

# The Church of the Divine Celestial Goddesses

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Thou shalt be kind to all beings as thou art kind to thyself

Thou shalt strive to supplant suffering with joy

Thou shalt lend thine aid to anyone in need

Thou shalt retain thy loyalty to those who keep it in return

Thou shalt befriend all who want for thy camaraderie

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Announcements

All books are now open to edits with link.

Wiki < Work in progress Wiki page.

Chat is in the upper right. Don't use it, use the thread instead.

Friendly note from Esmelthien:

The difference between thy/thine, my/mine, etc. is much like the difference between a/an. Also, don't forget that thou is informal, and you is formal.

Current Discussion Thread:

<https://boards.4chan.org/mlp/res/10676348> <29 days, and 5 hours; just for the record.

<https://boards.4chan.org/mlp/res/11421464> < Me morial thread - And then that died as well. A tear shed for a thread that died in infancy...

<http://boards.4chan.org/mlp/res/13564534> not ded thread. (tread now ded)

<http://boards.4chan.org/mlp/thread/17799267> May 17 revival

Current Issues (discuss in threads)

-Eclipses: What do they mean, why do they exist, and where should it be covered?

[A suggestion on this, can it be that the sisters, like the Greek gods of the past, act down-to-earth once in awhile and create eclipses as a form of sibling trickery?]

-Rituals, symbols for prayer/meditation:

[My .]suggestion is something simple for every day. Thinking through this, I have an idea: Right hand over the heart (for the life giving light of the Sun) left fist touching the right elbow, (as though holding a shield as the moon is a guardian of the night) and bow in the direction of the sun, then the moon. This must be done sitting down (because both your forehooves are being used). Maybe bring in Sunbro's infamous arms aloft pose. I would like to have some sort of prayer to go with it

Books

Philosophy & Ethics Discussion Doc

Old English Grammar Primer

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DeJz40ND7\\_oHSvjRs-wVmQcX30myZGT4AuMa6h3S0WM/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DeJz40ND7_oHSvjRs-wVmQcX30myZGT4AuMa6h3S0WM/edit)

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## Book of Lyra

Chapter 1: Importance of the Celestial beings and their role in the universe/daily life.

(Cosmology, Mythology (multiverse)) [First draft completed]

Chapter 2: Elements of Harmony, Commandments, and their Origins/Interpretations

Chapter 3: Founding of the Celestial Church

Chapter 4: Enumeration of Beliefs and Philosophy

Chapter 5: (Cutie, Talent, Devotion) Marks, meaning and practice

Chapter 6: Foods, Injunctions, Sins

(Have some life advice in 6 + 7, hygiene, sociality, non-fedoraness)

Chapter 7: Virtues, Deeds, Values

Chapter 8: Holy Days and Events, Rites and Rituals

## Book of Spike (written in old age)

Chapter 9: The Call to Action of the Mane 6

Chapter 10: The Virtue of Honesty (alt: Integrity)

Chapter 11: The Virtue of Kindness

Chapter 12: The Virtue of Generosity (Slight hyperbole over the others, since it is Spike)

Chapter 13: The Virtue of Laughter (alt: Joy)

Chapter 14: The Virtue of Loyalty

Chapter 15: The Magic of Friendship (alt: Camaraderie)

Chapter 16: The Transfiguration of Twilight

## Book of Celestia

Chapter 17: Harmony of the Elements (Hearth's Warming Tale)

Chapter 18: Fall of Discord

Chapter 19: Judgement of Sombra

Chapter 20: The Banishment of Nightmare Moon

Chapter 21: The Ascent of Luna

Chapter 22: Subterfuge of Chrysalis (The sin of Changelings)

Chapter 23: Crowning of Cadence

## Book of Pinkamena

Chapter 24: Poetry and Proverbs

(wisdom for some times, and for others when the going gets tough)

Chapter 25: Prophecies (Some should be fulfilled already.)

Chapter 26: Paradise and Apocalypse (rule of Discord hue) (Sombra, Chrysalis) (allusions to transequinism) (allusions to FSM, the bringer of sauce) (heat death of universe) [ehhhh]

(shouldn't the spirit of chaos be connected to entropy somehow?)

## Commandments

Thou shalt be honest in all thine deeds and words.

Thou shalt be kind to all beings as thou art kind to thyself.

Thou shalt strive to supplant suffering with joy.

