

Irish prayer service

opening song:

Make Me an Instrument

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there's hatred let me sow love
And where there's injury, pardon
And where there is doubt, then faith
And where there's despair, then hope

It's in dying that I will be born
And in giving that I will receive
It's in loving that I will be loved
This is my faith
It is what I believe
Lord make me an instrument
Lord make me an instrument

Lord I am a stranger traveling
In a brutal yet wondrous land
Far from the promise of home
On a journey led by your hand
To where the lion lies down with the lamb
Father grant that I'd never seek
To be comforted as to console
Let the blood of your Son cover me
Touching my spirit
Seizing my soul

Lord make me an instrument
Let your divine mystery guide my heart
It's in dying that I will be born
And in giving that I will receive
It's in loving that I will be loved
This is my faith
It is what I believe

Christ within me
Christ before me
Christ behind me
Christ above me
Christ beneath me
To my left and my right
Christ where I lie
And where I arise
Christ in the hearts of all who think of me
Christ on the lips of all those who speak of me
Christ in the eyes of all those who see me

Make me your instrument Lord
Make me an instrument
Make me an instrument
Make me an instrument

Opening prayer: From Saint Patrick's Breastplate

Christ be with me
Christ before me
Christ behind me
Christ in me
Christ beneath me
Christ above me
Christ on my right
Christ on my left
Christ where I lie
Christ where I sit
Christ where I arise
Christ in the heart of every man
who thinks of me
Christ in the mouth of every man
who speaks of me
Christ in every eye that sees me
Christ in every ear that hears me
Salvation is of the Lord.

Reading: Book of celtic wisdom

To be born is to be chosen.

No one is an accident.

You were not consulted on the major factors that shaped your destiny: when you were to be born, where you would be born, to whom you would be bor. Imagine the huge difference it would have made to your life, had you simply been born into the family next door. Your identity was not offered for your choosing. A special destiny was prepared for you. There is a unique destiny for each person. Each of us has something to do here that can not be done by anyone else. When you begin to discover this your gift will come alive. Your heart quickens, a sense or urgency rekindles your creativity and you will come into rhythm with your life. You will fall out of that rhythm when you renege on your potential and talent, when you settle on any refuge from your calling.

May the light of your soul guide you and bless the things you do with the secret love of your heart

Response: Christ bring your blessing to the things we do

May you see in what you do the beauty of your own soul and may it bring healing, light and renewal to everyone around you

Response: Christ perfect all the things we do

May your responsibilities never weary you. may they release within you wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration and excitement. May you be truly present in all you do.

Response: May the presence of Christ bring joy to our day

May you never be absent from your life because it seems lifeless. May a day never burden your soul. May the dawn find you awake and alert, approaching your new day with dreams, possibilities and promises.

Response: May the blessings of Christ bring hope and joy

May evening find you fulfilled and full of grace. May you go into the night blessed, sheltered and protected, calmed and consoled and renewed.

Response: may the resurrected Christ heal all fear of death

Closing prayer

Christ came into the world at the appointed time. He accepted death when it was time to embrace it, so He and each of us might also awaken to Resurrection. Amen

An Irish Prayer

May God give you...

For every storm, a rainbow,

For every tear, a smile,

For every care, a promise,

And a blessing in each trial.

For every problem life sends,

A faithful friend to share,

For every sigh, a sweet song,

And an answer for each prayer.

An Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind always be 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 hold you in the palm of His hand.