

Spiritual Verses and Prayers

Psalm 23 **Christian**

The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.
He restores my soul;
He guides me in the paths
of righteousness For His name's sake.
Even though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
Surely goodness and loving
kindness will follow me all the
days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house
of the LORD forever.

Psalm 23 - A Psalm of David **Jewish**

Adonai is my shepherd, I shall not want~
Giving me repose in green meadows,
Leading me beside the still waters
to revive my spirit,
Guiding me on the right path,
for that is God's essence.

Though I walk through a valley
of the shadow of death,
I fear no harm, for You are with me.
Your staff and Your rod comfort me.

You prepare a banquet for me
in the presence of my foes.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and kindness
shall be my portion all the days of my life.
And I shall dwell in the
House of Adonai forever.

Psalm 23 – Oxford Version **Christian**

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose,
Near restful waters he leads me
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.
Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

Psalm 34:1-10 **Christian**

I will thank the LORD at all times. My lips will always
praise him. I will honor the Lord. Let those who are
hurting hear and be joyful. Join me in giving glory to
the Lord. Let us honor him together. I looked to the
Lord, and he answered me. He saved me from
everything I was afraid of. Those who look to him
beam with joy. They are never put to shame. This
poor man called out, and the LORD heard him. He
saved him out of all of his troubles. The angel of the
LORD stands guard around those who have respect
for him. And he saves them. Taste and see that the
LORD is good. Blessed is the man who goes to him
for safety. You people of God, have respect for the
Lord. Those who respect him have everything they
need. The lions may grow weak and hungry. But
those who look to the LORD have every good thing
they need.

Psalm 46
Christian

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Psalm 91
Christian

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Psalm 100
Christian

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 118
Christian

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
Oh let Israel say,
"His lovingkindness is everlasting."
Oh let the house of Aaron say,
"His lovingkindness is everlasting."
Oh let those who fear the Lord say,
"His lovingkindness is everlasting."
From my distress I called upon the Lord;
The Lord answered me and set me in a large place.
The Lord is for me; I will not fear;
What can man do to me?
The Lord is for me among those who help me;
Therefore I shall look with satisfaction on those who hate me.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord
Than to trust in man.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord
Than to trust in princes.
All nations surround me;
In the name of the Lord I will surely cut them off.
They surround me, yes, they surround me;
In the name of the Lord I will surely cut them off.
They surround me like bees;
They were extinguished as a fire of thorns;
In the name of the Lord I will surely cut them off.
You pushed me violently so that I was falling,
But the Lord helped me.
The Lord is my strength and my song,
And He has become my salvation.
The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the
righteous;
The right hand of the Lord does valiantly.
The right hand of the Lord is exalted;
The right hand of the Lord does valiantly.
I shall not die, but live,
And tell the works of the Lord.
The Lord has disciplined me severely,
But He has not given me over to death.
Open to me the gates of righteousness;
I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord;
The righteous will enter through it.
I shall give thanks to Thee, for Thou hast answered me;
And Thou hast become my salvation.
The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the corner stone.
This is the Lord's doing;
It is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day which the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
O Lord, do save, we beseech Thee;
O Lord, we beseech Thee, do send prosperity!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and He has given us light;
Bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.
Thou art my God, and I give thanks to Thee.
Thou art my God, I extol Thee;
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Psalm 121
Christian

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills,
From whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
Which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper;
The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil;
He shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out
And thy coming in from this time forth,
And even forevermore.

Psalm 139
Christian

O Lord, thou hast searched me, and know me. Thou knowest my
downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought
afar off. Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art
acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my
tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou has
beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such
knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto
it. Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from
thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make
my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the
morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there
shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say,
Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light
about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night
shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to
thee. For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in
my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and
wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul
knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I
was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of
the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect;
and in thy book all my members were written, which in
continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of
them. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how
great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in
number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee. Surely
thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye
bloody men. For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine
enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O Lord, that
hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against
thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine
enemies. Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and
know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and
lead me in the way everlasting.

Matthew 5:3-14 - The Beatitudes**Christian**

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8**Christian**

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verse 8

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time

to pluck up what is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to break down,

and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to throw away stones,

and a time to gather stones together;

A time to embrace, and a time to

refrain from embracing;

A time to seek, and a time to lose;

A time to keep, and a time to throw away;

A time to tear, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate;

A time for war, and a time for peace.

Isaiah 40: 30-31**Christian**

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

John 14:1-6**Christian**

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

A Mother's Crown
Christian

Heaven lit up with a mighty presence, as the Angels
all looked down.
Today the Lord was placing the jewels into my
mother's crown.
He held up a golden crown, as my darling mother
looked on.
He said in His gentle voice, 'I will now explain each
one.'
'The first gem,' He said, 'is a Ruby, and it's for
endurance alone,
For all the nights you waited up for your children to
come home.'
'For all the nights by their bedside, you stayed till the
fever went down.
For nursing every little wound, I add this ruby to
your crown.'
'An emerald, I'll place by the ruby, for leading your
child in the right way.
For teaching them the lessons that made them who
they are today.'
'For always being right there, through all life's
important events.
I give you a sapphire stone, for the time and love you
spent.'
'For untying the strings that held them, when they
grew up and left home.
I give you this one for courage.' Then the Lord added
a garnet stone.
'I'll place a stone of amethyst,' He said. 'For all the
times you spent on your knees,
When you asked if I'd take care of your children, and
then for having faith in Me.'
'I have a pearl for every little sacrifice that you made
without them knowing.
For all the times you went without, to keep them
happy, healthy and growing.'
'And last of all I have a diamond, the greatest one of
all,
For sharing unconditional love whether they were
big or small.'
'It was your love that helped them grow feeling safe
and happy and proud
A love so strong and pure it could shift the darkest
cloud.'
After the Lord placed the last jewel in, He said, 'Your
crown is now complete,
You've earned your place in Heaven with your
children at your feet.'

-Anonymous

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis
Christian

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us 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.

Grant that we 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.

Adonai
Jewish

In distress I called to Adonai
who answered by setting me free.
Adonai is with me, I shall not fear; what can mortals do to
me?

*With Adonai at my side, best help of all
I will yet see the fall of my foes.*

Better to depend on Adonai than to trust in mortals.
Better to depend on Adonai than to trust in the powerful.

*Though all nations surrounded me,
in Adonai's name I overcame them.*

Though they surrounded and encircled me,
in Adonai's name I overcame them.

*Though they surrounded me like bees,
like burning stingers they were smothered.
In Adonai's name I overcame them,
Hard pressed was I and tottering, but Adonai
stood by me.*

Adonai is my strength, my might, my deliverance.

*The homes of the righteous echo with songs of
deliverance;*

*"The might of Adonai is triumphant.
The might of Adonai is supreme;
the might of Adonai is triumphant."*

Am I My Brother's Keeper?

Christian

Am I my brother's keeper? ... Yes, I am my brother's keeper. I am under a moral obligation to him that is inspired, not by maudlin sentimentality, but by the higher duty I owe myself. It is when you have done your work honestly, when you have contributed your share to the common fund that you begin to live. Then, as Whitman said, you can take out your soul; you can commune with yourself; you can take a comrade by the hand and you can look into his soul and in that Holy Communion you live. And if you don't know what that is, or if you are not at least on the edge of it, it is denied you even to look into the Promised Land.

