

Personal prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care.



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

from St Patrick's Breastplate



O gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

St Benedict

In my loneliness

O God, early in the morning do I cry
unto thee. Help me to pray and to
think only of thee. I cannot pray alone.
In me there is darkness,
but in thee is light.
I am lonely but thou leavest me not,
I am feeble in heart,
but Thou leavest me not.
I am restless,
but with thee there is peace.
In me there is bitterness,
but with thee there is patience.
Thy ways are past understanding,
but thou knowest the way for me.



Holy Spirit, give me faith and keep
me from despair; pour into my heart
love towards thee and others,
so that all hatred and bitterness
is driven from my heart.
Give me the faith that will
deliver me from all fear.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–45)

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*Prayers for your
personal
Pilgrimage*



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TOGETHER WE SERVE GOD, CREATION & COMMUNITY

Prayers for Pilgrimage

Eternal God, give us the courage
to set off on pilgrimage.

May we travel unhindered by
worldly possessions
simply trusting in you for
all that we need.

Sometimes our hearts will be
heavy as we plod along
and our feet will ache and feel dirty.

Other times we will rejoice
as the sun shines

on the path stretching before us.

May we ponder the truth,
that the pilgrim's journey is never
finished till they reach home. Amen



You call us, Lord, to leave familiar things
and to leave our "comfort zone".

May we open our eyes to new
experiences,
may we open our ears to hear
you speaking to us
and may we open our hearts
to your love.

Grant that this time spent on
pilgrimage may help us to see
ourselves as we really are and
may we strive to become the
people you would have us be. Amen

The Victorious Resurrection

Jesus on the cross was suffering
In the throes of bitter pain,
All the hopes of his disciples
In the unwelcoming earth were laid;
Christ's arisen!
Night of sorrow turns to day.

In the holy light of daybreak,
Lo, the women at the grave,
In their footsteps grief is echoed
On their faces sadness speaks;
Christ arisen!
Sounds of anguish turn to song.

Zion weeps in grim despondence
As the enemies gather force;
In their thousands men retire
Towards altars of false gods;
Christ's arisen!

Truth enthroned we now shall see.

Translated Gwynn ap Gwilym



Prayers for Pilgrimage

Creator God, you are the source
of all life and motivation.
May we journey in faith and love,
rejoicing and eager to serve you.
Grant us a glimpse of your glory
as we seek to follow you –
the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen



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



God of our pilgrimage,
you have given us a desire
to take the questing way
and set out on our journey.
Help us to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus,
that whatever we encounter as we travel,
we may seek to glorify you
by the way we live. Amen

from Pilgrims Way, Jenny Child