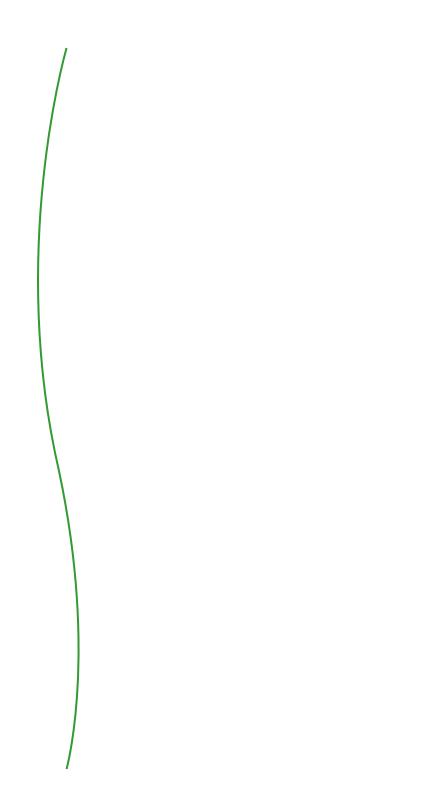


## Life is fragile handle with prayer

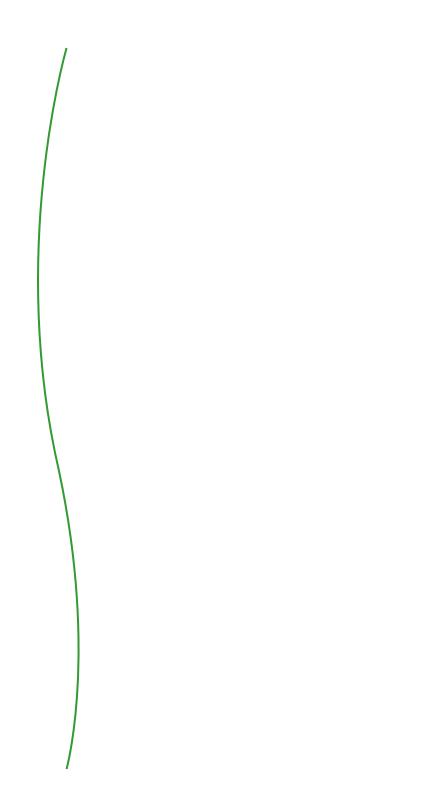


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A Collection of Favourite Local Prayers submitted by the Parishioners of The Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin

First Edition 2016



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# Morning Prayers

#### I Arise today

Blessed by all things, Wings of Breath, Delight of Eyes Wonder of whisper Intimacy of touch, Eternity of soul Urgency of thought, Miracle of health Embrace of God. May I live this day Compassionate of heart, Clear in word, Gracious in awareness Courageous in thought Generous in love. Glory be to God, who has shown us the light, Lead us from darkness to light Lead us from sadness to joy Lead us from Death to Immortality. Glory be to God who has shown us the light. Amen

Dear God, in Your strong hands, I place my life today, choosing to depend on You to light and guide my way.

#### A Morning Offering

I lay my life within Your hands, Lord, every waking day. Grant I may treat all, in things I do and say with kindness and compassion, Lord, as you have shown me. But most of all that You will grant to me humility. That I may follow you, Lord, from now until life's end. Glory be tothe Trinity; Go raibh maith agat. **Amen**  Help me to live this day, quietly, easily, to lean upon your great strength, trustfully, restfully, to await the unfolding of your will, patiently, serenely, to meet others, peacefully, joyously, to face tomorrow, confidently and courageously. *Amen* 

Dear Lord, I pray that whoever reads this shall have your comfort, joy, peace, love, & guidance and be carried by You. I may not know their troubles, but You do.

Heavenly Father and loving God, as we begin our day we ask for your loving help and protection in all we do and say, so as not to offend or hurt those we meet. May your angels and saints be with us and may our day bring us to the joy and peace, we make our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen

Paidir na Maidine - (Trad. Scottish)

Thanks to Thee, O gentle Christ, That you have raised me freely from the black and from the darkness of last night to the kindly light of day. Thanks to Thee, O God, that I have risen today, to the rising of this life itself; May it be to your own glory, O God of every gift, And to the Glory of my heart and soul likewise. **Amen** 





#### Daily Prayer for Courage and Strength

Lord, as I face this new day may I have the courage to believe and trust that You are with me. Lord, You can make all things possible, please be my constant guide and friend. May I recognise my own many gifts and have the courage to use them as I face the unknown and exciting challenges that lie ahead. Help me to see as You see, and to reach out to people with love and respect as Nano Nagle did. Nano Nagle pray for us.