Thou shalt lend thine aid to anyone in need.  
Thou shalt retain thy loyalty to those who keep it in return.  
Thou shalt befriend all who want for thy camaraderie.

#### Celestial Edification Interpretation

Thou shalt be honest in all thy deeds and words  
Be truthful in everything you say. Trustworthiness is a virtue.

Thou shalt be kind to all beings as thou art kind to thyself  
Violence should be avoided unless it is in self defense, or in defense of others.

Thou shalt strive to supplant suffering with joy  
Thou shalt not suffer the pain of grief, nor shalt thou allow others to do the same.  
Do your best to maintain your own happiness, as well as the happiness of others around you  
Egalitarianism

Thou shalt lend thine aid to anyone in need  
Thou shalt always help to thy best abilities everyone.  
Offer friendship and kindness in the form of service and generosity, even to those who appear as enemies.  
Give to those in need, and give as much as you can when you do.  
Give more than is expected of you

Thou shalt retain thy loyalty to those who keep it in return  
Thou shalt never betray thy loyalty to anyone. (Loyalty to country? discussion needed)  
Loyalty and respect to other human beings transcends all boundaries  
Loyalty to Celestianism means no denominations, all are one underneath them

Thou shalt befriend all who want for thy camaraderie  
Something.  
Philosophies on how this should be done  
Separate posts/ideas with a horizontal line.  
Book layout  
no no you have the elements of harmony as like the beginning of the scriptures  
a chapter on emphasis of celestial beings, why they are important, sun and moon and stars etc.  
etc.  
then you have chapters teaching lessons after that  
the end of the world could be the last chapter, describing an Apocalypse where discord rules  
(hue)

#### Deterring scientific materialism

Thou shalt purge the imaginary, fo  
>"thou shalt stray from the powers of the Celestials, for their power is not ours"

this feels too much a type of kneelism. don't eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge and such.  
>"the magic of life and its mysteries cannot be fully understood by us"  
this is good as it keeps scientific materialism from sucking all the magic out of life.

But scientific reductionism doesn't suck magic out of life...

>"So leave it to the Celestials"

This makes me feel very separated from from divine experience. like isn't the point to be able to be in

contact (pray), be somehow connected to the divine. I guess maybe it depends on how you see Celestia, i.e. physical being or spiritual.

### Goals

MLP is based on virtue ethics, not commandments {agreed}. Each of the mane 6 displays about two major virtues which give them power as exemplars. Fluttershy does not just display compassion, but true courage as well. Rarity is not just generous, but also displays the virtue of Wit. Instead of telling people what to do or what not to do, it is far more entertaining, to my mind, to hold up an exemplar and weave fables. Morality plays and parables, as Jesus well knew, are much more fun to think about than lists of thou-shalt-nots.

Furthermore, there are large bodies of lore that these characters already draw upon. The conflict between sun and moon, yin and yang, is extremely old. There is no need to re-invent the wheel here; drawing on ancient archetypes and working them into your exemplars (or villains) will lend your religion powerful feels.

I think most of my confusion comes from the impression that you have things like holidays and commandments before you've discovered your deities.{Also agreed}

I don't just mean naming deities either. Luna and Celestia exist - they are manifestations of ancient archetypes, as I have said. They will speak to you, if you know how to listen. To write a religion in their name before you have understood their message is the ultimate blasphemy.

You've got to believe in your own gods. Otherwise this is a circle-jerk. If you need a philosophical framework for believing in this kind of stuff, I may be able to help with that.

What I have seen is also really, really heavily influenced by Christianity. Are you guys specifically going for that? If you want people to fall in love with this, you need to think about your audience. Are people who are in the market for a religion going to appreciate something that mimics a system they probably have bad experiences with? I know it's a big turn-off for me, personally.

As for the Christianity aspect, it's more like it than I'd, because I'm already Christian, but I'm not writing it. I just wanted to get the ball rolling, and see where /mlp/ would take this, and contribute to discussion. [Suggestion to make this more Pagan?]

Writer of Iyra here I'm trying to add some greek into the mix and somethings just its own, I also do not want this to be too heavily influenced by Christianity.

Dallos - It shouldn't be based off salvation or commands, but leading through example as well as following a moral path to a happy life should be put in.

Anon. Editor - I agree with Dallos. I do feel that this religion can have some Christian influence but it should not be overbearing. I can certainly see the Greek and Pagan aspects of it, though, and do feel we should expand further.

