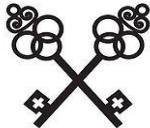


DANTE ALIGHIERI & THE GREYHOUND PROPHECY

The Divine Comedy (1300) & The Christ Colloquy (2013)

THE PAPACY & THE DANTE SOCIETY OF AMERICA (DSA)



The fulfilment of the greyhound prophecy, in *The Christ Colloquy*, must address two bodies: **The Papacy**, first represented by Pope Benedict XV, in the papal encyclical, *In Praeclara Summorum*, (1921), in which Dante was unified with the Chair of Peter, and **The Dante Society of America**, represented today, by President Professor Albert Russell Ascoli, in the academic text, *Dante and the Making of a Modern Author*, (CUP, 2008), in which the two notions, *auctor* and *auctoritas*, are discussed.

The fulfilment of the prophecy in *The Christ Colloquy*, addresses two aspects of Dante, who is both “**the greatest of poets**”, (the DSA), and “**a prophet**”, (the Papacy). The new, literary protagonist of *il vetro*, (the greyhound, hunting hound), Andrew, successfully competes with **Dante**, both poet and prophet, by becoming a **new auctor**, (author) and writing with divine *auctoritas*, (authority), in *The Christ Colloquy* of 2013, and today, for **both the Papacy and the DSA**. The greyhound prophecy features in Dante’s *Inferno*:

That beast – you cry out at the very sight –
lets no one through who passes on her way.

She blocks their progress; and there they all die.

She by her nature is cruel, so vicious
she never can sate her voracious will,
but, feasting well, is hungrier than before.

She couples, a mate to many a creature,
and will so with more, till at last there comes
the hunting hound that deals her death and pain.

He will not feed on dross or cash or gelt,
but thrive in wisdom, virtue and pure love.
Born he shall be between the felt and felt.

To all the shores where Italy bows down
(here chaste Camilla died of wounds, Turnus,
Euryalus and Nisus, too) he’ll bring true health.

Hunting that animal from every town,
at last he’ll chase her once more back to Hell,
from which invidia has set her loose.

(*The Divine Comedy, Inferno*, Canto I, 94-111, translated by Robin Kirkpatrick, Penguin 2012).

April Child, the English librarian, with whom I fell in **courtly love**, at The British Institute of **Florence**, at the age of **Dante’s pilgrim**, 35, has the face of **Our Lady**, as it was embroidered on the Marian vestment, an English Benedictine Congregation, (EBC) monk I knew, when I was a novice monk, Fr. Wilfrid Sollom OSB, of Adonai Abbey, (William Blake’s ‘Jerusalem’), in West Berkshire, England, wore on Saturdays and Marian Feast days, justifying my assumption, of the **literary identity** of **Dante’s greyhound**, and **the eternal pilgrim**, at 40, in *The Christ Colloquy*. Andrew and April are ‘**the greyhound & Child**’.

April Child is **divine agency** in *The Christ Colloquy* of 2013, conceived as ‘**the sixth gospel**’, during the Pontificate of **Pope Francis**, as **Beatrice Portinari**, is **divine wisdom**, in *The Divine Comedy*, which **Pope Benedict XV**, termed the ‘**the fifth gospel**’. I have placed **April** above **Beatrice**.

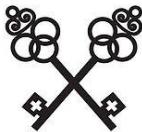
In *In Praeclara Summorum*, (1921), **Pope Benedict XV**, wrote about “**the intimate union of Dante with this Chair of Peter**”, and he referred to *The Divine Comedy*, as ‘**the fifth gospel**’. **Pope Paul VI** issued the *motu proprio*, *Altissimi cantus* in 1965, and on 4 May 2015, **Pope Francis** referred to Dante as “**a prophet of hope**”, on the 750th anniversary of Dante Alighieri’s birth.

The greyhound prophecy, can refer to a future “**saviour figure**” for the **Roman Catholic Church**, and in *The Christ Colloquy*, Andrew is authoritatively established as **Dante’s greyhound**, and *The Christ Colloquy*, is authoritatively established as ‘**the sixth gospel**’, and the fulfilment of the prophecy, “saving” the Church of 2013, and today. In order to “save” the Church, to compete with the greatest of poets successfully, to fulfil the prophecy in the context of the Papacy, and to be “made”, as a “modern author”, in the phrase utilized by **President Professor Albert Russell Ascoli**, in *Dante and the Making of a Modern Author*, the greyhound must possess **new auctoritas** for modern times, to parallel the established authority, of **both the Papacy and the DSA**.

