

# Alban Hefin

*The height of Summer, the longest day of the year*

*also called*

Litha

The Red Oak Grove Ritual



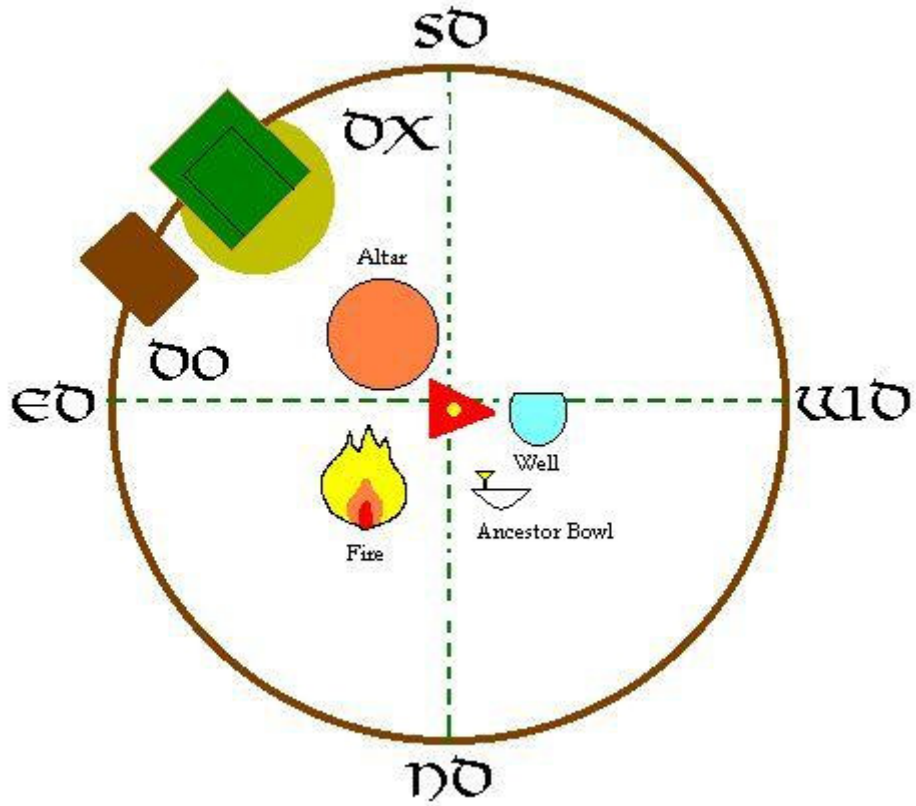
# Alban Hefin Ritual

## Location:

Set up, Arrangement, Presents, Throne,
Crefydd Lleu Service
Fire Tender – light charcoal, 4 candles
Musical Signal
Processional & Chant
Call to Worship
Unity Chant: “The People of the Oak”
Call Mising & Acknowledgment of the Outsiders
Ask Brigedd for Bardic Assistance
Ritual Purpose & Precedent & Name Deity of the Occasion
Purification(s) of Priests and Participants
Group Meditation
Define Sacred Center: “All is One” Prayer
Honor Don
Honor An Dagda
Call Nature Spirits
Call Ancestors
Call Gods
Call Math
Call Rhiannon
Call Math
Call Brigedd
Call Lleu
Performs Awen o’Duwiau
Make Praise Offerings to all Kindred and Deities
Offers hospitality: robe, chair & Torc to Lleu
Praise Offerings & Sacrifices to Lleu
Rite of Passage – People may declare themselves to Crefydd Lleu
Final Sacrifice & Prayer of Acceptance
Waters of Life & Cake are Blessed by Lleu (water & whiskey)
Share Waters of Life & Cake
Ask Lleu what He Blessed us with
Offer Birthday Presents to Nyfed Ddar Rhudd
Thank Lleu – stop Awen
Thank Brigedd
Thank Math
Thank Rhiannon
Take care of SD
Thank Gods
Thank Ancestors
Thank Nature Spirits
Thank Mising
Honor An Dagda
Honor Don
Ending Chant: People of the Oak
Final Benediction

