



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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Head versus Heart: Two examples

PEOPLE often want to know the practical difference between head and heart, Sun and Moon. Here is one:

When the Bolsheviks came to power in Russia in 1917, they immediately banned the Orthodox Church, since, as Marx said, religion was simply a prop, an evil prop, one which had crippled mankind. And for 74 years, until its collapse in 1991, the Soviet state actively suppressed the Church, by every means possible.

Seventy-four years is three full generations, in other words, by 1990, religion is what your great-grandparents had to deal with. How well do you know your great-grandparents? You have eight of them. Ever meet one? Were any of them still alive? I met my only surviving one, briefly, when I was 17, a woman 100 years old. Who thought I was a girl. We had no significant interaction. Such are great-grandparents.

Yet the minute the Soviet state fell, on December 26, 1991, the Orthodox Church came roaring back. As if the Soviet state had never existed.

Compare this with modern medicine. As I have outlined in previous weeks, modern medicine was imposed, by law, starting in 1910. And already, when I was a boy in the 1960's, only fifty years later, people had forgotten all about the old medicine.

What is the difference? It turns out to be simple, but critical.

Religious beliefs and feelings are of the heart, which is *transcendental* and *eternal*.

Medicine is of the *mind*. The mind is *ephemeral*. It *changes* with mood, it changes with whim, it is ultimately a matter of one's *opinion*.

While there are exceptional people whose minds are so strong they can overwhelm their hearts and thus end up believing all manner of things, for most of us, what we believed to be true, as children, is what we believe to our dying day.

As religion is given its final shape by corrupt priests, the religious facade, at any given moment, is invariably evil. It is only in our hearts that we find our true religion, our true beliefs. The mind, on the other hand, being transient, is either the servant of the heart, or will lead us astray with its endless "scientific" and "logical" posturings. The mind must serve the heart. The heart must rule overall.

ASTRO MED

Sociability has much to do with the two benefic planets, the Sun and the 5th house, and Aquarius and the 11th. Libra is probably of all signs the one most dependent upon others for happiness, and it is not uncommon to find persons with the positive Venus pronounced who can hardly bear to be alone. Aquarius nearly always accumulates friends, but he is by no means so dependent upon them. Virgo is probably the most self-sufficing of the signs. Scorpio can be self-sufficient, but it is not naturally so, in the way that Virgo is, and the same is true of Uranus. Most persons born under the loquacious signs are sociable.

Socialism is one of the manifestations of the Uranian Age, it being an intellectual attempt—whether or not a happy one is, of course, beside the point—to realize fraternity and justice. In this it is distinct from the Pisces methods which had been in vogue before, i.e. private philanthropy in the form of foundations, institutions, and alms. —from **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**, by Charles Carter. **Buy.**

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

15	03:49	☾ ✕ ♀
19	15:32	♀ ♃ ♃
	17:27	☉ 29 II 16 1st Qtr/Void
	18:56	☾ ☽
20	11:02	☉ ♃ Equinox
	17:57	♀ ♃ ♂
22	03:16	♀ ♃
	10:41	☾ △ ○
	17:29	♂ II ♃
	18:17	♂ ♂ ♃
	20:06	♀ ♃ ○
23	03:28	☾ □ ♃ Void
24	15:50	☾ ♃
25	12:46	☾ △ ♀ Void
	17:04	☾ II ○

Extracted & adapted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. **Buy.**

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★☆☆

DIFDA beta Ceti 2 ♃ 46

Notes: A yellow star on the Whale's tail. From Al Difdi al Thani, the Second Frog.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn. It causes self-destruction by brute force, sickness, disgrace, misfortune and compulsory change.

With Sun: Mental disturbance, some loss keenly felt, accidents such as burns, scalds and cuts.

With Moon: Pioneer, reckless, headstrong, violent temper, many quarrels, bad for gain and business.

With Mercury: Active mind, writer or speaker upon subjects of public welfare, seeks to enact laws of benefit to the community, favourable for social affairs.

With Venus: Reserved, passionate, many secret love affairs. **With Mars:** Passionate, violent, subject to accidents . . .

