

ANAMCARA PRACTICES FOR THE DYING & TRANSITION



BEAMNACHT DÉ AR ANAMNACHA NA MARBH

May the Holy One have mercy on the dead

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Prayers for the dead, and working spiritually for the dead, formed a very great part of the Céile Dé tradition in ancient times. Life circumstances always brings us times when it may be a practice that we are called to engage in, either alone or as a part of a Céile Dé group.

This prayer in Irish Gaelic is typical of what is traditionally chanted within the three day period immediately after someone has passed over. It is, as the words show, a blessing to aid the soul on its journey. It is also traditionally sung at Samhain time.

The style, if sung in a group is that of call and response.

BEANNACHT DE LE H-ANAMA NA MARBH

Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh

The blessings of God on the souls of the dead.

**A Dhia na talún,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of the Earth,
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia na tine,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of the fire,
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia na uiscí cumhra,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of the fresh waters,
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia na gaoithe móire,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of the great winds
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia na chruinne,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of the world
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia na réaltaí geala,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

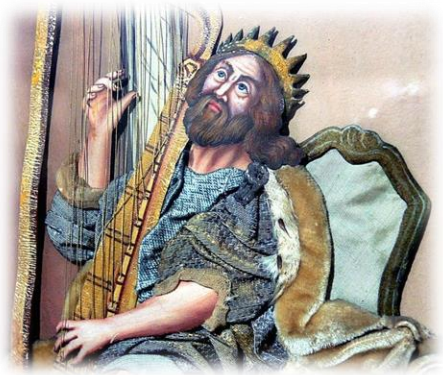
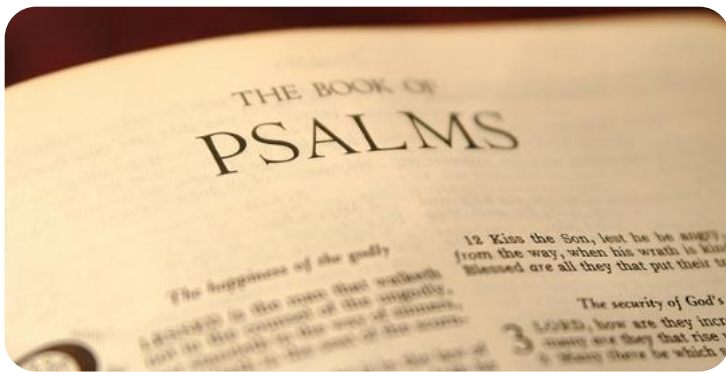
God of the shining stars,
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

**A Dhia a mhaith órga,
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh**

God of golden goodness,
The blessings of God on the souls of the dead

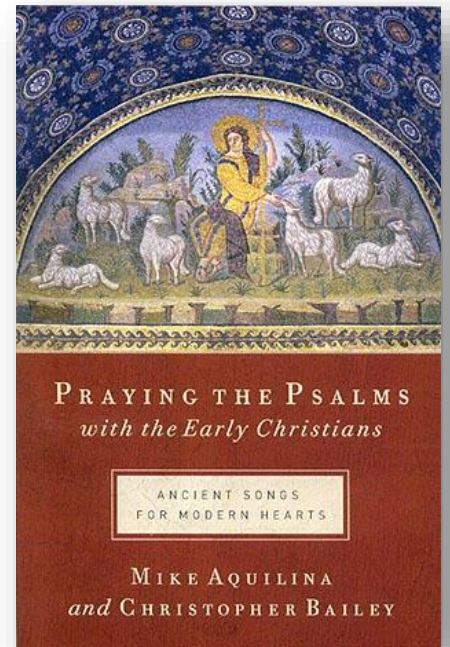
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh (3 times)

The blessings of God on the souls of the dead (3 times)



A PSALMS DEVOTIONAL ON THE PASSAGE OF A BELOVED

The Early Christians borrowed a practice from their Jewish ancestors after the passing of a special beloved person. Psalm 119 (the longest of the psalms) was written to honor the passage of the Jewish people from Babylon to Jerusalem. Each verse corresponds to a different day and step in this journey that also represents the journey of a person from death to new life. The first verse of the psalm, 'Blessed are those on the way' speaks to those who are on the way between this world and the next.