## A. ARRANGEMENT

The layout of the Nyfed:



The Altar:



- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lamp of Dón and An Dagda</li> <li>2. Olive Oil</li> <li>3. Hazel Nut</li> <li>4. Whiskey</li> <li>5. Sword of Lleu</li> </ol> |
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# Alban Hefin Ritual

## B. BEGINNING

### 1. BD'S MUSICAL SIGNAL TO ESTABLISH CLEAR-CUT BEGINNING

### 2. THE PROCESSIONAL & CHANT

*All the Celebrants, led by Fire Tender with lit Torch:*

By the Land beneath us,  
By the Sea surrounding us,  
By the Sky above us,  
We come unto the Gods.

*Walk around Deasil one complete time. Fire Tender places Torch in holder*

### 3. CALL TO WORSHIP

*DX walks to Altar, turning to face all:*

People of the Oak, Friends of the Earth, Children of the Mother,  
Faithful Followers of the Old Ways,  
We call you all to join us now in Sacred Worship.

### 4. Unity Chant

We are the people of the Oak  
Gathered by the sacred tree.  
Nature's great Spirits we invoke  
All your Blessings growing free.

We are the children of the Dead  
Joined here by the Sacred Well  
Honoring everything you've said  
Guided by the words you tell.

We are the servants of the Gods  
Praying by the Sacred Fire  
Holding our sickles and our rods,  
Sending our praises ever higher.

## C. CALLING THE KINDRED

### 1. CALL NATURE SPIRITS & ACKNOWLEDGE OUTSIDERS

*NS walks to Bile with tobacco*

Misingkaulekuan, Mighty masked dancer of the woods,  
We call you and all of the Spirits of Nature,  
We thank you for allowing us to spend this time in your home.

To all our Nature Spirit allies we welcome you,  
We offer you this gift of tobacco, and ask you to watch over us.  
Keep us safe and undisturbed while we are here.

To those who are not our allies  
We ask you to be silent for a while and leave us alone,  
With our loving thoughts, words and deeds.

## **2. CALL ANCESTORS & STATE RITUAL PURPOSE & PRECEDENT**

*AS walks to Well and offers food & whisky*

Honored Ancestors! Old Ones! Ancient Druids!  
Grandmothers, grandfathers, ancient heroes, elder wise ones,  
We offer you this bread and whisky and we Call to you to flow up through the Gates.

We feel you in the sacred wells that flow beneath us,  
We see you in your many works that surround us,  
We hear you in our thoughts and in our hearts.  
We read your words, we feel your presence, we remember your ways:  
Today we celebrate....

*Details about the season & the Deities & special Rites of Passage, etc.*

## **3. PURIFY PEOPLE, OPEN GATES, CALL GODS, & ASK BRIGEDD FOR BARDIC ASSISTANCE**

*BD walks to the Well with a flower & the Match*

**BD:** I walk to the Sacred Well  
Hallowed with the water of nine sacred rites.

*BD sprinkles water in air with flower.*

May this Holy Water cleanse this place and these people.

*BD lights fire with Match*

I light a Sacred Fire to be a gateway between the worlds  
Lord Cernunnos: May this Gate be opened wide  
And may the Gods walk through it into our midst!

Dearest Brigedd, Matron of Poets, inspirer and healer,  
Send us your Blessed Awen  
Let us uplift our hearts with Your words.

# **D. DEVOTION**

## **1. HONOR DÔN**

*DO lights a long match from Fire and then lights green Lamp on left side. Spread arms and look toward the Earth*

Glorious Dôn, our First Mother,  
Queen of Annwfn, Earth's Delight,  
Child's Nurse and Womb of Wisdom,  
Gentle comforter of the Night.  
You are represented here by Brigedd's Well,  
Charged with Water from nine sacred Rites.

*DO picks up a Hazelnut from Altar*

I offer you this gift of a Hazelnut  
to represent the Wisdom that you send us,  
And to thank You for being with us, as always.