—from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson. **Buy.**



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Planets

PLANETS in aspect to the Ascendant, its ruler or a planet in the 1st House, whether at birth, by progression or heavy transit singling them out, always directly involve the person whose chart it is. Progressions and transits that do not aspect the Ascendant, its ruler or a planet in the 1st House signify activity in your circle affecting other persons and house-matters that you hear about sooner or later — but you yourself are not necessarily much involved. In passing we remember that we are always directly involved when the Ascendant or its ruler or a planet in the 1st House at birth progresses to aspects.

Planets always retain their interest in whatever is ruled by the houses they are in at birth besides their added interest in the matters of the house in which they are temporarily posited by progression. If from there they aspect the Ascendant, etc., such interest becomes personally active and if aspecting the Sun or Moon also it will further the life-work. If they conjunct a planet by such progression, they receive some equipment or knowledge or benefit from some new acquaintance, which also helps the career.

A planet's progressed aspect generally registers most at the time the month-by-month Moon aspects it.

It is this writer's observation of planets retrograde at birth that they represent persons ruled by the houses they are in who break promises they make to the one whose chart it is or withhold for a time something that belongs to him. Neither are they to be depended upon completely in hastening to success, because they delay what the house otherwise offers. — *The Way of Astrology*, 1967. **Buy**

Thoughts on Pope Francis

THE man of the week was Argentinian Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio. On Wednesday, March 13, 2013, he was selected as the next pope, **Francis**. According to stories he had previously been the runner-up in the previous papal election in 2005, which settled on Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger, who became Pope Benedict XVI. If the stories that Benedict was forced out are true, then we may consider Bergoglio to have been the Vatican's inside choice. The white smoke appeared at 7:06 pm Roman time (GMT minus one hour). That chart has good, sturdy cardinal signs on all four angles. If I have time I will get to the circumstances around his selection.

Francis was born on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, of Italian immigrants. I am curious to know if I can determine the time of birth. Already it seems that certain traits are clear. One, there are many exaggerated or bogus stories told about him. A story that he was born in India has been discredited. Another story, that he had a lung removed in 1969, age 33, and has now lived to be 76, turns out to have been wildly exaggerated. He lost only a fraction of one lung, probably not very much. A third story, that in 1976 he sacrificed two Jesuit priests (Francis is a Jesuit himself) to the Argentine junta is equally improbable. These stories point to Neptune, or some powerful opposition in his chart, or perhaps both.

A moment's glance at his chart does show an exact Moon-Venus conjunction in Aquarius. If this is in any way angular, it makes for a most wonderful and pleasant personality. And, indeed, Archbishop Bergoglio had a wide reputation for friendliness and tolerance, having built many bridges with those of other faiths and beliefs. But as he does not appear to be a clone of Pope John Paul II would seem to indicate that Moon-Venus is not angular and may in fact be cadent, where it would be mostly hidden.

He is said to be a very humble man. **Rex Bills** gives humility as a Saturn trait, which would include Capricorn, if not Aquarius as well. He gives modesty as lunar. **Carter** does not have an entry for humility. For modesty, Carter refers the reader to conceit, oddly enough, which he associates with a Virgo ascendant. He also associates conceit with a weak Sun in Pisces. Interestingly

enough, Pope Francis has Neptune and Saturn opposed from Virgo to Pisces. We are starting to build a picture with definite Saturn-Neptune-Virgo traits.

AT first I was intrigued by the Saturn-Neptune opposition in Francis' chart. I wanted something to drape across his 3rd/9th house. Saturn in 3 is a long, slow slog through education (which can result in a scholar), while Neptune in the 9th can represent the transcendental. I wanted something in the 9th, if I could get it.

Which gave a birth time around 8:10 am, local time. The ascendant is late Capricorn, which Saturn rules, which can indicate a slow and steady progress through life along with greatly delayed achievement. (Francis is now 76. That's a long time to wait for the ultimate reward.) Pluto in the 7th of wife or enemy indicates someone who is probably better off on his own, a tight Moon-Venus conjunction in Aquarius, in the first house, too, makes him friendly to all, Mars on the MC gives him drive, but, in Libra, ruled by Venus conjunct the Moon, an instinctive rather than aggressive one. Sun on the 12th house cusp is an institutional life. I liked 8:10 am, December 17, 1936, Buenos Aires, very much, but in the end I threw the chart away.

