

MAKE YOUR OWN SACRED CALENDAR

A sacred calendar is more than just a timekeeping tool. It helps provide structure for your spiritual practices, aligning you to the cycles of nature, deepening your relationship with the divine, helping to remind you to engage in your own path of spiritual development throughout the year.

At the end of this article, there is a picture of the calendar I made for 2025. It's a round design that combines the lunar, solar and standard Gregorian calendar. For years, I bought a calendar and wrote my sacred days in. Then I decided I would like to make my calendar a work of art and it evolved into this current round form. This is a fun project you can get creative with, and you get to use it all year! I also have a dedicated google calendar (called Sacred Calendar of course) that has all the days on it.

Once you have the physical calendar, what do you put on it?

How do you decide what is "sacred"?

- Will your calendar have human birthdays or is that for your mundane calendar?
- Do you include American holidays? What well known or mainstream holidays are sacred to you?
- Do you have holy days associated with a religion you belong to or ancestral lineage tradition?
- In our syncretic world, are there days associated with other traditions that you particularly enjoy or resonate with?
- Are there some holy days or practices that are aspirational for you?
- How about solar/lunar associations?
- Any goals or practices you would like to include in your life? Invent your own holy days to encourage your own spiritual journeys!
- Is your garden your church? Include seasonal garden rituals!

There are many websites out there, directed towards specific traditions, that you can use as resources to help you with ideas. Here are some ideas from my own calendar, which is a work in progress.

My Calendar!

I have a strange mishmash of items on my calendar. Some have been on there for so long, I can't remember their origin. I only know what they mean

to me and why they are sacred. I will tell you a little about what is on my sacred calendar, in hopes it may inspire you or help you with creating your own Sacred Calendar.

- In my current design, the lunar calendar is on the outer ring. The year's new and full moons, with times, are noted. I shade the 2 days around the new moon as the time for my spirit bleed/ days of silence.
- The next ring in is the monthly or standard Gregorian calendar. That's where the significant days get filled in.
- The inner ring is for the 8 Wheel of the Year Holidays, along with the times and dates of the solstices and the equinoxes, since those change every year.

Here are some examples of days I have on my sacred calendar:

- The wheel of the year Pagan holidays.
- The lunar cross quarter days. I learned about this practice from the We' moon calendar (which I buy every year and use as collage material after the calendar is done). I am usually doing a more public community ritual for the actual cross quarter days, but they also have a more introspective and private meaning in my life which I like to celebrate on the lunar cross quarter day. My celebration of Lunar Beltane looks very different from my celebration of Beltane.
- Certain cycles; for example, I like to honor and increase my intimacy with each of the 4 elements over the course of the year. I randomly picked the 15th day of every third month to cycle into a new element. July 15 Honor Fire , October 15 Honor Water, April 15 Honor Air, Jan 15 Honor Earth. On or about the days above, I have a ritual to honor that element and build deeper relationship. As part of that ritual, I update the special spot on my home altar for the quarterly element. Since I sit at my altar every day, I get reminded on a regular basis to work with the element of the season.
- Special days of observance for deity forms. For example, there are several Celtic or Irish deity days on my calendar this year because I spent 5 weeks in Ireland on spiritual and ancestral pilgrimage. I wanted to spend a year paying homage to my Celtic Ancestry, so I included days like Jan 18 - Day of Danu the Great mother Goddess.
- Since Brigid is one of my primary loves, I have days associated with her on my calendar. I celebrate 19 Days of Brigid every year, starting on Jan 23 and ending Feb 10 - with Imbolc right in the middle. There

are certain things I do during these days; for example, tend the well day, tend the sacred flame, plan for self-dedication, Brigid's Mantle, Brigid's Cross etc.

- Seasonal things that are sacred to me that may not mean much to anyone else. Some are floating days, I don't know exactly when they will happen, so I put my best guess on the calendar, reminding me to be on the lookout. Examples: First Nettle Harvest, Smells Like Fall Day, Falling Leaves Ritual, Rain Return Day, First Soup Day.
- Days of personal significance to me. Example - Terminalia on Feb 23, an old Roman Holiday when neighbors met at their property boundaries to check in and resolve any disputes. What spoke to me was a holiday about boundaries. It's my annual reminder to do some inner work around my own personal boundaries - are they too loose, too tight? Am I enforcing them and do I show respect for my own boundaries or am I too mushy?
- Some things on my calendar are traditional, but I don't really know where they are originally from. Like Cake Day on Feb 28. I make cakes as offerings to honor my ancestors and the land spirits where I live. And Navigum Isidis is one day every year when I make a little boat that is full of offerings representing what I am grateful for. I launch it on a body of flowing water. I am not sure how, or even if, it was celebrated in the culture it came from, but I like what I have made it.
- Days of personal reminders, like 6 months after my birthday I have a reminder on my calendar to monitor my progress on yearly goals.
- Sacred days from other religions, like a few Hindu or Buddhist holidays that I feel resonance with and want to honor and respect in my own way. Like Holi or Bodhi day.
- Some days, I just made up. Early each Spring, I observe Honor Invasive Plants Day. I harvest english ivy that day. I weave baskets from that ivy and use one of the baskets in a particular ritual I do every year for Spring equinox, called Persephone Emerges. I use the basket all spring and summer, then for Fall Equinox, I bury the basket in the earth do my own solo descent ritual.

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