there are many different Priestess Training programs becoming available today and all are valid and valuable. I offer this training from a deep desire that has evolved over my twenty-five years of walking the path of the Sacred Feminine, from my experience of leading hundreds of circles and rituals, from my love and devotion of the Great Mother, and in fulfillment of my vows as Priestess.

c. Do I have to give up my current religious practices?

No. This training is not meant to replace a current religious structure that you may have in your life, it is meant to augment and enhance and give you additional choices of ways in which to express your devotion and spirituality and offer service to the community.

d. What kind of Homework should we expect?

There will be some online reading assignments and a few videos to watch that you will be asked to express your thoughts or feelings about by writing a short essay or poem or work of art to share in the class. Also there are a couple of class group projects you will be asked to contribute to that involve a little research, but it won't be too much! And it will be fun and interesting! Additionally, I will also ask you to devote about 12 add'l hours over the year toward your final project's research, preparations and planning. (The final project will be a topic of your choosing—something you may research and write about, or an artwork or dance or other offering that will be presented at our last class.)

e. What is the difference between the "Initiation" and "Ordination"?

For the Goddess Studio 1st Veil Priestess training program and for myself personally, I make a distinction between the two processes. I regard the "Initiation" to be the private ceremony of making personal vows to honor your path of devotion to the Sacred Feminine, and to celebrate and signify the completion of a spiritual course of training and mark the beginning of your Priestess path. I see "Ordination" to be a ceremony of public vow making to dedicate yourself to be of service the Sacred Feminine and deepen your commitment to your community in the role as an official Minister.

So our final "Initiation" will be like a "graduation" ceremony of course completion. This will be a private ritual for just the class in which you will receive a full initiation through the 7 symbolic gates of a "First Veil Priestess", offer your vows to honor the Divine Feminine and face a final challenge. The day will culminate with the receiving of your initiation gifts and final certificate.

An "Ordination" is a further, optional step that you can take to make a deeper commitment to serve as a minister/priestess and receive official status as an Ordained Minister. Being officially "ordained" will basically give you authority to perform weddings, baptisms, funerals and other rites. Being ordained qualifies you to be titled as a Minister or Reverend which is a term more people recognize as a person of spiritual authority or clergy since "Priestess" is an unknown concept for most people.

(NOTE: A much more in-depth explanation of the ordination process will be presented to you during your program.)

f. What is a Priestess?

This is the question we will explore over the year, and armed with newly acquired and reclaimed "Herstory" we will together identify and discover what Priestess means to each of us, and in what roles or forms of service she can return to society today.

"Priestess" has many past associations and misinterpretations. There certainly are the romanticized Priestesses of legend and story but there are also documented roles of women officiating as spiritual leaders in ancient temples too. The roles of Priestess of ancient times can serve to be a springboard for us to define new ways in which women can be Priestesses today. A Priestess is not a female counterpart to a "Priest". Nor is she a Nun. A Priestess is _____. Ha... we will answer this as we go along... A Priestess is up to each of us women to decide what she can now be!

But, to start stirring the cauldron of inspiration with the concept and definition of "Priestess" here are some writings by a couple of leaders in the Women's Spirituality and Pagan movements who offer these profound statements:

~ *Kathy Jones Priestess of Avalon & Founder of the Glastonbury Goddess Temple*
<https://www.kathyjones.co.uk/>

The calling to become a Priestess of the Goddess is one which is currently being experienced by many women in different cultures all over the world. Goddess is returning and She calls us to Priestess for Her once again. But what does that mean? Is it merely a dedication in the heart to Her - an inner knowing, or is She asking us to go deeper, to really change our lives and the lives of others, by daring to become Her visible representatives in the world once again. I believe it is the latter. The threads that connect us to the ancient Priestesses have been broken and lost and we must make our connection to Goddess anew. This requires application, dedication, self-knowledge, healing, service to Her and to our communities.

We need to become fully aware of our wounding caused by patriarchal conditioning and begin the process of releasing fears and limitations, allowing self-healing to occur. We need to re-member the skills of Priestessing - how to create effective ceremonies that change the way things are, how to be a soul friend to others, how to receive visions, to be inspired by Her, how to scry, how to embody Her and how to create the containers in which Her mysteries can be experienced by others.

~ *Sharon Fallon Shreve, 2006* (<http://illuminatedways.com/the-return-of-the-priestess/>)
(I love what she has to say about Being a Priestess...)

