

Imbolc



What is Imbolc?

IMBOLC IMBOLC (PRONOUNCED IM-BOLG OR IM-BOLK) IS OLD IRISH FOR "IN THE BELLY." IT'S ALSO KNOWN AS OIMELC, LADY DAY, AND, IN CHRISTIANITY, CANDLEMAS OR ST. BRIGID'S DAY. IMBOLC IS A FIRE FESTIVAL THAT IS TRADITIONALLY CELEBRATED ON FEBRUARY 1-2 THE MIDPOINT BETWEEN YULE (WINTER SOLSTICE) AND OSTARA (SPRING EQUINOX). TRADITIONALLY, IMBOLC REPRESENTS THE BEGINNING OF SPRING AND THE TIME WHEN THE FIRST LAMBS ARE BORN AND THE TIME TO HONOR THE FERTILITY GODDESS BRIGID. AS THE DAYS LENGTHEN BIT BY BIT.

Correspondences:

COLORS: WHITE, RED, ORANGE, GREEN, YELLOW, BLUE

ANIMALS: GROUNDHOG, SHEEP, COWS, SWANS, EWES, DEER, ROBINS, HIBERNATING ANIMALS

CRYSTALS: CLEAR QUARTZ, AMETHYST, RUBY, SUNSTONE, GARNET, BLOODSTONE, AMBER, TIGERS EYE, ROSE QUARTZ, CARNELIAN, JASPER, CHRYSOCOLLA, MOSS AGATE

FLOWERS & HERBS: LAVENDER, CHAMOMILE, BASIL, BAY, ROSEMARY, SNOWDROPS, CROCUS, DAFFODIL, BLACKBERRY, ANGELICA, WORMWOOD

FOODS & BEVERAGES: CHEESE, BUTTER, MILK, PANCAKES, ONIONS, BREAD, SOUPS, WINTER VEGETABLES, POTATOES, BREADS, GRAINS, EGGS, DRIED FRUITS, PICKLED FOODS, NUTS

ALTAR: SUN SYMBOLS, SHEEP, CANDLES, FLOWERS, BRIGID'S CROSS, SEEDS, POTTED BULBS, MILK BOTTLES, COWS, LACE, CRYSTALS

DEITIES: BRIGHID, APHRODITE, AENGHUS, BAST, CERRIDWEN, EROS, FAUNUS, GAIA, HESTIA, PAN, VENUS, VESTA

INCENSE & OILS: MYRRH, CINNAMON, FRANKINCENSE, JASMINE, VANILLA, NEROLI, PRIMROSE

TREES & SHRUBS: ROWAN, SYCAMORE, CEDAR, BIRCH, BLACKTHORN

OFFERINGS: MILK, FIRST GREENS AND FLOWERS, OATS, BUTTER, SEEDS, BREAD

SPELLS: PROTECTION, CLEANSING, FERTILITY, HOME AND HEARTH, BLESSINGS, WISHING, NEW BEGINNINGS, CHANGE, PURIFICATION, PATIENCE, INNER CHILD AWAKENING

How to Celebrate:

- 1.) CLEANSE YOUR SPACE WITH AN HERBAL BUNDLE OR OTHER METHOD OF CHOICE
- 2.) LIGHT RED, ORANGE AND YELLOW CANDLES TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE SUN.
- 3.) DECLUTTER YOUR HOME AND DONATE
- 4.) CREATE AN ALTAR OR MINI ALTAR FOR IMBOLC BY USING SUN SYMBOLS, SHEEP, FLOWERS, ETC
- 5.) PLANT SEEDS WITH YOUR INTENTIONS AND WATCH THEM GROW WHEN YOU NURTURE THEM.
- 6.) CREATE A MEAL USING INGREDIENTS THAT CORRESPOND WITH YOUR INTENTIONS.
- 7.) CREATE A BRIGID CROSS FOR PROTECTION.
- 8.) LEAVE MILK OUT FOR BRIGID ON IMBOLC EVE. BRIGID IS ASSOCIATED WITH FERTILITY, HEALING AND SPRING.
- 9.) LIGHT GREEN CANDLES FOR GROWTH AND PROSPERITY AND WHITE CANDLES FOR CLEANSING.
- 10.) MEDITATE, JOURNAL, SEARCH FOR SIGNS OF SPRING, ENJOY THE INCREASING DAYLIGHT

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