

the function of Jesus was, and so forth. We do not try to bend people's minds or convince them of anything. We make an offering and if it seems reasonable, some people choose to stay, but we do not proselytize. We do not go out and seek converts because we are basically universalists; we do not believe anybody is lost. Nor do we believe we have the corner on "salvation and redemption."

Just as Theosophy does, we see all paths leading up the same mountain and ultimately to the same return from which we have come.

**LeFevour:** Does the Liberal Catholic Church still accredit Leadbeater and Wedgewood as much respect to this day as it did in the past? Are they required reading in seminary, for example?

**Downey:** Yes, that is correct.

**LeFevour:** Conversely, are there any LCC members who really don't care much for them at all, considering the majority of members are not Theosophists now?

**Downey:** I think not. Most people who find themselves attracted to the Liberal Catholic Church are probably initially attracted by the ceremony. It awakens something within them, and then they start reading about it. The most common book that most people read and that inspires them to look into the Liberal Catholic Church is the paramount work, as far as I'm concerned, of Leadbeater which is *The Science of the Sacraments*. Basically it is an explanation of the inner side of what's going on during the mass. And if you're initially attracted by that, I think it is just kind of automatic that it stays with you and you tend to have a reverence for Leadbeater and Wedgewood. Wedgewood was really quite a scholar in his own right and had written some very beautiful things. I think that anybody that stays with the Liberal Catholic Church generally likes what they have read by Wedgewood and Leadbeater.

**LeFevour:** So do many members of the LCC attribute to Leadbeater a level of clairvoyance, such as he gave descriptions of angels, for example, in the book *Christian Gnosis*?

**Downey:** I think that most people in the church do, and many people who have claimed clairvoyance through the years, some of whom were not members of the church, have corroborated the things that Leadbeater