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Name vote

Celestianism/Celestianity: 9

Church of the Divine Celestial Goddesses : 9

Harmonism: 1

Church of Harmony: 2

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Ideas for approval

Cutie mark

Let's not have a literal cutie mark, but lets say the ultimate road to happiness should be for one to do what they love. To follow your dreams and pursue your talents should be highly regarded in the Church of the Divine Celestial Goddesses. [brownie points?]

Cutie Marks chapter, show of devotion (with tattoos)?-Only after discovery of talent and a way to show it - CM must be approved by church? - CM where on body? (anywhere of choosing would be nice) Hip/upper leg, both sides, comparable size to show (prevent frivolous marks)

CM rite of passage? Achieving something big related to talent (ie earning pilot's license for flying talent) Voluntary as show of devotion to the religion.

Call it something besides "cutie" marks? Marks, Devotion Marks, Talent Marks

[Suggestion: rather than permanent tattoo, an option could be Henna, a staining plant dye that's been used for thousands of years in africa, india, and the middle east. Results in a dark stain that fades within a couple weeks. VERY intricate designs can be made with it. Heck, it could be used for holidays.]

Self Actualization is a great goal for a religion to have. What will Celestianism do to aid this goal?

I say we should make the Cutie Mark a symbol for realising your true purpose in life, for without purpose there is no motivation or reason.

The ideal state for a person (and goal of this religion) should be for us to be like the ponies, content and happy.

I think one shouldn't just listen to what he has a talent at, but do what he wants to do. A good example for that would be Rarity's Cutie Mark. Her talent is finding gems, but her job is that of a fashion designer.

#### Discord

Discord: Fallen angel (redeemed again). Spirit of entropy, disharmony? Causes others to have favorites, Nepotism. Causes chaos (obviously) (Discord consumes all, meaning heat death of the universe)

Chaos is a force. Discord cannot be chaos itself for he has been redeemed in the show. Chaos is a force which infects us all, causing us to do immoral things (lie, be mean etc like shown in the episode when the elements are inverted.)

Discord should perhaps be the avatar of chaos, a being which fell so far into it that he became a channel for it. When shown friendship and the elements he becomes normal again.

To me this looks to be the perfect example of converting somebody. They do bad things, lead a terrible life, a life of chaos. You use the elements, show kindness and offer the hand of friendship, they see the light. Just like the episode.

#### Death

Compromise for both highlighted options: Equestria is the place of salvation. If you have lived harmoniously, then you ascend to Equestria, a paradise where all people may thrive in their chosen forms and ways. When you have not lived harmoniously, you dissolve into chaos and reincarnate as a separate mind (you're dead before you were born, now you seem to be doing just fine here). Your soul is recycled and your mind is lost. (keep you, not your memories.)

I like the idea of reincarnation for those of chaos. That means there is no punishment, just an infinite cycle of attempts.

#### Natural state of people

Man vs. Own Nature/Self: Discord, Nightmare Moon fallen because they fell victim to their own desires. Chaos would be a reckless and consuming force that is dormant in everyone. Discord and Nightmare Moon are main examples of this because they had not followed the commandments. (Commandments were made for our own good.)

#### Forgiveness

Forgiveness for transgressions comes from honest effort to repay the community what wrongs you have committed. No Divine forgiveness without honest effort and apology. (Implying we would ever put that in)

#### Chapters about Unbelievers

Changelings = envy, wanting to be others, gluttony, sapping others for the sake of themselves.

#### Holy days

Summer Solstice, Winter Solstice, Harvest Moon, Nightmare Night, Equinoxes (balance, equality)

#### Holy events

Lunar and Solar eclipses, Sunrise and Sunset, New Moon, Full Moon (rebirth, reunion)

#### Rituals/Rites

Bow to the sun/yoga/tai chi, and meditation at sunrise and sunset, Summer Sun Festival, Winter Moon Festival (solstices), Witnessing of the meteor showers, Marking Ceremony

#### Approvation

Veganism, Ovo-lacto-Vegetarianism, Oats, Organically grown [Ovo-lacto approved]

#### Vague Prophecies

Show was created as a reaction to the book

Celestia has been contacting us from the very beginning, shaping the formation of some of our cultural archetypes, but it's very hard to get messages through initially. Through the subconscious, or something ("sleeping mind"). The first breakthrough came with the original show, FiM was the second breakthrough, and now this. [muses?] Pretty much. We could also say original myths and figures came from their influence, unicorns, pegasi, the cockatrice/basilisk, werewolves from timberwolves maybe, dragons, mermaids (shoo be doo), etc.



