

Celtic Daily Prayers  
*23-27 November 2020*

# Monday

You have searched me  
and known me, O God.  
You know when I sit down  
and when I rise up.  
(Ps 139:1-2)

## Silence

*Be still  
and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

## Opening prayer and thanksgiving

Thanks be to you, O God,  
that I have risen this day  
to the rising of this life itself.  
May it be a day of blessing,  
O God of every gift,  
a day of new beginnings given.  
Help me to avoid every sin  
and the source of every sin to forsake,  
and as the mist scatters  
from the crest of the hills  
may each ill haze clear  
from my soul, O God.

## Free prayers of thanks

## Scripture Readings

### Psalm 30

- 1 I will exalt you, O Lord,  
for you have drawn me up from the depths:  
and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.
- 2 O Lord my God, I cried to you:  
and you have made me whole.
- 3 You brought me back, O Lord, from the land of silence:  
you saved my life  
from among those that go down to the Pit.
- 4 Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones:  
and give thanks to his holy name.

- 5 For if in his anger is havoc,  
in his good favour is life:  
heaviness may endure for a night,  
but joy comes in the morning.
- 6 In my prosperity I said 'I shall never be moved:  
your goodness, O Lord, has set me on so firm a hill.'
- 7 Then you hid your face from me:  
and I was greatly dismayed.
- 8 I cried to you, O God:  
and made my petition humbly to my Lord.
- 9 'What profit is there in my blood,  
if I go down to the Pit:  
can the dust give you thanks,  
or declare your faithfulness?
- 10 'Hear, O Lord, and be merciful:  
O Lord, be my helper.'
- 11 You have turned my lamentation into dancing:  
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,
- 12 That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent:  
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

#### **Luke 21:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; <sup>2</sup> he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

<sup>3</sup> He said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; <sup>4</sup> for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.'

#### **Silence**

*Reflect on the gospel  
and remember  
that God is with those  
who are poor and betrayed.*

## **Intercessions**

O Christ of the poor and the yearning,  
kindle in my heart within  
a flame of love for my neighbour,  
for my foe, for my friend,  
for my kindred all.

From the humblest thing that lives  
to the Name that is highest of all,  
kindle in my heart within  
a flame of love.

*Pray for the coming day  
and for justice and peace.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

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

## **Closing Prayer**

This day and this night, O God,  
may I know  
the deep peace  
of the running wave  
the deep peace of the flowing air  
the deep peace  
of the quiet earth  
the deep peace of the shining stars  
the deep peace of the Son of Peace.

## Tuesday

If I ascend to heaven  
you are there, O God.  
And if I make my bed in hell,  
still you are with me.  
(Ps 139.8)

### Silence

*Be still  
and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

### Opening prayer and thanksgiving

In the beginning, O God,  
you shaped my soul and set its weave.  
You formed my body  
and gave it breath.  
Renew me this day  
in the image of your love.  
O great God, grant me your light.  
O great God, grant me your grace.  
O great God, grant me your joy this day  
and let me be made pure  
in the well of your health.

### Free prayers of thanks

### Scripture readings

#### Psalm 33

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:  
for it befits the just to praise him.
- 2 Give the Lord thanks upon the harp:  
and sing his praise to the lute of ten strings.
- 3 O sing him a new song:  
make sweetest melody, with shouts of praise.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is true:  
and all his works are faithful.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice:  
the earth is filled with the loving-kindness of the Lord.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made:  
and their numberless stars by the breath of his mouth.

