

PANTHEACON 2006 ADF UNITY RITE

PRE RITUAL BRIEFING – MEREDITH

PRESIDING DRUID (PD - ISAAC) - Thrice Three Chimes announce the rite.

OUTDWELLERS (_ JACK _)

To You who stood against the gods.

To You who stood against our forbearers.

To You who stand against us.

We thank you for the lessons you teach and the strength you build.

(Druid makes offering in thanks.)

But we ask you to remain beyond the sound of our drum/s for this time.

(Druid makes offering of exchange.)

Take this offering and trouble not our rite!

(Druid makes offering to seal the pact.)

So be it. *(Use hearth language if desired.)*

PD – Brothers and sisters, you may enter the nemeton.

CHANT

“We approach the sacred grove, with hearts and minds and flesh and bone.

Join us now in ways of old. We have come home.”

EARTH MOTHER (_ LINDA _)

O, Glorious womb of harvest.

You fiery heart of creation.

Gracious green mother.

Great Mother! Take this offering and uphold us in our rite.

(Druid makes offering of grain.)

Earth Mother, Accept our sacrifice!

ALL: *Earth Mother, Accept our sacrifice!*

CALL FOR INSPIRATION (_ MEREDITH _)

Blessed Imbas

Divine light

Holy work of Brid

Inspire our works.

Inspire our words.

As we merge the worlds this day.

A Brid Accept our sacrifice! *(Offering of hazelnut oil is made to the ‘fire’)*

ALL: *Accept our sacrifice!*

PD: We now make ourselves ready for the working of the rite.

GROVE ATTUNEMENT

(Two people will circle to cense and asperse the group repeating the prayer of PURIFICATION,)

*(**_OGAM to cense; _____**)*

**ALL: By the might of the water and the light of the fire,
this grove is made whole and holy.**

(SEER-Meredith leads a grounding meditation. This may end in a general 'toning' or group hum.)

PD: We now consecrate the hallows by which we make offering. **(*SIGNAL HALLOWS*)**

CONSECRATING THE HALLOWS

WELL (_Anne_)

Darkest source

Draught (Draft) of life

Embracing Mist

Carry our words to the depths of the worlds and fill us with your power.

Sacred Waters Flow within Us!

ALL: *Sacred Waters Flow within Us!*

FIRE (_Richard/Shannon_)

Celestial Spark

Hearth's provider

Molten rage

Carry our words to the shining ones and charge us with their power.

Sacred Fire Burn within Us!

ALL: *Sacred Fire Burn within Us!*

TREE (_Ogam_)

Pillared Axis

Doorway to the Earth

Friendly shelter

Bridge the gap between the worlds that we may share this rite.

Sacred Tree Grow within us!

ALL: *Sacred Tree Grow within us!*

OPENING THE GATES (_Isaac_)

A Manannan Mac Lir!

Traveling Trickster

King of the Sidhe!

You, who taught Lugh his many skills

We would walk in your ways this day.

(Druid pours offering in the fire.)

Manannan! Accept our Sacrifice!

ALL: Manannan! Accept our Sacrifice!

Now, Manannan, Join your magic with ours and . . .

Let the well open as a gate

Let the Fire open as a gate

And let the tree become a bridge that offers safe commerce between the worlds.

Manannan Mac Lir! Let the gates be open!

ALL: Let the gates be open!

PD: We now invite the three kindred to share our rite.

PURPOSE AND PRECEDENT

(PD States the occasion and the ritual's main patron.)

NATURE SPIRITS (_ Guilford _)

Unseen wights of woods, streams and cinderblocks.

You who share this realm with us.

Helpers and tricksters

Teachers and friends

We honor you here and ask that you join us at our hearthside.

Nature Spirits, Join us!

ALL: Nature Spirits, Join us!

ANCESTORS (_ Kestrel _)

Mothers and fathers of long ago

And those newly beyond the veil.

Heroes, Scholars and Mystics

Farmers, Smiths and Merchants

We honor you here and ask that you join us at our hearthside.

Ancestors, Join us!

ALL: Ancestors, Join us!

SHINING ONES (_ Wayne _)

Shining one, first children of the mother.

Highest and mightiest

You of this place, known or unknown.

