



If there is righteousness in the heart,
If there is righteousness in the heart,
there will be beauty in the character.
If there is beauty in the character,
there will be harmony in the home.
If there is harmony in the home,
there will be order in the nation.
If there is order in the nation,
there will be peace in the world.
So let it be.

(Scottish Blessing)

Could I have details of anything relevant to April by 23rd March to allow for publication in time for the start of April?

Events, Prayer requests, Prayers Comment

March 2017

As we start March so we start Lent. Lent is often a time for self-examination.

This can be a painful process but, if we do look at ourselves, we need to remember the positives about ourselves and not get too bogged down in the negatives . If we think about what cannot do we may well end up doing nothing.

A little while after the new circuit started I was admitted to hospital with a hip problem. Soon I was being transferred to intensive care then to a specialist kidney unit at another hospital . An infection had caused the problem and caused acute kidney failure . After a couple of sessions of dialysis and a miniscule improvement in kidney function I had a week's wait to see whether the kidneys were going to start working. Fortunately they did and currently my function is average-plus for my age-group.

The time after this saw a slow recovery in both mobility and in energy levels as my body recovered from the trauma and my kidneys improved gradually . I learnt to set myself smaller goals and find things I **could do** .

If we concentrate on our skills and interests it is surprising where Lord may lead . Even something as simple as listing your skills {and possibly weaknesses too } may reveal surprising possibilities.

Celtic Blessings

A Familiar Stranger

I saw a stranger today.
I put food for him
in the eating-place
And drink
in the drinking-place
And music
in the listening-place.

In the Holy name
of the Trinity
He blessed myself
and my family.
And the lark said in her warble
Often, often, often
Goes Christ
in the stranger's guise.

O, oft and oft and oft,
Goes Christ
in the stranger's guise.

(Celtic Rune of Hospitality)

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

(traditional gaelic blessing)

I arise today
Through a mighty strength:
God's power to guide me,
God's might to uphold me,
God's eyes to watch over me;
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to give me speech,
God's hand to guard me,

May the blessing of light be on you - light without and light within.
May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire,
so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.
And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,
like a candle set in the window of a house,
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.
And may the blessing of the rain be on you,
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines,
and sometimes a star.
And may the blessing of the earth be on you,
soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,
soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day;
and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.
May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be out from under it
quickly; up and off and on its way to God.
And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly. Amen.

Scottish Blessing