- 7 He gathered the waters of the sea as in a water-skin:  
and laid up the deep in his treasuries.
- 8 Let the whole earth fear the Lord:  
and let all the inhabitants of the world  
stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it was done:  
he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The Lord frustrates the counsels of the nations:  
he brings to nothing the devices of the peoples.
- 11 But the counsels of the Lord shall endure for ever:  
the purposes of his heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord:  
the people he chose to be his own possession.
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven  
and surveys all the children of Adam:  
he considers from his dwelling-place  
all the inhabitants of the earth;
- 14 He who fashioned the hearts of them all:  
and comprehends all that they do.
- 15 A king is not saved by a mighty army:  
nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;
- 16 A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer:  
nor can he rescue any by his great power.
- 17 But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him:  
on those that trust in his unfailing love,
- 18 To deliver them from death:  
and to feed them in the time of dearth.
- 19 We have waited eagerly for the Lord:  
for he is our help and our shield.
- 20 Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him:  
for we have trusted in his holy name.
- 21 Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord:  
even as our hope is in you.

## **Luke 21:5-11**

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, <sup>6</sup>‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.’

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, ‘Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?’ <sup>8</sup>And he said, ‘Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and, “The time is near!” Do not go after them.’

<sup>9</sup> ‘When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.’ <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.’

## **Silence**

*Reflect on the gospel  
and on the Christ of the cross,  
suffering in the world  
with all those who are broken.*

## **Intercessions**

O Christ of the road  
of the wounded,  
O Christ of the tears  
of the broken,  
in me and with me  
the needs of the world.  
Grant me my prayers  
of loving and hoping.  
Grant me my prayers  
of yearning and healing.

*Pray for the coming day  
and for the healing  
within and among all people.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

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

## **Closing Prayer**

God before me, God behind me,  
God above me, God beneath me.

I on your path, O God,  
you, O God, on my way.

In the twistings of the road  
in the currents of the river

be with me by day

be with me by night

be with me by day and by night.



## Wednesday

It was you who formed  
my inward parts,  
you knit me together  
in my mother's womb.  
I praise you  
for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made.  
(Ps 139:13-14)

### Silence

*Be still  
and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

### Opening prayer and thanksgiving

O Sun behind all suns,  
I give you greeting this new day.  
Let all creation praise you.  
Let the daylight  
and the shadows praise you.  
Let the fertile earth  
and the swelling sea praise you.  
Let the wind and the rain  
the lightening and the thunder  
praise you  
Let all that breathes,  
both male and female, praise you.  
And I shall praise you. O God of all life  
I give you greeting this day.

### Free prayers of thanks

### Scripture readings

#### Psalm 42

- 1 As a deer longs for the running brooks:  
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul is thirsty for God, thirsty for the living God:  
when shall I come and see his face?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and night:  
while they ask me all day long 'Where now is your God?'

- 4 As I pour out my soul by myself, I remember this:  
how I went to the house of the Mighty One,  
into the temple of God,
- 5 To the shouts and songs of thanksgiving:  
a multitude keeping high festival.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul:  
and why so unquiet within me?
- 7 O put your trust in God:  
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.
- 8 My soul is heavy within me:  
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,  
from Mizar among the hills of Hermon.
- 9 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waters:  
all your waves and breakers have gone over me.
- 10 Surely the Lord will grant his loving mercy  
in the day-time:  
and in the night his song will be with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.
- 11 I will say to God, my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me:  
why must I go like a mourner  
because the enemy oppresses me?'
- 12 Like a sword through my bones,  
my enemies have mocked me:  
while they ask me all day long 'Where now is your God?'
- 13 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul:  
and why so unquiet within me?
- 14 O put your trust in God:  
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.

### **Luke 21:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.

## **Silence**

*Reflect on the gospel  
and on God  
as the wellspring of all life.*

## **Intercessions**

There is no plant in the ground  
but tells of your beauty, O Christ.  
There is no creature on the earth,  
there is no life in the sea  
but proclaims your goodness.  
There is no bird on the wing,  
there is no star in the sky, there is nothing beneath the sun  
but it is full of your blessing.  
Lighten my understanding  
of your presence all around, O Christ.  
Kindle my will  
to be caring for creation.

*Pray for the coming day  
and for the care of the earth.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Closing prayer**

Bless to me, O God,  
my soul that comes from on high.  
Bless to me, O God,  
my body that is of earth.  
Bless to me, O God,  
each scent that goes to my nostrils,  
each taste that goes to my lips,  
each ray that guides my way.