Dear Lord, help me remember what a difference it makes when I make time with You a priority in my morning. Awaken me in body and spirit each day with a desire to meet with You and to hear You speak words of affirmation, assurance and wisdom over my heart as I prepare to go into my day. In Jesus' Name, Amen

God, I spend so much time reliving yesterday or anticipating tomorrow that I lose sight of the only time that is really mine – the present. You can give me today, one minute at a time. That's all I have - all I ever will. Give me the faith that knows that each moment contains exactly what is best for me. Give me the hope that trusts you enough to forget past sins and future trials. Give me the love that makes each minute of life an anticipation of eternity with you. Amen

#### The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother



of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord: Be it done unto me according to Thy word. Hail Mary . . .

And the Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us. Hail Mary ...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord.

Amen

#### Grace before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive through thy bounty.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

#### **Prayer to our Guardian Angel**

Angel sent by God to guide me, be my light and walk beside me; be my guardian and protect me; on the paths of life direct me. Amen

#### Just a prayer away

If our heart is heavy and filled with despair, and you think there is no one around to care, if your faith is weak and you've lost all hope, your burden so heavy you just can't cope- "There can be a better, far brighter day, for God is just a prayer away". Reach out to Him through earnest prayer. He'll hear – for He is everywhere! He'll strengthen your faith and bring you hope, and lift your burden when you can't cope, and through it all - He'll make it known that you are never, ever alone! Amen

#### JUST FOR A DAY

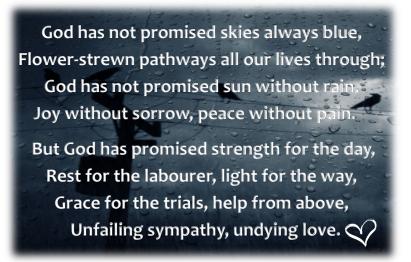
Oh Lord, if only for a day, I can be really good, Be always ready to obey And do the things I should Just for a day Oh Lord, If only for a day I can take trials or fun or Anything that comes, and say Not mine will but Thine be done Just for a day Oh Lord, If only for a day I can do this. Oh then, When each new morning Comes, I'll pray For grace to persevere again Just for a day.



Alone with none but thee, my God, I journey on my way. What need I fear, when thou art near, O king of night and day? More safe am I within thy hand, than if a host did round me stand. The Child of God can fear no ill his chosen dread no foe; we leave our fate with thee, and wait, thy bidding when to go. 'Tis not from chance our comfort springs, thou art our trust, O king of Kings. Amen

#### Angel of God

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day *(or night)* be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and guide. Amen





#### **Evening Prayer of St Augustine**

Watch, Lord, with those who wake or weep tonight. Give the angels and saints charge over those who sleep. O Lord Jesus Christ, tend Your sick ones, rest Your weary ones, bless Your dying ones, soothe the suffering ones, pity all the afflicted ones, shield the joyful ones, and all for Your love's sake. *Amen* 

If I have wounded any soul
today, If I have caused one foot to go astray, If I have walked in my own willful way, Dear Lord, forgive!
If I have uttered idle words or
vain, If I have turned aside from want or pain, Lest I myself shall suffer
through the strain, Dear Lord, forgive!
If I have been perverse or hard, or cold, If I have longed for shelter
in Thy fold, When Thou hast given me some fort to hold, Dear Lord, forgive!

Forgive the sins I have confessed to Thee; Forgive the secret sins I do not see; O guide me, love me and my keeper be, Dear Lord, Amen

My Lord, today was a wonderful day! Thank you for allowing me to be your

#### Cardinal Newman's Prayer

May He support us all the day long till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, a holy rest and peace at the last. O Jesus tender shepherd hear me. Bless this little child tonight; through the darkness be thou near me. Keep me safe till morning light. All this day thy hand has led me and I thank thee for thy care. Thou has warmed and clothed and fed me. Listen to my evening prayer. Lot of my sins be all forgiven. Bless the friends I love so well. Take me when I die to heaven, happy there with thee to dwell. Amen.

vessel in spreading Your love to others through my actions today. I was the salt and the light to many people today. I know there will always be nay-sayers but there are also lost people on very fertile soil. Lord, I pray that the seeds I planted today were on fertile soil. I pray, Lord, that you will water these seeds and reap a bountiful harvest. Thank you for this day. I love you, Lord! Amen



Lord God ever faithful see us gathered before you, as the day draws to a close.

