

## **Notes to the Leader for Session M113: When a leader is stepping down**

This ritual is intended for when a leader of the group is stepping down, and will continue as a member of the group. (There could be a separate ritual for use when a leader will leave, and will not remain a part of the group.)

### **Preparation**

In advance of the session, notify members that one of their leaders will be stepping down, and ask them to think about one thing they would like to share with the group about that person's special contributions as a leader to the group. Use your own judgment based on what you know of today's content, your group and of the member, but this ritual should probably be done at the beginning of the session, so the past leader can step down and experience today's session without past responsibilities. If people tend to leave early or the content is likely to run late, have the ritual at the beginning of the session.

There should be a pile of something on the table that can be given to the individual who is changing their role. This might be a stack of ribbons, a bowl of marbles, seashells, a bouquet of flowers... If possible, try to make it something that is specific to the person who is stepping down. Distribute these to the group members before beginning.

### **Preliminaries**

Distribute objects that you have chosen to the group members.

Ask the individual who will be stepping down to lead the responsive reading.

Notice there is a word in the opening reading that is often mispronounced. Taoist is pronounced "dowist". (Dow rhymes with now.)