

Brigid of the Sacred Oak.

Twenty years her women spent with the oaks.

Twenty years

to deepen relationship with the Holy Wild,

to grow hands to nourish,

to learn herbs to heal,

to send roots into soil and soul,

to garner Earth's wisdom,

to become elders and kin among the oaks.

This is our lineage.

The time to claim who we come from is upon us.

Brigid of the Sacred Oak Wisdom of the Divine Feminine for our time

January 30-February 1, 2026 Wellspring Retreat Center, Germantown, MD

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 surrounded by oaks, the trees beloved of Brigid and the Druids, reflected in the name of Brigid's monastery, Kildare ("church of the oak"). In deep relationship with oaks and with the Earth the trees are rooted in, women of Brigid's time were healers, midwives,

Healthy Elder [collate] Doug Van Houten

counselors, and visionaries drawing from the life-giving Love of the Sacred Feminine.

In our own time of upheaval, loss, and uncertainty, how might we draw encouragement and inspiration from Brigid and the women of the Sacred

Join us for a weekend's immersion deep into the root and soil 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.

A note about fees:

The times are hard economically, yet retreats like ours are vital. We are trying a modified sliding scale for retreat fees in an effort to keep the retreat affordable while meeting our costs. The scale applies to individual rooms. All options will cover our hard costs (venue and meals); the variable is with the amount available when hard costs are met for honorariums for the four leaders. Please select what you feel is right for you and for this retreat.

If choosing a shared room, we request that you register with your roommate.

Fees include lodging, six meals, and program.

•\$395 •\$425 •\$475 •\$495 - single occupancy

•\$375 - double occupancy. Register with a friend/roommate.

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

Limited scholarships are available. Apply when registering. Please consider donating to Friends of Silence to help make these retreats possible.

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.