

Casting the Circle

The Ritual Bath:

The bath can literally be a bath in which herbs and oils are mixed with sanctified water and one bathes or simply stand in front of the bath and anoint. Surround with appropriate coloured candles.

Begin by taking a few deep breaths and relax the body, palms upward and say:

O Goddess Mother, gentle and mild
Look down and bless me, for I am your child

Dip a finger into the bath and anoint eyelids with the shape of a small pentagram while saying:

Please bless my eyes that I might see
Your ways and Your path, and how things should be

Dip finger again and anoint lips in the same fashion saying:

Please bless my lips so that they may carry
Your words to all people with a voice light and merry

Anoint breast saying:

Bless my breast, too – let it be formed in strength
And conviction and courage without bounds or length

Anoint loins saying:

My loins, bless as well, for they carry the force
Of all life and creation that flows from your source

Anoint both knees saying:

So that I may kneel at Your altar, please bless
My knees; keep them free of all pain and duress

Anoint the tops or ankles of both feet saying:

And please bless my feet as Your steps they now trace
Keep them on the right path at a straight even pace

Circle Size and Boundaries:

The circle is to be outdoors, 9 feet in diameter with boundaries marked – use candles, flowers, greenery, stones, shells, cord, sand, etc.

The Quarter Guardians or Watchtowers:

The Quarter Guardians or Watchtowers personify the Elements (Air, Fire, Water and Earth) each in its respective location (East, South, West and North) – A compass should be used. Candles or markers (Incense, red candle, bowl of water, bowl of salt) should be on the Circle perimeter.

Akasha, Alter:

The centre of the Circle is the Akasha, Alter – the human factor. Gather all the materials required for the ritual. Arrange the altar and light the candles and incense. Hold hands over the area and bless it saying:

I bless You now that You may aid
The energy flow as magic is made
I cast out negative energy
Leaving only the positive to live and breathe
Within You as we start this rite

Blessed be in joy, and love, and light

Pick up the wand and draw an invoking pentagram in the air above the altar.

Replace the wand and say:

Blessed be, O Creatures of Light
Tools now of magic with power and might

Cleansing the Area:

Starting in the East while holding the incense or yellow candle, walk the Circle perimeter clockwise while visualizing a yellow vapour rising from the ground.

While walking say:

By Her fragrant breath – the Air –
By winds blown cold and breezes fair
Be cleansed of negativity
As I will, so mote it be

When done, leave the incense or candle in the Eastern Quarter

From the South, hold the lit red candle and walk the Circle again, visualizing red vapour rising from the ground this time saying:

By Her burning soul's desire
Of dancing flame and burning Fire
Be cleansed of negativity
As I will, so mote it be

When done, leave the candle in the Southern Quarter

From the West, carry the bowl of water or blue candle and while visualizing blue vapour say:

By Water that flows through Her veins
The force of storms and gentle rains
Be cleansed of negativity
As I will, so mote it be

When done, leave the bowl or candle in the Western Quarter.

From the North, carry the bowl of salt or green candle and while visualizing green vapour say:

By Earth that is Her body
By mountain, valley, hill and mound
Be cleansed of negativity
As I will, so mote it be

When done, leave the bowl or candle in the Northern Quarter. Then while holding hands palms upward stand in the centre of the Circle. Visualize a purple or white vapour rising from the ground and say:

I purify this Circle round
By Elements of sky and ground
By Air, Fire, Water, and solid Earth
It's cleansed in love and light and mirth