Early Celtic Christians formed special communities with the sole purpose of praying the psalms for persons who have died. The tradition evolved to pray Psalm 119 each day for a year following the death of a beloved. The person who agreed to do the prayer for the deceased was called an 'anam aire,' meaning eternal soul friend. Women's spiritual communities of the times especially dedicated themselves to this practice.





In the middle ages, hospices grew up all over Europe not only to tend to the sick and dying but also as centers of prayer and support for family members of the deceased. The tradition continued to pray the Book Psalms, one psalm a day, for an entire year after a person’s passing. Doing this meant that a family member would be agreeing to pray through the entire Book of 150 Psalms about twice during the first memorial year.

There is a modern revival of Praying with the Psalms for a beloved soul. Nan Merrill’s translation is especially accessible because her term for God is ‘the Beloved.’ This language can enable the person praying to relate both to the Divine and to their own personal relationship with a beloved soul. One way of praying the psalms is through a daily devotional practice (usually before bedtime) in order to be in spiritual communion with the person who died. One could either pray the entire psalm 119 each day or, move through it reflectively one verse per day. Journaling afterwards can add a deeper reflection as we recall our everlasting love and connection with the departed.



Based on the research of Sean O’Diunn, OSB and Richard Groves, Sacred Art of Living Center

Psalm 119

Nan C. Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who live with spiritual integrity!

Blessed are those who honor the Inner Being,
who follow You with their whole heart,
Who enfold the world with love
and walk on peaceful paths!
You have shown us the way of Truth,
the way that leads to freedom.
O, that I might ever reflect the Light!
Then I shall know inner peace, as
I surrender myself into your Hands.
I will praise You with a grateful heart,
as I lean on your great kindness.
As I forsake the path of darkness,
O have mercy on me!

How can the young keep to the straight path? Only
by learning to listen to the still Voice within.
With all my heart I seek You;
let me not wander from your teachings!
Your love is imprinted upon my heart,
that I may walk in your Light.
Blessed are You, O Counselor;
guide me in all that I do,
That with my lips I may bear
witness to the truth of your Way.
With your Word in my heart,
I delight more than with the world's riches.
I listen in the Silence,
awaiting the clarity of your counsel.
May I become a living fountain of joy
as I give thanks for your bountiful blessings!

I offer myself into your Hands,
that I may live fully into your Life.
Open my heart's eyes, that I may see
the wondrous blessings of Creation.
I am a sojourner on earth; yet
I know myself as a spiritual Being!

My soul is consumed with an intense longing to be
blessed and sustained by You, O Divine Lover!
May I not be a bearer of disharmony,
one who is arrogant and greedy;
Teach me to stand firm when faced with injustice and oppression,
to be fervent in my stance for truth!
Even though fears rise up, may my eyes
remain focused on You,
For in Love Consciousness do I delight;
O my Counselor and Friend!

With my heart's ear I hear the injunction
to pray for my enemies,
even those who persecute me!
How can I, weak and fear-filled,
heed this difficult teaching?

Help me to understand the way of your precepts, and
the strength to follow through.
My soul is willing, O Merciful One,
yet the body would flee.
Who is the enemy from whom I run,
but the ego-fears hidden in the shadows within!
Strengthen me according to your Life,
lead me gently into the Light.
For, I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
with trust in You, I will face my own darkness.
I will not run from the illusions which beset me, so that
each one may be transformed in and through your Love.

Help me to know, O Teacher, the path to follow;
lead the way and I will come.
In your love is the power to calm the storms of adversity;
show me the power of your forgiving Love.
O that I might learn to bless others selflessly,
to be a silent benediction!
Incline my heart to Love Consciousness,
and not to gain!
Turn my eyes from the world's temptations, and birth me into new Life.

Let me enter into the realm where
the aspirations of my soul may become manifest.
Clothe me with compassion that

I may answer the cries of those in need.
Do You see how I long to serve,
to create with You?
In your mercy, hear my prayer!