- Eugene V. Debs, speech given at the founding of the Federal Council of Churches, Girard, Kansas, 1908

Amazing Grace

Christian

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

American Native Prayer

O great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds,
and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me!

I am small and weak;
I need your strength and wisdom.
Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes
ever behold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made
and my ears sharp to hear your voice.

Make me wise so that I may understand
the things you have taught my people.
Let me learn the lessons you have hidden
in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater than my friend,
but to fight my greatest enemy . . . myself.

Make me always ready to come to you
with clean hands and straight eyes.
So when life fades, as the fading sunset,
may my spirit come to you without shame.

Red Cloud Indian School
Pine Ridge, South Dakota
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As You Go Through This

Christian

Difficult things can cause us to ask, "Why did this happen?" But if we're trusting in Christ we never need to ask, "How could He let this happen?" God may never reveal all His reasons to us, but He has revealed His character to us. His character assures us that He never makes mistakes, is never uncaring, and that He never separates Himself from our need.

- Roy Lessin

Ascension

And if I go
While you're still here,
Know that I live on
Vibrating to a different measure
Behind a veil you cannot see through.
You will not see me,
So you must have faith.
I wait for the time when we can soar together again,
Both aware of each other.
Until then, live your life to the fullest . . .
And when you see me
Just whisper my name in your heart . . .
. . . I will be there.

Cleone Ringland, with adaptations for Ayn

Oh, my Dear Ayn, you mustn't know
How hard it is to see you go,
That while we're speaking of the weather
The good times we had together
I am tracing your dear face
Every feature, every trace
Of smiles and tears upon my heart
So that when we're far apart
I shall have that bit of you
To help me bear it...help me through

She will be a lovely flower in God's Garden
And may he bless her and keep her
for all time.

Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep

Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the lord my soul to keep
If I should die before I wake
I pray the lord my soul to take

Baby Tears

We cried tears when we learned that a child would
be,
That our God had allowed you to quicken me.
We cried tears with our loved ones as they shared
our joy,
And we thought about names for a girl or a boy.

I cried tears as I thought of the things we would do,
All the things that your Daddy would pass on to you.
And I cried as I thought of each inch you had grown,
As I pondered the day that you'd make yourself
known.
Then to think of the world you must enter brought
fears,
Once again, little one, your Mother cried tears.

Something's wrong, I can tell – once again there are
tears.
And I'll not get the chance of your love through the
years.
Oh, the ache and the sorrow and all of the pain,
And again, yes again, my tears fell like rain.

Then His peace comes to me as I think of you there,
Gently rocking with Father in His favorite chair.
Your sweet little fingers clenched tight in His palm,
And His Son softly singing to help you keep calm.

Our God knew your days before you came to be,
And He knew little one, you would not stay with me.
So I cry, but I know that when this time is done,
I'll greet and embrace you, my sweet little one.

There's a time to be born and a time to die,
And the joy and the sorrow, both make us cry!

- Conni Johnson

Bless This House
Christian

Bless this house, O Lord we pray,
Make it safe by night and day . . .

Bless these walls so firm and stout,
Keeping want and trouble out . . .

Bless the roof and chimneys tall,
Let thy peace lie overall . . .

Bless this door that it may prove,
Ever open,
To joy and love . . .

Bless these windows shining bright,
Letting in God's Heavenly light,
Bless the hearth, ablazing there,

With smoke ascending like a prayer!
Bless the people here within,
Keep them pure and free from sin . . .

Bless us all that we may be,
Fit O Lord to dwell with thee . . .

Bless us all that one day we may dwell,
O Lord! With Thee!

-Words and Music by Helen Taylor and May H.
Morgan, 1927

Limitations of Cancer

Cancer is so limited . . .

It cannot cripple love.
It cannot shatter faith.
It cannot corrode hope.
It cannot eat away peace.
It cannot destroy confidence.
It cannot kill friendship.
It cannot shut out memories.
It cannot silence courage.
It cannot invade the soul.
It cannot reduce Eternal life.
It cannot quench the Spirit.
It cannot lessen the Power
of the Resurrection.

I'll Lend You A Child
Christian

I'll lend you for a little while a child of mine, He said.
For you to love the while she lives and mourn for
when she's dead.

It may be six or seven years, or twenty-two or three,
But, will you 'til I call for her, take care of her for
me?

She'll bring her charm to gladden you and should her
stay be brief
You'll have her lovely memories as solace for your
grief.

I cannot promise she will stay since all from earth
returns
But there are lessons taught down there I want this
child to learn.

I've looked the wide world over in my search for
teachers true
And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes I have
selected you.

Now will you give her all your love? Nor think the
labor vain?
Nor hate me when I come to call and take her home
again?

I fancied that I heard you say, "Dear Lord Thy Will Be
Done."
For all the joy a child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll
run.

We'll shelter her with tenderness and love her while
we may
And for the happiness we've known, forever grateful
stay.

And when the angels call for her much sooner than
we planned
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes and try to
understand.

Christmas in Heaven

Christian

I see the countless Christmas trees,
Around the world below
With tiny lights, like heaven's stars,
Reflecting in the snow.

The sight is so spectacular,
Please wipe away that tear.
For I am spending Christmas
With Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs
That people hold so dear.
But the sounds of music can't compare
With the Christmas choir up here.

For I have no words to tell you,
The joy their voices bring.
For it is beyond description
To hear an angel sing.

I can't tell you of the splendor,
Or the peace here in this place.
Can you just imagine Christmas
With our Savior, face to face?

I'll ask Him to light your spirit,
As I tell Him of your love.
So then pray for one another
As you lift your eyes above.

Please let your hearts be joyful,
And let your spirit sing.
For I'm spending Christmas in heaven,
And I'm walking with the King!

Count Your Blessings

Christian

Count your blessings instead of your crosses.
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes.
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears.
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean.
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth.
Count on God instead of yourself.

A Cowboy's Last Request

Let me tell you folks
Who have gathered here today
That I'm a proud and thankful cowboy
Who has just passed away

I know it's hard
But, please don't cry
Fer I'm now ridin' God's trails
High up in the sky

The hoss I'm ridin' now
Don't spook, buck or kick
Fer God stables perfect horses
And now I have my pick

Lord, please forgive me of all my sins
Fer I haven't been perfect
But I know that he who believes in You
Forever wins!

I have lived a good life
A cowboys dream come true
Thank you, Lord
Fer I'm now ready to ride into eternity
Me, my horse, and You

The Cross In My Pocket
Christian

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm.

It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Savior and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be.

Death is Nothing At All
Christian

I have only slipped away into the next room.
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.
Call me by my old familiar name,
speak to me in the easy way which you always have.
Laugh as we always laughed together.
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me,
let my name be the household word that it always
has.

Let it be spoken without effort.
Life means all that it ever meant.
It is the same as it ever was;
there is absolutely unbroken continuity.
Why should I be out of your mind because
I am out of your sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval,
somewhere very near, just around the corner.
All is well. Nothing is past, nothing is lost.
One brief moment and all will be as it was before
-- only better, infinitely happier and forever
we will be one together with Christ.