# Thursday

If I take the wings  
of the morning  
and settle at  
the furthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand  
shall hold me fast.  
(Ps 139 9-10)

## Silence

*Be still  
and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

## Opening prayer and thanksgiving

O loving Christ  
who died upon the tree,  
each day and each night  
I remember your love.  
In my lying down  
and in my rising up,  
in life and in death  
you are my health and my peace.  
Each day and each night  
I remember your forgiveness  
bestowed on me so gently  
and generously.  
Each day and each night  
may I be fuller in love to you.

## Free prayers of thanks

## Scripture readings

### Psalm 43

- 1 Give judgement for me, O God,  
take up my cause against an ungodly people:  
deliver me from the deceitful and unjust.
- 2 For you are God my refuge—  
why have you turned me away:  
why must I go like a mourner  
because the enemy oppresses me?

- 3 O send out your light and your truth,  
and let them lead me:  
let them guide me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.
- 4 Then I shall go to the altar of God,  
to God my joy and my delight:  
and to the harp I shall sing your praises, O God, my God.
- 5 Why are you so full of heaviness, my soul:  
and why so unquiet within me?
- 6 O put your trust in God:  
for I will praise him yet, who is my deliverer and my God.

### **Luke 21:20-28**

<sup>20</sup> 'When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. <sup>21</sup> Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; <sup>22</sup> for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfilment of all that is written. <sup>23</sup> Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; <sup>24</sup> they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

<sup>25</sup> 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>27</sup> Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

### **Silence**

*Reflect on the gospel  
and on the One who calls us  
to follow him  
as the way, the truth and the life.*

## **Intercessions**

Life be in my speech,  
truth in what I say.  
The love Christ Jesus gave  
be filling every heart for me.  
The love Christ Jesus gave  
be filling me for everyone.

*Pray for the coming day  
and to follow Christ more closely.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Closing prayer**

Bless to me, O God,  
the earth beneath my feet.  
Bless to me O God,  
the path on which I go.  
Bless to me, O God,  
the people whom I meet.  
O God of all gods  
bless to me my life.

# Friday

Where can I go  
from your spirit, O God?  
(Ps 139:7)

## Silence

*Be still  
and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

## Opening prayer and thanksgiving

I awake this morning in the presence  
of the holy angels of God.  
May heaven open wide before me  
above me and around me  
that I may see  
the Christ of my love  
and his sunlit company  
in all things of earth this day.

## Free prayers of thanks

## Scripture readings

### Psalm 46

- 1 God is our refuge and strength:  
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved:  
and though the mountains are shaken  
in the midst of the sea;
- 3 Though the waters rage and foam:  
and though the mountains quake at the rising of the sea.
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God:  
the holy dwelling-place of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of her,  
therefore she shall not be moved:  
God will help her, and at break of day.
- 6 The nations make uproar, and the kingdoms are shaken:  
but God has lifted his voice, and the earth shall tremble.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 8 Come then and see what the Lord has done:  
what destruction he has brought upon the earth.

- 9 He makes wars to cease in all the world:  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear,  
and burns the chariots in the fire.
- 10 'Be still, and know that I am God:  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted upon the earth.'
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

### **Luke 21:29-33**

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees;  
<sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know  
that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking  
place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this  
generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven  
and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

### **Silence**

*Reflect on the gospel and remember  
that the life of heaven  
and the life of earth  
are interwoven.*

### **Intercessions**

O God of life, of all life, of each life,  
I offer you my prayers  
in the love of Christ  
in affection of Christ  
in the company of Christ.  
As your own household  
desires in heaven  
so may I desire on earth this day.

*Pray for the coming day  
and for the life of the world.*



## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

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

## **Closing Prayer**

The love and affection  
of the angels be with me.

The love and affection  
of the saints be with me.

The love and affection  
of heaven be with me,  
to lead me and to cherish me  
this day.

