

Imbolc '13 with Treibh na Tintean (tryv -na-tintawn)

CLEANSING: *[Anoint yourself with water from Brigid's well.]*

OPENING MEDITATION IN 5 PARTS:

SPIRIT – Out of the cold, dark winter space, we come together—looking for Brigid's grace. We dip our open hands deep into the well. Where our rivers run to, who can tell, who can tell.

We warm our hearts and faces in the heat of the burning flame; something about our spirit never stays the same.

EAST – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

NORTH – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

WEST – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

SOUTH – Within *you*.

SPIRIT – So many lives in shadows, with so much to give away—brilliant dreams in waiting, to see the light of day. We step up to the well at the dawn of spring time, and when we go our way, we let the light shine. Let your light shine.

EAST – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

NORTH – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

WEST – Don't be afraid of the light that shines within you.

SOUTH – Let the light protect you.

EAST – Let the light direct you.

NORTH – Don't be afraid.

WEST – Don't be afraid.

SOUTH – The light shines within *you*.

DIRECTIONS:

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 smith craft, of metals and of stones—come to this circle tonight. So mote it be!

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!

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!

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!

SPIRIT: Powers of the Spirit of Imbolc, inspire us to honor the dark and fallow time of year--the peace of germination. Help us to wait on the bustle of new beginnings—to breathe in before we breathe out. Guide us in sharpening our blades before we plow! So mote it be!

CASTING: *[All]* 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, / 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.

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

INVOKATIONS:

BRIGID: *[All]* Great Lady, Exalted One, King-Maker, Bright Arrow, we call upon You: Brigid of the eternal flame, Brigid of the sacred springs, mistress of poets, healers and smiths—we invite You to our circle; enter and give us Your blessings.

WAYLAND: *[All]* Lord of Smithcraft, Mighty Arm, Sword-maker, Tool-forger, we call upon You: Wayland of the spectral smithy, Wayland of the forest forge, master of craftsmen, artisans and smiths—we invite You to our circle; enter and give us Your blessings.

BLESSING THE CANDLES

EAST: I invoke the spirits of the east who paint the morning sky with brilliant light, who bring us the rebirth of the spirit! By the air that is Her breath, bless these candles and their users with Brigid's gifts of poetry and intelligence! So mote it be.

SOUTH: I invoke the spirits of the south who burn brightly as we celebrate the return of light, who are the fire of the forge that transforms us! By the flames that heat the cauldron, bless these candles and their users with Brigid's gifts of lore and knowledge! So mote it be.

WEST: I invoke the spirits of the west, deep waters of the sacred well who cleanse and restore us, who heal us of all wounds! By the water that is Her blood, bless these candles and their users with Brigid's gifts of meditation, reflection and comprehension! So mote it be.

NORTH: I invoke the spirits of the north, keepers of life's secrets, most powerful & ancient forces of creation, who greet us in wholeness at the end of our lives! By the earth that is Her body, bless these candles and their users with Brigid's gifts of wisdom and research! So mote it be!

INSPIRATION:

SPIRIT: Know this—each of us crafts our life from the raw materials given us by the gods.

NORTH: Some of us are born with clever hands and fine materials; others have less to work with.

EAST: Yet with learning, practice and hard work, any of us can craft a life that is beautiful and worthy to present before the Mighty Ones.

SOUTH: Did not the gods create the very universe from nothing but the original void? And are we not ourselves the children of the gods?

WEST: Therefore, tonight we ask each of you to meditate quietly for a moment; decide on an action you can take that will make your life better.

SPIRIT: As a magickal sign, reminder and tool to help you carry through, you have the chance to make a talisman within the circle.

G.FAIRY: At the quarters, you will find wood and leather, marking pens and help. There are also charts of symbols for you to consult. When making your talisman, choose a symbol to put on the wood or leather piece to match your intent.

SPIRIT: Choose a symbol you are drawn to, instead of looking too closely at the meaning. Go with your instincts. Trust the Goddess' hand. Think now on what you will do; then—when you hear the bell—go to North or South to make a wood talisman, or go to East or West to make a leather talisman.

CHARGING:

[Talisman in your right hand—left hands over right—for vine dance at least once around to charge items. Chant the following:]

Brigid power / Brigid light / Brigid magic and blessings tonight!

COMMUNION: bread ‘n butter!

THANKING:

BRIGID: *[All]* Brigid of the eternal flame, Brigid of the sacred springs, mistress of poets, healers and smiths—we thank You for being in our circle; thank You for Your blessings. Hail and farewell!

WAYLAND: *[All]* Wayland of the spectral smithy, Wayland of the forest forge, master of craftsmen, artisans and smiths—we thank You for being in our circle; thank You for Your blessings.

NORTH: Guardians of the Watchtower of the North—minerals of the earth, steel and stone, enduring matter that was before and will endure after all else has past—thank you for being in this circle tonight. Blessed be!

WEST: Guardians of the Watchtower of the West—liquid that quenches the hot metal, cool draught which quenches thirst—thank you for being in this circle tonight. Blessed be!

SOUTH: Guardians of the Watchtower of the South—flame of forge that heats the iron, flame that transforms the metal that it may be worked,—thank you for being in this circle tonight. Blessed be!

EAST: Guardians of the Watchtower of the East—winds that fan the fires of the forge, winds that cool the brow of the Smith—thank you for being in this circle tonight. Blessed be!

SPIRIT: Powers of Spirit, Imbolc time—you are the quiet pause we need to renew ourselves, to sharpen our wits and tools. Thank you for being in our circle tonight. Blessed be!

[All] Brigid peace around us. / Brigid peace upon us. / Brigid peace within us. / Brigid peace from us. This circle is open, / but unbroken. / Merry meet, merry part, and merry meet again!