

A Daily OBOD Devotion

(Have ready a candle appropriate to the season, a wand, a piece of bread, a cup of water or other suitable liquid (mead, etc.), a bowl of earth, and a feather.)

Blessed Bhrighid, guardian of this Grove and of its people, I ask your blessing on my daily devotions. May the Uncreated One shine upon this circle, illuminate my thoughts, and give meaning to my actions. May all disturbing thoughts be put aside.

(Wave wand about to indicate the circle of the grove.)

This is the circle of our horizon, of our lives and lands, of time and of the year, of seasons and goodness, of birth and of growing, of dying and rebirth. I stand beneath the radiant eye of Father Sun, here and now, between past and future. Mother Earth is beneath me, Sister Moon and the starry heavens are above me, the sacred grove surrounds me. This is sacred space. This is sacred time.

(Face North. Take a pinch of soil from the bowl of earth and sprinkle it about.)

May this circle be purified and blessed with the element of earth. I call upon the powers of the North and the element of Earth, generous and deep. In her, we sow that we may reap. Give us your charm and bring no harm. I cherish the deep and fruitful soil of our mother earth. I ask the blessing and guidance of the Great Bear of the starry heavens, and the power of Nathrach-Talamh (*talav*), the Earth Dragon. May I eat of the bowl of sustenance.

(Break and eat a piece of the bread. Next face South.)

May this circle be purified and blessed with the element of fire. I call upon the powers of the South, of the warming Sun and the element of Fire. In your heat may life burn strong and bright. May the inner fire of the sun warm our hearts and bring harm to none. I ask the blessing and guidance of the Great Stag in the heat of the chase, and the power of Nathrach-Tienne (*tenu*), the Fire Dragon. May I warm myself at the fire of strength.

(Now Light the festive candle. Facing East, hold feathers up to the sky.)

May this circle be purified and blessed with the element of air. I call upon the powers of the East and the element of Air. Rise and turn and blow your breath, stir the wind but do no harm, fill our lungs with clear, pure air. I ask the blessing and guidance of the Hawk of Dawn, soaring in the clear, pure air, and the power of Nathrach-Ear (*a-ur*), the Air Dragon. May we breathe of the winds of inspiration.

(Face west. Dip fingers into the vessel of water and sprinkle about.)

May this circle be purified and blessed with the element of water. I call upon the powers of the West and the element of Water. Within her great heart, life came to be. With crashing wave, roaring rapid and gentle rain, sustain us all but bring no harm. We ask the blessing and guidance of the Salmon of Wisdom who dwells within the sacred waters of the pool, and of Nathrach-Uisce (*ooschu*), the water dragon. May we drink deep from the cup of wisdom.

(Sip from vessel.)

Let me dedicate this day's work with that prayer which unites all druids.

Grant O Spirit thy protection,
And in protection, strength,
And in strength, understanding,
And in understanding, knowledge,
And in knowledge, the knowledge of justice,
And in knowledge of justice, the love of it,
And in the love of it, the love of all existences,
And in the love of all existences, the love of Spirit and all goodness.

Awen. Awen. Awen. *(Pronounced Ah-OOO-in.)*

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(Here a ceremony appropriate to the current day may be done.)

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CLOSING

On this day, I stand here in celebration, three in one: Love, the Lands and the people, encircled by peace. May the Sun that is the inspirer shine within my heart that I may go from this place knowing that we live as One People on the One Earth that is our home.

Three times, clasping hands:

I swear by peace and love to stand,
Heart to heart and hand to hand.
Mark oh Spirit and hear me now,
Confirming this, my sacred vow.

Deep within the still center of my being, may I find peace.
Silently within the quiet of the grove, may I share peace.
Gently within the greater circle of humankind, may I radiate peace.

(Face west.) I release the Dragon of the West, Nathrach-Uisge (*ooschu*).
May it bring peace to the West.

(Face east.) I release the Dragon of the East, Nathrach-Ear (*a-ur*). May it
bring peace to the East.

(Face south.) I release the Dragon of the South, Nathrach-Tienne (*tenu*).
May it bring peace to the South.

(Face north.) I release the Dragon of the North, Nathrach-Talamh (*talav*).
May it bring peace to the North.

Eternal wisdom be with me and with all beings - past, present and yet to be.
I now declare that this ceremony is closed in the apparent world. May its
inspiration continue within me.