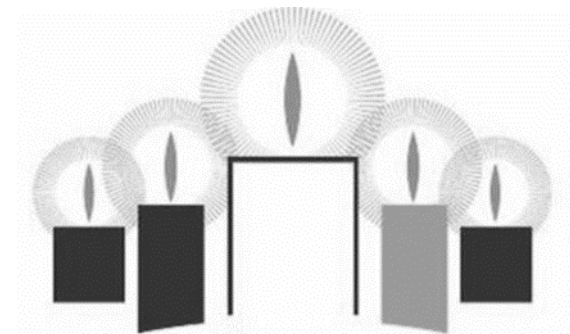


*Parishes of Elstead,
Thursley, Shackleford and Peper Harow*



Our Favourite Prayers



On waking.

O Blessed Lord, I thank Thee for rest and safety through the hours of night.

For this new day in which to serve Thee,
For powers of mind and body new once more, I worship and adore
Thy glorious Name.

From 'In His Presence'. First published 1948

This is a prayer I use every day as soon as I am awake- before I get out of bed.

On Rising.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this new day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the Book of Common Prayer, Order for Morning Prayer. The Third Collect for Grace.

Together with the Lord's Prayer this is one I use every day and then have other different ones also.

Starting the Day.

Forth in thy name O Lord I go
My daily labour to pursue;
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know
In all I think or speak or do.

By Charles Wesley. Tune Orlando Gibbons. In numerous different hymn books.

From the Book of Common Prayer, Order for Evening service. The third Collect for aid against all perils.

Save us , O Lord , while waking .
And guard us while sleeping,
That awake we may watch with CHRIST
And asleep we may rest in peace.

From Wendy Stevenson

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my ears and in my listening;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my loving;
God be in my arms and in my embracing;
God be in my hands and in the things I will do;
God be in my feet and in the places I will go;
God be at my end, and at my departing.

My expanded version of prayer attributed to Old Sarum Primer

From Linda Chamberlain

Blessing

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

From Rev. Hannah Moore

Morning prayers:

***New Every Morning meditation by Ricky Spears
(Mindful Worship)***

Father,
Thank you for this morning.
Thank you for waking me.
Thank you for your compassion.
Thank you for your mercy.
Thank you for your unfailing love.
Thank you for showing me the way I should go and
Thank you for giving me the strength
to go your way and not my own way.
As I go through this day,
Help me to excitedly expect you to manifest yourself in my life.
Help me to recognize where you are working and what you are
doing,
Especially when it is contrary to my own initial expectations.
I look forward to continuing to experience your presence
throughout my day,
In Jesus' name
Amen.

*(This is lovely to pray on waking and before getting out of bed in
the morning.)*

From Linda Chamberlain

May we accept this day at your hand, O God
As a gift to be treasured
A life to be enjoyed
A trust to be kept
And a hope to be fulfilled and all for your glory.
Amen

From "A Healing House of Prayer"

From Linda Chamberlain

"Father, your word says that:
If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves
and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will
hear them from Heaven and will forgive them and heal their land.
In your mercy dear Lord, heal our land. Amen"

From Dave Binks

Christ, as a light
illumine and guide me.
Christ, as a shield
overshadow me.
Christ under me;

Christ over me;
Christ beside me
on my left and my right.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;
Christ as a shield;
Christ beside me
on my left and my right.
From Rev. Hannah Moore

Lord help me to remember
That nothing is going to happen
Today that you and I cannot
Handle together.
From Sarah Goodship

which yieldeth the true glory; through him who for the finishing of
thy work laid down his life our redeemer, Jesus Christ.

From Michael Clarkson Webb

"Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this
world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes,
you are his body.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

From Rev. Delia Orme

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the
shades lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is
hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work done.
Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and
peace at the last, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

From Liza Gane

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

From Rev. Delia Orme

Before bed.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great
mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the
love of the only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

O Lord from whom all good things do come, grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration, we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding, may perform the same, through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

From Annie Silver

Lord we pray for the power to be gentle; the strength to be forgiving;
The patience to be understanding;
The endurance to accept the consequences of holding to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good, to overcome evil and the power of love to overcome hatred.

From Tim Shepherd

Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

From Hilary Barr

Lord Jesus Christ
Who in this wonderful Sacrament has
given us a Memorial of your Passion
Grant that we may so venerate the
Sacred Mysteries of your Body and Blood
that we may perceive within ourselves
the Fruits of your redemption. Amen

From Prue Henstridge

O Lord God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any (great) matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of the same unto the end until it be truly finished

Father I am seeking
I am hesitant and uncertain
But will you O God
Watch over each step of mine
And guide me.

From Sarah Goodship

Monday

Loving Father, give us patience today with those who annoy us, sympathy for those in trouble, and the love which reflects your living forgiveness for all people. We pray for our family and friends: keep them safe today and give them joy and satisfaction in all they do.

Tuesday

Father, your Son noticed the suffering of one woman in the middle of a crowd; teach us to be attentive and respond to the needs of others. Thank you Father for our homes and our families; thank you for our work and our relaxation. May we always enjoy good things with thankfulness.

Wednesday

Father, we ask you to pour your grace into our hearts, to overcome our selfishness and make us your true children. Lord, we offer you today everything we do and everything we say, everything we give and everything we receive. Help us never to forget the poor, the sick, the homeless and the oppressed.