I'm often asked, "What is a priestess and what does she do?"

A simple explanation is to offer Webster's definition: a priestess is a woman who officiates in sacred rites. While this is quite accurate, in truth, a priestess is and does so much more. She serves the spiritual needs of the community.

Long ago the priestesses in communities carefully observed the patterns and rhythms of Nature. Attuning to earth's cycles, they honored the Great Mother by performing sacred seasonal rituals. Women, seen as an embodiment of the Great Mother, were deeply revered, honored and celebrated for, like the earth, a woman too was able to grow life within her. Later in history, Roman, Greek, and Egyptian priestesses lived in holy temples. They, too, worshiped the Great Mother, the Goddess in Her many forms. They served the spiritual needs of the community as well and were also held in high esteem. Numerous hierarchies and historical events ensued. Soon, men began to fear the power of priestesses. The natural spiritual and mystical practices of priestesses were viewed as evil. Their power, greatly misunderstood, was thought to be a dark force that needed to be annihilated. Thousands of priestesses were persecuted, put to death for their beliefs and spiritual practices. Those managing to escape death fled their holy temples and went underground into hiding.

Today, in the midst of a two-thousand-year period of patriarchy, a modern-day priestess is emerging. She brings to present times richly-steeped ancient wisdom, integrating past spiritual teachings with a few spins of her own. In addition to her work as Priestess, she may also have a family and hold a conventional job as well. She holds within a deep moon-water essence, and her mission is to help bring into fruition the vital life-force energy of the almost forgotten Divine Feminine. Intuitively, she knows a conversion to a matriarchy isn't what's currently needed. A modern-day priestess instead directs her energy to restoring a natural, harmonious balance between the genders and All That Is. Weaving her fluid moon-water essence with the energies of the fixed sun-fire masculine, she helps re-birth Sacred Union.

Women choosing to walk the path of the priestess have answered a deep inner calling. Hearing within and resonating passionately to the ancient call of the Great Mother, a time came when each heart knew with absolute certainty... yes, this is it... Hers is the work I am to do...the very reason I've incarnated at this time! For me personally, the actual word "priestess" whenever spoken created an ecstatic internal hum, a familiar vibration that was/is one of pure bliss. How blessed to be so crystal clear regarding one's life purpose! This being said, I also feel compelled to share the path of the priestess, though richly rewarding, is not an easy one. It is a path requiring deep integrity and tremendous dedication.

With courage and grace, a modern-day priestess journeys the continuous ascents and descents of life's spiral. Constant deep inner work is a must. Confronting, clearing, healing past wounds energetically empties her of what no longer serves use or purpose. Going into the inner realms...quiet times of reflection, prayer, meditation...enables her to better "see" and "sense" her truth more clearly. Hard work and perseverance bring rewards. Soon she begins to recognize herself as a unique expression of the face of the Divine Mother. She learns to value and deeply honor her own femininity. She becomes a holy vessel, better able to hold sacred space for all humankind.

A priestess is dedicated to serving the beauty, love, and spirit in all life. She learns how to attune to and work sacredly with all energies, particularly those of Nature and the elements. Like a fluid dance of ebb and flow, a priestess works passionately to raise the vibration of our physical world, infusing it with sacredness. Illuminating all that she is and does a priestess experiences great joy when performing divinely-inspired ceremony and ritual. Often compared to a Shaman, she is able to position herself between the visible and invisible worlds, residing in the valley of enriched tension lying between the two dimensions. A High Priestess works with even finer, more subtle energy frequencies. Archetypically speaking, she is a direct emissary of the Divine Feminine represented here on Earth.

A Magdalene (another name for a High Priestess), is the trademark used for a lineage of present-day priestesses first birthed by Nicole Christine in Tuscan, Arizona in 1994. Differing from priestesses who adhere to particular religious or earth-based practices, a Magdalene is non-sectarian, wholly sovereign unto herself. And So It Is. Blessed Be! © 2006 by Sharon Fallon Shreve All rights reserved.



*~ And Amalya's "working definition" of Priestess is...
A Priestess is a woman who daily practices the intention to live her life with integrity, honesty, courage, power, patience, wisdom, and compassion in service of the Sacred Feminine in all life and within herself.*

***Join us and begin your own definition
of what it means to be a Priestess...***



6) LOCATION: All Classes and Sabbats will be held at the beautiful, private, sacred space of the Goddess Studio in Escondido. (Near San Diego, California).
www.goddess-studio.com

- At the moment, there is no "on-line" study course option.
- The address isn't displayed for web privacy, but please email Amalya for the exact location.