Drinking From The Saucer

I've never made a fortune,
And I'll never make one now.
But it really doesn't matter,
'Cause I'm happy anyhow.
As I go along my journey,
I'm reaping better than I've sown.
I'm drinking from the saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
I don't have a lot of riches,
And sometimes the going's rough.
But while I've got friends to love me,
I think I'm rich enough.
I'll just thank God for blessings
That his mercy has bestowed.
I'm drinking from the saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
If God gives me strength and courage,
When the way grows steep and rough,
I'll not ask for other blessings,
I'm already blessed enough.
May I never be too busy to help
Bear another's load.
Then I'll be drinking from the saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

- *Anonymous*

The Fisherman's Prayer
Christian

I pray that I may live to fish
Until my dying day
And when it comes to my last cast
I then most humbly pray
When in the Lord's great landing net
And peacefully asleep
That in His mercy I be judged
Good enough to keep.

FOOTPRINTS
Christian

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Footsteps of Angels
Christian

When the hours of Day are numbered,
And the voices of the Night
Wake the better soul, that slumbered,
To a holy, calm delight;

Ere the evening lamps are lighted,
And, like phantoms grim and tall,
Shadows from the fitful firelight
Dance upon the parlor wall;

Then the forms of the departed
Enter at the open door;
The beloved, the true-hearted,
Come to visit me once more;

He, the young and strong, who cherished
Noble longings for the strife,
By the roadside fell and perished,
Weary with the march of life!

They, the holy ones and weakly,
Who the cross of suffering bore,
Folded their pale hands so meekly,
Spake with us on earth no more!

And with them the Being Beauteous,
Who unto my youth was given,
More than all things else to love me,
And is now a saint in heaven.

With a slow and noiseless footstep
Comes that messenger divine,
Takes the vacant chair beside me,
Lays her gentle hand in mine.

And she sits and gazes at me
With those deep and tender eyes,
Like the stars, so still and saint-like,
Looking downward from the skies.

Uttered not, yet comprehended,
Is the spirit's voiceless prayer,
Soft rebukes, in blessings ended,
Breathing from her lips of air.

Oh, though oft depressed and lonely,
All my fears are laid aside,
If I but remember only
Such as these have lived and died!

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

God's Promises

God hath not promised
skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways
all our lives through;
God hath not promised
sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
peace without pain.

But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
light for the way,
Grace for the trials,
help from above,
Unfailing sympathy,
undying love.

God, My One and Only Love

Here I sit and dream all day
Of my one and only love
But yet, He seems so far away
Because He shines down from above.

He wants us to be near Him
Through day and then through night
Just to have him love us
And teach us to do right.

He helps so many people
When they start to go astray
He gathers them unto Him
And guides them through the day.

I'm sure He has no favorites
Who He wants to come above.
He wants us all to cling to Him.
God, my one and only love.

God Saw Her Getting Weary

*God saw her getting weary,
He did what He thought best.
He put his arms around her
and said, "Come and rest."
He opened up His golden gate,
on that heartbreaking day.
And with His arms around her,
she gently slipped away.
It broke our hearts to lose her,
she did not go alone.
A part of us went with her,
the day God called her home.*

God Saw You Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired, and a cure was not to be
So He put his arms around you and whispered,
"Come with Me."

When tearful eyes we watched you suffer, and saw
you fade away
Although we loved you dearly – we could not make
you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating, hardworking hands
at rest
God broke our hearts to prove – He only takes the
best.

It's lonesome here without you – we miss you more
each day
Life doesn't seem the same since you've gone away.

When days are sad and lonely, and many things go
wrong
We seem to hear you whisper, "Cheer up and carry
on."

Each time we see your picture, you seem to smile
and say
"I'm home in God's safe-keeping, we'll meet again
someday!"

God's Garden Must Be Beautiful

God looked around His Garden
and found an empty space.
He looked down upon the earth,
and saw your tired face.

He put his arms around you,
and lifted you to rest.
God's Garden must be beautiful
for he only takes the best.

He knew that you were weary,
and he knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never,
be well on earth again.

He saw the roads were getting rough
and the hills were hard to climb.
So he closed your weary eyelids,
and whispered peace be thine.

God's Heavenly Garden

Sometimes God picks the flower that is still in full
bloom;
Sometimes the rosebud's chosen that we feel He's
picked too soon.

Sometimes the flower is fading with petals floating
down,
but God knows the perfect time to gather flowers
from the ground.

There is a heavenly garden in which God takes great
pleasure
because He's placed within it the loved ones that we
treasure.

He walks among the blossoms giving them eternal
rest,
and I know that it must please Him because He
chose my very best.

The Golfers' Lord's Prayer *Christian*

Our father who art in Augusta
Nicklaus be thy name
Our Kingdom Come
Thy Will Be Done
On Greens as it is in fairways
Give us this day our share of birdies
And forgive us our gimmies
As we forgive those who gimmie against us
Lead us not into the deep rough
And deliver us from sand traps
For we drive for power and putt for glory
Forever and ever, Amen

Gone But Not Forgotten

A Precious one from us has gone
A voice we loved is stilled
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled.
God in His wisdom has recalled,
The blessing his love had given.
And through the body slumbers here,
The soul is safe in Heaven.

Hail, Holy Queen *Christian*

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To thee do we cry, poor banished
children of Eve, to thee do we send
up our sighs, mourning and weeping
in this valley, of tears.
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us; and
after this our exile show unto us the
blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus;
O clement, O loving, O sweet virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God
That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.

Hail Mary
Christian

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

Heaven
Christian

'Tis not the golden streets,
'Tis not the pearly gates,
'Tis not the perfect rest
For Weary hearts that wait,
'Tis not that we shall find
The joy earth has not given,
For which our souls have longed,
That makes it heaven.

But 'tis because we know
Our Saviour King is there
With all our loved and lost
In that blest land and fair;
That when to each of us
A place prepared is given,
His face and theirs we'll see,
That makes it heaven.

-Annie Johnson Flint

Heaven needed an Angel
Christian

Heaven needed an Angel
And god had sent for you
You're gone from me forever
Now what am I to do?

I miss you now, like never before
But I have to let you go
I will never forget you
And this, I need you to know.

My heart, it broke with sadness
For the one, that I adore
When our heavenly father sent for you
He must have needed you more.

Goodbye until we meet again
in my heart, you'll always be
For always you, will remain
My sweetest memory.

Heaven
Christian

Heaven is a happier place
For My Loved One has gone there,
To be with those Who have gone before
And have left all earthly care.

For to be with Jesus
And to see that Heavenly Home,
Must bring untold happiness;
On those Golden streets to roam.

Yes! Of course, We miss those
That We have held so dear;
But God Who loves His Children
Has a plan for each one here.

So He took away My Loved one
And I promise not to grieve;
For I have God's peace and comfort
To His Love I will ever cleave.

At Night as I look up to Heaven
The shining Stars I see,
Back of them My Loved One
Looks down and smiles at Me.

His presence seems so very near
I do not feel alone,
God's Holy plan will some day, too,
Take Me to that Heavenly Home.

So I pray Dear God on high,
Ever near Me be
Till I meet My Loved One;
In Heaven's great Eternity.
By Lydia D. Soll

Hymn of Promise
Christian

In the bulb, there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

-Natalie Sleeth

I Am Home In Heaven
Christian

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,

Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at least.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trod the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still;
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

I Do Not Go Alone

If Death should beckon me
with outstretched hand
And whisper softly of
"An Unknown Land" . . .
I shall not be afraid to go.
For though the path
I do not know,
I take Death's Hand without a fear,
For He who safely brought me here
Will Also take me safely back,
And though in many things I lack.
He will not let me go alone
Into the "Valley That's Unknown"
So I reach out and take Death's Hand
And journey to the "Promised Land!"

