

Psalm 121

I will lift mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; He shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

A light is from our household gone,
A voice we loved is stilled,
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled

We have to mourn the loss of one
We did our best to save,
Beloved on earth, regretted still,
Remembered the grave

'Twas hard to part
with one so dear
We little thought the time was near,
Farewell, dear one life is past,
Our love for you till the end will last.

The 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

At a Time Like This

During a time like this, you discover just who your friends really are.

*Thank you for sharing
our grief.*

The ~~~ Family

Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one, I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun Of happy memories that I leave When life is done.

May He support us all the day long till the shades lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done.

Then in His Mercy . . . may He give us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.

Cardinal Newman

Crossing The Bar

**Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call from me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea.**

**But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out
the boundless deep.**

Turns again home.

**Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness
of farewell, When I embark;**

**For tho' from out our bourne of Time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.**

Pray twice daily.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
I accept from Your hands,
whatever kind of death it may please You to send me
today (tonight),
with all its pains,
penalties and sorrows,
in reparation for my sins,
for the souls in purgatory,
for those conversion of sinners,
for all those who will die today (tonight),
and for Your greater glory.

Amen.

By Fr. John A. Hardon, SJ

Days Without End

GOD, Your days are without end, Your mercies beyond counting. Help us always to remember that life is short and the day of our death is known to You alone. May Your Holy Spirit lead us to live in holiness and justice all our days.

Then, after serving You in the fellowship of Your Church, with strong faith, consoling hope, and perfect love for all, may we joyfully come to Your Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Don't quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,

When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,

When care is pressing you down a bit,
rest, if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns, as everyone of us
sometimes learns,

and many a failure turns about
when he might have won had he stuck it out,

Don't give up though the pace seems slow –
You may succeed with another blow.

Success is failure turned inside out –
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,

And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit –
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

Do Not Stand

*Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep,
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond's gift of snow.*

*I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the autumn's gentle rain,
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush.*

*Of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night,
Do not stand at my grave and cry,*

I am not there,

I did not die.

Fireman's Prayer

*Almighty God, Protector of all Mankind, Your strength,
power, and wisdom are a beacon of light to all men:*

*Give special guidance to Firemen and Firefighters so
that we may be protected from harm while performing
our duty.*

*Help me with Your loving care while I work to save the
lives and property of all people young and old.*

*Give me the courage, the alertness to protect my
neighbors and all others whom I am pledge to aid when
involved in a fire or accident.*

Amen.

Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you the most you would leave me."

The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

God Our Father,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family,
relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to you alone.

In company with Christ,
who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing your praise forever and ever.
Amen

God Made Us a Family

God made us a family
We need one another
We love one another
We forgive one another
We work together
We play together
We worship together
Together we use God's word
Together we grow in Christ
Together we love all men
Together we serve our God
Together we hope for Heaven
These are our hopes and ideals
Help us to attain them, O God,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen

God saw the road getting long,
The hills were hard to climb
He gently closed his weary eyes
and whispered "Peace Be Thine".
His days of toil, his nights of pain,
His weary hours are past.
His weak, worn tired frame
Has found sweet rest at last.

It is well with my soul
I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

God saw you getting tired, and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered " Come To Me ". With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw you pass away. Although we love you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here.*

*Ever this day be at my side,
to light and guard,
to rule and guide.*

If Tomorrow Starts Without Me

i know how much you love me,
As much as I love you,
And each time that you think of me,I know you'll miss
me too.
But if tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
And took me by the hand.
He said my place was ready,
In heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind,
All those I dearly love.

So if tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,For everytime you think of me,
I'm right here in your heart.

Irish Blessing

May the road rise with you,

*May the wind be always
at your back,*

*May the sun shine warm
upon your face,*

*And rains fall soft
upon your fields,*

*And until we meet again,
may God keep you
in the hollow of His hand.*

Jesus said to her, " I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this ? "

Let not your hearts be troubled;
believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many rooms;
if it were not so, would I have told
you that I go and prepare a place
for you?

And when I go and prepare a place
for you, I will come again and will
take you to myself, that where I am
you may be also.