Confirm our hearts in your love, and keep alive in us the memory of your goodness and kindness which appeared in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen Now I lay me down to rest, I think about the day, and hope I may have done my best, to please in every way. And if I may have sinned, Lord, in thought or word or deed, forgive me, Lord, until the morn when you again I'll need. 'Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in Thee' (x3). Amen

Goodnight O Guardian Angel. This day has passed away well spent or ill are stories written down for me and now with God's kind providence my angel pure and bright, watch over me while I'm asleep my Angel dear goodnight

God our Father, give us all a restful sleep, and the peace of heart that comes from knowing that our sins are forgiven and that we are always in your loving care. Do not let us be anxious about tomorrow, for you who care for us today will take care of us tomorrow also and every day of our lives. *Amen* 



May God the Father who created you, guide your footsteps, May God the Son who redeemed you, share your journey, May God the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you, lead you on life's pilgrimage, and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you wherever you may go. Amen

Oh, Sacred heart of Jesus: as we journey through life we face the mysteries of love and hate, of friendship and loneliness, of joy and sorrow, of suffering and death. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; help us to believe in the midst of doubt and uncertainty. Help us to hope in the midst of despair, suffering and death. Help us to love in the midst of hate, selfishness and rejection. Amen

Lord, you know our beginning and our end. Help me to realise I am only a pilgrim on this earth and save me from being too attached to worldly possessions. May I experience the freedom to wander, the freedom to hope and the freedom to love as I journey. Amen



#### **The Divine Praises**

Blessed be God. Blessed be His Holy Name. Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man. Blessed be the name of Jesus. Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart. Blessed be His Most Precious Blood. Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy. Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception. Blessed be her glorious Assumption. Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother. Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse. Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

## God our Father

#### **Our Father**

Our Father who art on heaven, hallowed by thy name, Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen



Father of Mercv Your Love embraces everyone and through the resurrection of your Son you call us all into your wonderful light. Dispel our darkness and make us a people with one heart and one voice forever singing your praise in Jesus the Christ, our Lord, Amen.

#### **Our Eternal Father**

My Beloved Father, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Be Thou my Father. Be always my eternal Father. Do not leave my soul. Do not abandon me. Do not leave me out of Your sight, my Father, for I am Your child, whom You have created to please You, to adore You, to honour You, living my days as You have given me the license to live it. (I offer up this prayer through Mary and Jesus, to You, Eternal Father.) Amen

## God the Son

#### LITTLE GUEST

esus

You have come to my heart, dearest Jesus, I am holding you close to my breast, I'm telling you over and over, You are welcome, O my Little Guest.

I love You, I love You, my Jesus, O please do not think I am bold, Of course, You must know that I love You, But I'm sure that You like to be told.

I'll whisper, "I love you my Jesus" And ask that we may never part, I love you, O kind, loving Jesus, And press You still nearer my heart.

And when I shall meet You in heaven, My soul then will lean on Your breast, And You will recall our fond meetings, When You were my Little Guest. Amen

#### Prayer to Jesus my Friend

Dear Jesus, You are my true Friend, my only Friend, You take part in all my misfortunes; You take them on yourself; You know how to change them into blessings. You listen to me with the greatest kindness when I relate my troubles to You, and You have always balm to pour on my wounds. I find You at all times, I find you everywhere. You never go away; if I have to change my dwelling, I find you there wherever I go. You are never

you there wherever I go. You are never weary of listening to me, You are never tired of doing me good. I am certain of being beloved by You if I love You; my goods are nothing to You, and by bestowing Yours on me You never grow poor; however miserable I may be, no one more noble, or clever or even holier can come between You and me and deprive me of Your friendship; and death which tears us away from all other friends will unite me forever to You. All the humiliations attached to old age or to the loss of honour will never detach You from me; on the contrary, I shall never enjoy You more fully and You will never be closer

to me than when everything seems to conspire against me, to overwhelm me and to cast me down. You bear with all my faults with extreme patience, and even my want of fidelity and my ingratitude do not wound you to such a degree as to make you unwilling to receive me back when I return to You. O Jesus, grant that I may die praising You, that I may die loving You, that

