

Morning Prayer for use at home during Lent

[2020]

Continuing our
Journey
through Lent
with Celtic Saints



Call to Worship

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
and renew a right spirit within me.

Give me again the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your gracious Spirit.

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

[Psalm 51: 11, 13 & 16]

PSALM 121 (OR ANOTHER PSALM OR SONG)

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble;
he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
neither the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall keep you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep your soul.
- 8 The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.



SAINT OF THE DAY

A prayer associated with one of the Celtic or Anglo-Saxon saints from the 4th to 7th centuries:



Sunday 22nd March: St Brigid of Kildare

Inspired by St Brigid, we pray:

You who put beam in moon and sun,
you who put fish in stream and sea,
you who put food in ear and herd,
send your blessing up to me.

Bring forth the warmth, the tears, the laughter
from our repressed and frozen ground;
bring forth loving, healing, forgiving,
to our fretting, festering world.
Bring in light and truth and singing
after dark and frigid years. Amen

Sunday 29th March: St Hilda of Whitby

Inspired by St Hilda, we pray:

Wisdom on high,

help me to learn from the likes of Hilda:
to be reliable and to grow in prudence.

To study, work and pray hard, but not too hard;
to treat every person with courtesy and none with contempt;
to maintain resolute faith, balanced judgment,
and outgoing friendships. Amen

Sunday 5th April: St Aidan of Lindisfarne

Inspired by St Aidan, we pray:

Father, whose gentle apostle Aidan
befriended everyone he met with Jesus Christ,
give me his humble, Spirit-filled zeal
that I may inspire others to learn your ways
and to pass on the torch of faith. Amen

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Confession

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled against him.

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of mercy,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.** [cf Hosea 6]

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We say or sing prayerfully:

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me,
fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

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COLLECT

Mothering Sunday 22nd March

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Passion Sunday 29th March

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Palm Sunday 5th April

True and humble King, hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. Amen.

READINGS

Sunday 22nd March: Ephesians 5: 8-14 John 9: 1-41

Sunday 29th March: Romans 8: 6-11 John 11: 1-45

Palm Sunday 5th April: Psalm 118: 1-2, 15-29 Matthew 21: 1-11

SERMON *[It is hoped to provide a sermon or reflection on the readings each week]*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

[cf Philippians 2.6-11]



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray to God,
who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For all who are affected by coronavirus,
through illness or isolation or anxiety,
that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are guiding our nation at this time,
and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,
that through their skill and insights
many will be restored to health:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the vulnerable and the fearful,
for the gravely ill and the dying,
that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

CLOSING

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,
'I am with you always'.

Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
and keep me in your care.



Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
Amen.