John 14: 1-3

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only
begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not
perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Now the labourer's task is over;

Now the battle day is past;

Now upon the farther shore

Lands the voyager at last.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping

Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

-- John Ellerton

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;

Thy kingdom come;

Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

And Forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Lord Support Us

Lord, support us all day long,
until the shadows lengthen and
the evening comes, and the busy
world is hushed, and the fever
of life is over, and our work
is done. Then in thy mercy grant
us a safe lodging, and a holy
rest, and peace at the last.

Amen.

You Loved Her

Father we entrust our sister to your mercy.

You loved her greatly in this life: now that she is freed
from all its cares, give her happiness and peace for
ever.

Welcome her now into paradise where there will be no
more sorrow, no more weeping or pain, but only peace
and joy with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit for
ever and ever.

You Loved Him

Father we entrust our brother to your mercy.

You loved him greatly in this life: now that he is freed
from all its cares, give him happiness and peace for
ever.

Welcome him now into paradise where there will be no
more sorrow, no more weeping or pain, but only peace
and joy with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit for
ever and ever.

Memorare

Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary that never was it known that anyone who fled to Thy protection, implored Thy help, and sought Thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto Thee, O Virgin of virgins. My Mother! to Thee I come; before Thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. Oh Mother of the Word incarnate! despise not my petitions, but, in Thy mercy, hear and answer me.

Amen.

Most Merciful Jesus,
lover of souls,
I pray You,
by the agony of Your most Sacred Heart,
and by the sorrows of Your Immaculate Mother,
to wash in Your Most Precious Blood,
the sinners of the world who are now in their agony,
and who will die today.

Heart of Jesus,
once in agony,
have mercy on the dying.

Amen.

O' Gentlest Heart

O gentlest heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls, have mercy on the soul of thy departed servant. Be not severe in Thy judgement but let some drops of Thy Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames, and do Thou O Merciful Saviour, send Thy Angels to conduct Thy departed servant to a place of refreshment, light and peace.

Amen

Merciful Jesus grant eternal rest.

Resurrection Prayer

Most merciful Father, we commend our departed into your hands. We are filled with the sure hope that our departed will rise again on the Last Day with all who have died in Christ. We thank you for all the good things you have given during our departed's earthly life.

O Father, in your great mercy, accept our prayer that the Gates of Paradise may be opened for your servant. In our turn, may we too be comforted by the words of faith until we greet Christ in glory and are united with you and our departed.

Through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Roman Ritual

May the Angels lead you into Paradise, may the Martyrs receive you at your coming, and take you to Jerusalem the holy city.

May the choirs of the Angels receive you, and may you with the once poor Lazarus, have rest ever lasting.

Amen.

May the Souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

None of us lives unto himself,
and none of us dies to himself.

If we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord

So then whether we live or
whether we die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:7-8

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him
Forever in the next.

Amen.

—Reinhold Niebuhr

Prayer of St. Francis Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master; grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Saint John Neumann

Your ardent desire to bring all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country. Teach us to live worthily in the Spirit of our baptism, which makes us children of the one heavenly Father. And brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, the first-born of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication to the needy, the weak, the afflicted and the abandoned, which so characterized your life. Help us to persevere in the difficult and, at times, painful paths of duty. May death find us on the sure road to our Father's house with the light of living faith in our hearts.

Amen.

Taps

Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hill, From the sky.

All is well, safely rest
God is nigh.

Thanks and praise, for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'Neath the sky.

As we go, this we know,
God is nigh.

Amen.

The Serenity

God grant me the serenity to accept
the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.

We Give Them Back

We give them back to you, O Lord, who first gave them to us; yet as you did not lose them in the giving, so we do not lose them by their return . . .

For what is yours is ours also, if we belong to you. Love is unending, and the boundary of this mortal life is but a horizon, and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see more clearly . . .

And while you prepare a place for us, prepare us also for that happy place, that we may be with you and with those we loved for evermore.

When I Must Leave

When I must leave you for a little while --

Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
and hug your sorrow to you through the years,

But start out bravely with a gallant smile:

And for my sake and in my name
live on and do all things the same,

Feed not your loneliness on empty days,
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,

Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer
and I in turn will comfort you and hold you near;

And never, never be afraid to die,
For I am waiting for you in the sky.