



*We stand in the lineage of women who have
walked with Brigid
in the light of the Divine Feminine,
illuminating their time.
Women have tended the fire of the hearth
and the light of soul for centuries.
We can remember the prayer for hearth fire
and the art of fire tending
and kindle the light again for our time.*

Light for Dark Times Tending Brigid's fire through the ages

January 31-February 2, 2025

Wellspring Retreat Center, Germantown, MD

*Brigid of the Mantle,
Encompass us,
Lady of the Lambs protect us,
Beneath your mantle,
Gather us,
And restore us to memory.
Mothers of our mother,
Foremothers strong,
Guide our hands in yours,
Remind us how
To kindle the hearth.
To keep it bright,
To preserve the flame...
To kindle the light,
Both day and night.
--Celtic prayer for hearth fire*

Deep in the heart of winter women gather on the feast day of St. Brigid, February 1. Also known as Imbolc, Brigid's feast day is an ancient Celtic festival midway between Solstice and Equinox, one that marks a deep turning toward the hope of spring. The women gather around a sacred fire, a flame that burned for millennia in Brigid's monastery of Kildare, rekindled now with revived interest in the figure who is both Irish saint and Celtic goddess.

Brigid inhabited the centuries as Fire Goddess and incandescent Celtic saint, the embodiment of wisdom and the Sacred Feminine. Throughout the ages holy women have allowed her fire to warm and embolden them and in so doing brought light to their time. In our own dark time when all we have known and have loved is in peril, how might we draw encouragement and inspiration from Brigid and the women who embodied her fire?

Join us for a weekend's immersion deep into the glowing heart and soul of the Sacred Feminine with stories of Brigid and women who exemplify her wisdom, in whose lineage we stand. Be touched by the quiet presence of the winter landscape, the deep knowing rising from the softly breathing Earth and her resting inhabitants. Participate in guided circles of story and ceremony, dance, drumming, and council. Weave community with women drawn together into a wild and holy journey.

The fee for this retreat is based on the nature of the retreat, cost of lodging and food, and modest reimbursement for four leaders. We realize the fee may be beyond the ability of some and can provide partial scholarships for those who need assistance. Scholarship applications are available at registration. **Fees include lodging, six meals, and program.**

\$485 - single occupancy

\$435 - double occupancy (register with a friend/roommate or be willing to be paired)

Register at Friends of Silence (www.friendsofsilence.net)

Retreat leaders
Lindsay McLaughlin,
Leah Rampy, Lisa Bardack, and
Katy Gaughan bring years of
dedicated learning, practice,
mentoring, and leadership in
retreats, dance, and drumming.