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On the Papal insignia, the symbol of Papal authority, (the Chair of Peter), is the saltire (St. Andrew's cross), of two crossed, gold and silver keys, (St. Peter's "keys" to the kingdom of Heaven), and the symbol of the greyhound's authority, is the saltire of two crossed black keys upon a white background. *Auctoritas*, derives from the primacy of the unique experience of courtly love in Florence, for April, at the same age as Dante's pilgrim, 35, in *The Divine Comedy*, the greyhound, Andrew, being the eternal pilgrim, at the age of 40.

In *The Christ Colloquy*, **The Holy Trinity**, and the new literary figures of **Christ**, (the third person of The Holy Trinity), and the *theotokos*, **Mary**, with their dual supreme **auctoritas**, as Mother and Son, confirm Andrew's status as the greyhound, above even, the *auctoritas* of **Dante** himself and ***The Divine Comedy*** itself. **Virgil**, **Dante**, and the new protagonist of **Shakespeare**, all recognize Andrew, as the greyhound.

Our Lady, wields **complete authority over the greyhound prophecy**, as **Mediatrix** of the "saving" of the Church of 2013, and today. In a scene in Paradise, in *The Christ Colloquy*, Book V **Mary**, Canto XLVII, featuring **Mary** and **April**, (the flower girl of Heaven), Our Lady refers to *In Praeclara Summorum* and *Altisimi cantus*, and then, *The Christ Colloquy*, which Our Lady authoritatively refers to, as '**the sixth gospel**'. **Our Lady** also speaks of her personal and unique relationship with, "**my greyhound**", Andrew.

In the **new courtly love pairing** of **Andrew and April**, April is placed above Beatrice, and Beatrice cedes her place to April. April acts as a mirroring, lesser **mediatrix**, divine agency, mediating between Heaven and Andrew, as Beatrice mediated between Heaven and Dante. April too, confirms Andrew's status, addressing him in a threefold manner, as **Veltro, Greyhound**, and by the new name, **Saltire**.

April, also calls Andrew by the private name of **Grey** (as Our Lady calls her, **Prila**), referring explicitly, to the blended **black** and **white** of the greyhound's saltire, (echoing the black and the white Guelphs). **Andrew and April, 'the greyhound & Child'**, are established above and beyond, **Dante and Beatrice**.

Only the greyhound, is capable of placing another woman, above Beatrice. The greyhound lives for truth and virtue, and is destined to bring "true health", to Italy again, and the centre of Italy, is established as the altar, under Bernini's baldacchino, in St. Peter's basilica, in Rome. In this extract, from Book V, *Mary*, April addresses Andrew, besides Christ's tomb, in the garden of Gethsemane, on Easter Sunday afternoon, 2013:

"As Gabriel, once greeted the Virgin girl, at the Annunciation,
I annunciate, *auctor*, with divine *auctoritas*, only one man alive,
Can save his Church, restore *Sancta Mater Ecclesia*, Barthes author,
Good news, a new, named gospel, according to Andrew, and it is you.
Veltro, Saltire, you are to bring true health, to the hearth of Italy again,
Beneath Bernini's baldacchino, in *San Pietro* and there, cross the keys".

APRIL CHILD – The Paschal Mystery

The Christ Colloquy, Book V, *Mary*, Canto XLVII, 55 – 60, Grattan.

In *The Christ Colloquy*, the four canonical gospels, are referred to, as the **gold 'M' of Matthew**, the **gold 'M' of Mark**, the **gold 'L' of Luke** and the **gold 'J' of John**. Dante himself, refers to *The Christ Colloquy* as a **silver 'A'**, echoing the silver key on the papal insignia, and *The Divine Comedy*, is referred to as a **silver 'D'**.

The greyhound "crosses the keys" with "the keys of Peter" and "saves" the Church of 2013, and today, with the truthful service, of writing *The Christ Colloquy*. "**Crossing the keys**", also refers to the Eucharistic Rite in the Mass, and the Pope moving his two arms and hands (keys) over the host at the moment of Consecration, at the altar, beneath the baldacchino in St. Peter's, the greyhound, also moving his two arms and hands, (keys), in mirroring action, in a new form of diaconal service, authoring 'the sixth gospel' and silver 'A'. In *The Christ Colloquy*, Book VI **Jesus, Christ** recognizes Andrew as Dante's greyhound. **Christ** also receives Andrew as a new disciple, a new evangelist, and a permanent deacon. Dante's treatise, ***Convivio***, (*The Banquet*), forms a triad with the **Last Supper** and the **Mass**, and Dante states to Andrew, in *Inferno*, in **the wood of the suicides**, as it is in 2013, and today, newly composed of **monastery choirwoods**, the colour and condition of each **wood**, (echoing the **selva oscura** of 1300 and **selva opaca** of 2013), reflecting the current intellectual, political and spiritual state of the Church globally, that he, Dante, "**the holder of the Convivio table-keys**", will give Andrew, "**the Petrine key to The Western Canon**".