

All Hallows Eve/Samhain/All Saints/All Souls/Full Moon - 2020
By Eric Anglada

Fire, Prayer, Song - Jody Durnin (Meskwaki)

Land Acknowledgment; honor Catfish Creek; Blue Moon

Read Beatitudes

Samhain (SAH-win): Winter's Eve, Blood Month or the Month of Slaughter; Marks beginning of year: introduce 8 solstices, equinoxes, and agricultural cross-quarters; mirrors six months ago, Bealtane - animals now come in from the pastures; Celtic feasts are days that are thought to be the thinnest between heaven and earth and of the Celtic festivals it was thought that this day was the most charged and mysterious. Fire has always been associated with this great Celtic feast. Around this time of year, families would often process around the fields with a lit bundle of straw on a pitchfork and pray for the dead; some of these fires were also used to regenerate the prairie which depended on fire.

Share story of "Shoney": <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seonaidh> (intertwining of indigenous and Catholic)

All Saints Triduum - connection between the land and liturgical season. Halloween - an import from Ireland and Britain, a time of ritualized begging when people went from house-to-house begging for soul-cakes made from barley; they would take a soul cake in exchange for praying for dead loved ones of the person giving soul-cakes; this is a day of hospitality even in our individualistic culture. Church tradition of reading Beatitudes.

We are still heading towards the darkness; Death and decay remind us of our own mortality; this is the time to think about the dead and also about our own deaths

Introductions: Name, Why You Came, and A Saint/inspiring person (living or dead) in your own life

Irish Music

Litany of the Dead (humans, plants, animals): Refrain: *Be with us...*

Mary Oliver, "When Death Comes" (read twice)

Brenna Song: "Let Go"

Contemplative Time (20 minutes): What do we need to say goodbye to?

Irish Music

Group Sharing

Closing Prayer & Song

Creator, today we face all that most concerns us: our fears, the shadowed places of the mind; the coming of winter darkness; the thin place between fall and winter. We remember those who have most inspired us and those who have gone before us into the great mystery. Creator, your light shines into every darkness. Give us the courage to say "goodbye" to that which hinders us and say "yes" to all that nourishes life.