7) TESTIMONIALS from previous course graduates - Reverend Priestesses

From Reverend~Priestess Seka 2017 ~



A very comprehensive description of Rev. Priestess Seka priestess's experience from the 2017 class was written for her blog. [Open this pdf link to read her entire story!](#)

From Reverend~Priestess Denise 2014~



On my First Veil Priestess Path, Amalya passed on her knowledge of the Sacred Feminine. She taught me of Her existence in different cultures all over the world, Her story in history, and Her presence now. In Her many roles as Goddess, priestess, shaman, heroine, etc., She is loving, nurturing, protective and fierce. I learned of nature spirituality, the directions, the elements, sabbats and symbolism. Musical instruments and spiritual tools were introduced. My experience was enriched by presentations from Karen Tate, Max Dashu, Miranda Rondeau, Dr. Linda Savage and Toni Ann Ruehl. Along the way, I received love and knowledge from my fellow priestess sisters; and at the end of the year, was privileged to be ordained by Rev. Priestess Amalya and Rev. Priestess Karen Tate. Amalya has encouraged me with her bright light and wisdom to keep growing spiritually and I am blessed to have her on my Priestess Path.

From Reverend~Priestess Sheryl 2014~



This is the type of class you take to help renew your faith in humanity, as you open yourself and share with other women, and you find yourself loved and supported in return. As a Wiccan for over a decade, some of the material was familiar but a lot was not. Centering on Goddess Spirituality allows you to explore your relationship with yourself and what it means to be a woman for you.

The guest presenters were wonderful, sharing their lives' work and information that enables you to realize how much we have forgotten about our ancient ways when women were seen as equals to men. This class will make you angry at the centuries of Goddess worship that's been removed from our history; it will make you cry as you realize how ALL women (and men!) are made to suffer under patriarchy, and it will bring you great joy and peace as you realize you are not alone, there are things you can do to help yourself and others who are suffering, and that you are always loved by the Goddess.

From Reverend~Priestess Vee 2017 ~



Before taking this training, I thought being a Priestess was all about tending a temple and creating ritual. Now, because of what I have lived and learned in this program, I have discovered that I was absolutely right... just oriented differently. Because now I understand that being a Priestess is all about tending the temple of my own self and creating rituals not only for other people or in special occasions but in my every day. I now understand that being a Priestess is being in service... service to the Goddess and help her make her way back to the world; service to other women in supporting and empowering them; service to men to help them become the men they were meant to be.

Being a Priestess is turning everyday situations into sacred everything: sacred learning, sacred communication, sacred rage, sacred action, sacred bliss. I don't think this Priestesshood path will take me on a set way. I can see myself serving by doing healing work, divination, leading ritual, leading women's circles. The possibilities are as numerous as the stars in the sky. But what I do know is that I am committing to a life dedicated to service; committing to speak of and embody the Goddess in everything I do and everywhere I go.

From Reverend~Priestess Freya 2017 ~



The Goddess Studio Priestess Training program has meant the world to me. The training has opened my mind to the Divine Feminine and so much more...remember, I was a novice to this prior to our first class. I think now of the missed herstory that I've learned, the Wheel of the Year and its potential, Blood Mysteries and Drumming...each of our classes have been special in their own light.

The Training enlightened me to so many aspects of Priestessing. When I began classes, I wasn't sure where I'd end up but now I'm feeling more grounded in the earth, a link to nature unlike before.

The community of women, as we have all shown each other our authentic selves, has become an Unbroken Circle. I've never had a feminine community of women that I've become part of before this and I feel I've grown and been inspired by my fellow Priestess. Our Deep Priestess, Amalya, has made learning in class interesting, intriguing and rarely dull. This Training has truly opened my mind and welcomed me home.

From Reverend~Priestess Panthera 2017 ~



Do you want to go on the most amazing journey with like minded women that will enrich your life forever, like I did? Leaving judgment behind I entered the realm of the Sacred Feminine through Rev Priestess Amalya's First Veil Priestess Path of 2017 at the Goddess Studio. My childhood baggage got put aside as I experienced the unconditional love of the Great Mother as She added depth, meaning and wisdom to my life.

