



# Brigid of Faughart Festival

A celebration of Brigid, Goddess & Saint at Imbolc

## The 11<sup>th</sup> Brigid of Faughart Festival is Launched

The **Brigid of Faughart Festival** celebrates Brigid as Pre-Christian Goddess, Christian Saint and wise woman of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and also marks the ancient festival of **Imbolc** announcing the beginning of Spring.

The Brigid of Faughart Festival is organised by a group of people, who came together in 2008 with the vision of offering the wisdom of Brigid in ways relevant to our contemporary society

The theme of this year's festival is "**Brigid, Muse to the Cultural Creative**" a timely focus as we seek to create a more sustainable culture in these times of uncertainty.

**The Festival will take place in Faughart, Dundalk and Ravensdale, Co. Louth between Saturday Jan 27th and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018**

- **This unique modern festival offers a range of exciting and creative events through which four different, yet interrelated aspects of Brigid, Earth Woman, Healer, Poet/Artist and Spiritual Teacher, are explored**
- The festival creates opportunities to learn from the wisdom, of Brigid who is an expression of the divine feminine within the Irish spiritual and mythological narrative. This ancient spiritual tradition is explored through myth, landscape, folklore, spiritual customs, visual arts, poetry, music and dance
- Events include talks, workshops, discussion forums, pilgrimage and many experiential events including storytelling, cross making, sound, music, dance, poetry, art exhibitions, gardening, walking pilgrimage, healing and rituals.
- The emphasis of this festival is to revisit and reclaim the richness of the traditions associated with Brigid of Faughart, in ways which are relevant to our lives in the 21st century. A deeper underlying aim of the festival is to act as a catalyst for the recovery of the presence of the feminine energy and the Divine feminine within our daily lives.

**2018 Festival Events** include:

- Pilgrimage walk from Dundalk to Faughart ( 4km ) Saturday 27th<sup>h</sup> January  
Exploring the Sacred Sites of Faughart Saturday 27th<sup>h</sup> January.
- “Lecture and forum **Dr Sharon Blackie** author of ground breaking book “**If Women Rose Rooted**” exploring our need to reconnect with our native feminine wisdom.
- **Various workshops** including Creative Writing, Movement Medicine, Sound Healing, Circle Dance, Gardening, Healthy Food and Be the Change
  
- Celebration of Brigid in Song and Prayer with Carmel Boyle, Ann Mc Donald, Dolores Whelan, Fr. Tom Hamill on Lá Fheile Bhríde, 1<sup>st</sup> February, The Oratory, Faughart.
- Day of Healing, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 1-8pm, Healing sessions in various modalities available.
  
- **‘The Wooing of the Soul’**, a one woman play. Anne Kathleen Mc Laughlin (Canada)
- Kate Fitzpatrick, author “**Macha’s Twins**”, “Brigid, Culture and Transformation” and Dolores Whelan author “**Ever Ancient ever New**” Brigid Muse to the Cultural Creative
- Stories & Conversations for a Healthy and Resilient Culture facilitated by **Davie Phillips**.
- An Evening Weaving Poetry, Music and Song in An Tain Arts Centre.
- Closing Ritual, Ravensdale Community Centre, 4<sup>th</sup> February.

**Full programme and booking details available on**  
[www.brigidoffaughart.ie](http://www.brigidoffaughart.ie).

For further details or to arrange an interview about the festival or with any of the speakers contact **Dolores Whelan**, 042 9371901/ 086 8434117 or email [eolas@doloreswhelan.ie](mailto:eolas@doloreswhelan.ie)