

## *Afterglow*

*I'd like the memory of me  
To be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
Of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo  
Whispering softly down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times  
And bright sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve  
To dry before the sun  
Of happy memories that I leave  
When life is done.*

## *Amazing Grace*

*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!  
Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath 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 first begun.*

## *Family 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 by 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.*

## *A Farewell Prayer*

*Thank you Lord for seeing how weary I am,  
And for letting me rest. The pain is gone;  
The peace is beautiful; Your love surrounds me.  
I have fought the good fight  
And somehow now at this stage,  
No matter what the outcome, I feel I have won.*

*My homily—'For everything there is a season.'*

*I want my family to move on with their lives,  
And realize everything is for a reason.  
Have no regrets.  
Everybody did everything they could.  
I love you all and will still be with you.*

## ***Footprints***

*One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was one only. This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints, so I said to the Lord, "You promised me Lord, that if I followed You, You would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?" The Lord replied, "The years when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you."*

## ***God Hath Promised***

*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's Garden***

*God looked around His garden,  
And found an empty place.  
He then 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,  
He only takes the best.  
He saw the road was getting rough,  
And the hills were hard to climb,  
So He closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered "Peace be thine."  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you,  
The day God called you home.*

# *Hail Mary*

*Hail Mary,  
Full of grace,  
The Lord is with thee;  
Blessed art thou  
amongst 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.*

# *He Only Takes the Best*

*God saw you were getting tired,  
And a cure was not to be.  
So He put His arms around you  
And whispered,  
"Come to me."  
With tear-filled eyes we watched you  
As you slowly slipped away.  
Although we loved you dearly,  
We couldn't make you stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating,  
Your tired hands put to rest;  
God broke our hearts to prove to us that  
He only takes the best.*

# *Home Above*

*We feel so sad  
when those we love  
Are called to live in  
"The Home Above"  
But they have but gone  
to prepare the way,  
And we'll meet them again  
some joyous day.  
For God has told us  
that nothing can sever  
A life He created  
to live on forever.  
So let God's promise  
soften our sorrow,  
And give us new strength  
for a brighter tomorrow.*

# *I Am Always with You*

*When I am gone, release me, let me go.  
I have so many things to see and do,  
You mustn't tie yourself to me with too many  
tears,  
But be thankful we had so many good years.  
I gave you my love, and you can only guess  
How much you've given me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love that you have shown,  
But now it is time I traveled on alone.  
So grieve for me a while, if grieve you must  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust  
That it is only for a while that we must part,  
So treasure the memories within your heart.  
I won't be far away for life goes on.  
And if you need me, call and I will come.  
Though you can't see or touch me, I will be near  
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear  
All my love around you soft and clear.  
And then, when you come this way alone,  
I'll greet you with a smile and a "Welcome Home."*

# *I Do Not Sleep*

*Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awake in the morning hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am the soft starshine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there. I did not die.*

# *If Tears Could Build a Stairwell*

*If tears could build a stairwell  
And memories were a lane,  
I would walk right up to Heaven  
And bring you home again.  
No farewell words were spoken,  
No time to say good-bye...  
You were gone before I knew it,  
And only God knows why.  
My heart still aches in sadness  
And secret tears still flow,  
What it means to lose you  
No one will ever know.*

# *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.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
My life's been full, I savored much;  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch;  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;  
Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief;  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and share with me.  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

## ***Irish Blessing***

*May the roads rise  
to meet you,  
May the wind be  
always at your back.  
May the sun shine  
warm upon your face,  
The rains fall  
soft upon your fields,  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you  
in the palm of His hand.*

## ***John 3:16***

*For God  
so loved the world,  
that He gave  
His only begotten Son,  
that whosoever  
believeth in Him  
should not perish,  
but have  
everlasting life.*

## ***A Light Is Gone***

*A light from our household is gone;  
A voice we loved is stilled.  
A place is vacant in our home,  
Which never can be filled.  
We have to mourn the loss of one  
We did our best to save.  
Beloved on earth, regretted still,  
Remembered in the grave.  
'Twas hard to part with one so dear,  
We never thought the time was near.  
Farewell, dear one, your life is past,  
Our love for you till the end will last.*

## ***The Lord's Prayer (Catholic)***

*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.  
Amen.*

## ***The Lord's Prayer (Protestant)***

*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,  
For Thine is the Kingdom,  
The power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.*

