

Society Rosicruciana in Anglia

Province of the Home Counties

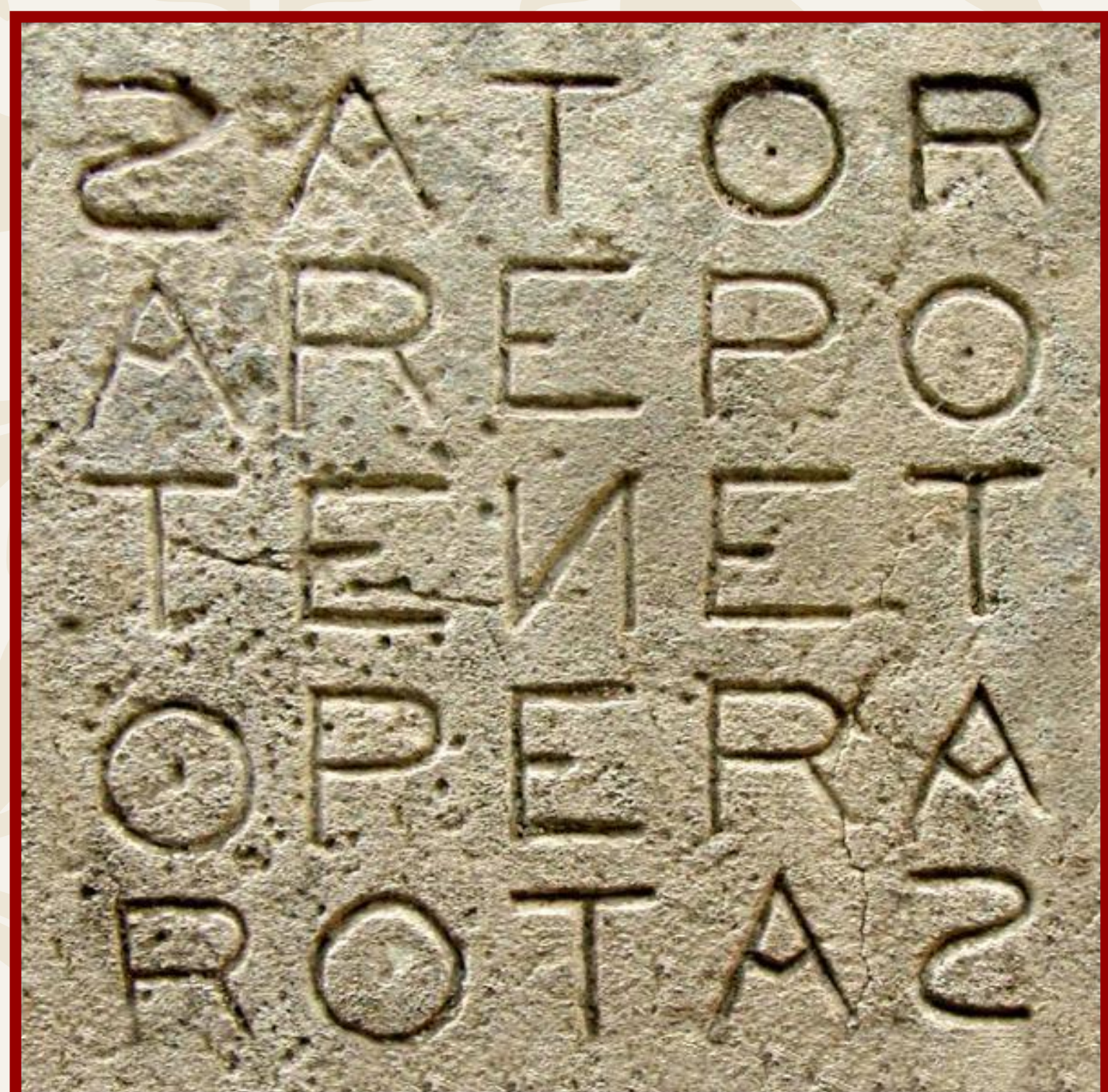
Thomas á Beckett College's 30th Anniversary of Service