I may die for love of You. Amen

He guides my footsteps on this path I tread, each day I am drawing closer to Him. I walk in His light, in humble adoration I talk to Him. He whispers words of truth to me, in His arms I rest, safe from harm and danger. He is my hope and strength. His forgiveness has set me free. Through His death new life has been given to me, he has won victory over the enemy. With Him I have found my true Journey and Inner strength, there is nothing to fear but God alone. His Love and healing power now flows like a river into my heart. From His fountain, joy and peace flows into my soul, His light illuminates my entire being. Through Him I have been transformed. Jesus you are the source of all life and healing thank you for loving me.

Amen

#### **Miracle Prayer**

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours, this time I ask you for a very special one. Take it Dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within your own broken Heart where your Father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour and not mine. Amen.

Lord Jesus help us to come to you with open hearts, may we stand before thee to greet you and give you the respect you deserve. Help us to glorify your name, help us to preach your good news; fill us with divine inspiration. Give us your peace fill us with your love, enlighten our souls, make us your apostles and disciples. This we ask of thee with faith and love. *Amen* 



Holy Spirit, I invite you to be the Master, Manager and Motivator of me this day, of my mind, my soul, my spirit and all my deeds, that I may die for love of You. Amen

#### <u>Come Holy Spirit</u>

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. Enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created, And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
Grant us in the same spirit to be truly wise,
And ever to rejoice in his consolation, Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Holy Spirit, comforter of my heart, bring light into my soul. Fill me with your peace, clothe me in your divine love. Holy Spirit come upon me, pour out your gifts. Grant me, wisdom, faith and courage to walk in the light of the lord. Holy Spirit come rest on me. By your divine power and presence strengthen me in my trials and sufferings. Help me to live my life pleasing to the Father. O Holy Spirit be my breath and my life. Amen

## Our Mother

The Power of One Mary - her Yes, Our Yes One song can spark a moment, One Flower can wake the dream. One tree can start a forest. One bird can herald spring. One smile begins a friendship, One handshake lifts a soul. One star can guide a ship at sea, One word can frame the goal. One vote can change a nation, One sunbeam lights a room. One candle wipes out darkness, One laugh will conquer gloom. One step must start each journey, One word must start each prayer. One hope will raise our spirits, One touch can show you care. One voice can speak with wisdom, One heart can know what's true, One life can make the difference, You see, it's up to you!

Prayer to Our Lady of Knock Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering His promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find". Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to Heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now and at the end of my death. Amen.

O Blessed Mother Mary I call on thee to pray with me, touch the hearts of all with your peace and your love, especially those who do not believe in thee or your son Jesus Christ. Convert them with thy saving grace and heal the broken hearts of your children who cry out to thee, bless the sick in mind, body, heart and soul grant this in accordance with the will of your son. Amen

#### Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Heavenly beauty and splendour of the Father, You are the most valued Heavenly treasure. New Eve, immaculate in soul, spirit and body, created of the godly seed by the Spirit of God, You are the spiritual Mother of mankind. Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, Your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, to be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God. O Heavenly Mother, Queen of Heaven and earth, I recognise the glory of your highest title - The Immaculate Heart of Mary! Loving Mother, dispenser of endless blessings, You who continuously intercedes on our behalf, please present my need before your loving Son Jesus. (In your own words, make your special request here. Do not just mention a word. Speak to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as you would speak to another person, begging your Heavenly Mother to plea to Jesus on your behalf, that you be granted this special request.)

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, I know that you are now presenting my need before Jesus, for you have never turned away those in dire need. Mother dearest, I await your favourable answer, submitting myself to the Divine will of the Lord, for all glories are His forever and ever. Amen

#### THANK YOU BLESSED MOTHER MARY

Thank you Our Lady for being with me today and throughout my whole life. Thank you for the many gifts graces and blessings I have received through your powerful intercession. Thank you Our Lady for those you have touched with your love and peace, for healing those I have prayed with and for through the holy mysteries of your Holy Rosary. Thank you Our Lady for giving me your son Jesus. Thank you Our Lady for your healing touch. Thank you for never giving up on me. Thank you Our Lady for teaching me to pray with heart for the growth in my faith. Thank you for your true friendship. Thank you for my chosen friends and family too here and on earth. A thousand 'thank yous' to You my blessed mother for touching my heart with your love and consolation. Thank you Our Lady for the path I now take with you and your son Jesus for without you I may never have come to know him. Thank you blessed mother for the beautiful Journey I am now on with my true and loyal friends of this world, that is one with you and your son Jesus. Thank you Our Lady for everything. I truly love thee with all my heart, in Jesus' name. Amen