You who foster the people gathered here.

The children of the earth honor you and offer you welcome.

Shining ones Join us at our fire!

ALL: Shining ones Join us at our fire!

INVOCATION of the DAGDA

PD: *A HYMN TO THE DAGDA* by Isaac Bonewits

http://www.neopagan.net/IB_Songs_Irish.html#HymntotheDagda

MAIN OFFERING (PD)

(PD or SEER will lead an attunement to prepare the people for the main offering. This may include a simple centering and statement of intent, a chant or a meditation that prepares them for a story or enactment.)

PD: (Something to this effect) In ADF we have a fairly recent tradition of a ‘Unity Rite.’ In this practice we hold a ritual to honor the fellowship we share. You will hear the names of each of our groves called out by ADF members gathered around the ‘nemeton’ today. In doing this we regularly acknowledge the many different groups across the US, Canada and England that make up ADF. Pantheon is an opportunity to also link our groups to the many pagan paths that are represented here and we thank you for your participation.

CALLING OF THE GROVE NAMES

(As described above . . . the list of ADF groves and protogroves will be called out by individual ADF members spread around the room.)

PD: We offer this parchment, bearing those names we have spoken today as a gift to all of the kindred gathered here. Great Dagdha whose hospitality knows no bounds, may we always remember the gifts of your cauldron are evident in each and every one of us. Hear your children as we offer up our own names three times in a pledge of pagan unity.

(At this time, all who would pledge to seek unity rather than division in the pagan community – speak your name three times, rising in power with each speaking.)

PIACULAR OFFERING (SEER)

Great ones! If our words have been in error;
If our actions have offended;
If we have forgotten homage;
Accept this sacrifice.

RETURN FLOW OMEN (SEER)

PD: And now, having offered to the kindreds, the flow turns and we ask what they would offer us in return.

(Seer takes the omen – by pulling three lots.)

INVOCATION OF THE CUP (Jack)

Ancient ones, we have heard you!
We have offered to you and share this rite with you!
We have joined as a people and now ask for your blessing!
Shining ones, Give us the waters!
ALL: *Shining ones, Give us the waters!*
Shining ones, Give us the waters!
ALL: *Shining ones, Give us the waters!*
Shining ones, Give us the waters of life!

ALL: *Shining ones, Give us the waters of life!*

CHARGING THE BLESSING CUP

Instead of pouring the blessing cup for those gathered to drink, we will asperse them with the waters. So that they can share in the blessing offered by the omen.

The cup is charged by the SEER with the elements of the omen. The cup is placed in the center of three candles or offering plates with camphor tablets. The seer lights each flame from the source fire, using the words in the omen as s/he lights them.

The cup is used to asperse the group. There may be a chant here, or a mini-symbel (toast) in the Norse style.

(**Jack**) BEHOLD! the waters of life.

PD: At this time we will call upon the Dagda to infuse this ‘cauldron’ of acorns with his fertile power. May he bless each of them with prosperity. And as each pagan gathered here takes one of the acorns, may they use it to strengthen our faith and our worship with the coin of the realm.

(The acorns are energized by toning. Once they are infused with the Dagda’s blessing, the cauldron will be passed among the group so that each person may take an acorn.)

THANKING THOSE WHO HAVE AIDED OUR RITE

PD: Having offered to the kindred and received their blessings, we now thank all those who have aided us in our rite.

Mighty Dagda! We Thank You! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Nature Spirits! We thank you! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Ancestors! We Thank You! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Shining Ones! We Thank You! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Blessed Brid we thank you! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Earth Mother, We thank you! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

Manannan mac Lir, we thank you! **ALL:** *We thank you!*

PD: We now return the unused portions of our offerings to the Earth Mother. (*S/he does so.*) And, we call once more on Manannan mac Lir to close the gates.

CLOSING THE GATES

Manannan Mac Lir! join your magic with ours and . . .

Let the Well be but water.

Let the fire be but flame

And may the sacred tree be but a symbol of our connection to the kindred.

Manannan Mac Lir! Let the gates be closed!

ALL: *Let the gates be closed!*

PD: Brothers and sisters, go in peace and blessings, the rite is ended!