**2018- History and Introduction for Vernal Equinox**

1*-* *from We’Moon 2010 Spring Equinox –*

“With bone cold winter behind, we celebrate the life force, rejoicing in a fresh, clear,

Bright spring day. Tender stems and shoots push through the fertile soil, buds explode and the Egg of Spring hatches a living creation! Eostre, Goddess of the divine fertile female, calls to the spirit of youth in each woman.” *We’Moon 2010, Ffiona Morgan*

History: Vernal Equinox is the time when light and dark are equally balanced. All sleeping seeds awaken. In the myth of Persephone and Demeter, this is the time of her physical birth where she rejoins her mother leaving the darkness.

A shift takes place from the earth energy of winter to the air element of Spring. From the cold darkness of the earth and stone and roots of trees, the sap begins to rise, the breeze begins to warm and soothe us. Remember the seed that dies, falls in to the dark ground and is reborn as the sprout, the seedling. We experience life in its fullest, with the buds on the trees opening, the bountiful flowers blooming, the range of greens to open our hearts and the magic of babies and birth.

Let us rejoice in the abundance of Earth. Today is a new day of promise and renewal- may we claim our womanly strength. Feel our energy, youthfulness, and the powers of REBIRTH.

2-Although the solstices have much stronger folklore relating to the Fey folk attached to them the equinoxes do have their share as well, with the spring equinox falling close to La na Cailleach – the day of the Cailleach (March 25th). La na Cailleach itself has both pagan and fairy connections, being a day in folklore when some believe the primal goddess the Cailleach relents and allows spring to arrive, or others say transforms into the goddess Bride; the Cailleach is also a figure connected directly and indirectly to the Queen of Elphame.

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This year we are celebrating our ritual on March 25th. Interestingly enough, I noticed

Two other historic rituals that happen at this time;

1. Hillaria or Laughing Day (Roman)…which focuses on Glee and Laughter, during the resurrection of Earth… So hopefully we can spread some of that around today.
2. In the Jewish Tradition, PURIM is celebrated. It is a day to observe women’s power over universal destruction and the victory of female strategies….

May our own lives rise in triumph, and our collective power alter positive change for our planet, for all beings on this precious EARTH.