

## Lá Fhéile Bríde

On the eve of St Brigid we lay out pieces of cloth in the dew.  
For saint and goddess to touch with her robes as she passes her way through.

She imbues us with courage and protection and blesses both home and hearth.  
On the first day of February when we get ready for Spring and celebrate Imbolc.

Her flame glows brightly in Kildare where she founded her abbey so grand.  
Her water flows in Faughart from a well that is legendary throughout this great land.

Her compassion is well known and her miracles were many.  
She supported the poor and downtrodden and gave them plenty.

Her crosses are symbols of welcome, unity, hope and faith.  
We weave them with strong intentions and ask for help and grace.

Then we proudly display them in acts of reverence all negativity to dispel.  
She is a powerful advocate to protect and bring light where we dwell.

Her patronages include blacksmiths, healers and farmers to name a few.  
She also guides poets and enables me to write these lines in verse for you.

Along with Patrick and Columba she is a national saint of whom we are so proud.

Brigid we honour you today  
Lá Fhéill Bríghde sona dhuibh.

*By Fionnuala Cassidy*