*DO puts Hazelnut in Well*

## **2. HONOR AN DAGDA**

*DX lights a long match from fire and then lights red lamp on right side. Spreads arms and looks toward the Sky, and says:*

Great An Dagda, our First Father,  
King of Annwn, Heaven's Might  
Druid's Master, Seed of Wisdom  
Glorious, Mighty, God of Light.

*DX picks up bottle of oil from Altar*

I offer you this gift of rare Spanish olive oil  
To feed your fire and burn it bright  
And to thank you for being with us, as always.

*DX pours oil into Fire. DX & DO return to their places*

## **3. CALL RHIANNON**

*WD faces west*

Please face the West

I, \_\_\_\_\_descendent of \_\_\_\_\_, hold the Sickle of Rhiannon.

Rhiannon, the Great Mother, mother of Pryderi,

Rhiannon, the Harvester, Rhiannon, Goddess of Fertility.

Join us Rhiannon, and fill us with abundance, security and sensuality!

## **4. CALL MATH**

*ND faces North*

Please face the North

I, \_\_\_\_\_descendent of \_\_\_\_\_, am the Wand of Math.

Math ap Mathonwy, Master Magician

Brother of Dôn and Uncle of Gwydion.

Join us Math and fill us with Wisdom, Sight and Magic!

## **5. CALL BRIGEDD**

*ED faces east*

Please face the East

I, \_\_\_\_\_descendent of \_\_\_\_\_, hold the Chalice of Brigedd.

Brigedd the Healer, Brigedd the Inspirer, Brigedd the Hearth-keeper.

Join us Brigedd, and fill us with Health, Inspiration and Love!

## **6. CALL LLEU**

*SD goes to Altar and picks up the Sword of Llew*

Please face the South

I, \_\_\_\_\_descendent of \_\_\_\_\_, hold the Sword of Llew.

Llew Llaw Gyffes -- the Bright One with the Deft Hand,

Llew the Many Skilled, Llew the Long Arm,

Join us Llew and fill us with Passion, Skill and Joy!"

*Put Sword on Altar*

## E. AWEN O'DUWIAU OF LLEU

### 1. CALLING LLEU INTO CHANNELER.

*Chanting of Awen. When Lleu has entered the channeler, the selected people will robe him and place the torc on him. DX offers hospitality, conducts interview. Make sure the tape recorder is on, and ask Lleu if he minds being taped.*

### 2. OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES

**GS:** Welcome to the Shining Gods and Goddesses of Nyfed Ddar Goch!  
Welcome to the Noble Ancestors and the Mighty Tylwyth Teg!  
Welcome to all those Called by these people.  
Welcome to all of you: Family, Friends and Guests!  
To all those who have gathered by our Fire,  
we invite you to join us now in worshipping our Matrons and Patrons  
of this holy Rite with gifts of our labor, our love and our praise.  
Let's lift up our voices in praise  
and let the Fire, the Well and the Tree carry our gifts to our Beloved Kindred!

*Nod to the person standing to your left*

### 3. FINAL OFFERINGS, PRAYER FOR ACCEPTANCE.

**DX:** Are there any other praise offerings?

### 4. THE WATERS OF LIFE

*DX takes the goblets from Lleu*

**DX:** May I borrow your goblet?

*DX prepares Waters of Life*

**DX:** Everyone, please direct your energy and love into this goblet  
Take the Awe you hold for Nature  
The honor and respect you hold for your Ancestors  
And the Worship you hold for your Gods  
And pour them into this Goblet.

Lleu, you have received our gifts and praises. We offer our gifts unconditionally. We also ask you to convey our praises and offerings to the other kindred.

**DO:** And yet you have taught us that a gift begets a gift and that you bless us when we praise you. Therefore, we ask you to share your blessings with us, especially through these waters.

*Hand goblets to Deities; Deities bless the goblets.*

**DX:** Mighty Kindred, accept our sacrifice!  
Mighty Kindred, accept our sacrifice!  
Mighty Kindred, accept our sacrifice!

