

IMBOLC/CANDLEMAS '06 - Treibh na Tintean

Intro – Sandy

Directions

Casting – borrowed from Starhawk's "River of Life"

Covenant – As we gather here, in our sacred space, a circle is formed and we are connected in spirit.

Invocation –

Goddess, Great Lady, Exalted One, King-maker, Bright Arrow, we call upon You-- Brigit of the eternal flame, Brigit of the sacred springs, mistress of poets, healers and smiths—we invite You to our circle; enter and give us Your blessings.

God, Lord of Smithcraft, Mighty Arm, Sword-maker, Tool-forged, we call upon You—Wayland of the spectral smithy, Wayland of the forest forge, master of craftsman, artisans and smiths—we invite You to our circle; enter and give us Your blessings.

Invocation of the Groundhog – by his special friend, Denise

Welcoming Brigit – (altogether) We welcome You, Brigit, on Candlemas Eve, / we pray for Your blessing, new life to receive, / O Mother of Poetry, teach us Your art, / that Your inspiration may enter each heart.

O Mistress of Magic that stands by the fire / and shapes the bright metal to the form You desire; / O Mother of Smithcraft, please teach us Your art, / that the power of changing may enter each heart.

You kindle the springtime to quicken the earth, / from under Your mantle the old has new birth, / O Mother of Healing, please teach us Your art, / that peace and contentment may enter each heart.

Sweeping the Circle – Move to the edges of our circle, spread out evenly; pass the besom and sweep the part of the circle you are standing in, then pass it on.

- Brigit of the mantles,
Brigit of the twining hair,

Brigit of the peat heap,
Brigit of the augury,

- We ask of Thee the sacred three: to save, to shield, to surround the hearth.

- Brigit of the white palms,
Brigit of the kindness,

Brigit of the calmness,
Brigit of the kine,

- We ask the three this eve, while in Your sight, bless our hearth each single night.

Reaffirmation of Oath – Lady and Lord, we cry out to You! We hold You in honor and know that we are one with all the things of the Earth and Sky. Our kin are the trees and the herbs of the fields; the animals and stones through the seas and the hills. The fresh waters and deserts are built of You, and we are of You and You are of us.

Let each of us rejoice in our oneness with all things and let us love the life that emanates from our Lady and our Lord into all things. We know and accept the creed; we understand that if we do not have that spark of love within us, we will never find it outside of us, for Love is the Law and Love is the Bond!

We stand before You and re-initiate ourselves to Your honor. We will defend and protect Your spark within us and seek Your protection and defense of us. You are our life and we are of You. We accept and will abide by this circle's agreements and by the Rede, that an' it harms none, we may do as we will. So mote it be!

Blessing the Candles –

- We bless thee, creatures of wax and light, casting out all negativity.

- Serve your purpose, flaming bright, infused with magic and healing.

- Instruments of light and strength, wick and wax though you be,

- I give you life of needed length to aid in creativity.

- In the name of the Goddess and the God, so mote it be!

A Story of Butter - Richard

Communion

Burning the Greens - as we add them to the fire, say- “The fire of Brigit is the flame on my hearth; the fire of Brigit is the flame in my heart.”

Thanking God and Goddess – (altogether) We thank you for golden mornings; we thank you for sparkling seas; we thank you for prairies, valleys, mountains and stately forest trees.

We thank you for flashing sunshine and life-bestowing rain; for birds among the branches and springtime come again!

Thanking the Directions

The circle is open, but unbroken. May the peace of Brigit be ever with you. Merry meet, and merry part, and merry meet again!

Directions for Imbolc '06

Calling North: Powers of Earth, Guardians of the Watchtower of the North—minerals of the earth, steel and stone, wood and bronze, gold and charcoal, hammer and anvil, sword and shield, helm and torc, enduring matter that was before and will endure after all else has past—come to this circle tonight. So mote it be!

Thanking: Powers of Earth, Guardians of the Watchtower of the North, we thank you for blessing us. We in turn bless you as you return to your realm.

Directions for Imbolc '06

Calling East: Powers of Air, Guardians of the Watchtower of the East—winds that fan the fires of the forge, winds that cool the brow of the Smith, winds of ancient knowledge of smithcraft, of metals and of stones—come to this circle tonight. So mote it be!

Thanking: Powers of Air, Guardians of the Watchtower of the East, we thank you for blessing us. We in turn bless you as you return to your realm.

Directions for Imbolc '06

Calling South: Powers of Fire, Guardians of the Watchtower of the South—flame of forge that heats the iron, flame which melts apart and welds together, flame that transforms the metal that it may be worked, flame which hardens so that all else will yield before its sharpness and strength—come to this circle tonight. So mote it be!

Thanking: Powers of Fire, Guardians of the Watchtower of the South, we thank you for blessings us. We in turn bless you as you return to your realm.

Directions for Imbolc '06

Calling West: Powers of Water, Guardians of the Watchtower of the West—liquid that quenches the hot metal to temper it, cool draught which quenches thirst after the heat of the forge, cleanliness of the ritual bath—come to this circle tonight. So mote it be!

Thanking: Powers of Water, Guardians of the Watchtower of the West, we thank you for blessing us. We in turn bless you as you return to your realm.

Casting for Imbolc '06

We cast this circle as sons and daughters,
Spinners and weavers,
Tool makers, potters,
As dancers and dreamers,
Fixers, changers,
Singers and screamers.

We cast this circle with our ancestors and guardians,
God and Goddess too,
You who teach and who speak true,
Who plant, who reap,
Who soar, who creep,
Who cook, who drum,
Who have been and yet to come,
Unreasonable women
Unmanageable men.

We cast as pagan, druid and witches,
Sometimes sweet loving hearts or furious bitches.
We are sweet water, we are the seed;
We are the storm wind to blow away greed.
Into this circle we bring to birth
The love that reclaims our earth.