Awareness Day

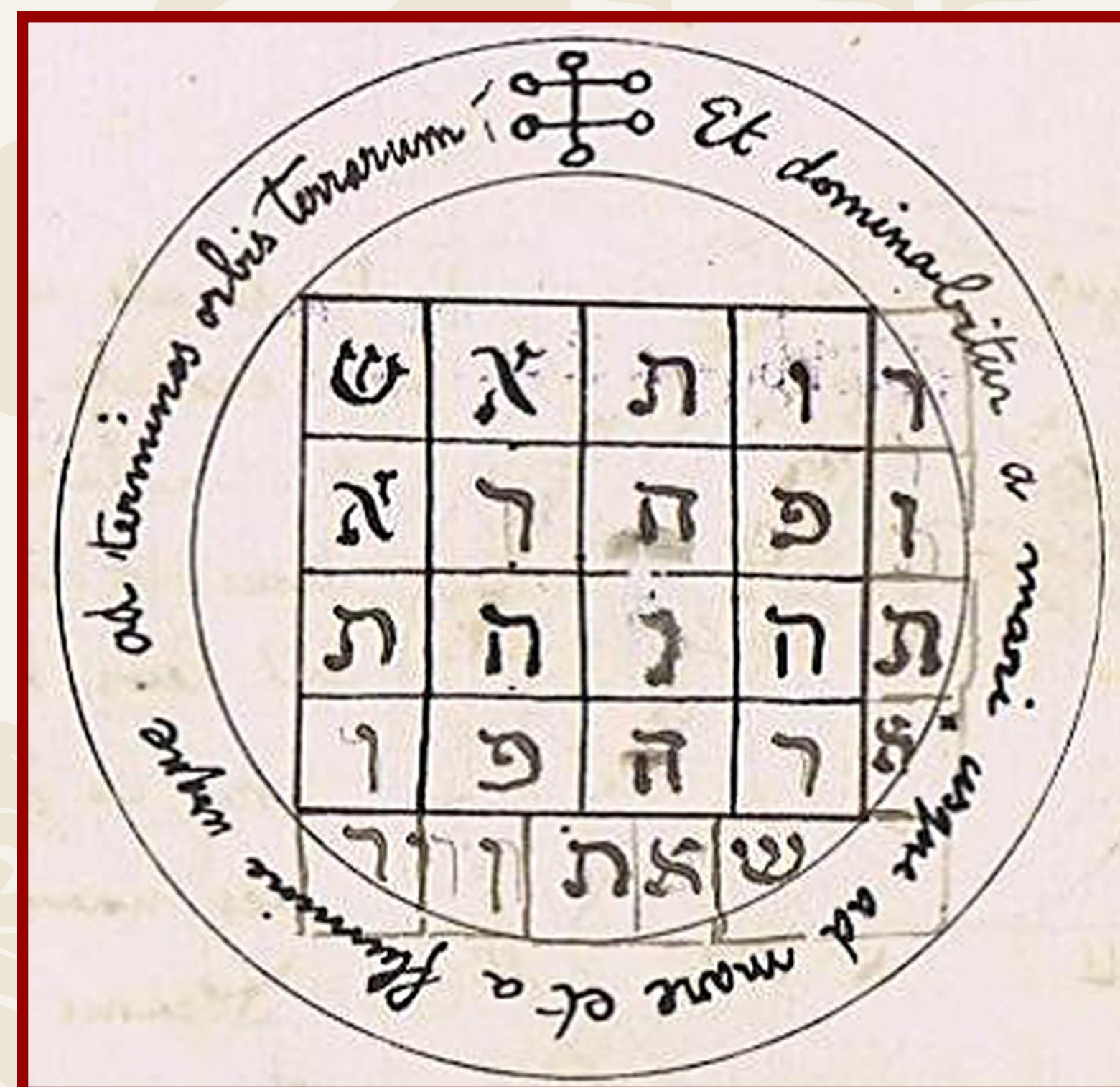
To be held at Wokingham Masonic Centre

The Musings of a Past Celebrant No 17

Christian Symbols



The SATOR square has been found embedded in ancient walls and lintels over doorways.



From William Wynn Westcott's personal scrap book, volume XVI, dated 1902. Left to the SRIA High Council library upon his death in 1925.

The SATOR square was an early Christian Symbol.
Having no Beginning and without End.

SATOR | AREPO | TENET | OPERA | ROTAS

In Cappadocia, in the time of Constantine VII, Porphyrogenitus (913-959), the shepherds of the Nativity story are called SATOR, AREPON, and TENETON.

Some Translations:-

- Sator:** Sower, Planter, Founder, Progenitor (usually divine), Originator.
- Arepo:** (Arrepo) (I) creep/move stealthily towards, also trust, or likely an invented proper name; its similarity with Arrepo, from ad repo, 'I creep towards', may be coincidental. The "arepo" is taken to be in the second declension, the "-o" ending could put the word in the ablative case, giving it a meaning of "by means of [arepus]."
- Tenet:** Holds, keeps, comprehends, possesses, masters, preserves.
- Opera:** Work, care; aid, service, (an) effort/trouble (purpose).
- Rotas:** (Rota) wheel, rotate; (roto) (I) whirl around, revolve rotate; used in the Vulgate Psalms as a synonym for whirlwind and in Ezekiel as plain old 'wheels'.

Some may say the meaning is 'What goes around, comes around'. Although this could be said to be true, a deeper meaning reveals that:

The Devine plan moves ever slowly forward, holding us to account by the wheels of fortune (*Karma*). Our experiences of life are materialised through the AZOTH of life, which the ancients described as Water.