I Know Not Why

I know not why our father left,
and couldn't say good-bye.
We know that he loved us,
of this, we'll not deny.

Birth, like death, comes once to all,
it's nature's scheme of things.
The time spent in between, should be
recalled and savored...
not just in our dreams, it seems.

We spend, but a short time,
here on earth they say.
From the days of new beginnings,
till the days just turning gray.

Most people think they have ample time,
to learn each other's needs.
But when they hear St. Gabriel's horn,
the tune is what they heed.

Make the most of every day
with love and understanding,
keep your faith, in your God,
as life...is verily demanding.

-Mr. Gary L. Heck
October 27, 1998

I Said a Prayer for You Today

I said a prayer for you today
And know God must have heard.
I felt the answer in my heart
Although He spoke not a word.

I didn't ask for wealth or fame
(I knew you wouldn't mind).
I asked for priceless treasures rare
Of a more lasting kind.

I prayed that He be near you
At the start of each new day;
To grant you health and blessings fair
And friends to share your way.

I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small.
But that you'd know His loving care
I prayed the most of all.

If Tears Could Build A Stairway

If tears could build a stairway,
And memories a lane,
I'd walk right up to Heaven,
And bring you home again.

I'll Be There

Christian

Daddy please don't look so sad, Momma please
don't cry,
'Cause I am in the arms of Jesus and He sings me
lullabies
Please, try not to question god, don't think He is
unkind.
Don't think He sent me to you,
And then He changed His mind.

You see, I am a special child, and I'm needed up
above.
I'm the special gift you gave Him, the product of your
love.
I'll always be there with you, and watch the sky at
night.
Find the brightest star that's gleaming,
That's my halo's brilliant light.

You'll see me in the morning frost,
That mists your window pane.
That's me, in the summer showers, I'll be dancing in
the rain.
When you feel a little breeze, from a gentle wind
that blows.
That's me, I'll be there, planting a kiss on your nose.

When you see a child playing, and your heart feels a
little tug,
That's me, I'll be there giving your heart a hug.
So daddy, please don't look so sad, momma don't
you cry.
I'm in the arms of Jesus, and He sings me lullabies.

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah, yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me.
God wanted me now; He set me free!

-Ann Davison

Imagine

Imagine
Stepping onto a shore and finding it heaven.
Imagine
Taking hold of a hand and finding it God's hand.
Imagine
Breathing new air and finding it celestial air.
Imagine
Feeling invigorated and finding it immortality.
Imagine
Passing from storm and tempest to an unknown
calm.
Imagine
Waking and finding it home.

-Michael Podesta

In Memory of a Mother

Christian

I remember thee in this solemn hour,
my dear mother. I remember the days
when thou didst dwell on earth,
and thy tender love watched over me like a
guardian angel. Thou has gone from me,
but the bond which unites our souls can never be
severed; thine image lives within my heart.
May the merciful Father reward thee for the
faithfulness and kindness thou has ever shown me;
may He lift up the light of his countenance upon
thee and grant thee eternal peace! Amen.

-Union Home Prayer Book

In This Very Room

Christian

In this very room there's quite enough love
For one like me and in this very room
There's quite enough joy for one like me.
And there's quite enough hope
And quite enough power to chase away any gloom
For Jesus, Lord Jesus
Is in this very room.

And in this very room there's quite enough love
For all of us, and in this very room
There's quite enough joy for all of us.
And there's quite enough hope
And quite enough power to chase away any gloom
For Jesus, Lord Jesus
Is in this very room.

And in this very room there's quite enough love
For all the world, and in this very room
There's quite enough joy for all of the world.
And there's quite enough hope
And quite enough power to chase away any gloom
For Jesus, Lord Jesus
Is in this very room.

Iowa Sod

When I am dead, and ashes in your hand,
In a mild Iowa meadow take your stand,
And pause a moment, thinking of the past,
Those rare road-walking days that couldn't last.

Think, "This was her body that swung along with me,
The same road, the same violets, the very locust
tree."

Think, "God she loved and the witnesses of God
And in especially this Iowa sod.

Here we walked together, the wind whirled
As on the first bright morning of the world
Hungry, tired, and tremblingly in love, and
something sang,
I think a brown wood-dove."

These thoughts will pass like summer. Pause no
more.

I shall be there as happy as before,
I shall be there to watch you turn aside
Remembering. Then fling the ashes wide.

Irish Blessing

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
hollow of his hand.

Jesus Take Our Little Boy
Christian

Jesus take our little boy
And hold him in your arms
Hide him in the shadow of your wings
Where he will know no harm

Jesus take our little boy
And whisper in his ear
How very much we love him
And wish that he were here

Jesus take our little boy
And sing him lullabies
Thank you, Lord, for wiping every tear
From our precious baby's eyes

Jesus take our little boy
Take his tiny hand
Carry him in your bosom, Lord
Your precious little lamb

Jesus take our little boy
For he belongs to you
Thank you Lord for giving him to us
'til his time on earth was through

Jesus take our little boy
And tell him where to wait
On that day when we come home
And meet him at your gate.

-Sherri Davidson

Life is but a Stopping Place
Christian

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord

The Lord's Prayer
Christian

Our father who art in heaven,
hallowed be 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.

(Protestant Close)

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory forever.

(Catholic Close)

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,
now and forever.

May The Angels Lead You
Christian

May the angels lead you into Paradise, may the
martyrs receive you at your coming, and take you to
Jerusalem, the holy city. May the choirs of the
Angels receive you, and may you with the once poor
Lazarus, have rest everlasting.

May the Souls of all the faithful departed, through
the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Memorare
Christian

Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary that never
was it known that any one who fled to Thy
protection, implored Thy help, and sought Thy
intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this
confidence, I fly unto Thee, O Virgin of virgins, My
Mother! to thee I come; before Thee I stand, sinful
and sorrowful. Oh Mother of the Word incarnate!
despise not my petitions, but in Thy mercy, hear and
answer me. Amen.

Mother

God made many lovely things
Sunsets and flowers and trees.
Birds and starlight and loyal friends
And after He made all these --
He gave another gift more rare,
More loving and more true.
A wonderful person most fair --
A Mother dear as you!

A Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother,
A mother who never grows old;
He made her smile of the sunshine,
and he molded her heart of pure gold;
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
In her cheeks, fair roses you see,
God made a wonderful mother
And he gave that dear mother to me.

- Pat O'Reilly

A Mother's Love

Christian

There are times when only a mother's love
can understand our tears, can soothe our
disappointments and calm all of our fears.
There are times when only a mother's heart
can share the joy we feel when something that
we've dreamed about quite suddenly is real.
There are times when only a mother's faith can
help us on life's way and inspire in us the confidence
we need from day to day. For a mother's heart and
a mother's faith and a mother's steadfast love were
fashioned by the angels and sent from God above.

-Mary Ellen Gray

My Little One

Christian

Hush my little one
Time to close those sleepy eyes
Momma longs to hold you close
And rock you to sleep tonight

Tears well up inside my eyes
Can I hold you one more night?
Then Jesus softly whispers
Your little one will fly away, fly away...

