

Small Boat, Great Big Sea Prayers

O God, be good to me. My boat is so small and the sea is so big.

Traditional Breton Fisherman's Prayer

Use these prayers for your private devotions in difficult or troubling times. They have been adapted from prayers found in the Celtic Daily Prayer of the Northumbria Community.

Go slowly and be gentle with yourself. Sometimes it takes a little time to get into the rhythm of prayer.

Be persistent. There will be days when you don't feel like saying the words, days when you feel nothing. God is there even when we can't perceive his presence. Relax, don't try to force it.

Remember silence is as powerful as words. Be still and silent in God's presence and allow him to look upon you, his precious child, with love.

Rev'd Jane

In the name of the Father, And of the Son, And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I have come to seek you, O God, Just as I am, I come. I have come to be sought by you, Just as I am, I come.

I will wait for the Lord. My soul waits, And in His word I do hope.

Confession

There is one God and one mediator between heaven and earth,

The man Christ Jesus,

Who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

Whoever is on the Lord's side, let them join with me, that we may come to the visions of God.

Create a clean heart within me, O God, So that it may become your chosen shelter And the resting place of the Holy Spirit. Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on me.

Silence

Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on me.

Silence

Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on me.

Silence

I make the cross of Christ upon my breast, And I ask the living God of the universe That the light of lights banish my darkness So that I may live in the resurrection power of your love. The journey from death to life is ours through Jesus Christ, by the strength, power and mercy of divine love. Wherever my path has taken me in the past, today is a new day in the eyes of the Lord. Let me live in it a child of light.

Declaration of Faith Lord, I will trust you, Help me to journey beyond the familiar And into the unknown.

Give me the faith to leave old ways And break fresh ground with you.

Christ of the mysteries, can I trust you To be stronger than each storm in me?

I determine amidst all uncertainty Always to trust.

I choose to live beyond regret, And let you recreate my life.

I believe you will make a way for me And provide for me, if only I trust you. I will trust in the darkness and know That my times am still in your hand.

I will believe you for my future, Chapter by chapter, Until all the story is written.

Peace

May the peace of the Father hold me, The peace of Christ encircle me, And the disturbance of the Spirit reveal to me Peace in the stranger.

A Prayer attributed to St Columba

Lord, you are my island, in your bosom I rest. You are the calm of the sea, in that peace I stay. You are the deep waves of the shining ocean, with their eternal sound I sing. You are the song of the birds, in that tune is my joy. You are the smooth white sand of the shore, in you is no gloom. You are the breaking of the waves upon the rock, your praise is echoed in the swell. You are the Lord of my life: in you I dwell.

To end

When I no longer know how to be,May the Father take me on a deeper journey.When I no longer know what to do,May the Spirit reveal to me my fitting task.When all feels lost or foreign,May I know my home in Christ.

On the path that is before me, May I have companions for the journey, May I find Christ in the stranger, And may I know the love and blessing of God.

In the name of the Father, And of the Son, And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Produced by St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall Adapted from liturgy found in Celtic daily Prayer published by William Collins Copyright © 2015 The Northumbrian Community Trust