Teach áthas
House of Joy

House Symbol: St. Brigid’s Cross

St. Brigid also known as “Mary of the Gael” is an abbess and patroness of Ireland, and she is also the founder of the first Irish monastery in Kildare. Born in Dundalk in 450 AD, St. Brigid is accredited with first creating the unique cross that bears her name, which is normally made from rushes but occasionally from straw. Traditionally they were set over doorways and windows to protect the home from any kind of harm.
The symbol is a circle that goes through three interconnected loops of the triquetra. Also known as a “trinity knot”, the design is used as a religious symbol adapted from ancient Celtic images by Christianity. It recalled the three-leaved shamrock which was similarly offered as a Trinity symbol by Saint Patrick. The circle emphasizes the unity of the whole combination of three forces. It is also said to symbolize God’s love around the Holy Trinity.
Teach Meitheal
House of Unity

House Symbol: Triskele/Triple Spiral

The triple spiral or triskele is a Celtic and pre-Celtic symbol found on a number of Irish Megalithic and Neolithic sites, most notably inside the Newgrange passage tomb, on the entrance stone, and on some of the curbstones surrounding the mound. Earliest examples having been carved on pre-Celtic stone monuments, and later examples found in the Celtic Christian illuminated manuscripts of Insular art. It is believed to be a symbol of beginning and completion.
'Dara' can be traced to an Irish word, doire which means 'oak tree'. The Celts, and especially Druids, considered the oak tree as sacred. The oak tree is the symbol of destiny, power, strength, wisdom, leadership and endurance. All these attributes therefore, got associated with the Dara Celtic knot. Roots of the oak tree represented in the form of Dara Celtic knot are symbolic of the great source of inner strength or divine resources we possess.
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