Come away my little one
To a place beyond the setting sun
Look into your Father's eyes
He will silence all your cries
Fly away my little one
To a place beyond the setting sun
I will see you again one day
In my heart you'll always stay

Hush my little one
Time to close those sleepy eyes
Jesus longs to hold you close
And rock you to sleep tonight

Heaven holds a place for you
And the angels spread their wings
To welcome you into your home
I can hear them softly sing

- Tammy Edwards

My Novena Rose Prayer

Christian

O Little Therese of the Child
Jesus, please pick for me a rose
from the heavenly gardens and
send it to me as a message of love.

O Little Flower of Jesus, ask
God today to grant the favors I
now place with confidence in
your hands

Eternal Happiness for Maureen Ann
St. Therese, help me to always
believe as you did, in God's great
love for me, so that I might
imitate your "Little Way" each day.
Amen

Now The Laborer's Task
Christian

Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

"Earth to earth and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say,
Left behind, we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.

-JOHN ELLERTON, 1870

A Nurse's Prayer
Christian

As I care for my patients today
be there with me O Lord, I pray.

Make my words kind,
it means so much,
and in my hands
place your healing touch.
Let your love shine
through all that I do.

So those in need may hear
and feel you.

O Gentlest Heart of Jesus
Christian

O Gentlest Heart of Jesus, ever present in the
Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning
love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have
mercy on the soul of Thy departed servant. Be not
severe in Thy judgment, but let some drops of Thy
precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames, and
do Thou, O merciful Savior, send Thy Angels to
conduct Thy departed servant to a place of
refreshment, light and peace. Amen.

O Lord
Christian

O Lord, support us all the day long,
until 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 your mercy,
grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest,
and peace at the last.

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen.

-Cardinal John Cardinal Henry Newman

Please Don't Cry

Please don't cry because I'm gone
For I am just "away".
I did not die and never will
I'm with you every day.
It's true that I have left the earth
And live in Spirit here
With a peace and love I can't explain
I'm happy, have no fear.
Who I was, I still am not
Even better than before.
Heaven holds such beauty here
With mountains, trees and more.
Please don't cry, just speak of me
The way you used to do.
Make our memories happy ones
That hug and comfort you.
Remember me with happiness
Don't grieve because I'm gone.
In Heaven I am growing still
And my life continues on.
Please don't cry because I share
All you say and do.
In every moment of every day
My love is with you too.

The Rainbow Bridge

Christian

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together.

Resurrection Prayer

Christian

Most merciful Father, we commend our departed into your hands. We are filled with the sure hope that our departed will rise again on the Last Day with all who have died in Christ. We thank you for all the good things you have given during our departed's earthly life.

O Father, in your great mercy, accept our prayer that the Gates of Paradise may be opened for your servant. In our turn, may we, too, be comforted by the words of faith until we greet Christ in glory and are united with you and our departed. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Safely Home

Christian

I am at home in heaven;
All's so happy, all so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief are over,
Every restless tossing past;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trod the Valley of the Shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still;
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you
So you must not idle stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth –
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting!
Oh, the joy to see you come!

Novena to Saint Theresa - "The Little Flower"
Christian

O St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, who during your short life on earth became a mirror of angelic purity, of love strong as death, and of wholehearted abandonment to God,

Make my troubles your own, speak on my behalf to Our Lady Immaculate, "who smiled on you at the dawn of life".

Beg her powerful intercession for the grace I yearn for so ardently at this moment (here name your request) and that she join with it a blessing that may strengthen me during life, defend me at the hour of death, and lead me to a happy eternity. Amen.

O God, who did inflame with the Spirit of Love, the soul of your servant Theresa of the Child Jesus, grant that we also may love and make You much loved. Amen.

Serenity Prayer

God grant me the Serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change...
Courage to change
the things I can
and Wisdom
to know the difference.

Should You Go First

Should you go first and I remain to walk the road
alone,
I'll live in memory's garden, dear, with happy days
we've known.
In spring I'll watch for roses red and shades of lilac
blue;
And in early fall when brown leaves fall,
Then I'll catch a glimpse of you.
Should you go first and I remain to finish with the
stroll,
No lengthening shadows shall creep in to make this
life seem droll.
We've known so much of happiness, yes we've had
our cup of joy.
And memory is one gift of God that death cannot
destroy.
Should you go first and I remain, there is one thing
I'll have you do,
Walk slowly down that long road for soon I'll follow
you.
I'll want to know each step you take so that I may
walk the same.
For someday down that lonely road I'll hear you call
my name.

Show Me the Way to Heaven

Christian

Show me the way to heaven
Show me the way towards home
Take my hand dear Jesus
I can't find it on my own.

Make full my heart with gladness,
Help me to be strong.
Lead me down the right path
As I begin my journey home.

Let me trust in you Lord
As I walk through life
Help me to open wholly
So you can come inside.

Wrap your arms around me.
Comfort me with your love.
Show me the way to heaven.
Guide me from above.

Grant me a sign, dear Jesus.
Encourage me to see,
As I progress,
That you are here with me.

Show me the way to heaven
Show me the way towards home
Accept my hand dear Jesus
I can't find it on my own.
-Teresa L. Daily

Somewhere

Christian

Somewhere over the rainbow
An angel prays
While sending hope
Through golden sun rays.

Somewhere over the rainbow
God hears parents cry
And sends to them colors
That He places up in the sky.

Somewhere over the rainbow
God hears parents ask
"Why did this happen?
Why my child, I ask?"

Somewhere over the rainbow
God hears parents cry.
And He sends to them love
By way of colors up in the sky.

Through tear drops these colors
Seem to turn a different hue
Of deepest greens, pinks, purples
And blues.

Each color added
For the grieved eye to behold
While our children rest
Upon clouds lined in silver and gold.

Somewhere over the rainbow
Tears stand in Gods eyes
And each fall from the heavens
To form rainbows across the sky.

-Teresa L. Daily

St Andrew Prayer
Christian

O Christ, our Lord,
Who didst beautify the most blessed Andrew
with the grace of apostleship,
and the crown of martyrdom,
by granting to him this special gift,
that by preaching the mystery of the cross,
he should merit death on the cross;
grant us to become most true lovers of Thy holy
cross,
and denying ourselves,
to take up our cross
and follow Thee;
that by sharing Thy sufferings in this life,
we may deserve the happiness
of obtaining life everlasting.
Amen.

St. Jude
Christian

St. Jude, glorious apostle, faithful servant and friend
of Jesus, the name of the traitor has caused you to
be forgotten by many. But the Church honors and
invokes you universally as the patron of difficult and
desperate cases. Pray for me who am so miserable.
Make use, I implore you, of that particular privilege
accorded to you to bring visible and speedy help
where help was almost despaired of. Come to my
assistance in this great need that I may receive the
consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities,
tribulations and sufferings, particularly -- (here make
your request) -- and that I may praise God with you
and all the elect throughout all eternity.

I promise you, O blessed JUDE, to be ever mindful of
this great favor. I will honor you as my special and
powerful patron and encourage devotion to you.

St. Jude, pray for us and for all who honor and
invoke your aid.

St. Francis' Canticle of Creatures
Christian

All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister
Moon and Stars; In the heavens you have
made them, bright, and precious and fair.

All praise be yours, my Lord , through Sister
Earth, our mother, who feeds us in her
sovereignty and produces various fruits and
colored flowers and herbs.

All praise be yours, my Lord, through those
who grant pardon for love of you; through
those who endure Sickness and trial.

