



100 Scripture Verses on the  
Journey of the Soul to God from  
Baptism to Paradise.  
Following, 'The Call to Universal  
Holiness of Vatican II'  
For all members of the Church.

COMPILED FROM NRSV BY  
MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

The everlasting endurance of Gods words as Jesus says: In his Gospel. ‘Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away.’

1977-1978 Myles in gratitude for the 18 months as a novice in Bethlehem Abbey. I dedicate this book to Abbot Dom Celsus Kelly, Bethlehem Abbey, Portglenone, Co. Antrim. And I rejoice that he is still Abbot in the year 2020. Today he remembers me telling him the names of 2 farm fields at home. Pairc Thal Agus Pairc Eiar.

## A list of the 100 verses of scripture found in this book.

Psalm 149	Luke	Song of Songs
Deut. 6 and Jn 13.	Matt 6	Song of Songs
Lev 19	Psalm 72	Psalm 44
Old and New Testament	Jn 14	Hosea 2
Matt 28: 16-20	Isaiah	Luke
Rom. 3	Jn 4	Gospel
Jn 11	1 Jn	Luke
Col. 3	Rm 5.5	St. Jerome
Jer. 31	Song of Songs	Psalm 4
Luke 3	Luke 1	Psalm 15
Psalm 18	Rev 42	Psalm 15
Psalm 62	Song of Songs	Psalm 22
Psalm 41	Luke 23	Psalm 123
Gospel		John 21
Isaiah 53	Mark 1	Psalm 18
Song of Songs	Song of Songs	Rev 19
Rom 3	Gospel	Matt 5
Gospel	Rev. 22	Song of Songs
Luke 7	Rev. 21	Song of Songs
Luke 15	Rev 12	Rom. 5.5
Song of Songs	Gospel	1 Jn
Jn 20	1 Cor	Jn 14:23
Song of Songs	Hosea 2	Jn 14:26
St. Peter	Hosea 2	Jn 15
Jn 15	Song of Songs	Gal 5:22
Jn 1	Rev 19	Jn 15
Jeremiah	Rev 4	Psalm 62
Jn 6	Rev 5	Psalm 41
Jn 15	Rev 22	Song of Songs
Rom. 8	St. Francis	Song of Songs
Luke 23	Samuel	1 Jn
Jn 15	Gospel	Luke 23
Jn 21	Gospel	Luke
Rev. 3	Judith	Psalm 72
		St Francis

**'Sing a new song to the Lord.'**

**PSALM 149**

# 1

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**F**rom the beginning we are invited to love God and each other as Jesus loved us.

**DEUT. 6 AND JN 13. LEV 19**

# 2

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**• Y**ou shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
with all your soul  
with all your mind  
with all your strength.  
And your neighbour as yourself.

**OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT**

# 3

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“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**MATT 28: 16-20**

# 4

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Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

**RM. 3: 6-3-4**

# 5

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‘See how he loved them.’

**JN 11**

# 6

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**S**o if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of the God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**COL. 3: 1-4**

# 7

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‘**I** love you with an everlasting love.  
Therefore I am patient and kind to you.’

**JER. 31**

# 8

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**N**ow when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

**LUKE 3: 21-22**

# 9

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‘**I** love you Lord my strength.’

**PSALM 18**

# 10

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‘**M**y soul is thirsting for God.  
The living God.  
When can I enter and see the face of God?’

**PSALM 62**

# 11

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‘O God you are my God. I seek you.  
My soul thirsts for you.’

**PSALM 41**

# 12

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‘Ask and you will receive.  
Seek and you will find.’

**GOSPEL**

# 13

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‘Seek the Lord while he is to be found. Call on him  
while he is near.’

**ISAIAH 53**

# 14

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‘I will seek him whom my soul loves.  
I found him whom my soul loves.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 15

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‘There is no one who is righteous.  
Not even one.  
There is no one who has understanding.  
There is no one who seeks God.  
Lord Jesus you are holy.’

RM 3

# 16

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Lord Jesus only you are the spotless lamb of God. Free  
from every sin who offered yourself for our sinful race,  
to make your bride pure and spotless for marriage with you  
forever. Let us rejoice with Mary.

# 17

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‘**M**any sins are forgiven her because she has shown great love.’

LUKE 7

# 18

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‘**F**ather I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. So he went off and went to his Father. But while he was still far off, his Father saw him and was filled with compassion and ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.’

LUKE 15

# 19

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‘**L**et him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth. For you love is better than wine.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 20

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‘**S**ee the holes in my hands and feet.  
Feel me for I am not a ghost.’  
‘My Lord and my God.’  
Do not doubt.

**JN 20**

# 21

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‘**I**am my beloveds.  
And my beloved is mine.’

**SONG OF SONGS**

# 22

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‘**Y**ou love him even though you do not see him, yet  
you are filled with a joy so great that it cannot be  
described because you believe.’

**ST. PETER**

# 23

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‘**A**s the Father has loved me  
So I have loved you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
You will remain in my love.’

**JN 15**

# 24

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‘**T**he word was made flesh and lived amongst us.’

**JN 1**

# 25

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‘**Y**our word was my delight and the joy of my heart.’

**JEREMIAH**

# 26

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‘**M**y flesh is food indeed.  
My blood is drink indeed.  
He who eats my flesh  
And drinks my blood  
Lives in me and I in him.’