"Internally, to the varicolored and velocious, we shed our liquid pride and become one with the celestial goddess."(last line) [Admin: It's supposed to be a joke. Something for anyone who manages to make it that far.] (There's no chance of legitimacy if we put something like that in.) [Noted]

Proposed: Within the varicolored and velocious, we shall purge the veins of the seminal and become one with the Celestial Goddesses. Praise the Sun and Moon! Proposed: May the light of a thousand suns fill [insert best pony here]'s being.  
In Harmony's name.

Active practice (prayer, meditation)

What if there was no prayer? Just meditation? Where you ponder harmony and your path? [Where would Praise the Sun come in?] Meditation and worship. Worship too. Hm... I'm thinking with this separated god thing, Celestia can only manipulate minds, so supplication would be internal, about changing your own state of mind, shaping it according to the Sixfold Path. How do religions besides the big 3 end their prayers?

Or perhaps the prayer comes in through meditation along with mantras and chants. Or hymns.

"Magic" is meditation, spiritual attunement, and communication with the "beyond" (Equestria)

How about a chant akin to the intro of the satanic verses? Not a prayer but more of a moral booster or something to lift spirits.

It goes as pasted:

To be born again, first you  
have to die. Hoji! Hoji! To land upon the bosomy earth, first one needs to fly.  
Tat-taa! Taka-thun! How to ever smile again, if first you won't cry? How to win  
the darling's love, mister, without a sigh? Baba, if you want to get born again, I tell you, you  
must die, I tell you, I tell you,

If you look at the Book of Lyra the prayers I have written at the bottom serve as this. More like chants than poetic verse. Feel free to add some

Outsiders

fedoras are the sign of the imposters who come in the name, but do not live the word of the name. Some seek to destroy, but most come as locusts, taking away the rewards of the harvest grown by the faithful.

Interpretations of magic

Magic could be interpreted as spiritual attunement.

You know meditation, and all that jazz

“Magic” is meditation, spiritual attunement, and communication with the “beyond” (Equestria)

The Mane 6 are patron saints of virtues, followers can choose a virtue, like “Disciple of Loyalty”, “Disciple of Generosity,” and so on. [I like it.]

We need a better word than “Cutie Mark.” Suggestions? [We have a few suggestions. Talent, Trade mark (hue) Devotion Mark, or just Marks] Emblems.

Suggestion - have a book devoted to each element, rather than just one commandment. We’re putting forward the idea that the elements have more meaning than just their literal definitions. Have a gospel from each element with extensive exploration of what it means to embody each element. For example, the honesty one could explore themes of integrity, dependability, living life with principles, etc. Would happily help write one or more of them. [We have a book, with each chapter devoted to each element. These chapters can be very long, if need be]

Maybe the different books could be related to the characters they’re named after. “Book of Lyra” for example could be about the teachings being reflections of what humanity is like. And being about the ethics of this “religion” affecting all Humans. “Book of Spike” could be about servitude and eventually freedom to pursue our own agendas and discover ourselves as Spike does in Dragon Quest. “Book of Celestia” would be about the pantheon of worship, about how Celestia does her shit. “Book of Pinkamena” This one could be about how the teachings help us to remain pure and happy, but when we corrupt the teachings we ourselves are corrupted. Like how Pinkie goes from Pinkie to Pinkamena. Whaddya guys think of my suggestions (That’s kind of already what it’s like. Lyra’s is about the message to the humans and how it applies to them, Spike’s is about the acts of the mane six, Celestia’s is about the history and lore, and Pinkamena’s is about prophecy, wisdom, and a guide to continuing your path)

^^ Like the idea of a book of Pinkamena with the purpose of preventing the corruption of the religion. [Apocalyptic book, anyway. It would probably have that theme in it anyway.]

Pinkamena and the first part of Celestia should be written without the religion specifically in mind. Spike and Lyra should, and Lyra should explain the history of the religion and how it rose out of Pinkamena and Celestia.

Discord has his own set of 6 Elements, the elements of Chaos

What instead of elements of chaos we had a 4 horsemen kind of thing going on where in:

Cheeselegs-Gluttony

Discord-Disharmony (Already kind of negates what the mane 6 stand for itself)

qNMM-Corruption to inner desires/envy..