I developed Spirituality that conquered anxiety, depression and banished my profound sense of loneliness experienced by so many women in today's modern world. I also found a circle of sisters where we are there for each other through lasting friendships and sisterhood.

The quest was for one year and was rigorous but also fun and informative, and my experience was that I got from it what I was willing to commit to and put into it. Amalya brought in a group of topnotch presenters well known in the Sacred Feminine global community who educated and challenged us in preconceived notions of femininity as well as holding sacred and safe space for us. It ended in an experience of such great love and acceptance that the whole world needs to be a part of this kind of Spiritual work. So be brave and be strong, come dance, chant, drum, laugh and cry and join us in January of 2020 as we do this all again for the next Priestess Training Program.

From Reverend~Priestess Genevieve 2017 ~



In late January 2017, a group of women gathered together to mark the beginning of their collective journey into the Goddess. During that first class we set our personal intentions, mine was to "live in truth". I didn't realize then how powerful those words would become.

This training has become the backbone of my descent and journey back to myself. The synchronicities have been a welcomed confirmation of Her guidance and continued support. This new path began with some hard truths, truths that were sprung on me from seemingly nowhere. My blissful bubble burst and I was left gasping for air. Now I've come to realize that I wasn't gasping for air, I was gasping back to life after holding my breath in that damn bubble for so long.

This training has guided me to see my denial, to see my victimhood, to see my ignorance and naïveté. How often have I chosen to deny and ignore the hard truths of life that no one wants to see? I can reflect more honestly on this question now, in a way I would not have been able to see before this training began. As a Priestess, I can no longer ignore the truth, that deep truth that doesn't scream at you but just waits patiently until you're open and ready to see it. I can no longer unsee and ignore those painful truths that patriarchy wants to sweep away, cover up and deny.

Now, I see myself being a voice of empowerment for women and girls to recognize their worth. A source of unveiling for men and boys to accept their divine feminine. I will be that patient truth waiting to come into focus. That gentle nudge into Her presence. I see myself spreading the Goddess's message of truth, of wildness, of light and shadow, of acceptance by modeling it myself. Through my actions, others will see Her. They will FEEL Her. They will begin to question what that feeling is, and what does that feeling mean. Every life I touch, every person I meet will be personally touched and blessed by the Goddess Herself because She is present, acknowledged and honored within me. That blessing will create a silent yet powerful shift which begins in the home and spreads to the community and beyond.

We were just one group of women, to think of how many groups of women are honoring Her in the same steady way, is comforting. Change will come, patriarchy is slowly being dismantled, and the Goddess Spirit is rapidly rising. She may have been silenced once but She was never forgotten.

The Goddess is Always Alive and Magic is Truly Afoot.

8) POTENTIAL FACILITATORS / INVITED GUEST PRESENTERS:

(Note: the Guest Presenters are subject to change as unforeseeable circumstances a year from now may arise—especially with the unpredictability of pandemic issues. All presenters are still to be confirmed. These presenters below taught at my previous Priestess Training courses and negotiations are in the works for 2022.)



Rev. Priestess Amalya (Amy Peck M.A.)

Amalya (aka Amy Peck) is the creatrix of the Goddess Studio in Escondido, near San Diego California, which she founded in 2003 as a "Sacred Space for the Sacred Feminine." Amalya is an ordained Priestess of the Goddess, a ceremonialist, artist, photographer, workshop presenter, belly dance instructor and writer.

After completing her Masters in Art & Consciousness in 1996 at John F. Kennedy University, Amalya's purpose and passions came into focus, eventually inspiring her to build the Goddess Studio in 2003. The studio is a beautiful, private, dance & "temple" space where she presents and hosts a variety of events, dance classes, meetups, rituals and retreats for women.

Amalya began her Priestess Path in Northern California in the mid nineties as a co-facilitator of *Rosa Mandala*—a coed group which gathered eight times a year to honor the Earth's sacred days. After settling in San Diego in 1998, Amalya helped co-create *Goddess Temple Events* which offered elaborate quarterly celebrations through 2001 of the solstices and equinoxes attracting a large community of women.