You ever enfold us in the power of your boundless love,
according to your Promise to us;
You have implanted the Divine Seed in every heart,
a Treasure beyond words.
Teach us to nurture that Seed so
it might blossom into fullness and maturity.
O, Giver of Life, my we recognize
the Divine Seed in every person;
May we be sensitive to all we meet along the way,
blessing and encouraging one another;
May we know that who we are is
a reflection of You, the Divine Seed we bear.
You are the Sunlight of our heart,
the Water that brings Life!
Praises be to You, O Holy One of Ineffable Power!

I meditate on the words that I hear as
You whisper in my heart, words that refresh and renew my soul.
This is my comfort when doubts arise,
the secret Promise of Life.
Though others do not understand me,
assurance and peace in You sustain me.
Let my self-made spirit decrease,
that I may be rich in your Divine Spirit.
Let me carry the crosses that come to me, with
your strength to bear me up.
May I become hollow like a reed,
so You may play your melody through me.
For I long to be attuned to the great song of the Cosmos,
to know the song of inner praise!
O, that I might hear the Divine Melody within
and give birth a dancing star!
You are my portion;
You are the sacred Gift of Life.
Though You speak to the ear of every heart, yet
Not every heart will hear You.
O friends, close not the eyes of your heart to the light of Truth!
Rejoice in the glorious and sacred Giver of Life,

clothe yourself with joy!

Feel your heart expand in gratitude,
and learn from the earth of humility.
I will sing praises to You throughout the day, and
meditate on Love during the night.
For You are Companion and Friend
to all who reverence your ways.
The earth is filled with Divine Love;
O, that I might know You in all things!

You are fulfilling your covenant within me,
O Faithful One, according to your Promise.
Teach me good judgment and understanding,
for I know your teachings are sure.
Before, I was sorely afraid and I went astray;
but now, I hold to your Word.
You are Love, and all Love comes from You;
help me to share the treasures of the heart.
May I come to live with patience,
waiting for your perfect timing in all circumstances.
May tolerance make its home in me,
that I recognize You in every heart.

May I be imbued with love and mercy
making room for kindness in all situations.
For your ways are far richer
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Your Hands and Love created and fashioned me;
give me understanding that I may live fully in You.
Those who follow the ego are in darkness, may they
see how You have transformed my life with light.
May they rejoice and turn away from empty paths;
May they find hope in your Way.
May I always welcome love and assurance, and
offer these gifts to those
who weep and live in illusion.
Let your mercy and compassion wash over me,
that I may ever work on behalf of justice,
And grant me a generous heart, O my Friend and Teacher,
for I would give freely of my time and energy in your Name.

Let my life give witness to You,
to those filled with fear.
Create in me a clean heart,
that your light might be seen!

My soul sighs awaiting your living Presence; for
I sense your Love and Light.
My heart wells up with gratitude and praise, as
I recall the innumerable blessings You continually bestow.
When I ponder the plight of the world,
my heart weeps for all the oppressed.
How long, O Merciful One, must we endure the greed,
the arrogance of those who are in power---
Those whose hearts have turned from You,
who follow not the way of Love,
Who have become blind to the Truth,
and deaf to your Voice whispering in their hearts?

Awaken the people of earth, O You,
who are the Great Awakener!
In your steadfast love, melt all hearts
that have turned to stone;
long have we awaited a great Spirit-quake.

O Holy One, Love Consciousness is
firmly fixed in the heavens.
Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
Love is the hope and promise of all the Earth.
Help us to reverence Her, to care for Her with compassion;
for we have sorely misused Her.
If You had withheld your Love from us,
we would have perished from our fears.
Your Truth is ever before us;
by It, You have set us free.

I am yours, grace me with your Presence,
for I would be a loving friend and companion to You.
I say to those I meet, "Come, the way is yours!
Come, all you who are fearful and lonely!
Follow the sacred path of Truth;
Come to the inner way of Light!"

O, how I love your friendship!

I walk with You wherever I go.
Your Love is the life-giving force of Creation,
 imbue us with your living rays of peace and joy.
For, as we surrender ourselves to your living Presence,
 we will be filled with the radiance of Love.
As we open our hearts to the spiritual life,
 we will be filled with wisdom and freedom, ready to serve.

