

## Celtic Prayers

### Invocations

Thank you, God, for accepting me as I am.

Summon me out.

Write your name upon my heart,  
and dwell in me.

-- Anon.

Holy One, I am in your heart.

Your Presence enfolds me.

Your Presence is love. (or peace, strength, courage, confidence)

-- Anon.

You are in the presence of God.

You are in the arms of God

You are in the love of God.

You are in the kingdom of God.

You are in the heart of God.

-- David Adams

### Waking

Awaken us to your glory.

Restore a gentleness of touch.

Awaken us to your glory.

Bring us to an awareness of you.

Awaken us to your glory.

-- David Adam

### Getting dressed

Even as I clothe my body with wool

Cover Thou my soul with the shadow of Thy wing

-- Carmina Gadelica

### Brigid's Grace

God bless our food;

God bless our drink.

And keep our homes

And ourselves

In Your embrace,

O God.

Amen.

## **Before Sleeping**

The stillness of God be mine this night, that I may sleep in peace.  
The awareness of the angels be mine this night, that I may be alert to unseen mysteries.  
The company of the saints be mine this night, that I may dream of the river of love.  
The life of Christ be mine this night, that I may be truly alive to the morning, that I may be truly alive.

-- J. Phillip Newell

## **Journey Prayer**

The guarding of the God of life be upon me,  
The guarding of the loving Christ be upon me,  
The guarding of the Holy Spirit be upon me,  
    Each step of the way,  
To aid and enfold me,  
    Each day and night of my life.

-- Carmina Gadelica

God be with my going out,  
God be with my coming in,  
God be with me in my doubt,  
God protecting me from sin.

Christ be with my ebbing,  
Christ be with my flowing  
Christ be with my entering,  
Christ in love bestowing.

Spirit with me every hour,  
Spirit at the journey's end,  
Spirit be my every power,  
Spirit dove on me descend.

-- David Adam

## ***Caim* – Circling/Protection Prayer**

Circle (*name*), Lord.  
Keep (*comfort*) near  
And (*discouragement*) afar  
Keep (*peace*) within  
And (*turmoil*) out  
Amen.

-- Northumbria Community

When foes confound,  
Lord, surround.  
When I am afraid,  
Lord, your aid.  
When at a loss,  
Your saving cross.  
When storms increase,  
Lord, your peace.  
When dark's the night,  
Lord, be you my light.  
And so may it be  
Surrounding me  
Into eternity.  
And so may it be  
Surrounding me  
Into eternity.

-- David Adam

## **Loricas**

### Lorica of Brigid

I arise today  
through a mighty strength:  
God's power to guide me,  
God's might to uphold me,  
God's eyes to watch over me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to give me speech,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's way to lie before me,  
God's shield to shelter me,  
God's host to secure me.

### The Lorica of Fursa

May the guiding hands of God be on my shoulders,  
may the presence of the Holy Spirit be on my head,  
may the sign of Christ be on my forehead,  
may the voice of the Holy Spirit be in my ears,  
may the smell of the Holy Spirit be in my nose,  
may the sight of the company of heaven be in my eyes,  
may the speech of the company of heaven be in my mouth,  
may the work of the church of God be in my hands,

may the serving of God and my neighbor be in my feet,  
may God make my heart his home,  
and may I belong to God, my Father, completely.

Lorica of St. Patrick (St. Patrick's Breastplate)

I bind unto myself today  
The strong name of the Trinity,  
By invocation of the same,  
The Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me for ever,  
By power of faith, Christ's Incarnation;  
His baptism in the Jordan River;  
His death on cross for my salvation;  
His bursting from the spiced tomb;  
His riding up the heavenly way;  
His coming at the day of doom;  
I bind unto myself today.

I bind unto myself today  
The virtues of the starlit heaven,  
The glorious sun's life-giving ray,  
The whiteness of the moon at even,  
The flashing of the lightning free,  
The whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,  
The stable earth, the deep salt sea,  
Around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself today  
The power of God to hold and lead,  
His eye to watch, His might to stay,  
His ear to hearken to my need.  
The wisdom of my God to teach,  
His hand to guide, his shield to ward,  
The word of God to give me speech,  
His heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the name,  
The strong name of the Trinity;  
By invocation of the same.  
The Three in One, and One in Three,  
Of whom all nature hath creation  
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:  
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,  
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.

## Some Scripture Passages to Pray by Heart

Be still and know that I am God.  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.

-- Ps. 46:10

I lift up my eyes to the hills,  
from where is my help to come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
maker of heaven and earth.

-- Ps. 212:1-2

I was glad when they said to me,  
Let us go to the house of the Lord!  
Our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

-- Ps. 122:1

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
And in his word I hope;  
My soul waits for the Lord  
more than those who watch for morning,  
more than those who watch for morning.

-- Ps. 130:5-6

Praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord, my soul!  
I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

-- Ps. 146:1-2

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

-- Is. 58:6-9

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

-- Romans 8:38