All praise be your, my Lord, through Sister
Death, from whose embrace no mortal can
escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin ! Happy
those She finds doing your will ! The second
death can do no harm to them.

Praise and bless my Lord and give him
thanks, And serve him with great humility.

The Sweetness Of Peace

After the clouds, the sunshine,
After the winter, the spring,
After the shower, the rainbow –
For life is a changeable thing.

After the night, the morning,
Bidding all darkness cease;
After life's cares and sorrows,
The comfort of God's sweet peace.

Take My Hand

Christian

Take my hand, my friend;
I do not want to walk this world alone.
Together we will climb the hills,
Cross valleys, brave the storms.
True joy that's shared is twice the worth
And sorrow half the load.
Come take my hand, my friend,
Please take my hand.

Come take my hand, my love,
For I would share my life with you
For richer — poorer until life's end.
We'll share our dreams and plans
And know the ecstasies of life
God willed for man and wife.
Oh take my hand, my love,
Come take my hand.

Take my hand, my child,
And I will guide your fragile steps.
I'll show you sunlight, flowers, the stars
And all the wondrous beauty
God has put on this good earth.
And you will give fulfillment to my dreams.
Come take my hand, my child,
Come take my hand.

Please take my hand, dear Lord,
For I may falter on the road.
Help me to grow in faith and find
The way to serve Thee best.
And grant that I may know at last
Eternal peace and joy.
Oh take my hand, dear Lord,
Please take my hand.

Tell Me Why

Tell me why the stars do shine,
Tell me why the ivy twine,
Tell me why the sky's so blue,
An I will tell you just why
I love you.

Because God mad the stars
to shine,
Because God made the Ivy twine,
Because God made the sky
So blue,
Because God made you, that's
Why I love you.

Thank God I'm Free

Weep not for me when I am gone for I'll be finally free,
I'll be the flowers in the field and the blossoms on the
tree;
I'll be the yellow buttercup or the wild rose on the hill,
The cherry blossom in the spring, the lilacs by the mill;
I'll be the twining trumpet vine climbing up your garden
wall,
Or I could be the scarlet sumac that brightens up your
fall.

I'll be the wind that turns the mill and dries the new
mown hay,
I'll be the breeze that kisses lips of children at their
play;
I'll turn the lightly falling snow into a blizzard's roar,
Or spread the freshening raindrops across a bot
parched moor;
I'll push the mighty thunder clouds as if they were but
fluff,
Then softly life a butterfly with just one little puff.

I'll be the wild geese honking--as they northward fly,
To the marshy lakeland in their Vs across the sky;
I'll be the mighty eagle soaring high as mountain peaks,
Or just the tiny hummingbird who now your feeder
seeks;
I'll be the scarlet tanager that sings your cares away,
Or a swallow chasing "skeeters" in the dusk at close of
day.

You'll see me as the Douglas fir, the willow by the
stream,
You'll find me as the spreading oak where you rest and
dream;
I'll be the loaded nut tree, close guarded by the
squirrel,
Or in the autumn I'm the elm whose leaves will
downward whirl;
I'll be the struggling pinyon pine clinging to a rocky tor;
Or maybe I'm a spreading yew, nearby your own front
door.

You'll see me as a soaring bird, you'll feel me as a
breeze,
You'll smell me as an open flower, or climb me when
I'm trees;
So now I ask you when I'm gone, to please not weep for
me,
For I'll be here and everywhere--Thank God I'm finally
free!!!

-Bruce A. Yungclas

The Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God
was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
you did not go alone;
for part of us went with you
the day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories,
your love is still our guide;
and though we cannot see you,
you are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken,
and nothing seems the same;
but as God calls us one by one,
the Chain will link again.

The Christian's Farewell *Christian*

My time has come. My ship has sailed
Upon Death's troubled sea
I say to those I've left behind, "Please, please don't
weep for me."
My life was full, as you all know
For you have made it so.
But, you must face your lives ahead;
It's time to let me go.
So, please don't weep, nor mourn, nor grieve, nor
hold sorrow to your breast.
For, God who led my whole life through knew what,
for me, was best.
So, turn the page and look ahead.
Greet life with open arms.
With trusting tread move on ahead; God's love will
guide and wan.
As you have watched me sail from view and told
yourselves, "He's gone." An excited group on
another shore says, "Look! He's coming home!"

-Wayne Murray

The Ideal Wife *Christian*

When one finds a worthy wife,
Her value is far beyond pearls.
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
Has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil,
All the days of her life.
She obtains wool and flax
And makes cloth with skillful hands.
Like merchant ships,
She secures her provisions from afar.
She rises while it is still night,
And distributes food to her household.
She picks out a field to purchase;
Out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.
She is girt about with strength,
And sturdy are her arms.
She enjoys the success of her dealings;
At night her lamp is undimmed.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
And her fingers ply the spindle.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
And extends her arms to the needy.
She fears not the snow for her household;
All her charges are doubly clothed.
She makes her own coverlets;
Fine linen and purple are her clothing.
Her husband is prominent at the city gates
As he sits with the elders of the land.
She makes garments and sells them,
And stocks the merchants with belts.
She is clothed with strength and dignity,
And she laughs at the days to come.
She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.
She watches the conduct of her household,
And eats not her food in idleness.
Her children rise up and praise her;
Her husband, too, extols her:
Many are the women of proven worth,
But you have excelled them all.
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Give her a reward of her labors,
And let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Lighthouse
Christian

Thank you, Lord, for the Lighthouse
that brought me safely in,
into Your Loving harbor
far from the rocks of sin.

This vessel was in peril
and then I saw the light
that guided me to safety
through the stormy night.

Temptation's waves were raging
and it just was not clear
in the darkness and confusion
the way that I should steer.

So thank you, Lord,
for the Lighthouse.
When in the billows I was tossed.
If it had not been for Jesus,
this soul would have been lost.

-R.K. Cecil

The Measure of a Man

Not - How did he die? But - How did he live?
Not - What did he gain? But - What did he give?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

Not - What was his station? But - had he a heart?
And - How did he play his God-given part?

Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer?
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?

Not - What was his church? Not - What was his
creed?
But - Had he befriended those really in need?

Not - What did the sketch in the newspaper say?
But - How many were sorry when he passed away?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

The Measure of a Woman

Not - How did she die? But - How did she live?
Not - What did she gain? But - What did she give?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a woman as a woman, regardless of birth.

Not - What was her station? But - had she a heart?
And - How did she play her God-given part?

Was she ever ready with a word of good cheer?
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?

Not - What was her church? Not - What was her
creed?
But - Had she befriended those really in need?

Not - What did the sketch in the newspaper say?
But - How many were sorry when she passed away?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a woman as a woman, regardless of birth

The Mourners' Kaddish
Jewish

Transliteration

Yit-gadal v'yit-kadash sh'may raba b'alma dee-v'ra
che-ru-tay, ve'yam-lich mal-chutay b'chai-yay-chon
uv'yo-may-chon uv-cha-yay d'chol beit Yisrael, ba-
agala u'vitze-man ka-riv, ve'imru amen.

Y'hay sh'may raba me'varach le-alam uleh-almay
alma-ya.

Yit-barach v'yish-tabach, v'yit-pa-ar v'yit-romam
v'yit-nasay, v'yit-hadar v'yit-aleh v'yit-halal sh'may
d'koo-d'shah, b'rich hoo. layla (ool-ayla)* meen kol
beer-chata v'she-rata, toosh-b'chata v'nay-ch'mata,
da-a meran b'alma, ve'imru amen.