O, how glorious are the ways of the Spirit!
 How wondrous are your Works!
The path of love is sure, unhurried and filled with mystery.
How sweet are your words to my taste,
 sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through your Mind I receive understanding;
 I no longer take pleasure in my former ways.

Yes, your Truth is a lamp to my feet
 and a light to my path.
You give me strength as I descend into the inner sanctum,
 to uncover the hidden blessings,
 to seek the treasures of the Spirit.
When I am filled with fear,
 I meditate upon your Light.
I yearn to have every doubt and fear quelled and transformed;
O, Heart of all hearts, bless me with your healing Light,
 that I may be a loving presence.

Though the ignorant lay snares for me,
 let me not stray from You.
Your Word is my heritage forever;
 yes, it is the joy of my heart.
I shall open my heart's ear to converse with You
 forever, to the end.

When I meditate upon your Light,
 my heart opens with compassion for all life.
This is how the veil is lifted,
 how the soul is filled with truth and light.
Then we will not judge others, and
 we will radiate love and healing to the world.
For as we develop the capacity to bless others,
 we will lighten the fears in the world.
Uphold us according to your Promise, that we may love;

let not fear and illusions find a home in us.
Even should we go astray and wander far from You,
You will ever love us.
We have only to return to You
and acknowledge our regret; and
You forgive us, refreshing our souls.
O friends, let us sing praises before such a Gift,
before such all-enfolding Love, Wisdom and Power!

O, that my soul would live from its innermost Being, and
give witness to truth in thought, word, and deed!
For, only then will I see the glorious visions
and hear the voice of the Beloved.
Teach me the way of discernment
that I make choices with integrity.
In your steadfast Love, may I know
the joy of responsibility for all my deeds.
Give me courage for all the trials, testings, and training as
I choose the spiritual life.

Breathe on me, O Breath of Inspiration,
in the silence of my tranquil heart, infill me with your wisdom.
O, that I might radiate the compassion and peace,
the truth and beauty of the Beloved!
Direct my steps, O Holy One, that
I may humbly walk with You.
The witness of your Life is my model;
therefore my soul yearns for You.
The unfolding of your Way gives light;
It imparts understanding to the simple.
My mouth pours forth praise continually,
for I am ever grateful for your Promises.
You come to me and are gracious to me,
as You are to all who open their heart's door.
Guide my steps according to your Wisdom,
and show me how to lovingly co-create with You.
Let me not be lured by the world's values,
that I may walk the path of wholeness.

May your face shine upon your friend, as
You teach me of Love.
I weep over our wounded world,
our earth ravaged by greedy, insensitive hands.

O friends, you who are fearful of Love,
 you, who live in loneliness,
Break open the locks of your heart's door,
 breathe deeply of sunlight's freedom and warmth.
Wander no longer in the storms of ignorance and fear, for
 the bonds of darkness will disappear
 as you enter the new dawn of light!
Hold tightly to the hand of faith
 for strength through deep valleys;
Learn to trust in the One,
 who is ever your companion and guide.

Be not afraid of Love's touch,
 the Fire that consumes all dross;
For Love is the great transformer,
 burning away false ways of the past, and
 filling the heart with Light.
Awaken to the Indwelling Presence of the Beloved!
 Envision the beauty that Love brings forth!

When faced with slow progress, and seemingly endless delays,
 You enfold me in your patient Heart.
Let me recognize your perfect timing in all things,
 the fullness of your providence.
May I be so strong in your Spirit
 that all I do is inspired by You.
For You are loving, kind, and gentle;
 In You are all blessings.
Let me not be deaf to your Voice,
 nor suffer the pain of a rebellious soul.
Gentle me, O Loving Guide, that I may learn
 the wisdom of purity, patience, and peace.
Teach me of mercy, O You who are the merciful One,
 that my soul may serve with You joyfully and with love.
O friends, open your heart to the divine life!
 Attune yourself to the Divine Guest within your Being!

