

Virgo Full Moon

Ritual written and led by Janine Donnellan
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the world is but a canvas to the
IMAGINATION
- Henry David Thoreau

Traditionally, the annual Virgo Full Moon opposite the Pisces Sun is a time to reflect upon the balance of energies between such qualities as service and compassion, craft and inspiration, analysis and intuition. In other words, Virgo Full Moon is that time of year when we work to put solid foundations under our dreams and visions. Thus, one way to honor this potent Full Moon may be to concentrate on drawing together all the disparate, fragmented parts of yourself into a coherent pattern.

Vesta

Vesta was the Roman Goddess of the hearth and home. Her six Vestal Virgins (virgin in the sense that they belonged to no man - they were "one within") tended her sacred fire in a round temple in Rome and the Romans offered a prayer to her every day at their own hearths. On March 1st, every year, her priestesses extinguished the fire and relight it. Her worship was connected with fertility and to let her light go out would mean that civilization would also end.

Focus, dedication and commitment have all been associated with Vesta, together with physical, emotional and mental clarity, as well as self-respect. The Virgo Full moon draws our attention to that which is of true importance, igniting and burning away all which is of no consequence in order that we can attain a clear picture. Vesta was guardian of the eternal flame (or truth) of the soul. Associated with the Element of Fire, Vesta is believed to purify the soul and serve to enlighten.

Vulcan

As the Blacksmith of the Gods, Vulcan is said to be the manufacturer of art, arms and armour for the mythological heroes, using a volcano as his forge. Patron of both Smiths and Weavers, Vulcan is customarily depicted as being kind and peace-loving. He is the only God in mythology definitively identified as being ugly.

AIR - Virgin of the East

Oh Vestal Virgin of the Rising Sun
You are the air, you are the Light
You are the eternal breath that lives within
Let it bring us to a new consciousness.
Come forth and light the eternal flames
Hail & Welcome

(Vestal Virgin takes the light and lights all candles.)

FIRE - Vulcan

Oh mighty Vulcan forger of the eternal flame,
Come join us here tonight
Assist us in rising above our limitations
Accept the offering we purge in your sacrificial flame
And bless us with your presence
Hail & Welcome

WATER - Virgin of the West

Oh Vestal Virgin of the Setting Sun
May your energy shift us
Connect to us
With your mutability bring forth the light of the eternal flame.
Hail & Welcome

EARTH - Virgin of South

Oh Vestal Virgin of the hour of Darkness
May your energy ground us
Let the Earth regenerate us,
Let it take the substance of our being and make us light up new.
Hail & Welcome

GODDESS

Oh mighty Vesta Keeper of the Sacred Flame,
Come join us here tonight
Look with favour upon the fires of this temple,
Come with warm feelings of friendship.
Bring your intelligence,
Your energy and your passion

Burn brightly at my hearth.
Burn always in my soul.
And bless us with your presence
Hail & Welcome

Intent

In order for us to find out what is of the greatest importance, igniting and burning away all things that has no consequence in our life in order that we can attain a clear picture of our creative future.

Meditation: Connecting the Vesta

Activity

Writing the things you want to sacrifice in order to bring about a brighter creative future. In your creative visualization, picture yourself carefully sorting through and organizing in three sections that correspond to you physically, emotionally and spiritually; Divide the paper into 3 sections then cut All the pieces are then sacrificed in the sacrificial flame.

Closing

GODDESS

We thank you great Vesta
For your divine presence
Hail and farewell

EARTH - Vestal Virgin of the South

Oh Vestal Virgin of the hour of Darkness
We thank you and honour you
Hail and Farewell.

WATER - Vestal Virgin of the West

Oh Vestal Virgin of the Setting Sun
We thank you and honour you
Hail and Farewell.

FIRE - Vulcan

Oh mighty Vulcan forger of the eternal flame,
We thank you and honour you
Hail and Farewell.

AIR - Vestal Virgin of the East

Oh Vestal Virgin of the Rising Sun
We thank you and honour you
Hail and Farewell.

(Vestal Virgin of the West extinguishes the flame.)

May this circle be open but unbroken
May the peace of the Goddess be ever in our hearts.
Merry Meet and Merry Part
And Merry Meet again.

(4) Photos by Janine Donnellan of "Vulcan" and the cauldron...









** This ritual is a combination of the author's original ideas and information obtained from various books and/or internet sources.*