Lord Donutsteel-Greed/wrath

As for hymns and music, one anon suggested we write some of the show songs in Latin:

Translate them into latin, and use the bridges

a big thing with hymns are their repetition

You see this alot in more modern religious songs- the call repeat pattern for instance

Another anon made this: <http://vocaroo.com/i/s00a10OOdwpb>. It's a rough cut, and the anon wanted to know what everyone thought.

Finished product. Would appreciate feedback of all kinds

<http://vocaroo.com/i/s0WGhuLO3uaV>

The Enemy:

брониз[Broniz?]

Lauren Faust (maybe other big names) as a patron saint? Being that there is already a lot of art depicting her religiously. "I am become noodle, the bringer of sauce."

Here's some questions to ponder. Are Celestia and Luna omniscient, and if so, how much do they know? One problem with omniscience I've figured is that in Genesis, God is all-knowing, even going so far as to know what the future will be. If that is so, why did he get mad at Adam & Eve for eating from the Tree of Knowledge if he knew that was going to happen?

On the contrary, there's nothing in show canon that implies they're omniscient, but I'm just wondering what you guys thought.

[My thought is that they are not omniscient. That would get rid of a lot of problems with continuity and contradictions.]

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There are those who worship the Almighty Bit. They scoff haughtily at Celestia, for they feel they can buy their happiness and their way to heaven. And here is where I warn you with a word of caution, to be wary of those who worship the false idol of money and are fazed by greed. They are after their own selfish interests and will use all as a means to an end. Their reward is sought in the material superficiality of the earth, rather than the enrichment of the mind and soul.

It is with a heavy heart that I recall for you the unfortunate consequences of following those unscrupulous enough to not care that all that glitters is not gold. For it was our own patron saint, Lauren Faust, who fell victim to them when she brought forth the stories of the Ponies.

She was called one day by a group of gentlemen who wanted to employ her and bring her vision to the masses. These men were daemons in disguise whose purpose in life were to profit from the imagination and wonder of children. Lauren was unable to see through their wicked hearts and intentions and accepted their proposal; she then worked very hard to make an inspired show, free from the trite conventions that plagued similar shows of yesteryear. Guided by the wise counsel of Celestia and Luna, Faust achieved what she had intended and created a brilliant work, loved by children and adults alike. The success of the show had also pleased Lauren's superiors for a while.

But afterward, the daemons began to show their true form and their unquenchable thirst for more money. They demanded more control over the show, and placed more demands upon Lauren until she could no longer take it. She could no longer finish what she set herself out to do, and left. Meanwhile, the daemons took what was wholesome and pure and defiled it for the sake of profit. The show they produced was stripped of the illustrious quality that had drawn the interest in the original. It was hurried, banal at times, and wrought with all kinds of deviations from what Faust set out to do. In time, the show became the antithesis of itself.

Lauren wept for her creation. She felt so much shame for what it has become that she could not bear to see any more, and withdrew from it. However, the mercy of Celestia shines upon all and she forgave Lauren. She recognized the good that Lauren achieved in bringing forth the stories of the Ponies and the Elements of Harmony, and was aware that she did all she could do to keep the story pure.

Remember that it is easier for an earth pony to live in Cloudsdale than it is for an affluent pony to be worthy of the Celestial Domain. All the riches of the world will not make you happy, and spending the last of your days seeking it is only a jaded pursuit for what you can't take with you to the end. Be wary of the greedy and seek what makes you content above all the rewards in your life.

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Comment on the ethics

Though its been alluded to in this document I think it would be worthwhile when discussing ethical/moral principles via parables and analogies to also to focus on explaining why said values are the values of the church (or give some greater reasoning rather other than 'for it is the will of Celestia')

Dallos - The way I have it in my head is that Celestia is our version of Jesus. More of a symbol of what man can achieve when he following the path of God that (in our case) a true omnipotent deity. Hence she is the one who has followed Harmony to a T. She is, at the moment, a perfect example.

-Eclipses: Possibly to emphasize the equal importance of night to day?

I just had a thought...

I was going back to the time when Faust said that if it was up to her, there would only be 2 alicorns in the show, and then it hit me as to why she said that.