**DX:** (*with joy*) Wele Ddŵr Bywyd! Behold! The Waters of Life!

**DO:** The Waters of Life!

*DX gives to DO - She drinks - gives back - He drinks*

**DO:** This is pure water, charged with the water of nine sacred Rites. Behold! The Waters of Life!

**DX:** The Waters of Life!

*DO gives to DX - He drinks - gives back - She drinks*

**DX:** When we share a drink with the Gods we remind ourselves that we are always sharing their Blessings. Accept their Blessings in Love and Gratitude!

*Share the Waters of Life*

## **5. RED OAK GROVE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.**

*Lleu cuts the cake with his sword. Birthday gifts are given.*

## **6. OMEN OF RETURN: ASK LLEU WHAT HIS BLESSINGS ARE.**

## **7. FINAL CHAT WITH LLEU, ASK FOR LLEU TO BRING BACK CHANNELER.**

*XD assists Channeler, Provide water and carrots for Channeler.*

# **F. FAREWELLS**

## **1-4. THANK SEASONAL DEITIES**

*ED faces east*

Please face the East.  
We face the East, oh Brilliant Bri  
The kiss of Spring is your sweet daughter.  
Your healing love pours over us,  
Like a Cup of cool, refreshing water.  
As new day dawns we feel your love,  
With promises of new beginnings,  
New ways to serve and new rewards,  
We're filled with fresh anticipation.

*ND faces north*

Please face the North  
I face the North, oh Master Math,  
Sharp and crisp as Winter's night.  
Lead me down your magic path -  
Teach me how to guide my Sight.  
At Midnight with no light to see,  
Beliefs create reality.  
Guide my Soul and set it free,  
I'm filled with Spirit's mystery.

*WD faces west*

Please face the West  
We face the West, Oh Great Rhiannon,

And Autumn's rich abundant land.  
We're thankful for your precious prizes.  
You cut down life, new life arises.  
As day is done, with jobs complete,  
Projects finished or cut short  
It's time to stop and gather up,  
We're grateful for your gifts to us.

*SD walks to the Central Altar, picks up the Sword of Lleu, then faces South*

Please face the South.  
We face the South, Oh, Skillful Lleu.  
The Summer's sunshine is your gaze.  
Your bright, hot fires ignite our passion.  
Like a well-made Knife, joyfully used.  
At midday now, we feel your joy,  
For jobs to do, rewards to earn,  
To do our best and better still,  
We're happy now to play and learn.

*Lower Sword and face the Altar*

### **5-7. THANK THE KINDRED**

*GS takes a step toward center of Circle and says:*

Bright and Shining Gods and Goddesses  
Thank you for attending our Rite.  
We bid you Farewell and Bright Blessings!"

**All: Farewell and Bright Blessings!**

*AS takes a step toward center of Circle and says*

Honored and Noble Ancestors,  
Thank you for attending our Rite.  
We bid you Farewell and Bright Blessings!"

**All: Farewell and Bright Blessings!**

*NS takes a step toward center of Circle and says*

Mising, and all the Spirits of Nature  
Thank you for attending our Rite.  
We bid you Farewell and Bright Blessings!"

**All: Farewell and Bright Blessings!**

### **8 & 9. HONOR AN DAGDA & DÔN**

*DX & DO pick up the Oil Lamps*

**DX:** Forceful Father

**DO:** Receptive Mother

**Both:** We are One.

*Blow out Lamps & Hug*

**Both:** Felly y Bydded!

**All:** Felly y Bydded!

**10. ENDING CHANT: “WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF THE OAK”**

We are the people of the Oak  
Gathered by the sacred tree.  
Nature’s great Spirits we invoke  
All your Blessings growing free.

We are the children of the Dead  
Joined here by the Sacred Well  
Honoring everything you’ve said  
Guided by the words you tell.

We are the servants of the Gods  
Praying by the Sacred Fire  
Holding our sickles and our rods,  
Sending our praises ever higher.

**11. FINAL BENEDICTION**

**DX:** People of the Oak, Friends of the Earth, Children of the Mother,  
Go now, in peace and with the blessings of the Kindred.  
The Rite is ended! Felly y Bydded!

**All:** Felly y Bydded!

**11. BD: MUSICAL SIGNAL**

***END OF RITUAL***