I DISCARDED it for the simple reason that I could not find anyone who thought Jorge Mario Bergoglio was simply a nice guy. Nor could I find any indication that Bergoglio "ran with his hunches" or "had his heart on his sleeve" in the fashion of strongly lunar people.

I then considered a Virgo rising chart, set for 12:30 am, with Neptune in the first, and Saturn, in Pisces, opposing from the 7th. I am trying to get a handle on Saturn-Neptune opposed, when slung across the ascendant/descendant. Neptune in the first, one does not appear to be who he is, in Virgo the details are wrong, which seems to be the case. Saturn in 7 is difficulty finding a partner, or harsh partners, or, in Pisces, an idealistic partner who never quite appears, which is a trait of one who becomes celibate as a result. The opposition can make one the victim of stories told by others.

A 12:30 am chart with Virgo rising puts Sagittarius on the 4th house cusp. The books I have all agree that Sag on 4 makes for a large, comfortable home, which the new

continued, pg. 4

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This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's
A Student's Text-Book of Astrology.

Part 8:

Fundamental Principles

continued:—

Mean Day. As the Solar day varies in this manner the *average* length of all the days in a year is used in practice and is called the Mean Day. All our civil time is *Mean Time*, which may or may not coincide with Solar Time, there being at times a discrepancy of as much as 16 minutes. [Note this refers to London.—*Dave*] All astronomical and astrological tables are computed for Mean Time, and all births are registered in Mean Time also, except in the very rare cases where a Sun-dial is used. Then the apparent Time given by the Sun-dial must be converted into Mean Time by adding or subtracting the difference (called the Equation of Time) which is given for every day of the year in **Whitaker's Almanac**, but this is of extremely rare occurrence and cases will probably never be encountered by the student.

The two standards of time used in astrology are the Mean and Sidereal, and as the Mean day is 3^m56^s.56 longer than the Sidereal, Mean Time may be at once converted into Sidereal Time by the addition of 3^m56^s.56 per diem or 9^s.86 per hour. There is a column in the Ephemeris headed "Sidereal Time" which gives the Sidereal Time at noon on the day in question. A clock registering Sidereal Time is in every Observatory and is set at 0^h0^m0^s when 0° Aries is immediately overhead or "on the mid-heaven". One degree passes across the mid-heaven in about 4 minutes and, therefore, the Sidereal Time at noon on any day shows what degree is on the mid-heaven at that moment, and by adding the time elapsed between noon and birth we obtain the Sidereal Time at birth and know from that the degree on the mid-heaven at that particular moment. — **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson. Price \$25.95. **Buy.**

Blagrave on Medicine

Concerning Decoctions and Diet-drinks.

HAVING by the Rules elsewhere expressed in this Book collected the herbs together suitable to the cure according to their virtues and numbers, always remembering in all cures to fortify the heart with herbs proper, you must take the herbs and chop them small: But to all diet drinks I usually add as follows, to make it the more strong and useful, *viz.* raisins, currants, (sometimes figs), liquorice, and aniseed, and if the Patient be much troubled with wind, then you may also put into it sweet fennel-seed, coriander-seed and such like, which are good to expel wind. These additions must be bruised well in a mortar, and so boiled with the herbs, when it's boiling you must keep them close covered, whereby to keep in the spirit, you may boil these herbs, with the addition in beer or ale. If you desire to make it strong and nutritive, then when it is new boiled you may put into it white wine, muscatel, or brandy, according to the temper of the Patient. A good handful of all sorts of herbs put together will be sufficient for three or four gallons of liquor; you may let it boil until a fourth part or thereabouts be wasted, for if you keep it close covered it will not waste very much in the boiling: Now of this diet drink we usually give the Patient thereof three times a day, *viz.* morning, afternoon and at night, and every morning about an hour after they have taken the diet drink, you must give the Patient water gruel or broth made with either the same herbs, or other herbs which are suitable to the Cure, according to their virtues and numbers.

How to extract the Spirits of Plants and Herbs.