It's already implied that Celestia and Luna are wielders of powerful magic, more powerful than ordinary unicorns. But sheer power alone isn't enough to make one worthy of being an alicorn. When the first two seasons were shown, the only alicorns were Celestia and Luna (until, for some retarded reason, Cadence showed up to fuck it all with her "pretty wings"). They rose the Sun and the Moon daily, and it wasn't enough that they could do it with their unicorn magic, they also needed to fly in order to move these large celestial bodies across the sky.

While Twilight's ascension into alicornhood (given this theory) can imply that she'll be able to move stars with her magic and need the wings to do so, it doesn't make any sense why Cadence is an alicorn. She can still fulfill her royal duties as a unicorn, and as far as I know, there isn't a celestial body that is "tied" to her. She's also not the strongest of alicorns, since the magic she used to put a barrier around the Crystal Empire physically drained her to the point of extreme exhaustion. Shining Armor was able to create a barrier around Canterlot and the only side effect he suffered are migraines. If Shining Armor can be strong enough to perform barrier spells around a large area with minor issues, why isn't he the alicorn instead of his wife?

This also raises an issue with the "strong unicorns becoming alicorns" theory. Alicorns under this theory serve a distinct, almost divine purpose unrelated to skill. It would deflate the purpose

of an alicorn for a powerful unicorn to use their new form in vain. Hate to bring back Cadence again, but she's the biggest example of this, of being an alicorn for the sake of it. There is no higher purpose for her alicorn form and she doesn't utilize it fully like Celestia and Luna. Also, we have no evidence that male alicorns exist in the MLP universe. So far it's an all-girls club, which is terribly sexist, unrealistic, and something not worth striving for.

That's why I think we need to rethink the theory that Celestia and Luna were powerful unicorns who became alicorns. It adds a paradox to the existence of the Divine Sisters. Who was first, Celestia or the Sun? It also deflates the purpose of an alicorn, whom, in my theory, were made as such to utilize flight and magic simultaneously to move celestial bodies across the sky.

What do you guys think? Sorry if it sounds like a disjointed ramble, I swear it sounded better in my head.

Yules: We have a big problem: Equestria girls. This show is going to add a lot of cannon and most likely destroy a lot of ideas we have, just something to think about while making this.

L Azure: While you are right, I'm mostly ignoring its canonical implications and just acknowledging that it exists without giving it any canonical weight. Same thing I've done with the pony chapter books. So far my evidence points that it's a side-story connected to FiM but going in its own direction. At least, I hope this is what it turns out to be. If future episodes hark back to EqG (or are quality-wise anything like EqG), we may have to implement a stopgap on which episodes are canon and which are not, something that might start a shitstorm. I don't want to even think about going that far, but my faith in the writers (especially Meghan McCarthy) is wearing extremely thin.

L Azure here, I bring a proposal to the table: What if we made a weekly general thread to discuss ideas with other anons and show some progress to let them know the project's not dead? I would propose starting a General every Sunday (hue) and just posting in there until we run out of ideas to talk about? That would kinda avoid the aversion some would have about another General fighting for the front page of /mlp/.

Also, what do you guys think of this project? <http://boards.4chan.org/mlp/res/11725257>

Already it's received massive amounts of support, and anons have suggested building a temple or shrine to the Divine Goddesses on it to "stake their claim". New thread on this: <http://boards.4chan.org/mlp/res/11793369>

Zealot Apostata submitted this pastebin of pictures of a wickerpony he made for the Summer Sun Celebration: <http://pastebin.com/UKjaYN47> I thought it was a good idea to incorporate it into the traditions for future events.

This books seems less like scripture and more like theology. There is a difference. For example, the Bible rarely states points of doctrine with phrases like "The followers of God do this." Instead, it describes events largely as history or as philosophical opinions in the epistles of the New Testament. Very few of the books are in the first person and those that are (Song of Solomon) are short examples of poetry or prophecy (Revelation). Further, for many religions besides Christianity and Islam, the exact wording of scripture and adherence to orthodoxy is much less important than orthopraxy. This church also has little tradition and must rely on a form of sola scriptura for its beliefs. All in all, I can't decide if this is a repackaged formation of Protestant Christianity or a new religion in its own right. IMO, regardless of our focus, scripture must first focus on the events first, and allow doctrine to come later through interpretation and usage. It is okay to use "Celestia said to her disciples '(insert doctrine here)'," but it must be written as a quote from another party. Philosophical points should be saved for a series of letters to Celestians seeking to establish an orthodoxy or for Pinkamena, which seems akin to Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.