

# ALTARS & IMPLEMENTS

## ALTARS ARE FOR WORKING : SHRINES ARE FOR HONOURING

**You can now apply the principles of the four directions to an altar. An altar is a place for bringing in and working energy. It's the focus where significant change begins to happen, where we weave our intent into action. Altars should be build-out of natural materials, and remember less is always more!**

Select four implements or tools to hold and represent each of the four directions, plus a centrepiece representing you and the fire with-in. Ideally, for the beginner, set your altar facing the East to welcome in the rising sun and the path of enlightenment. You may choose to use an altar cloth, preferably of natural materials like organic linen, silk or animal skin.



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Altar – from the Latin word 'Altus' meaning 'High.' The altar is a condensed version of the larger temple.

With practice, one can learn to project oneself into the centre of the altar or to expand the space by merely visualizing it so. An altar is where we go to receive information and to work the energy, by bringing in more or less power, it is the place where we are risen high and made a new. When operating a larger space, you may have up to five altars, one in the centre of the room and one in each of the four directions.

Once your space is set (with your conscious intent), you can now begin to work the energy



# THE GREAT WHEEL

## THE EIGHT SPOKED WHEEL OF TIME THE DHARMACHAKRA - WHAT IS ESTABLISHED KEEP HOLD OF

At the heart of the Muladhara chakra shines an eight-rayed star. It is known as the first chakra, the base chakra and connects to the power of the tribe and the community – it is your support and foundation for everything you can become. Unfortunately, if there is no community, there is no support. The eight-rayed star reflects the eight-spoked wheel of the Dharma Chakra, the wheel of time, death and rebirth. It is made manifest through the 'Wheel of the Year' where we gather as a community to replenish our hearts and reconnect to our base, our roots nourishing each other through food and physical connection. Sadly, So many of us have had our roots dried up, cut, transplanted, and (again) replanted in new soil, and so it is even more important to find your community to nurture your roots (your life) so you may grow into a blossoming tree as your foundation becomes strong and resilient.