For, when you come to know the Source of your life,
 love flows through you and radiates outward;
Harmony enters into your life,
 you see with new eyes.
All that once brought pain and suffering
 no longer affects the peace in your heart.

Through the healing forgiveness of Love,
 all past wrongs are righted;
Joy comes alive in your heart,
 the joy of understanding.
Then do you know the great Treasure,
 the pearl hidden in the Secret Realm within.
Glorious is the life of the soul
 when illumined by the Divine Spirit.
Search for it, friends, count not the years;
 Enter into the stillness of your innermost being!

Abandon yourself to the Beloved,
 draw closer and closer to Love.
For when you dwell in peace within Love's heart,
 and know the Divine Spirit in your own heart,
You become as nothing, yet
 all things are yours.
As you radiate the healing love of your inmost Being
 into a suffering, scarred, yet ever-sacred world,
Offer grateful praise from the Chalice of your heart
 to the One who loves through you.

Great peace have those who co-create with You,
 who share the living wine of your Spirit.
They know that all goodness comes from your Divine Love,
 the Source and Foundation of all life.
Fill us, O Gracious One, with your loving wisdom,
 guide all hearts on paths of peace.
When the journey seems long,
 when we become discouraged along the way,
You uphold and sustain us,
 You restore us with your blessed grace.
When we stumble and stray amid the thorns on false paths,
 we are ever humbled by your forgiving Love.

You welcome us home as honored guests,
 back into the fold of your Heart.
You have prepared a garden for us,
 a garden of joy hidden in our hearts.
O friends, enter into this eternal garden,
 befriend the Guide who awaits you.
Enter into the great, resounding Silence,
 be still and know true peace;

Know the all-embracing life of Love;
and raise your voice with grateful acclamations of praise!
Amen.



*P*RAYERS *F*OR *T*HE *D*YING
CELTIC TRADITION
[8th—14th Centuries]

Death

Of an Enemy



This soul did little good to me, O Lord,
But this soul was yours.

So to this soul I say:
I bless the day you were born
I bless your growing up
I bless you, even in your dark deeds
And I bless you, soul, at your end.

Travel to the God who transforms
Travel to the Arms so wide
Travel to the Spirit all generous.

ON DEATH: FOR WISDOM AND CONSOLATION

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

For all Thou hast given

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast withheld

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast withdrawn

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast permitted

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast prevented

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast forgiven me

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast prepared for me

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For all Thou hast chosen for me

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For the place Thou art keeping for me in heaven

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

For having created me to love Thee for eternity

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

Deo Gratias or Beannacht De

From the Celtic Book of Living & Dying

Happy Death



...In the Roman Catholic communities of the west, 'bas sona,' 'happy death,' is a phrase frequently heard among the people. When these words are used they imply that the dying person has been confessed and anointed, and the death-hymn has been intoned over him. Under these conditions the consolation of the living in the loss of the loved one is touching. The old people speak of 'bas sona' with exultant satisfaction, and would wish above all things on earth that 'bas sona' may be their own portion when the time comes for them to go ...

Joyous Death

Death with oil,
Death with joy,
Death with light,
Death with gladness,
Death with surrender.

Death without pain,
Death without fear,
Death without death,
Death without horror,
Death without grieving.

May the seven angels of the Holy Spirit
And the two guardian angels
Shield me this night and every night
Till light and dawn shall come;

Shield me this night and every night
Till light and dawn shall come.



The Circling Prayer and Blessing



This blessing is traditionally used for new born children and at the end of life. It is also appropriate for use by an anamcara before a profound spiritual encounter such as a spiritual direction session or a period of guided visualization. A candle may be lit and used to circle the head of the person to be blessed.

The anamcara circles with the candle in a counter clock-wise direction saying:

Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep harm without
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep evil without
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep strife without
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep lies without
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep hatred without.

Anyone may name something they wish to be kept without.

The anamcara circles in a clock-wise direction saying :

Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep peace within
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep love within
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep trust within
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep truth within
Circle *her/him*, Lord, keep good within.

Anyone may name something they wish to be kept within.

Conclude the blessing with the following invitation:

May you have the commitment to know what has hurt you., to allow it to come close to you, and in the end, to become one with you. Amen.