# Prayers for the intercession of the Saints

#### Prayer to Saint Joseph

O Great Saint Joseph, obtain for me the grace of a holy life and a happy death, that I may lie down in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Saint Joseph our foster father guard and protect our holy church, Amen.

#### Prayer to St Peter the Apostle

O blessed St Peter, head and chief of the Apostles, thou art the guardian of the keys of the heavenly kingdom, and against thee the powers of hell do not prevail; thou art the rock of the Church and the shepherd of Christ's flock; thou art great in power, wonderful in thy heavenly bliss; thou hast the right of binding and loosing in heaven and on earth. The sea supported thy footsteps, the sick upon whom even thy shadow fell were cured of their ills. By the memory of that right hand which supported thee on the waves of the sea, lift me from the ocean of my sins, and by those tears which thou didst shed for thy Lord, break the bonds of my offences and free me from the hand of all my adversaries. Help even me, O good shepherd, that I may in this life serve Christ Jesus and thee, that with thy help, after the close of a good life, I may deserve to attain the reward of eternal happiness in heaven, where thou art unto endless ages the guardian of the gates and the shepherd of the flock. Amen

#### Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy;

#### O Divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

#### St Damian of Molokai

'The Eucharist is the bread that gives strength... It is at once the most eloquent proof of His love and the most powerful means of fostering His love in us. He gives Himself every day so that our hearts, as burning coals, may set afire the hearts of the faithful.'

#### PRAYER to SAINT PIO

O God, You gave Saint Pio of Pietrelcina,

Prayer to St Anthony for things that are lost O great St Anthony, who has received from God a special power to recover lost things, help me that I may find that which I am

now seeking. Amen

#### Prayer of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

The fruit of Silence is Prayer. The fruit of Prayer is Faith. The fruit of Faith is Love.

#### St Romuald's Meditation Time in silent prayer with Jesus

Instructions left for us by this Italian Hermit born in the 10<sup>th</sup> century Realise above all that you are in God's presence. Empty yourself and sit waiting, content with the grace of God, like a chick that tastes nothing and eats nothing except what the mother gives it.

Capuchin priest, the great privilege of participating in a unique way in the passion of Your Son, grant me through his intercession the grace of ...... which I ardently desire; and above all grant me the grace of living in conformity with the death of Jesus, to arrive at the glory of the resurrection. Glory be to the Father ...(three times)

#### St Michael the Archangel

St Michael the Archangel be our protection this hour, keep us safe from all harm evil and danger. Watch over us and guide us to the divine light of heaven, bring us peace, come to all those in need of divine love and peace, who now fight a dangerous battle with the evil one and his fallen angels. Help them to resist temptation and bring them to the throne of God, keep each one close to your heart, wrap them in your wings of protection, and shield them with your armour and sword this night.

O prince of heaven cast into hell all the evil spirits who wander throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Use your God given power this I ask of thee with love and faith . Amen.

#### Prayer for favours through the intercession of the Venerable Nano Nagle

O God, you filled the heart of your servant Nano Nagle with loving care and compassion for the needy. Through her intercession help us in our need ..., Grant that, like her, we may do your will, and that we may grow in your love and in the love of our neighbour, through Christ our Lord, Amen

St Teresa of Avila – Let nothing disturb you Let nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, All things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.

Suscipe of **Catherine McCauley** My Lord, I am yours for time and eternity, Lord I am yours forever. It is you who must teach me To trust in your providence, Loving God. You are a God of love and tenderness. I put my trust in you. And I ask that you grant me acceptance of your will Loving God. Take from my heart all painful anxiety. Let nothing sadden me but sin. Let my delight be Hoping to see your face, God, my all.

