

CAULDRON RITE FOR WITCHES PETITIONS AN ESBAT FOR ANY SEASON

This ritual is offered as an example of the kinds of ceremonies and rites that will be found in the Sacred Pentagraph Tradition.

It was first performed in the Summer of 2005 at the WCC Temple in Toronto, Ontario and is being released to the general Craft for those who may find it useful.

As long as credit for authorship is acknowledged, any Craft group may avail themselves of it.

This rite could be done out of doors, as a boiling cauldron is needed, bubbling before the rite begins. If done indoors in a Coven Ritual Temple, perhaps a small cauldron on a hot plate could be employed, but any electrical cords would have to be taped over or covered with rugs to prevent a Covener tripping on it.

Items Needed:

- 1 Book of Spells to act as a tray.
- 1 Vial of Esbat Oil, perhaps of Rose, Lilly or Jasmine.
- 1 Small Dish of Herbs, perhaps of Basil, Thyme and Rosemary.
- 1 Hand Bell.
- 1 Small dish of aromatic gums, such as Frankincense and Myrrh.
- Strips of writing paper and pens for the Covenanters.

The Officiant could be one of the High Priesthood, or an Acolyte to the High Priesthood; one in training for the High Priesthood. He or She would have a ritual Staff at hand in Circle.

To Begin, the Coven is assembled to stand around the boiling cauldron, next to the Altar, upon which the items needed rest and each Covener receives a strip of paper and a pen from the Officiant.

When ready, the Officiant says:

LORD AND LADY BLESS US THIS NIGHT!

Taking up the Book of Spell, as a tray, with the oil, the herbs and the gums and handbell upon it, the Officiant intones:

HOLY OIL, BOOK AND BELL,
SUMMON THE WILL TO WORK THIS SPELL!

Some oil from the vial is poured into the boiling cauldron, the handbell is rung over the boiling water.

Setting the book with the items upon it, back upon the Altar, the Officiant takes up the Ritual Staff and moves to the North of the Circle area and intones:

I PLACE THE WARDS OF THE NORTH UPON THIS SPOT!

Moving widdershins to the West:

I PLACE THE WARDS OF THE WEST UPON THIS SPOT!

To the South:

I PLACE THE WARDS OF THE SOUTH UPON THIS SPOT!

To the East:

I PLACE THE WARDS OF THE EAST UPON THIS SPOT!

Moving to the North:

THE CIRCLE IS COMPLETE!

The Officiant returns to stand by the cauldron, next to the Altar and takes up the small dish of herbs and pours them into the boiling water and does the same with the aromatic gums, intoning these words:

BY HERB AND ROOT, BY GUM AND OIL,
LET THIS CAULDRON FROTH AND BOIL.

BY VISION IN THE WATER AND STEAM,
ENLIVEN BOTH DESIRE AND DREAM.

Pouring the last of the oil into the cauldron, as it is circumambulated widdershins thrice, these words are intoned:

THICE AROUND THE CAULDRON GO
AS TIME AND SPACE EBB AND FLOW!

INTO IT WE PUT BOTH WISH AND WILL,
THAT THE WORLD MUST NOW SET TO FULFILL!

The Coven bard may begin a soft, but skipping drum beat, as the Coveners are told to write down a petition of what each most needs from the “Gods” or the “Universe”.

Each Covener, one by one, dances to the drum beat and moves around the cauldron, depositing his or her petition into the boiling water, as the completed results of the petition is strongly visualized.

After all the petitions have been placed in the bubbling cauldron, the Officiant has everyone join hands in the Circle and concentrate, as he or she intones, thrice:

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE BLESSINGS ALREADY ON THE WAY!

The group, with joined hands begins to circle widdershins, as each repeats the intontion.

Sufficient meditative Time should be allowed for each Covener, to commune with the powers that be, as the group circles around.

The Officiant then calls to order and has the Coveners turn around and face outwards from the center, as he o she says:

ALL THE ELEMENTS AND THE GODS AND GODDESSES BEAR WITNESS TO OUR EFFORTS.

SEND YOUR THOUGHTS TO ALL CORNERS OF THE EARTH AS EACH DESIIRE AND PETITION SEEKS ITS OWN FULFILLMENT. BLESSED BE!

To close the Circle, the Officiant takes up the Ritual Staff again and moves to the North of the Circle, thumping the staff thrice, and saying:

I BREAK THE WARDS OF THE NORTH FROM THIS SPOT!

Moving deosil to the East the same is said for that Quarter and repeated all around, breaking the Wards at the South and the West and returning to the North.

There, the Officiant says:

CONSUMMATUM EST! LET NORMAL TIME AND SPACE RESUME!

The handbell may then be rung thirteen times.

The cauldron should be removed from the fire or heat source and allowed to cool. What is in it should be disposed of in running water out in Nature.

Any normal Coven Esbat meal can be served and the Ritual Space cleaned up.

Tarostar Ides of March, 2013