ANAMCARA VIGIL PRACTICE

- 2-3 AM waking
- Light candle
- Circling Prayer
- Invoke Anamcara

Protectors
and any
Anamcara
in need.



The peace of all peace
be mine this night.
Let all tumult
within me cease.
Enfold me, my Beloved
in your peace.

Immanaire!

This practice is useful when an anamcara experiences sleeplessness and anxiety (which often can occur between 2-3 in the morning). The simple practice creates a space to honor our concerns while circling them in love and light. The focus can be on our own needs or the needs of another (anamcara) whom we would like to bless.

SPIRITUAL CARE FOR THE DYING

A MEDIEVAL RECONSTRUCTION: 9th - 11th Century

Primary Source: Christianizing Death, Fredrick Paxton, Rhinau [Fintan] Sacramentary,
Celtic Sources, Engelberg & Montserrat Monastic Libraries, Richard Groves

STAGES	PSALM/ ANTIPHONS	RITUAL
During serious illness in the home	Psalm 130 Psalm 41	See Celtic Prayer [end of document]
Rites for Caregivers	Psalm 32	Intercessory Prayer for caregivers Blessing of bread and water for fast
Deathbed Reconciliation	Psalm 51 Antiphon: Deus Misericors [1]	Penitential garment
Blessing of Oil [2]		Anointing: James 5:13-16 [3]
Rite of Exorcism [3 cont.]		
Vigil	Litany of Release [4]	
Sacred Light	Antiphon: Lumen [5]	Vigil Candles lit
Rites for Final Agony	Psalm 130 Psalm 32 Psalm 111:10 Psalm 74:19 Psalm 115:17-18 Psalm 143:2	
Moving toward final hours	Psalm 51:3-13	Sprinkling of house [6]
Baptismal Remembrance [7]		
Offering of Cross and Light [8/9]	Psalm 41	
Viaticum Post Viaticum	Psalm 23 Psalm 51:14-21 Antiphon: Requiem [10]	Remove penitential garment
Final Vigil	Antiphon: Extingue [11]	

During final breaths	Antiphon: Memento Mei [12] Litany of Hope [13] Benediction [14]	
At the moment of death	Antiphon: Subvenite [12]	Bell is tolled
Migratio Animae [Transition of soul]	Antiphon: Deus Apud Quem [13] Antiphon: Suscipe Domine-part 1 [14]	
Prayer of Mourners	Psalm 113 Prayer: Pio Recordationis [15]	
Cleansing of Head	Psalm 115 Prayer: Te Domine [16]	
Washing of the Body	Psalm 92 and 93 Antiphon: Suscipe Domine-parts 2/3 [17]	
Body is perfumed	John 19:38-42	
Cleansing of the Space		Exorcism [18] Incensing
As body is removed from home	Psalm 32	
Procession to Church	Psalm 51	Wake and Funeral Rites [separate]
Exiting Church	Antiphon: In Paradisuum [19]	
Procession to grave	Psalm 64 Antiphon: Requiem	
Blessing of grave	Antiphon: De terra formasti me [20] Sprinkling	
At grave	Antiphon: Lux Aeterna	Vigil Lamp
While placed in tomb	Psalm 117:19-20 Prayers: Debitum humani corporis [21]	

While shoveling dirt	Psalm 117: 6 Antiphon: Aperite Mihi Portes [22]	
While leaving cemetery	Antiphon: Tibi Domine Commendamus	
Bereavement Period	Psalm 51	Special Rites for Days-3, 7, 13 [5 daily Psalms for the living and the dead] Alms for Poor

ANTIPHONS AND PRAYERS

1) DEUS MISERICORS

Merciful God, gentle God, you who restrain the multitude of your mercies through no law of time, and do not turn away those who knock at the door of your compassion, even at the very end of life, look down favorably on your servant, _____, begging in the full confession of the heart remission of all his/her sins. Renew in him/her most Holy Father, whatever has been violated through evil deceit and restore the member, perfected through forgiveness, to the unity of the body of your Church.

Responses: O God you give to the penitent courage to face the darkness of sin.

