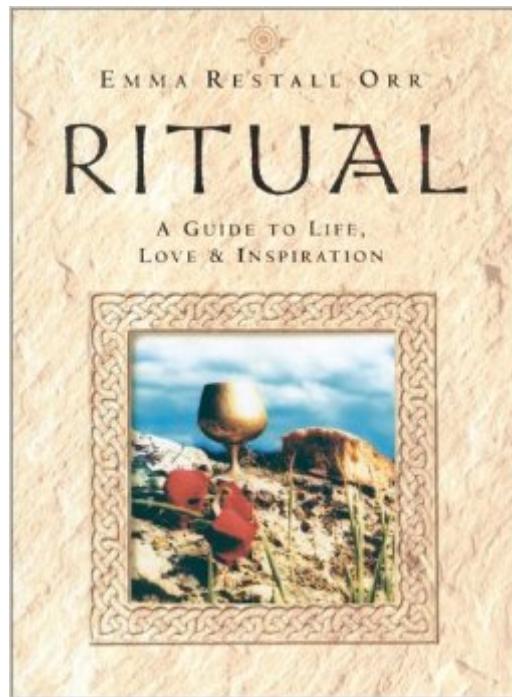


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# Ritual



## Synopsis

More than ever, people are tapping into their spirituality through the use of ritual.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Orr's latest work is a poetic and inspiring examination of ritual, its functions, and its potential. Whether taking a moment to feel a sense of awe at the sunrise, celebrating a life passage, or marking the changing seasons, ritual affords us an opportunity to step out of our busy lives to develop a deeper awareness of ourselves, establish a connection with the world around us, and appreciate the sacredness of life. Through discussions of ritual's uses, forms, locations, props, and occasions, the author opens a world of potential for developing a personal and meaningful spiritual practice. The suggestions for specific rituals are suggestions only and not meant as dogmatic. Orr's background in modern druidry should not dissuade people of other spiritual paths from using this book to enhance their own practices. Along with "Spirits of the Sacred Grove," this book deserves space on your shelf!

One previous reviewer of this book opined that this is not a book about "textbook rituals." And that is likely true. It is more a book that examines the reasons for having all the various Celtic festival rituals and the traditions surrounding them, along with the framework for having Druid rituals to begin with than it is as a book that "tells you how to hold your ritual." The book at times will be a challenging read if you read it with the assumption it will tell you how to do a Celtic ritual. Yes Orr

offers suggestions on holding various holiday rituals, but they are guidelines to go by, not an actual "ritual template." From the book's beginning, Orr takes time to explain in her words what a ritual is and spends the next several chapters discussing topics like Druidry itself, the language of it, setting, tools and offerings, etc. Towards the book's end, she devotes chapters to the rituals themselves, be it an "everyday ritual," a "holiday ritual," or other assorted ones. She also writes about rituals she has attended, the settings of them, the preparation, what went on and so forth. These examples emphasize points she is trying to make in various parts of the book. This is a book well worth reading for anyone studying the Celtic path. It's disappointing to note this book is apparently now out of print.

I have had this book for a few months and even though I have read it, I still come back to it to reread the various rituals that make life so much more enjoyable. Having studied several years of Buddhist philosophy and attended many varieties of Christian faith, there is a serene gentleness presented in the book that the author never once allows to lure the reader into any fantastical notion of Druidry. It is honest, straightforward, candid with humorous tales and stories of rituals that are fascinating in their own right. Enjoy this offering with an open mind and find your bliss.

Emma's works are like a conversation with a good friend, and "Ritual" is no exception. While it is by no means a textbook or in-depth look at Druidry itself, it examines the personal benefits of simple ritual practice - of taking a break in your ordinary life - but with a strong yet underlying druidic theme. I have found it to be a welcome break from the many books that focus mainly on druid lore. This is a simple book that draws us closer to an every-day druid practice that is not in the least intimidating or bogged down with too much information or history... there are plenty of other books for info and history. The focus here is clearly on very simple and personal rituals, encouraging creativity, a sense of peace, and communion with the world around us. Extremely helpful and encouraging - one of my favorites.

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