Furthermore, for 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004 & 2007, Amalya was a guest presenter and workshop instructor at Jane Richmond's annual *Women's Retreat* in San Diego leading ceremonies and dance programs. Additionally she completed a six month Priestess Training program in San Diego with Melissa Seaman in 2005. And she fulfilled a one year Priestess Training program from 2010-2011 for the Wheel of Place with Mary Samantha Inman and affirmed vows to serve as a Priestess. In 2014 Amalya also deepened her spiritual commitment by taking official vows of ordination as a Priestess of Isis and She of Ten Thousand Names, and was ordained by Rev. Dr. Karen Tate in the lineage of the Temple of Isis, of Geyserville, CA.

Amalya has participated in many women's moon circles as well as larger events with themes of the Goddess, ritual, and other spiritual self-enrichment content, including being a guest Priestess at the Goddess Temple of Orange County and a workshop presenter at the 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019 Goddess Spirit Rising conferences in Malibu/Simi Valley, Ca.

Since founding the Goddess Studio Amalya has facilitated hundreds of rituals for the Sabbats, women's passages, and circles at her studio from full day elaborate retreats for up to fifty women to more intimate sized gatherings. She has also appeared on local TV and internet radio—all with the intent to inspire women and mainstream the paradigm of the Sacred Feminine.

Amalya's life mission is to empower women to love and accept themselves, embrace the Sacred Feminine, and live in balance. A priestess to be sure, Amalya brings great passion and compassion into her endeavors to create a sacred space for all women to feel seen, heard, encouraged and empowered. (For more about Amalya: <https://www.goddess-studio.com/about-amalya>; also: [BlogTalk Radio podcast interview by Vasi](#))



Constance Tippett

Constance Tippett is an artist and the creator of The Goddess Timeline. She created it so that people could see for themselves the scope of the Divine Feminine throughout history. She also creates Museum quality three dimensional terra-cotta replicas of many of the Goddess statues. She now lives in Phoenix, Arizona with a cat who oversees her work. Having presented at many Goddess Conferences, Constance is very enthusiastic about sharing her research and passion of Goddess in Her many ancient forms.



Max Dashu

Max Dashu (from the Bay Area, CA) is a land-walker and history sibyl who uses images to teach women's global history and heritages. Her legendary slideshows bring to light women of power who have been hidden from view: female leaders, culture-makers, rebels, and medicine women. Fifty years ago she founded the [Suppressed Histories Archives](#) to research women in the global cultural record. From her collection of over 30,000 images, Dashu has created and presented hundreds of slideshows at universities, women's centers, bookstores, conferences, festivals, libraries, prisons, museums, and schools. She has presented at international conferences in Italy, Switzerland, Britain, Australia, Germany, Mexico, Bulgaria, Guatemala, and the US. She also teaches via webcasts, online courses, audio podcasts, her blog [Veleda](#), and via daily [Suppressed Histories](#) posts on Facebook, followed by over 166,000 people.

Max is the author of *Witches and Pagans: Women in European Folk Religion*, the first volume to be published from her sourcebook *Secret History of the Witches*. Her next book will be *Pythias, Melissa and Pharmakides: Women in Hellenic culture*, on women's ceremonial culture as well as the roots of rape culture and colonial domination. Max has produced two dvds: *Woman Shaman: the Ancients* (2013) and *Women's Power in Global Perspective* (2008). She is also an artist whose paintings are well known in the women's spirituality community. Her most recent publications are the *Deasophy Coloring Book* and the Prophetic Women poster.



Rev. Judith Laxer

Rev. Judith Laxer is a modern-day mystic who believes that humor, beauty and the wonders of nature make life worth living. The founding Priestess of Gaia's Temple, an inclusive, earth-based ministry in Seattle, Washington, Judith also enjoys a successful private practice as a psychic, spiritual counselor, hypnotherapist, shamanic practitioner and teacher of women's mysteries. A keynote speaker and author of *Along the Wheel of Time: Sacred Stories for Nature Lovers* [Ravenswood Publishing], Judith has presented classes and workshops on the re-emergence of the Divine Feminine since 1993 at conferences nationally. She dedicates her work to restoring the balance between feminine and masculine energy in our culture.