Y'hay sh'lama raba meen sh'maya v'cha-yim aleynu
v'al kol Yisrael, ve'imru amen.

O'seh shalom beem-romav, hoo ya'ah-seh shalom
aleynu v'al kol Yisrael, ve'imru amen.

* Add on Shabbat

English

Magnified and sanctified be G-d's great name in the world which He created according to His will. May he establish His kingdom during our lifetime and during the lifetime of Israel. Let us say, Amen.

May G-d's great name be blessed forever and ever. Blessed, glorified, honored and extolled, adored and acclaimed be the name of the Holy One, though G-d is beyond all praises and songs of adoration which can be uttered. Let us say, Amen.

May there be peace and life for all of us and for all Israel. Let us say, Amen.

Let He who makes peace in the heavens, grant peace to all of us and to all Israel. Let us say, Amen.

The Rose Bud

On your journey to heaven,
Oh, littlest of angels,
I'll forever give thanks,
You came first to my arms,
Where you lay in warm sweetness
For the briefest of moments,
My name on your bracelet...
Baby Boy of my own.

Not even the rose bud,
Nor the first crocus petal,
Could match the soft wonder
Of your small, flowering face...
Though you lingered, oh, briefly,
Our torn heart found comfort,
And your fair, infant presence
Gave our sorrow a grace.

Etched in our memories,
To hold and to treasure,
Are experiences we had not known;
These you gave, in your innocence,
To your mother and father;
And oh, little darling,
We are richer by far,
To have held you a moment,
Than to have never held you at all.

The Traveler

Christian

He has put on invisibility.
Dear Lord, I cannot see –
But this I know, although the road ascends
And passes from my sight,
That there will be no night;
That you will take him gently by the hand
And lead him on
Along the road of life that never ends,
And he will find it is not death but dawn.
I do not doubt that You are there as here,
And You will hold him dear.

Our life did not begin with birth,
It is not of the earth;
And this that we call death, it is no more
Than the opening and closing of a door –
And in your house how many rooms must be
Beyond this one where we rest momentarily.

Dear Lord, I thank You for the faith that frees,
The love that knows it cannot lose its own;
The love that, looking through the shadows, sees
That you and he and I are ever one!

-James Dillet Freeman

The Watcher ~ Mother

She always leaned to watch for us,
Anxious if we were late,
In winter by the window,
In summer by the gate.

And though we mocked her tenderly,
Who had such foolish care,
The long way home would seem more safe
Because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us,
She never could forget!
And so I think that where she is
She must be watching yet.

Waiting 'til we come home to her,
Anxious if we are late ~
Watching from Heaven's window,
Leaning from Heaven's gate.

-Margaret Widdemer

There's Sunshine In A Smile

Life is a mixture of sunshine and rain,
Laughter and pleasure, teardrops and pain,
All days can't be bright,
but it's certainly true,
There was never a cloud
the sun didn't shine through—
So just keep on smiling whatever betide you,
Secure in the knowledge God is always beside you,
And you'll find when you smile
your day will be brighter
And all of your burdens
will seem so much lighter—
For each time you smile you will find it is true
Somebody, Somewhere will Smile Back At You,
And nothing on earth
can make life more worthwhile
Than the sunshine and warmth
of a beautiful smile.

-Helen Steiner Rice

Think of the Maker

Christian

In the beginning, God made the world.
Let us give thanks for all that God has made.
Think of a time when you saw that the world is beautiful...
Think of a sunset over the hills, or sunrise over a sleeping city.
Think of a running river, or stars shining on a dark sea.
Think of light flashing on a puddle,
or of geraniums growing in a window-box.
Think of a time when you saw that the world is beautiful -
and give thanks.
Think of a time when you found pleasure in your body.....
Think of walking in the wind, or digging a garden.
Think of dancing till dawn, or climbing a mountain.
Think of giving birth to a child, or of holding someone you love.
Think of a time when you found pleasure in your body -
and give thanks.
Think of a time when you learned something new about life.....
Think of understanding something that had always been a mystery
or of seeing someone else in a different light.
Think of discovering a talent you never knew you had,
or of listening to a good idea.
Think of knowing what is important to you,
or of believing that some things matter more than others.
Think of a time when you learned something new about life - and give thanks.
Think of a time when your spirit was refreshed.....
Think of a song that moved you to tears, or a prayer that inspired you to act.
Think of laughter shared with friends, or the care of your family.
Think of a stranger who made you feel welcome,
or of someone who said "I love you."
Think of a time when your spirit was refreshed - and give thanks.
Think of a time when you were in despair.....
Think of feeling alone in a roomful of people
or of being unwanted by even one person.
Think of being ashamed because you've hurt someone,
or of being awkward because you misjudged a situation.
Think of being worn with worry or anxiety,
or of knowing that your life is a sorry, disgusting mess.
Think of a time when you were in despair
- then think of the suffering, forgiving, changing love of Jesus -
and give thanks.
The world belongs to the Lord. Think of the Maker - and give thanks.

The Time Has Come

The time has come God's called him home.
The time on earth is ever gone.
No more sorrow, no more pain
What we have lost Heaven's gained.
The pearly gates are open wide
To let your loved one come inside.

-Christine Wood

A Time Will Come For Singing

Christian

A time will come for singing when all your tears are shed,
When sorrow's chains are broken, and broken hearts will mend.
The deaf will hear your singing when silent tongues are freed.
The lame will join your dancing when blind eyes learn to see.

A time will come for singing when trees will raise their boughs,
When men lay down their armor, and hammer their swords into plows,
When beggars live as princes, and orphans find their homes,
When prison cells are emptied, and hatred has grown old.

A time will come for singing a hymn by hearts foretold,
That kings have sought for ages, and treasured more than gold.
Its lyrics turn to silver when sung in harmony.
The Lord of love will teach us to sing its melody.
- Dan Schutte, S.J.

To All Parents

"I'll lend you a little child, a child of mine," He said,
"for you to love the while she lives and mourn for when she's dead. It may be six or seven years, or twenty-two or three. But will you, til I call her back, take care of her for me? She'll bring her charms to gladden you, and should her stay be brief; you'll have her lovely memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise she will stay, since all from earth return. But there are lessons taught down there I want my child to learn. I've looked the wide world over in my search for teachers true. And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you. Now will you give her all your love, nor think the labor vain; nor hate me when I come to call to take her back again?

I fancied that I heard them say, "Dear Lord, They will be done. For all the joy the child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run. We'll shelter her with tenderness, we'll love her while we may; and for the happiness we've known, forever grateful stay; But should the angels call for her much sooner than we've planned, we'll brave the bitter grief that comes and try to understand."

To Grandmother With Love

Christian

I had an angel here beside me,
Sent to Earth to help and guide me,
An angel always there for me
Sent to love and care for me.
She did the things that angels should:
She taught me what was bad and good,
She gave me hope when no one cared,
She held my hand when I was scared,
She cheered me up when I was down (She could make a smile from a frown),
She doctored me when I was sick,
And many another angel trick.
Today my angel earned her wings,
Her halo, harp and other things.
But today I'm lost and all alone
For today God called my angel home

-David Pawson

To Our Little Angel

Even though we had to say goodbye,
before we could even say hello...
And ask ourselves many times "why"
my little angel you had to go,
We never got to know you,
and for us that's a great loss,
Accompanied by heartache and emptiness,
that will never be forgot.
We'll think of you during the sunsets,
and during our very first snow,
You'll be in our hearts forever,
and how much you'll be missed,
you'll never, ever know.
I think of you often, my darling,
sometimes I cannot quit,
It makes me feel a little closer, though,
...just a little bit.
All I have now is a set of precious little
prints,
that belong to a special angel in heaven,
who is constantly missed.
I cannot wait to see you, my baby,
in the heaven above...
I cannot wait to fill your heart,
with lots and lots of love.

