

For Immediate Release:  
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## Celebrating St. Brigid in Story and Song

*Peterborough, ON* - Lovers of stories, celtic music and history are invited to a musical odyssey entitled **St. Brigid of Kildare** on Sunday February 21st at 2pm, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (368 Rogers St., Peterborough) In honour of St. Brigid's feast day, this is the first of a series of presentations created by Angelica Ottewill celebrating the lives of early sainted women.

This musical odyssey traces the life of St. Brigid of Kildare, the bold and feisty first Abbess of Ireland. Born of a pagan chieftain father and slave mother, her story is the stuff that legends are made of. St. Brigid, whose mother was baptised by St. Patrick was as important as St. Patrick himself in spreading Christianity throughout Ireland.

Often confused with the Celtic goddess Bride, there has been some controversy as to whether she ever existed. However recent research has confirmed her existence based on numerous referencing by contemporaries. She rebelled against her station in life, refusing to marry a King and became a nun, founding numerous monasteries and abbeys in Ireland. Also a patroness of the arts, her abbey at Kildare included a school of the arts for metalwork and illuminated manuscripts which produced the Book of Kildare.

Interspersed with beautiful celtic and sacred music, harpist Angelica Ottewill joined by Tori Owen on oboe and recorder will treat audience members with a unique and inspiring experience.

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Angelica Ottewill  
Singer, Harpist and Storyteller

*Angelica Ottewill is a "Trobairitz": a trained singer, harpist and storyteller who performs music and stories for all ages. She is a unique performer who combines the art of storytelling with music and weaves the two seamlessly together. Her musical repertoire includes folk, classical, Celtic and original material and she is equally at home on the concert stage as she is in the storyteller's chair.*

*Angelica performs stories from around the world that appeal to adults and children of all ages. They include Medieval tales, Fairy and folk tales, Greek myths, historical stories and anecdotes.*

*As past president of the Ontario Folk Harp Society, Angelica has presented concerts and workshops throughout Ontario and at the International Harp Conference in Indiana, 2002.*

*A graduate of the University of Toronto, Angelica holds a Bachelor of music in Education and a Bachelor of Education. She also holds an A.R.C.T. in vocal performance from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto.*

### **Tori Owen, Oboe and Recorder**

*A native of Peterborough Ontario Tori moved back to her home town in 2002 where she lives currently and is sole proprietor of 'Tori Owen Performing Arts Management' offering an array of musical services: these include Cultural Management, Live Music Performance and Music Instruction.*

*Formally trained in Classical music Tori has performed as a freelance orchestral musician since the late 80's and has held the distinguished position of Principal oboe for the International Symphony the Pembroke Symphony and currently the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra. She has also performed with a number of orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout Ontario.*

*Tori grew up in a house full of Celtic music-lovers and players; her 'Celtic hobby' developed into a new sideline of performance and teaching for Recorder, Tin Whistle and Bodhran.*

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#### **For photos & interviews contact:**

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