## ***May You Always Walk in Sunshine***

*May you always walk in sunshine,  
And God's love around you flow,  
For the happiness you gave us,  
No one will ever know.  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you did not go alone.  
A part of us went with you,  
The day God called you home.  
A million times we needed you,  
A million times we've cried.  
If love could only have saved you,  
You never would have died.  
The Lord be with you  
And may you rest in peace.  
Amen.*

## ***Memorare***

*Remember,  
O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone  
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 do I  
come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise  
not my petitions, but in thy mercy,  
hear and answer me.  
Amen.*

## ***Miss Me, but Let Me Go***

*When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room;  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not too long,  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we once shared.  
Miss me, but let me go.  
For this is a journey that we all must take,  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the Master's plan,  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart,  
Go to the friends we know,  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.  
Miss me, but let me go.*

## ***Our Little One***

*We will always love you,  
Our little one.  
We will always remember  
Your sunshine, your fun.  
You touched everyone  
In the most special way.  
Now in God's playground,  
You will run and you will play.  
Safe in God's arms,  
He holds you so tight.  
You live in His love,  
In His heart, in His light.*

# Prayer of Saint Francis

Lord,  
Make me an instrument of Your peace:  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master,  
Grant that I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.

# Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe,  
Mystical Rose, make intercession for  
the Holy Church, protect the Sovereign  
Pontiff, help all those who invoke thee in  
their necessities, and since thou art the ever  
Virgin Mary and Mother of the True God,  
obtain for us from thy most holy Son the  
grace of keeping our faith, of sweet hope  
in the midst of the bitterness of life, of  
burning charity, and the precious  
gift of final perseverance.  
Amen.

# Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want. He maketh me to  
lie down in green pastures; He leadeth  
me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul;  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk  
through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest  
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life; and I will dwell  
in the house of the Lord for ever.*

# Safely Home

*I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
Oh, so happy and so bright!  
There is a perfect joy and beauty  
In the everlasting light.  
All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.  
There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth—  
You shall rest in God's own 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!*

# *Serenity Prayer*

*God  
grant me  
the serenity to  
accept the things  
that I cannot change,  
the courage to change  
the things I can,  
And the wisdom  
to know the  
difference.*

## *Taps*

*Day is done, gone the sun  
From the hills, from  
the lake, from the sky.  
All is well, safely rest.  
God is nigh.*

*Thanks and praise for our days  
'Neath the sun, 'neath  
the stars, 'neath the sky.  
As we go, this we know:  
God is nigh.*

## *The Tide Recedes*

*The tide recedes but leaves behind  
Bright seashells on the sand.  
The sun goes down, but gentle warmth  
Still lingers on the land.  
The music stops, and yet it echoes  
On in sweet refrains.  
For every joy that passes,  
Something beautiful remains.*

## *Two Smiling Eyes*

*Two smiling eyes are sleeping.  
Two busy hands are still.  
The one we loved so deeply  
Is resting at God's will.  
May you always walk in sunshine,  
God's love around your glow.  
For all the hapiness you gave us  
Only a few will ever know.  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you did not go alone.  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.*

## *We'll Meet Again*

*We'll meet again, don't know how, don't know  
when,  
Buy I know we'll meet again some sunny day!  
Keep smiling through, just like you always do  
Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away!*

*So will you please say hello to the folks that I  
know?  
Tell them I won't be long!  
They'll be happy to know that as you saw me go,  
I was singing this song:*

*We'll meet again, don't know how, don't know  
when,  
Buy I know we'll meet again some sunny day!*

## ***When I Am Gone***

*When I am gone, don't call me back,  
My life on earth will be no more.  
Peace I leave you, for my last act,  
I'm now beyond this earthly door.  
I'll miss your laughter; tears will fall,  
But look within your aching heart,  
Loving memories—recall.  
Hearts stay together, bodies must part.  
I thank you for the love we've known.  
Please know that always I'll be near  
And though I take this step alone,  
My soul's whispers I know you'll hear.  
Live your life with courage and love;  
Continue the fight you've begun.  
Proudly, I'll watch you from above,  
Knowing through Death—Life I have won.*

## ***When I Must Leave You***

*When I must leave you for a little while  
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you through the years.  
But start over bravely with a gallant smile;  
And for my sake and in my name  
Live on and do all things the same.  
Feed not your loneliness on empty days,  
But fill each waking hour in useful ways.  
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer  
And I, in turn, will comfort you and hold you  
near.  
And never, never be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting for you in the sky!*