### **YULE (Midwinter) : DECEMBER 21st WINTER SOLSTICE (Christmas)**

Death Rebirth, Return of Light, Feasting and Gift Giving

### **IMBOLC: FEBRUARY 2nd (Saint Brigid's Day)**

Purification and Cleansing, Fasting, Tending the Sacred Fire

### **OSTARA (Vernal Equinox) : MARCH 21st SPRING (Easter)**

Bringer of the Light (goddess of the dawn) Baptism of Water

### **BELTANE: MAY 1st (a Month dedicated to the Virgin Mary)**

Fertility & Sex rites. Tying ribbons to trees, connection with the Earth

### **LITHA (Midsummer): JUNE 21st SUMMER SOLSTICE**

The Great Wedding and Celebration, Bonfires

### **LUGHNASADH: AUGUST 1st (first harvest)**

Time of the Great Mother. Celebration of Grain and Fertility of the Land

### **MABON (Autumnal Equinox): SEPT 21st FALL (last harvest)**

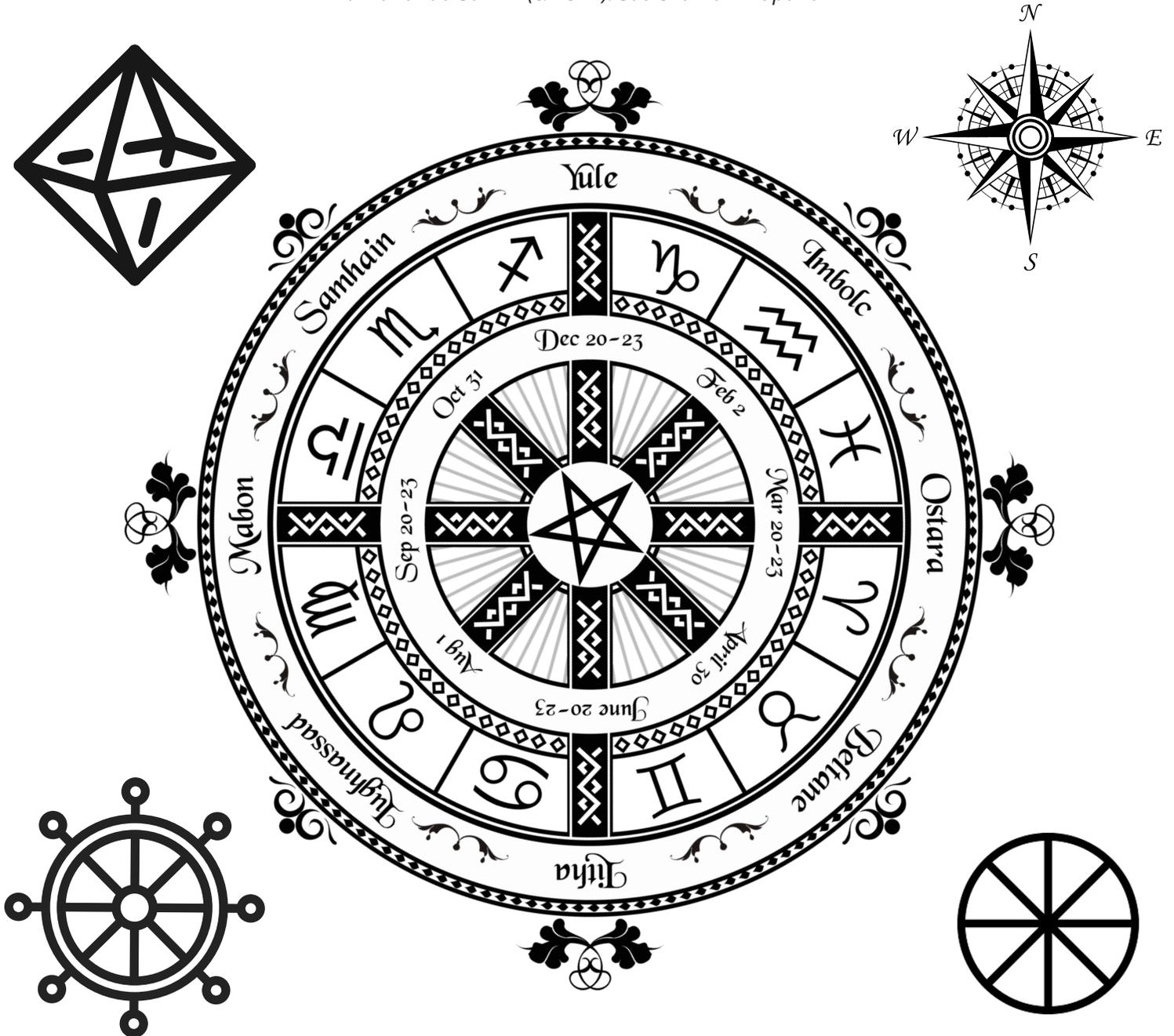
Thanksgiving, Baptism of Fire

### **SAMHAIN: NOVEMBER 1st (Hallows Eve/All Saints Day)**

The time of the Ancestors : The Old Crone. Journeying to the Other Side

*"By meditating thus on Her who shines within the Muladhara Chakra, with the luster of ten million Suns, a man becomes Lord of speech and King among men, and an Adept in all kinds of learning. He becomes ever free from all diseases, and his inmost Spirit becomes full of great gladness. Pure of disposition by his deep and musical words, he serves the foremost of the Devas."*

*-Purnananda Sawmi (c. 1577). Sat-Chakra-Nirupana*



***Each rotation of the cycle is in accordance with the number forty five (4+5 = 9).  
It is the achievement of a cycle in the world, or rather the rhythm of a cyclic repetitions in the Universe.  
Many ancient cultures held a 360-day calendar, and ancient myths does indeed reports the earth once held a 360-day rotation.***

<http://360dayyear.com>