Thursday

Father, you promised always to be with your people. Guard us today, so that through our work and our relaxation we may always be close to you. We pray for the life of the world; that every nation may seek the way that leads to peace; that where there are great problems people may know your will and have the courage to do what is right.

Friday

Father, your Son was always merciful to sinners: forgive us our failings; help us to work more willingly, to greet people more warmly and to do things for others more readily. We look for kindness and understanding in others; may they find your love and care in us.

From Fiona Stevenson

Two Prayers on the journey of life:

Lead me, Lord,
In the paths of peacefulness
In the roads of righteousness
In the ways of willingness.

Lead me, Lord,
Down the tracks of thoughtfulness
In streets of sensitiveness
By the journey of joyfulness
As I journey with you.

A prayer from a service by Revd Hannah in April 2020

From Linda Chamberlain

The Pilgrimage of Life

Our brother Jesus, you set our feet upon the way
and sometimes where you lead we do not understand.

Bless us with courage
where the way is fraught with dread or danger;

Bless us with graceful meetings
where the way is lonely;

Bless us with good companions
where the way demands a common cause;

Bless us with night vision
where we travel in the dark,
keen hearing where we have not sight,
to hear the reassuring sounds of fellow travellers;

Bless us with humour –
we cannot travel lightly weighed down with gravity;
Bless us with humility

Help me to build a life I can be proud of and
Show me the way to make a happy life
I put my trust in you as you are a God who loves
Us all no matter who we are.

From Liza Gane

Teach us, good Lord,
To serve thee as thou deservest;
To give and not to count the cost;
To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To toil and not to seek for rest;
To labour and not to ask for any reward
Save that of knowing that we do thy will.

From Liza Gane

The cooks prayer!

Bless my kitchen, Lord
I love its every nook,
And bless me as I do my work
Wash pots and pans and cook.

May the meals that I prepare
Be seasoned from above
With thy blessing and thy grace
But most of all thy love

As we partake of earthly food
The table thou hast spread
We'll not forget to thank thee, Lord,
For all our daily bread.

So bless my kitchen, Lord
And those who enter in
May they find naught but joy and peace
And happiness therein.

From Hilary Barr

O Lord, the creator of the universe and author of the laws of nature, inspire in us thy servants the will to ensure the survival of all the species of animals and plants, which you have given to share this planet with us. Help us to understand that we have a responsibility for them and that having dominion does not mean that you have given us the right to exploit the living world without thought for the consequences. Through him who taught us that Solomon in all his glory could not compare with the beauty of the flowers of the field.

Dear God

We think about the difficult time we have had for the past year.
We know you love us and look after us when we are at home and school. We thank you for our teachers and our friends.
We pray for our families who love us and care for us.
We remember the nurses and doctors in hospitals who have been looking after very sick people.
We thank you for the vaccines that will help keep everyone safe from Covid 19.
We think of all the people who are sick or have died and their families who are sad and we ask you to comfort them.
Please be with everyone who is worried and help them to feel happier.
Please help us to stay strong and be kind to others every day.
We thank you that you sent Jesus to be our friend.
Thank you, God, for being our Father in Heaven.
Amen.

Dear God,
Help me to take the right path in life and
Help me to know right from wrong.
Show me a way to get through life and its problems
No matter how hard they are.

to learn from those around us;
Bless us with decisiveness
where we must move with speed;
Bless us with lazy moments
to stretch and rest and savour;
Bless us with love
given and received;
And bless us with your presence,
even when we know it in your absence.
Lead us into exile,
until we find that on the road is where you are
And where you are is going home.
Bless us, lead us, love us, bring us home
Bearing the gospel of life.

Kathy Galloway (Iona Community)

(I came across this poem in the Lent Study Group in 2020 when we were using 'The Way' film about walkers on the Camino pilgrimage. We shared this prayer at the end of each session. It's a lovely prayer for blessings on the journey of life.)

From Linda Chamberlain

Prayer for Protection

Extract from St Patrick's Breastplate

Christ 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 when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

From Linda Chamberlain

Celtic Blessing

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.
May the road rise up to meet you;
May the wind always be at your back;
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
May the rains fall softly upon your fields.
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand;
And may the blessing of Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be with you and all those you love
Now and for ever
Amen.

From Linda Chamberlain

Celtic evening prayer of repentance

Jesus, forgive my sins.
Forgive the sins that I can remember,
and also the sins I have forgotten.
Forgive the wrong actions I have committed,
and the right actions I have omitted.
Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation,
and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.
Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements,
and those when I have failed to boast of your works.
Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,
and the leniency I have shown to myself.
Forgive the lies I have told to others,
and the truths I have avoided.
Forgive me the pain I have caused others,
and the indulgence I have shown to myself.
Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.
Amen.

From *Praying the Keeills Celtic Daily Prayer*
From Linda Chamberlain

St Richard of Chichester:

Thanks be to Thee, my Lord Jesus Christ
For all the benefits Thou hast given me,
For all the pains and insults Thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
May I know Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly.

From Rev. Delia Orme

The 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 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 con-
soled 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.

From Tim Shepherd

A Blessing of Animals

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures.
On the fifth and sixth days of creation, you called forth fish in the
sea, birds in the air and animals on the land.
You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters.
We ask you to bless the animals and all living creatures. By the
power in your love, enable them to live according to your plan.
May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed
are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me a sinner.

From Liza Gane