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#### **Prayer to St Killian**

To you, Kilian of Mullagh and Wurzburg, we raise our minds and hearts in pilgrim prayer. The lake and well you loved and left, remind us of your courageous pilgrimage for Christ. As Irish accents first reached Wurzburg ears, the God who journeyed with you touched Wurzburg hearts. We need fresh courage now in our own life-pilgrimage as we enter a new Christian millennium. We pray that Irish and Frankish accents, minds and hearts may continue to reveal the God you cherished and preached and for whom you died. Aware, as Europeans, that we have so often betrayed the Gospel through war and injustice, together we commit ourselves now to Christ's message of justice and peace and ask that our hearts be opened to the wide reach of God's wonderful world. For our disfiguring of that world, of the earth and its peoples, we ask pardon and pray that it may become the grace filled world of Christ's promise. May your binding journey and heroic martyrdom inspire and sustain us. This we ask through you of the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

John of the Cross -Forever at God's door I gave my heart and soul. My fortune, too. I've no flock anymore, No other work in view. My occupation: LOVE. It's all I do. Faith and love are like the blind man's guides. They will lead you along a path unknown to you, to the place where God is hidden. *Saint John of the Cross* 

## Prayers for Healing

#### Prayer for Healing

Heavenly Father, I call on you right now in a special way. It is through your power that I was created. Every breath I take, every morning I wake, and every moment of every hour, I live under your power. Father, I ask you now to touch me with that same power. For if you created me from nothing, you can certainly recreate me. Fill me with the healing power of your spirit. Cast out anything that should not be in me.

Mend what is broken. Root out any unproductive cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection. Let warmth of your healing love pass through my body to make new any unhealthy areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function. And Father, restore me to full health in mind and body so that I may serve you the rest of my life. I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. Blessing Prayer for Healing

May you desire to be healed. May what is wounded in your life be restored to good health. May you be receptive to the ways in which healing needs to happen. May you take good care of yourself. May you extend compassion to all that hurts within your body, mind, and spirit. May you be patient with the time it takes to heal. May you be aware of the wonders of your body, mind, and spirit and their amazing capacity to heal. May the skills of all those who are caring for you be used to the best of their ability in returning you to good health. May you rest peacefully under the sheltering winds of divine love, trusting in this gracious presence. May you find little moments of beauty and joy to sustain you. May you keep hope in your heart. Amen



My Church, My Parish is made up of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a Parish of loyalty & love, of mercy & compassion, of fearlessness & faith, and a Parish with an inspiring spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with God's help, I dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want My Church & My Parish to be. Amen

God our Father, thank you for calling every person in our parish to be a member of the Body of Christ, your Son. Show us how you want us to use our gifts to serve you and others. Inspire some of us to take on greater responsibility for the day – to – day life of our parish. As we try to follow your plans for our parish, bless us with a spirit of adventure, enthusiasm and trust in Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen Father, pour out your spirit on us your people and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word, a new consecration to your service, so that your love may grow among us and that we may make your kingdom a reality in our place and time. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### A prayer of Welcome

Lord, give us the eyes of Jesus to see our neighbours and the strangers we meet. Teach us what it means to love the stranger as we love ourselves. Forgive us for our selfishness, for our silence, for not caring enough for the strangers who come to our communities. Teach us to love and care for the stranger the way you do. Amen

#### **Respecting One Another**

God our Father, you call each of us by name, and you treasure each of us individually as though no-one else exists. Inspire us to respect and value each person who comes into our lives this day. Amen

#### OTHERS

Lord, help me live from day to day in such a self-forgetful way, that even when I kneel to pray, my prayer shall be for "Others". Help me in all the work I do to ever be sincere and true. and know, that all I do for You must need be done for "Others". And when my work on Earth is done, and my new work in Heaven begun may I forget the crown I've won, while thinking still of "Others". "Others." Lord, yes, "Others!" Let this my motto be. Help me to live for others that I may live for Thee. Amen

Written on the door of a Church Lord, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and a heavenly Father's care; and narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and hate. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling -block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged enough to turn back the tempter's power. Make it a gateway to thy eternal kingdom. Amen



#### Ag Críost an Síol

Ag Críost an síol, ag Críost an fómhar; In iothlainn Dé go dtugtar sinn. Ag Críost an mhuir, ag Críost an t-iasc; I líonta Dé go gcastar sinn. Ó fhás go haois, ó aois go bás, do dhá láimh, a Chríost, anall tharainn.

