



# Celtic Daily Prayers

*24-28 August 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 138

- 1 I will give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart:  
even before the gods will I sing your praises.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name:  
because of your faithfulness and your loving-kindness,  
for you have made your name and your word  
supreme over all things.
- 3 At a time when I called to you, you gave me answer:  
and put new strength within my soul.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord:  
for they have heard the words of your mouth;

- 5 And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord:  
that the glory of the Lord is great.
- 6 For though the Lord is exalted, he looks upon the lowly:  
and he comprehends the proud from afar.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of danger,  
yet will you preserve my life:  
you will stretch out your hand against the fury of my  
enemies, and your right hand shall save me.
- 8 The Lord will complete his purpose for me:  
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;  
do not forsake the work of your own hands.

### **Luke 4:16-30**

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

<sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' <sup>23</sup> He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ' <sup>24</sup> And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town. <sup>25</sup> But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup> yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup> There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' <sup>28</sup> When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

## **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 139:1-18

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:  
you know when I sit or when I stand,  
you comprehend my thoughts long before.
- 2 You discern my path and the places where I rest:  
you are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue:  
but you, Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You have encompassed me behind and before:  
and have laid your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:  
so high that I cannot endure it.
- 6 Where shall I go from your spirit:  
or where shall I flee from your presence?

- 7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:  
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.
- 8 If I spread out my wings towards the morning:  
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me:  
and your right hand shall hold me.
- 10 If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:  
and the night will enclose me',
- 11 The darkness is no darkness with you,  
but the night is as clear as the day:  
the darkness and the light are both alike.
- 12 For you have created my inward parts:  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will praise you, for you are to be feared:  
fearful are your acts, and wonderful your works.
- 14 You knew my soul,  
and my bones were not hidden from you:  
when I was formed in secret,  
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes saw my limbs when they were yet imperfect:  
and in your book were all my members written;
- 16 Day by day they were fashioned:  
and not one was late in growing.
- 17 How deep are your thoughts to me, O God:  
and how great is the sum of them!
- 18 Were I to count them,  
they are more in number than the sand:  
were I to come to the end, I would still be with you.

### **Luke 4:31-37**

<sup>31</sup> He went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath. <sup>32</sup> They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority. <sup>33</sup> In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> 'Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' When the demon had thrown him down before them, he came out of him without having done him any harm. <sup>36</sup> They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, 'What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!' <sup>37</sup> And a report about him began to reach every place in the region.

## **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 146

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul:  
while I live I will praise the Lord;
- 2 While I have any being:  
I will sing praises to my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes:  
nor in flesh and blood, which cannot save.

- 4 For when their breath goes from them,  
they return again to the earth:  
and on that day all their thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob:  
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- 6 The God who made heaven and earth:  
the sea, and all that is in them,
- 7 Who keeps faith for ever:  
who deals justice to those that are oppressed.
- 8 The Lord gives food to the hungry:  
and sets the captives free.
- 9 The Lord gives sight to the blind:  
the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down.
- 10 The Lord loves the righteous:  
the Lord cares for the stranger in the land.
- 11 He upholds the widow and the fatherless:  
as for the way of the wicked, he turns it upside down.
- 12 The Lord shall be king for ever:  
your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations.  
Praise the Lord.

### **Luke 4:38-41**

<sup>38</sup> After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. <sup>39</sup> Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.

<sup>40</sup> As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. <sup>41</sup> Demons also came out of many, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.

### **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 147

- 1 O praise the Lord,  
for it is good to sing praises to our God:  
and to praise him is joyful and right.
- 2 The Lord is rebuilding Jerusalem:  
he is gathering together the scattered outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the broken in spirit:  
and binds up their wounds.

- 4 He counts the number of the stars:  
and calls them all by name.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and great is his power:  
there is no measuring his understanding.
- 6 The Lord restores the humble:  
but he brings down the wicked to the dust.
- 7 O sing to the Lord a song of thanksgiving:  
sing praises to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with cloud,  
and prepares rain for the earth:  
and makes the grass to sprout upon the mountains.
- 9 He gives the cattle their food:  
and feeds the young ravens that call to him.
- 10 He takes no pleasure in the strength of a horse:  
nor does he delight in anyone's legs,
- 11 But the Lord's delight is in those that fear him:  
who wait in hope for his mercy.
- 12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem:  
sing praises to your God, O Zion.
- 13 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates:  
and blessed your children within you.
- 14 He makes peace within your borders:  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 15 He sends his command to the earth:  
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 16 He gives snow like wool:  
and scatters the hoar-frost like ashes.
- 17 He sprinkles his ice like morsels of bread:  
and the waters harden at his frost.
- 18 He sends out his word and melts them:  
he blows with his wind and the waters flow.
- 19 He made his word known to Jacob:  
his statutes and judgements to Israel.
- 20 He has not dealt so with any other nation:  
nor have they knowledge of his laws. Praise the Lord.

### **Luke 4:42-48**

<sup>42</sup> At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds were looking for him; and when they reached him, they wanted to prevent him from leaving them. <sup>43</sup> But he said to them, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.' <sup>44</sup> So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

## **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 148

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:  
O praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all his angels:  
O praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon:  
praise him, all you stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, you highest heaven:  
and you waters that are above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord:  
for he commanded and they were made.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever:  
he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.
- 7 O praise the Lord from the earth:  
praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, mist and snow:  
and storm-wind fulfilling his command;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:  
fruit trees and all cedars;

- 10 Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:  
    creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples:  
    princes, and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens:  
    old folk and children together.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord:  
    for his name alone is exalted.
- 14 His glory is above earth and heaven:  
    and he has lifted high the horn of his people.
- 15 Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:  
    of the children of Israel, a people that is near him.  
    Praise the Lord.

### **Luke 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

### **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.





