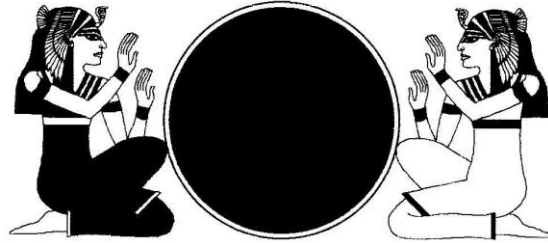


# Temple of the Dark Moon



## Ritual Etiquette

There are certain guidelines that should be observed when doing ritual, and the following should be adhered to when attending any event organised by the Temple of the Dark Moon:

- Always keep in mind that a ritual is a religious or sacred rite and all participants should conduct themselves in a manner respectful of Deity.
- Remove your watch and footwear (if inside), and turn off your mobile phone prior to entering a ritual.
- Once the circle is cast, nobody should leave until the end of the ritual. If you do need to leave, quietly alert to ritual leader who will provide you with information on how to exit and re-enter appropriately.
- If you are an experienced ritualist, you can “cut” yourself out of the circle. However, it is considered polite to bring your leaving to the attention of the ritual leader.
- A ritual is not for observers. A ritual is participatory. If you are not ready to focus and contribute your attention and efforts to the ceremony, you do not belong in the ritual. Excuse yourself prior to the circle has been cast.
- Always move **deosil** (sunwise) around the circle unless otherwise advised. This means turning to your left from an inward facing position. Do NOT cut across the circle unless indicated you can do so.
- When the Elemental Quarters are being called, face the appropriate direction. If you are unfamiliar with the gestures or responses, stand quietly.
- Phrases such as “Blessed Be”, “So mote it be”, “Hail and welcome” and “Hail and farewell” should be repeated by everyone in the circle.
- Show respect to the format of the ritual if invited as a guest. If you have any questions, these should be raised prior to or after the ritual.
- If you arrive late and the ritual has begun, wait until the ritual leader “cuts” you into the circle.
- While most rituals are not inviolable solemn, they are serious. If you are not serious about spiritual development or expression, the Craft is not for you.
- Enjoy yourself.

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