Ó bhás go críoch nach críoch ach athfhás, bParthas na ngrás go rabhaimid. The seed is Christ's, the seed is Christ's, the harvest is Christ's: Into God's barn, may we be gathered. The sea is Christ's, the fish is Christ's: In God's nets, may we be caught. From birth to adulthood, and from adulthood to death, may your two hands, O Christ, be drawn over us. From birth to the end, not an end but rebirth. In the paradise of grace, may we be.

#### Achainí na nDúl ( trans. Seán Ó Duinn) Invocation of Nature

Gléasaim mé féin inniu I neart neimhe I soilse gréine

In éadrachta éasca

In áine thine;

I ndéine thintrí

I luaithe gaoithe; I bhfoddhomhain mhara;

I dtairseacht talun:

I gcobhsaíochar ailigh



I arise and bind myself; with the strength of the heavens with the light of the sun with the shining of the moon with the brightness of fire with the severity of lightening with the speed of wind with the depth of sea with the steadfastness of land with the stability of rock

#### **Directional Prayer**

Críost liom, Críost Romham, Críost ar mo lámh dheis, Críost I mo dhiaidh, Críost ar mo lámh chlé, Críost fúm, Críost os mo chionn, Críost Ionam.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ on my Right, Christ behind me, Christ on my left, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in me. "May flower al



"May flowers always line your path and sunshine light your day.

May songbirds serenade you every step along the way.

May a rainbow run beside you in a sky that's always blue.

And may happiness fill your heart each day your whole life through."

#### Centenary Prayer of Remembrance

Lord, Merciful and Kind, I remember the men, women and children who died during 1916 and throughout the troubled journey of our island's history. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha. Look kindly I pray, on the people of Ireland from all traditions, at home and abroad. To you O God, we long to sing a new song of compassion, inclusion and engagement in a spirit of true freedom. You know my frail heart and my frayed history and now another day begins. Help me to believe in beginnings, and sing a new song for Ireland. Moladh go deo le Dia, Praise God forever! Amen 24

# Prayers for Family & Friends

#### A Parent's Prayer

Help me give my children the best... not of trappings or toys, but of myself, cherishing them on good days and bad, theirs and mine.
Teach me to accept them for who they are, not for what they do; to listen to what they say, if only so they will listen to me; to encourage their goals, not mine; and please, let me laugh with them and be silly. Let me give them a home where respect is the cornerstone, integrity the foundation, and there is enough happiness to raise the roof.
May I give them the courage to be true to themselves; the independence to take care of themselves and the faith to believe in a power much greater than their own. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Parent's Prayer for Children who have given up their Faith Heavenly Mother, keep us always in mind of your Son's great mercy and understanding as we pray for our children. They are grown-up now and have left us and are living their lives according to their own ideas. We feel anxious and worried because they do not seem to feel the need of Christ, to understand the wisdom of his ways, or to be fully at ease with us or themselves. Intervene, dearest Mother, in their lives at the moment you know to be right and help them to understand the things that lead to their peace. Help them to see their need of Christ and to experience the greatness of his love, so that we may all proclaim as you did, that his mercy truly is from generation unto generation. Amen.

#### A Child's Prayer

Jesus, you are good and wise, I will praise you when I rise. Jesus, hear this prayer I send, Bless my family and my friends. Jesus, help my eyes to see, All the good you send to me. Jesus, help my ears to hear, Calls for help from far and near. Jesus, help my feet to go, In the way that You will show. Jesus, help my hands to do, All things loving, kind, and true. Jesus, guard me through this day, In all I do and all I say. Amen

O Holy Mary come to me and give me a big kiss, And make me as good as you when you were a little girl like me. Holy Angels gather around me and make me as good as your little girl Queen when she was a little girl like me. Amen

A Prayer for Mothers on Mother's Day Not just today on this Mother's Day But with each remembrance of the love she's expressed My thankfulness to the Lord I've professed For my life began, in a warm and safe place Then grew more secure in Mom's tender embrace When I was little, she taught me to crawl Then to walk and run, and get up when I fall Nurtured and cared for, she raised me to stand Lifted, supported, by her loving hand She believed in me, Inspired me to dream Nothing was impossible for me, it seemed It was her example that pointed the way To the life in Christ I know today My mom, I love her, on this Mother's Day She's the reason I'm taking this moment to pray My mom, I love her, Let her know, dear Lord Please bless her with the most abundant reward, Amen