If the Patient be weak, and must take small quantities, then you must do as follows, having collected the herbs together suitable to the cure, shred them small with the addi-

tion according as in the decoction aforesaid, and put them into a limbeck still; and put into it a quantity of beer or ale with some white wine, muscatel, and brandy to make it proportionable to the quantity of liquor and herbs before expressed, *viz.* a good handful of herbs with the additions to two quarts or better of liquor, this will keep a long time. There is yet another way to extract the Spirit as follows. Take the herbs with the additions, being shred small and bruised, put them into warm water, and put some berm [sugar or yeast?—*Dave*] in it, let it work three days, as does beer, and then distill it in a limbeck still, if you desire to have it strong you may put brandy or Spirit of Wine in it, and put fresh herbs to it, and still it over again.

The way to make Syrups.

Take the Roses, herbs or flowers, and bruise them, put them into a convenient quantity of fair water, my usual dose is about three pints of water to a pound of flowers, roses, or herbs: let the water be hot, and let it stand with the herbs or flowers in it, about twelve hours, then strain it and infuse more of the same herbs or flowers, and heat more water and put to it; you must sometimes infuse the roses, herbs, or flowers whole without bruising to make it have the smell of the plant: The more of the roses, herbs, or flowers you infuse into the liquor, the stronger it will be, and the oftener you infuse the better: The last infusions I usually boil, and then gently strain it, and to every pint of liquor add a pound of the best Sugar at the least, you must simmer it over the fire, until it be a Syrup, you may know when 'tis enough by cooling some in a spoon, when 'tis made you must keep it in glasses or stone pots, bound over only with paper, or such like, you must not stop it close with cork, lest it break the glass.

— **Blagrave's Astrological Practice of Physick. Buy.** Blagrave continues with instructions for making medicinal lollypops, pills, enemas, fumes, cataplasms, ointments, baths, purges and more. This is what real medicine looks like!



Pope, when he was Archbishop, notably declined. One explanation might be that the ruler of Sagittarius, Jupiter, is here in conservative Capricorn, and in the second house from the 4th, which means that once housing has been assured, which is felt to be a necessity, extravagance in housing would be distasteful.

The Moon-Venus conjunction is here just outside the 6th house cusp, which is Aquarius. Moon-Venus in the 6th gives an instinctive (Moon) desire for selfless (Aquarius) service, and a love of doing so (Venus). They are in, or want to be in, the 12th house from their ruler, which is Saturn. The 12th in this case being a life spent in an institution, such as the Church. So often we see proud, vain, worldly men chosen as popes. In Francis we have a reincarnated monk, one who was comfortable living in his simple cell.

Moon-Venus in 6, with a simple life, I would wager that Bergoglio/Francis is a very good cook, and prefers his own cooking to that of anyone else. Those who live simply are not necessarily good cooks, but if Francis has them in the 6th, he is. He is probably astute in matters of health.

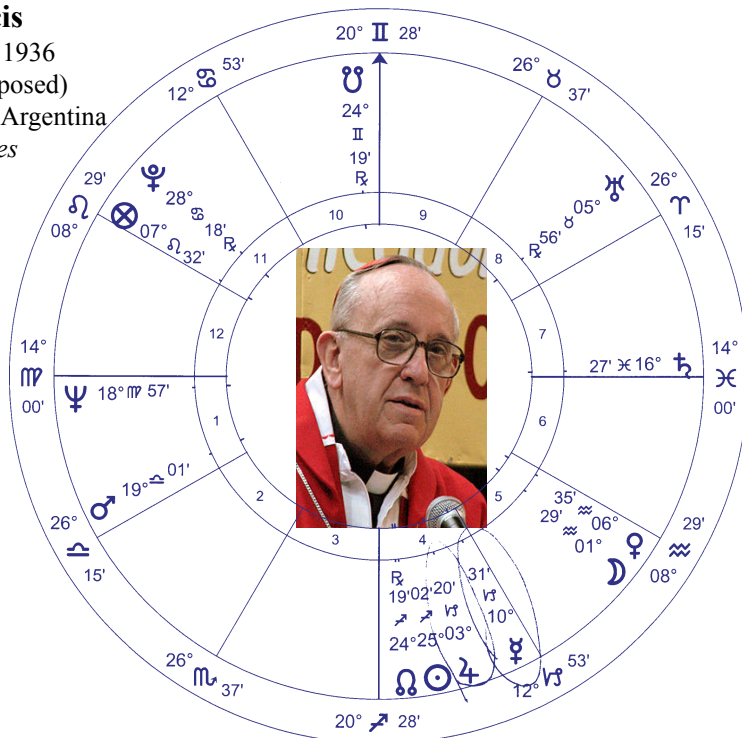
You will note that even at this early hour of birth, the Moon-Pluto opposition, from Capricorn to Cancer, is already broken, as the Moon is in Aquarius. We see traces of an opposition in Bergoglio's dealing with the Argentine junta, where his efforts, which seem to have been entirely behind the scenes, were either ineffective — which isn't very Plutonian — or still hidden — which isn't like an opposition — and misinterpreted, which isn't at all like an opposition, where everything is laid out for all to see.

