

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)