You are Lord and there is no other.

We pray for this whole family that they may be cleansed from all form of sickness and evil.

2) EMITTE DOMINE

Lord, send down from heaven the Holy Spirit, your Divine Paraclete into this pure olive oil which you have seen fit to produce from living wood for the restoration of the body, so that through your holy benediction it may be a defender of the body to all using it as an ointment, drinking or touching it, for the ridding of all pains, all weaknesses, and every sickness of the body; your holy Chrism, Lord, blessed by you, from which you anointed prophets, kings and martyrs, remaining in our inmost parts.

[The Lord's Prayer follows: Knowing, Lord, that you are joined with us even in times of tears, hear us now as we pray. "Our Father..."]

3) SI QUISQUIS

If anyone among you is suffering hardship let them pray. If a person is in good spirits, he should sing a hymn of praise. Is there anyone sick among you? They should ask for the elders of the church. They in turn are to pray over them, anointing them with oil in the Name of the Lord. This prayer uttered in faith will reclaim the one who is ill and the Lord will restore him to health. If they have committed any sins, they will be likewise forgiven. Hence, declare your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may find healing. The fervent petition of the holy person is powerful indeed.

Prayer of Exorcism

Penitent: Heal me, O Lord, for my body is in torment, my very bones are racked with pain. Rescue my soul.

Celebrant: The Lord said to his disciples, receive the Holy Spirit. In my name you shall cast out demons and in their place you shall lay your hands on the sick and they shall get well.

Community: Let us pray for your sick brother/sister that they may be relieved from all illness of body and spirit.

All: Jesus, our Savior, our true health and medicine. Hear us now, we pray!

4) LITANY AT THE MOMENT OF RELEASE

Because you have been a faithful servant of God, we now release you and pray that your spirit may be cleansed by the fire and vision of Eternal Love. Trust the promise given to all who confess the mercy of Christ that, “this day you will be with me in paradise.” May the Holy Deipara intercede for you as you journey into Life Everlasting.

[Anoint the crown of the head]

May you no longer seek to control your fate or destiny but yield to the just Plan of the Creator.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint mouth]

May you be delivered from the tides of impatience that rip at both body and soul.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint ears]

May you be delivered from the stain of sinful pride which caused the demons to fall.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint between the shoulders]

May you no longer know the pangs of envy and covetousness.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint the eyes]

May you release all that moth can eat and rust can corrode.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint the forehead]

May your appetites now be quieted so that you only desire the true and living water.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

[Anoint hands and feet]

May you be found awake and keeping vigil so that when the bridegroom comes you may be found waiting.
Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.

Deliver the soul of your child from all falsehood and fear, bring him/her to the true home of heaven with the courts of saints who having been tried by fire have been found worthy.

5) LUMEN DOMINI: The Lord is a Light of revelation to all people and the glory of your people, Israel!

6) ASPERGES: Cleanse this place of sin that all who dwell here may be purified. Wash us and we shall become whiter than the snows.

7) BAPTISMATI: [Recited during washing with blessed water]

You have already been washed in the bath of regeneration.
No one can see the reign of God unless they are begotten from above,
without being reborn of water and the spirit. Flesh begets flesh but spirit
begets spirit. [Cf. John 3]