To The Child In My Heart

O precious, tiny, sweet little one
You will always be to me

O perfect, pure, and innocent
Just as you were meant to be.

We dreamed of you and your life
And all that it would be
We waited and longed for you to come
And join our family.

We never had the chance to play,
To laugh, to rock, to wiggle.
We long to hold you, touch you now
And listen to you giggle.

I'll always be your mother.
He'll always be you dad.
You will always be our child,
The child that we had.

But now you're gone...but yet you're here.
We'll sense you everywhere.
You are our sorrow and our joy.
There's love in every tear.

Just know our love goes deep and strong.
We'll forget you never-
The child we had, but never had,
And yet will have forever.

Waking

I've set sail for a journey,
The likes, so few have known.
Through seas of calming waters
Which absolves the soul.

I'll pray these winds that follow
Abstain from showing strength.
I'll pray for brilliant light,
To guide you through your days.

I'll pray that every star, which shines,
Casts down for you a beam,
And gives to you a lighted path
Of magic, so seldom seen.

I'll pray that God protect you, and
Keep you from all harm.
I'll pray He grant you wonderment, through
All His earthly charms.

I'll pray you still long enough
To let our moments be. Moments
Filled with magic,
As two spirits sail
Free.

-Teresa L. Daily

We Remember Them *Jewish*

In the rising of the sun and its going down,
We Remember Them.

In the bowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
We Remember Them.

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of
spring.
We Remember Them.

In the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of
summer,
We Remember Them.

In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of
autumn.
We Remember Them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
We Remember Them.

When we are weary and in need of strength,
We Remember Them.

When we are lost and sick of heart,
We Remember Them.

When we have joys and special celebrations we
yearn to share,
We Remember Them.

Sp long as we live, they too shall live, for they are
part of us.
We Remember Them.

-From the Jewish Book of Prayer

What A Friend We Have In Jesus Christian

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus know our ev'ry weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do your friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
You will find a solace there.

When God Calls Little Children

When God calls little children to dwell with Him
above,
We mortals sometimes question the wisdom of His
love.
For no heartache compares with the death of one
small child
Who does so much to make our world seem
wonderful and mild.
Perhaps God tires of calling the aged to His fold,
So He picks a little rosebud before it can grow old.
God knows how much we need them, so He takes
but a few
To make the land of heaven more beautiful to view.
Believing this is difficult, still, somehow we must try,
The saddest word mankind knows will always be
"goodbye".
So when a little child departs, we who are left
behind
Must realize God loves children... Angels are hard to
find.

When God Created the Military Wife Christian

When the Lord was creating a military wife He ran
into His sixth day of overtime. An angel appeared
and said, "You're having a lot of trouble with this
one. What's wrong with the standard model?" The
Lord replied, "Have you seen the specs on this
order? It has to be completely independent, but
must always be sponsored to get on a military
installation. It must have qualities of both mother
and father during deployments, be a perfect host to
4 or 40, handle emergencies without an instruction
manual, cope with flu and moves all around the
world, have a kiss that cures anything from a child's
bruised knee to a husband's weary days, have
patience of a saint when waiting for its mate to
come home and, have six pairs of hands.

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs
of hands? No way." The Lord answered, "Don't
worry; we will make other military wives to help.
Besides, it's not the hands that are causing the
problem, it's the heart. It must swell with pride,
sustain the ache of numerous separations while
remaining true, beat soundly even when it feels too
tired to do so, be large enough to say 'I understand'
when it doesn't, and say 'I love you', regardless.

"Lord," said the angel, gently touching his sleeve "Go
to bed. You can finish it tomorrow". "I can't," said
the Lord. "I am so close to creating something quite
unique. Already it can heal itself when sick, on a
moment's notice it will willingly embrace and feed
total strangers who have been stranded during a PCS
move and it can wave goodbye to its husband
understanding why he had to leave."

The angel circled the model of the military wife very
slowly, "It's too soft," she sighed. "But tough," the
Lord said excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this
being can do or endure."
"Can it think?" asked the angel excitedly. "It can
convert 1400 to 2 p.m.," replied the Lord.

Finally the angel bent over and ran her fingers across
the cheek. "There's a leak, she said. "I told you that
you were trying to put too much into this model. "
"It's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear." "What's
it for?" asked the angel. "It's for joy, sadness, pain,
loneliness and pride." "You're a genius," said the
angel.

Looking at her somberly, the Lord replied, "I didn't
put it there."

When I Get Where I'm Going

When I get where I'm going
On the far side of the sky
The first thing that I'm gonna do is spread my wings
and fly
I'm gonna land beside a lion
And run my fingers through his mane
Or I might find out what it's like

To ride a drop of rain
Yeah when I get where I'm going
There'll be only happy tears
I will shed the sins and struggles
I have carried all these years
And I'll leave my heart wide open
I will love and have no fear
Yeah when I get where I'm going
Don't cry for me down here

I'm gonna walk with my granddaddy
And he'll match me step for step
And I'll tell him how I missed him
Every minute since he left
Then I'll hug his neck

Yeah when I get where I'm going
There'll be only happy tears
I will shed the sins and struggles
I have carried all these years
And I'll leave my heart wide open
I will love and have no fear
Yeah when I get where I'm going
Don't cry for me down here

So much pain and so much darkness
In this world we stumble through
All these questions I can't answer
So much work to do
But when I get where I'm going
And I see my maker's face
I'll stand forever in the light
Of his amazing grace
Yeah when I get where I'm going
There'll be only happy tears
Hallelujah
I will love and have no fear
When I get where I'm going
Yeah when I get where I'm going

-By Brad Paisley featuring Dolly Parton

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me,
And I'm not there to see;
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears of me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way
You did today;
While thinking of the many things we didn't
Get to say.

I know how much you love me,
As much as I love you.
And each time that you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too.

But when tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name,
And took me by the hand.
And said my place was ready in heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind,
All those I dearly love.

But when I walked through heaven's gates,
I felt so much at home.
When God looked down and smiled at me,
From his great golden throne.

He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you.
Today your life on earth is past, but here it starts
anew.

I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last,
And since each day's the same way,
there's no longing for the past."

So when tomorrow starts without me;
Don't think we're far apart.
For every time you think of me,
I'm right here in your heart.

Why God Made Hugs

Everyone was meant to share
God's all-abiding love and care;
He saw that we would need to know
A way to let these feelings show.

So God made hugs- a special sign,
And symbol of His love divine,
A circle of our open arms
To hold in love and keep out harm.

One simple hug can do its part
To warm and cheer another's heart.
A hug's a bit of heaven above
That signifies His perfect love.

- Jill Wolf

A Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother,
A mother who never grows old;
He made her smile of the sunshine,
And he molded her heart of pure gold;
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
In her cheeks, fair roses you see,
God made a wonderful mother
And he gave that dear mother to me.

Pat O'Reilly