Originally from New York, Judith moved west in 1989. She took her lifelong interest and study in psychic phenomena and metaphysics and began the professional transition from a career in the Performing Arts to one in Spirituality. On the Summer Solstice in 1992, she became a licensed, Ordained SHES (Spiritual Healers and Earth Stewards) Minister. Since then, she has created and officiated at countless ceremonies and rituals as a Minister and Priestess. As a teacher, she has been creating and leading classes, workshops and programs in spiritual development, Goddess consciousness, and psychic awareness since 1993. Additionally Judith provides monthly Goddess Worship Services in Gaia's Temple in WA. www.judithlaxer.com and www.gaiastemple.org



Rev. Priestess Pannthera



Miranda Rondeau

Miranda Rondeau is an internationally recognized devotional singer, musician, Remo frame drum artist, and teacher. She sings to remember and to connect to Soul--chanting in a devotional language of her own. She is inspired by the Beloved, the Ancestors, the Mystery, the Sun, the Wind, the Water, the Earth and the Inward Journey. She is grateful to her late frame drum teacher, Layne Redmond, author of "When the Drummers Were Women--A Spiritual History of Rhythm." The frame drum has been her homecoming and portal for prayer, devotion, intention, and her tool of remembrance of all it represents. It is the sound of the Mother, of earth, water, fire, air and the sacredness of life.

Miranda is often invited to perform, as opening music for many communities, events and speakers. She has opened for Dead Can Dance, Starhawk, Marianne Williamson, Daniel Pinchbeck, Grandmother Agnes Baker and Aamo Bambo of the 13 International Grandmothers. She has performed at North American Frame Drum Festival, Tamburin Mundi Frame Drum Festival, Germany, and American Frame Drum Gathering. Additionally, she has performed and taught at 2nd International Biblical Frame Drum Festival and for Asheville Percussion Festival.

Miranda facilitates Vocal Playshops, Frame Drum Workshops, classes and Sound Bath Journey's. She teaches privately and via Skype. She initiated the Women Frame Drumming on-line presence. She has been performing since 1994 both as a soloist and within various percussion ensembles throughout California. She is from the L.A. area.

www.facebook.com/MirandaRondeauMusic <http://www.youtube.com/user/shamasmantra>
<https://www.facebook.com/WomenFrameDrumming>



Simone Butler (To be confirmed)

Simone Butler is ruled by the Moon and has lived its mysteries all her life. Her latest book, *Moon Power: Lunar Rituals for Connecting with your Inner Goddess*, was published in June, 2017 by Fair Winds Press. Simone began her career as a fashion editor in Los Angeles. As a professional astrologer since 1985, she lectures and writes on astrology and the arts. Simone has written extensively for the Starscroll, The Mountain Astrologer and Tarot.com. Her first book was *Astro Feng Shui: Making Magic in Your Home and Life*. Simone lives in San Diego with her two cats. You can sign up to receive her entertaining bi-monthly blogs at

www.astralchemy.com



Dr. Linda Savage (To be confirmed)

Author of *Reclaiming Goddess Sexuality*, Dr. Linda Savage is a licensed psychologist, MFT and an AASECT Certified Sex Educator who is recognized as a leading couples' therapist. She is also a dynamic speaker and seminar leader noted as an experienced leader in the field of transformational healing by *The Light Connection*. She writes for the *Huffington Post* and has numerous articles on the internet.

Dr. Savage is passionate about helping women experience their full potential, bringing wholeness to relationships and sexuality. Her book is an acclaimed source of empowering women to reclaim their unique sexuality and a masterful blend of ancient wisdom and current clinical knowledge. Her CD *Maiden, Mother, Wise Woman: Reclaiming Our Sexuality*, offers guided meditations as a companion to her book. She maintains a private practice in San Marcos, Ca and offers seminars throughout the country. (For more about Dr Savage visit: www.goddesstherapy.com/)

9) ENROLLMENT / APPLICATION:

If you are ready to enroll, please complete the “Application-Questionnaire-Waiver” (editable pdf form) and email to Amalya by Dec 31, 2021 with initial 1/3 payment.

[Please find the Application hosted on my site on-line at this link](#)

Thank you for your interest in the Goddess Studio First Veil Priestess Path Training Program! I look forward to embarking on this journey with YOU! If you have any further questions, or would like to come visit the Goddess Studio in person, please don't hesitate to contact me.



The Goddess Studio of Escondido, CA

The address isn't displayed for web privacy, but please email Amalya for the exact location.

WEBSITE: <http://www.Goddess-Studio.com>

MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/goddess-studio>

FACEBOOK Amalya: <https://www.facebook.com/AmalyaAmyPeck>

FACEBOOK Goddess Studio: <https://www.facebook.com/GoddessStudio>

AMALYA CONTACT: AmalyaGoddess@aol.com
(760) 432-6574 Landline best for voice messages (Escondido, CA)