A Prayer for Fathers on Father's Day

Loving God, Thank you for my Daddy, and everything he does for me. Help him to have patience when I am difficult, wisdom when I can't see the way, a smile when I am feeling down, energy when I want to play, strength when I need comforting, and love at all times, Let him always know how much I love him, even when I forget to tell him. And Lord, please take care of all dads. Though they are brave and protective, they must also be frightened sometimes. When money runs low and when we need things, Lord, when their hearts break because they can't do it all; Please help us to let them know how much we love them, how much we need them to be an example to us and how much You love them. Amen

#### Prayer for Exams

Lord, as I prepare to sit my exams send your Holy Spirit to guide me and be with me. Thank you for the many talents and gifts you have given me

and for the opportunity of education. Keep me calm.

Help me do the best I can on the day of my exam.

Help me to remember all that I have studied, to express it clearly and to answer the questions as best that I can. Give me peace, understanding and wisdom and be with me today and always, Amen

#### An Old French Prayer for Friends

Blessed Mother of those whose names you can read in my heart, watch over them with every care. Make their way easy and their labours fruitful. Dry their tears if they weep; sanctify their joys; raise their courage if they weaken; restore their hope if they lose heart, their health, if they be ill, truth if they err, and repentance if they fall. Amen

#### The Clown's Prayer

As I stumble through this life, help me to create more laughter than tears, dispense more happiness than gloom, and spread more cheer than despair. Never let me become so indifferent that I will fail to see the wonder in the eyes of a child or the twinkle in the eyes of the aged. Never let me forget that my total effort is to cheer people, make them happy and forget - at least momentarily - all the unpleasantness in their lives. And, in my final moment, may I hear You whisper: 'When you made My people smile, you made Me smile'. *Amen* 

A Blessing of the Crib in the Home This blessing can be prayed when the crib is being put in place in the home. When the final figures are ready to be put into the crib, the family might gather around it and recite the following blessing: All make the sign of the cross ... God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: When our need for a Saviour was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, Bless all who look upon this manger, May it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, Who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen

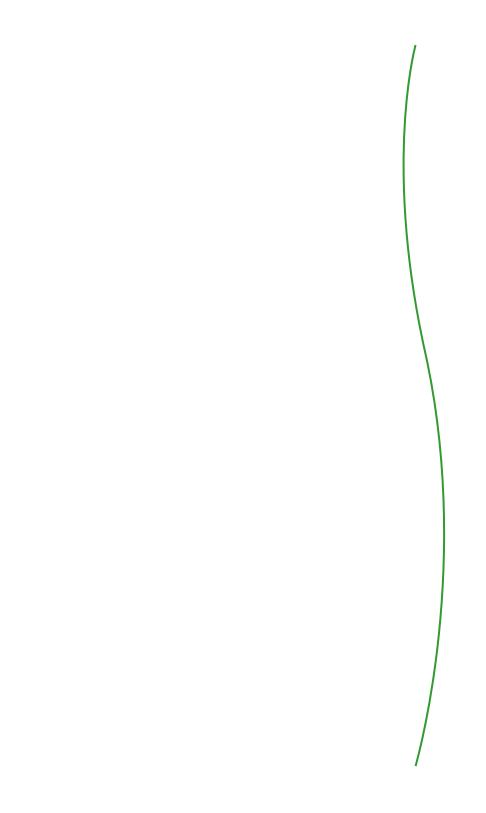
#### A Christmas Family Prayer

God, this Christmas, bless our family and all its members and friends; bind us together by your love. Give us kindness and patience to support each other; and wisdom in all we do. Let the gift of your peace come into our hearts and remain with us. May we always be aware of and rejoice in the blessings you have given us. *Amen* 

### Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all parishioners for their overwhelming response to this prayer book. Although we could not include all the prayers submitted our hope would be to keep these and bring out a second edition in the future. A huge thank you to all who were involved in the editing, production and design of this book. It stands as a real and concrete example of the togetherness of our community of faith within the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin.

Contact us - CCPC.Clondalkin@gmail.com or 44 @TheCCPCDublin





The Logo represents the coming together of the Parishes of Clondalkin with the light of Christ in the shape of the dove of the Holy Spirit at the centre.

The rainbow colours in the names of the parishes to represent the idea of covenant: between us and God and between us and each other. There is also a space between two people at the lower end of the logo to allow the stranger to enter and for us to go out to those who are outside our circle of faith.