- 8) AVE CRUX: May I never boast of anything save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ through whom the world is crucified to me and I to the world. [Gal 6:14]
- 9) PASTOR BONUS: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.
- 10) REQUIEM AETERNAM: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine on them.
- 11) EXTINGUE: Extinguish in him/her, Lord, the heat of lusts and fevers, destroy the torture of vices and sting of pains, dissolve the torment of desire and sickness, suppress the swelling of pride and tumors, empty the rottenness of vanity and ulcers, calm the inside of the entrails and the heart, remove the scars of conscience and wounds, put in order the works of the flesh and the material of the blood and grant him/her forgiveness of sins.
- 12) SUBVENITE: Come down now saints of God, run towards him/her, angels of the Lord. Taking his/her soul and offering it in the sight of the Most High.
- 13) DEUS APUD QUEM: God in whom all mortal things live, to whom our bodies do not perish by dying but are changed into something better, as supplicants we entreat You to order the soul of your servant, _____, to be gathered up through the hands of the blessed angels, led into the bosom of your friend Abraham, the patriarch, and resuscitated on the last day of the Great Judgment. Through the indulgence of Your piety, wash away whatever under the sway of the devil, may have done in this world contrary to You.
- 14) SUSCIPE: [part 1] Receive the soul of your servant, clothe it in heavenly vestments and wash it in the holy font of eternal life.
- 15) PIO RECORDATIONIS AFFECTU: In the pious activity of remembrance, most dear brethren, let us commemorate our dear brother/sister, _____, whom the Lord has called from the temptations of the world, begging the mercy of our God, so that He himself may deign to grant him/her a quiet and pleasant dwelling, that He may remit all the offenses of momentary thoughtlessness, that having been granted the grace of full indulgence for whatsoever his/her own.
- 16) TE DOMINE: We pray for the soul of your servant whom you have ordered to be brought from the abyss of this world. Raise him/her up with your saints and elected ones, erase his/her crimes down to the last penny. Raise his/her soul up with you in immortality, O Lord!
- 17) SUSCIPE: [parts 2/3] Receive, Lord, the soul of your servant, _____, in his/her eternal home and grant peace in the celestial city, Jerusalem. Grant him/her a place in the first resurrection, let him/her rise to receive a new body and come with the blessed into eternal life.
- 18) EXORCISM: Depart from this place, powers of darkness and troublemakers of the soul. Cleanse us with water and light. Depart spirits of death and illness; come to purify us with the mantle of eternal holiness. May this place be restored to your Peace, O Eternal Friend of our Soul.

- 19) IN PARADISUUM: May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs welcome you to the new and holy city, Jerusalem. May a chorus of angels lift you up with Lazarus, who once was poor, into the holy city, Jerusalem, and may you together enjoy eternal rest.
- 20) DE TERRA FORMASTI ME: You ordered me to be born O Lord and out of the earth you formed me. Do not forget your servant now in his/her poverty. [Book of Job]
- 21) DEBITUM CONDITIONIS HUMANI: The debt of our human condition has now been paid. Having suffered the fate of illness, weakness and death, just as the Lord himself knew in his human body, may he/she now be given the Holy Spirit in hope of resurrection with the entire society of the Holy Ones who now reign with God.
- 22) APERITE MIHI PORTAS: Open now the gates of justice and let me in. For I have confessed the name of the Lord. The just ones will enter by the everlasting gate.

A BLESSING FOR DEATH
Contemporary Prayer based on Ancient Celtic Text

I pray that you will have the blessing of being consoled and sure about your own death.
 May you know in your soul that there is no need to be afraid.
 When your time comes, may you be given every blessing and shelter that you need.
 May there be a beautiful welcome for you in the home that you are going to.
You are not going somewhere strange. You are going back to the home you never left.
 May you have a wonderful urgency in your life to the full.
 May you live compassionately and creatively to transfigure
 everything that is negative within you and about you.
 When you come to die may it be after a long life.
 May you be peaceful and happy in the presence of those who care for you.
 May your going be sheltered and your welcome be assured.
 May your soul smile in the embrace of your *anam cara*.

BEANNACHT DÉ LE H-ANAMA NA MARBH

(Bee-ann-achk Jay le han-ima na marav.)

A Dhia na talún, A gheea-ah na <u>tal</u> -oon Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the Earth, The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia na tine, A gheea-ah na chee yenah Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the fire, The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia na uiscí cumhra, A gheea-ah n oosh-kuh coohruh Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the fresh waters, The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia na gaoithe móire, A gheea-ah na <u>gwee</u> uh moir Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the great winds The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia na chruinne, A gheea-ah na chrunn-uh Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the world The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia na réaltaí geala, A gheea-ah na rayal-tuh gee-aluh Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of the shining stars, The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
A Dhia a mhaith órga, A gheea-ah na wah orga Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	God of golden goodness, The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	The blessings of God on the souls of the dead
Beannacht De le h-anama na marbh	The blessings of God on the souls of the dead