With Virgo vs: Capricorn ascendants, I am essentially playing with the third decanate of each, though I did not set the midnight chart to quite the appropriate time. David Anrias, in *Man and the Zodiac*, gives similar sketches for both the last ten degrees of Virgo (Taurus decanate) and last ten degrees of Capricorn (Virgo decanate), both of which resemble the new pontiff.

If you are curious, this pope will continue to condemn frivolous sex, as well as homosexuality in all forms. There are strongly structural reasons for both of these positions, but the Church, essentially a heart-based operation, has never been interested in stating concrete reasons for its opinions, not from its very start. If you wish to take the time to develop their reasoning, as I have, you will find the Church's positions to be correct. The Church is to be faulted that it cannot express

Pope Francis

December 17, 1936
12:30 am (proposed)
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Placidus houses
mean node



Taurus decanate of Virgo
(ascendant 20-30 Virgo)

from Anrias



Virgo decanate of Capricorn
(ascendant 20-30 Capricorn)

itself clearly. For myself, I see no profit in spitting into the wind. My focus is astrology, not social issues per se.

IN THE coming days or weeks someone is certain to claim to have seen the birth certificate, with its birth time. I have become suspicious of these claims, as the actual certificates are never supplied, nor are the circumstances surrounding their discovery ever given. The late **Lois Rodden** set this standard, but she, unquestionably, had personal contacts with the various US state records offices, as is evidenced by the many hundreds of birth times she obtained, and published, over many years. There are very few data collectors such as she, I do not know of any other living one.

I think Rodden's standard to be a difficult one, and the temptation to cheat to be strong. The solution, of course, is to **learn**

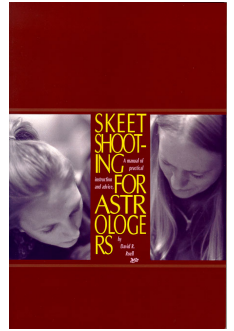
to read a natal chart, in which case the right time, generally that given on the birth certificate, will resoundingly give the right interpretation and explain all the messy personal details. Too many astrologers still "paint by numbers," filling in the details on a pre-arranged canvas, getting vague and hap-hazard results, when great precision can be had. The techniques I use are neo-**Morin**, and though I have not studied him, I am happy to give him credit for the basic concepts, which is to say that accidentals, which is the exact birth time, with specific degrees on house cusps, planets that are read as a blend of sign and house, due care being given to the element and quadruplicity of the planet's sign, as well as its ruler and its placement. This enhanced analysis of the natal chart is essential to unlocking the power of astrology.

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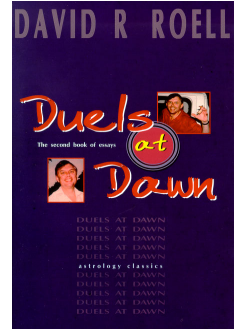
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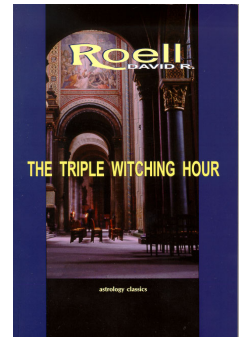
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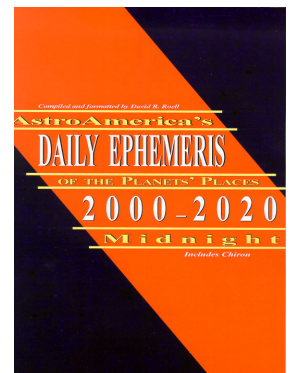
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