



# Celtic Daily Prayers

*31 August–4 September 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 6

- 1 O Lord, rebuke me not in your indignation:  
nor chasten me in your fierce displeasure.
- 2 Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak:  
O Lord, heal me, for my very bones are afraid.
- 3 My soul also is greatly troubled:  
and you, Lord—how long will you delay?
- 4 Turn again, O Lord, and deliver my soul:  
O save me for your mercy's sake.
- 5 For in death no one remembers you:  
and who can give you thanks from the grave?
- 6 I am wearied with my groaning:  
every night I drown my bed with weeping,  
and water my couch with my tears.

- 7 My eyes waste away for sorrow:  
they grow dim because of all my enemies.
- 8 Away from me, all you that do evil:  
for the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9 The Lord has heard my supplication:  
the Lord will receive my prayer.
- 10 All my enemies shall be put to shame and  
greatly dismayed:  
they shall turn back and be confounded in a moment.

### **Luke 5:17-26**

<sup>17</sup> One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. <sup>18</sup> Just then some men came, carrying a paralysed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; <sup>19</sup> but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> When he saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven you.' <sup>21</sup> Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, 'Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?' <sup>22</sup> When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? <sup>23</sup> Which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven you", or to say, "Stand up and walk"? <sup>24</sup> But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he said to the one who was paralysed—'I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.' <sup>25</sup> Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. <sup>26</sup> Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, 'We have seen strange things today.'

### **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 8

- 1 O Lord our Governor:  
how glorious is your name in all the earth!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is yet recounted:  
by the mouths of babes and sucklings.
- 3 You have founded a strong defence  
against your adversaries:  
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers:  
the moon and the stars which you have set in order,
- 5 What are we, that you should be mindful of us:  
what are we, that you should care for us?
- 6 Yet you have made us little less than gods:  
and have crowned us with glory and honour.

- 7 You have given us dominion over your handiwork:  
and have put all things in subjection beneath our feet,  
8 All sheep and oxen:  
and all the creatures of the field,  
9 The birds of the air and the fish of the sea:  
and everything that moves  
in the pathways of the great waters.  
10 O Lord our Governor:  
how glorious is your name in all the earth!

### **Luke 5:27-32**

<sup>27</sup> After this he went out and saw a tax-collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' <sup>28</sup> And he got up, left everything, and followed him.

<sup>29</sup> Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax-collectors and others sitting at the table with them.

<sup>30</sup> The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, 'Why do you eat and drink with tax-collectors and sinners?' <sup>31</sup> Jesus answered, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; <sup>32</sup> I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance.'

### **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 13

- 1 How long, O Lord, will you so utterly forget me:  
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long must I suffer anguish in my soul,  
and be so grieved in my heart day and night:  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me, O Lord my God, and answer me:  
lighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death;



- 4 Lest my enemy say 'I have prevailed':  
lest my foes exult at my overthrow.
- 5 Yet I put my trust in your unfailing love:  
O let my heart rejoice in your salvation.
- 6 And I will make my song to the Lord:  
because he deals so bountifully with me.

### **Luke 5:33-39**

<sup>33</sup> Then they said to him, 'John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink.' <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, 'You cannot make wedding-guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? <sup>35</sup> The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.' <sup>36</sup> He also told them a parable: 'No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. <sup>37</sup> And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. <sup>38</sup> But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. <sup>39</sup> And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, "The old is good." '

### **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 16

- 1 Preserve me, O God:  
for in you have I taken refuge.
- 2 I have said to the Lord, You are my lord:  
and all my good depends on you.
- 3 As for those who are held holy on the earth:  
the other gods in whom people delight,
- 4 Though the idols are many that they run after:  
their offerings of blood I will not offer,  
nor take their name upon my lips.

- 5 The Lord is my appointed portion and my cup:  
you hold my lot in your hands.
- 6 The share that has fallen to me is in pleasant places:  
and a fair land is my possession.
- 7 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel:  
at night also he has instructed my heart.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me:  
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:  
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 10 For you will not give me over to the power of death:  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life:  
in your presence is the fulness of joy,  
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.

### **Luke 6:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> One sabbath while Jesus was going through the cornfields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them. <sup>2</sup> But some of the Pharisees said, 'Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?' <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, 'Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? <sup>4</sup> He entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?' <sup>5</sup> Then he said to them, 'The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.'

### **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 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God:  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;
- 2 One day tells it to another:  
and night to night communicates knowledge.
- 3 There is no speech or language:  
nor are their voices heard;
- 4 Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:  
and their words to the ends of the earth.
- 5 There he has pitched a tent for the sun:  
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,  
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.
- 6 Its rising is at one end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to their farthest bound:  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul:  
the command of the Lord is true,  
and makes wise the simple.

- 8 The precepts of the Lord are right,  
and rejoice the heart:  
the commandment of the Lord is pure,  
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever:  
the judgements of the Lord are unchanging,  
and righteous every one.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold:  
sweeter also than honey,  
than the honey that drips from the comb.
- 11 Moreover, by them is your servant taught:  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can know their own unwitting sins?:  
O cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,  
lest they get the mastery over me:  
so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.
- 14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation  
of my heart be acceptable in your sight:  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

### **Luke 6:6-11**

<sup>6</sup> On another sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. <sup>7</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him. <sup>8</sup> Even though he knew what they were thinking, he said to the man who had the withered hand, 'Come and stand here.' He got up and stood there. <sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to them, 'I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?' <sup>10</sup> After looking around at all of them, he said to him, 'Stretch out your hand.' He did so, and his hand was restored. <sup>11</sup> But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

### **Silence**

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

