

Celtic Evening Prayer

Sentence

Choose from the following.

Keep us safe, O Lord, in the darkness of this night, for the eternal kingdom, where there is flaming radiance forever.

Early Irish Lyrics

Let us adore the Lord, Maker of marvellous works, Bright heaven with its angels,
And on earth the white-waved sea.

Old Irish

May our purpose be strong: To strive for what is fittest. Let us all love Jesus, For this is the highest thing

Prayers of Repentance

Either:

Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I can remember, and also the sins I have forgotten. Forgive the wrong actions I have committed, and the right actions I have omitted. Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation, and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.

Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and those when I have failed to boast of your works.

Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown to myself.

Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided.

Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown to myself. Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.

Or

Early Irish

Fair Lord, I pray to you concerning my excesses and deficiencies: grant me forgiveness here for my misdeeds, my ignorance.

A Hymn of Re-Dedication

(may be sung to any Long Metre tune)

How great the tale, that there should be,

In God's Son's heart, a place for me!

That on a sinner's lips like mine,

The cross of Jesus Christ should shine!

Christ Jesus, bend me to Thy will,

My feet to urge, my griefs to still;

That even my flesh and blood may be

A temple sanctified to Thee.

No rest, no calm, my soul may win,
Because my body craves to sin
Till Thou, dear Lord,
Thyself impart Peace to my head, light to my heart.
May consecration come from far
Soft shining like the evening star!
My toilsome path make plain to me,
Until I come to rest in Thee.
Muredach Albanach, twelfth century

Antiphon and Psalmody

O Lord, open my/our lips:
And my/our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Either

Psalm 90.1–4

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,
'Go back, O child of earth.'
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday
when it is past and like a watch in the night.

Glory be 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.

Or

Psalm 63.1–9

O God, you are my God;
eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.
May those who seek my life to destroy it
go down into the depths of the earth;

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.

Readings

A Reading from the sayings of St. Patrick

God of All
Our God is the God of all,
The God of heaven and earth, Of the sea and of the rivers;
The God of the sun and of the moon and of all the stars;
The God of the lofty mountains and of the lowly valleys.
He has His dwelling around heaven and earth,
and sea, and all that in them is.
He inspires all, He gives life to all,
He dominates all,
He supports all.
He lights the light of the sun.
He furnishes the light of the night.
He has made springs in dry land . . .
He is the God of heaven and earth, of sea and rivers,
of sun, moon and stars, of the lofty mountain and the lowly valley,
the God above heaven,
and in heaven, and under heaven.
St Patrick

A Reading from the Carmina Gadelica

God's Aid
God to enfold me,
God to surround me,
God in my speaking,
God in my thinking.
God in my sleeping,
God in my waking,
God in my watching,
God in my hoping.
God in my life,

God in my lips,
God in my soul,
God in my heart.
God in my sufficing,
God in my slumber,
God in mine ever-living soul,
God in mine eternity.

Daily Reading:

Canticle - Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant:
from this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me:
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him:
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm:
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones:
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel:
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our forebears:
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

The Song of Simeon Nunc Dimittis Luke 2:29-32

Lord, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to God, who is the Creator,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Intercessions

For the Church:

We pray for all who work through the power of Christ in the Church today, serving the needs of the poor and healing the wounds of injustice, division and materialism in our society.

We pray for all Christians: that they may seek the kingdom of God before all else.

We pray that the Christian churches may grow together towards unity of faith, and witness to the values of the gospel.

For Ourselves:

We pray that when we are discouraged, we may find strength in the signs of a loving and faithful God in those around us.

We pray for the trust and openness to give our hearts and lives to God as Jesus did.

We pray that we may be a sign of the love of God to all whom we meet.

For Others

We pray for the elderly, the sick and the lonely among us:

that they may receive comfort, companionship and care from those around them.

Let us pray for all married couples:

that they remain loving and faithful to each other in good times

Let us pray for those who are distressed, whether in body, mind or spirit.

We pray for those who have lost hope: that they may find the joy of the Holy Spirit within their hearts.

For the Departed

We pray for the souls of all those whom we have loved but now no longer see; those who have gone beyond the veil of this mortal life.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work,
or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary,
bless the dying, soothe the suffering,
pity the afflicted, shield the joyous;
and all for your love's sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

or

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts that we absorb from another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

Source: A New Zealand Prayer Book

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All: In the busyness of this day grant us a stillness of seeing,

O God.
In the conflicting voices of our hearts grant us calmness of hearing.
Let our seeing and hearing
our words and actions be rooted in a silent certainty of your presence.
Let our passions for life
and the longings for justice
that stir within us be grounded in the experience of your stillness.
Let our lives be rooted in the ground of your peace, O God,
let us be rooted in the depths of your peace.

Conclusion

May Almighty God bless us, deliver us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace, And rise in glory. May the divine assistance remain with us always. And with our absent brothers and sisters. Amen.

Most of this service is from [Praying the Keeills Celtic Daily Prayer](#)