**JN 6**

# 27

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‘**M**ake your home in me  
as I make my home in you.’

**JN 15**

# 28

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‘**W**ho can separate us from the love of God made  
visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.’

**RM. 8**

# 29

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‘Today you will be with me in paradise.’

**LUKE 23**

# 30

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‘I have said these things to you so that your joy may be complete that my joy may be in you.’

**JN 15**

# 31

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‘Do you love me? Lord you know everything, you know that, I love you.’

**JN 21**

# 32

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• **S**ee, I stand at the door and knock.  
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door. I will come into him and eat with him and he will eat with me.'

**REV. 3**

# 33

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• **T**he kingdom of God is within you.'

**LUKE**

# 34

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• **T**hy kingdom come.'

**MATT 6. LORD'S PRAYER**

# 35

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‘**W**hat else have I in heaven but you?  
Apart from you I want nothing on earth?’

**PSALM 72**

# 36

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‘**W**hoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and we, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.’

**JN 14.23**

# 37

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‘**I** will make my home with them.’

**ISAIAH**

# 38

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‘**M**y soul glorifies the Lord. And my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.’

**LUKE 1**

# 39

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‘**G**od is love.  
And whoever lives in love, lives in God and God lives in him.’

**JN 4.16**

# 40

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‘**P**erfect love cast out fear.’

**1 JN 4**

# 41

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‘**T**he love of God is poured onto our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.’

**RM 5.5**

# 42

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‘**A**h! You are beautiful my beloved.  
Ah! You are beautiful.  
Truly lovely.’

**SONG OF SONGS**

# 43

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‘**M**ary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.’

**LUKE 1**

# 44

---

The Spirit and the bride say come.

Rv 42

# 45

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‘The voice of my beloved.  
See, there he comes.  
Leaping over the mountains,  
skipping over the hills.’

# 46

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‘I hear the voice of my beloved  
My beloved speaks and says to me;  
Arise my love, my fair one  
and come away.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 47

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‘Today you will be with me in paradise.’

LUKE 23

# 48

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‘Everyone is looking for you.’

MARK 1

# 49

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‘Your name is perfume poured out.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 50

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‘**T**here is no other name under heaven given to us that will save us except the name of Jesus.’

# 51

---

**C**ome Lord Jesus.

**Rv. 22**

# 52

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**I**saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God prepared as a bride adorned for her husband,

**Rv. 21**

# 53

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‘Now a great sign appeared in heaven, a woman adorned with the sun, standing on the moon with twelve stars on her head as a crown.’

Rv 12

# 54

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Happy New Year 2016  
Sweet Sixteen

I love you as I loved you when you were sweet sixteen.  
The year of infinite mercy. 16  
Love. Mercy. Forgiveness.

# 55

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‘There remains faith, hope and love.  
The greatest of these is love.’

1 COR 13

# 56

---

‘I will allure her and bring her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her.’

**HOSEA 2**

# 57

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‘I will take you for my wife forever. I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. I will take you for my wife in faithfulness and you shall know the Lord.’

**HOSEA 2**

# 58

---

‘Who is this coming from the wilderness leaning on her beloved?’

**SONG OF SONGS**

# 59

---

‘**T**he marriage of the lamb has come and his bride has made herself ready.’

**Rv 19**

# 60

---

‘**Y**ou are worthy our Lord and God to receive glory and honor and power for you created all things and by your will they existed and were created.’

**Rv 4:11**

# 61

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‘**W**orthy is the lamb that was slaughtered, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might, and honor and glory and blessing.’

.... to the one seated on the throne and to the lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

**Rv 5**

# 62

---

A men. Alleluia.

Rv 22

# 63

---

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

ST. FRANCIS

# 64

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‘Speak Lord your servant is listening.’

SAMUEL

# 65

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‘W  
henever I pray and contemplate, he makes me drunk by the good wine of his love. The Lord speaks to me and I to him. Union in unity. ‘Blessed be God in his angels and his in his saints.’

# 66

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‘B  
lessed be Jesus Christ.  
True God and true man.’

DIVINE PRAISE

# 67

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‘L  
ord you are great.  
You are glorious.  
You are wonderfully strong.’

JUDITH

# 68

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‘**W**ho is she, so beautiful, so lovely.  
Coming forth as the morning rising?  
Fair as the moon. Bright as the sun.  
Terrible as an army with banners.’

SONG OF SONGS.

# 69

---

‘**A**h, you are beautiful my love.  
Ah, you are beautiful.  
Your eyes are doves.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 70

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‘**P**ay heed to him. He loves you.  
The Lord desires your beauty.’

PSALM 44

# 71

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**H**e wants you to be his bride.

**HOSEA 2**

# 72

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‘**A**t that time Jesus was filled by the joy of the Holy Spirit and said;  
Abba, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I thank you for hiding these things from the wise and clever and revealing them to little infants. Yes, Father, that is what it pleased you to do.’

**LUKE**

# 73

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**T**his is the good news.  
Thanks be to God.

# 74

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To Mary it was said ‘And a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

LUKE

# 75

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‘Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.’

ST. JEROME



# 76

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‘What will bring us happiness?’

**PSALM 4**

# 77

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‘I say to the Lord. You are my God.  
My happiness lies in you alone.’

**PSALM 15**

# 78

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‘You will show me  
the path of life.  
The fullness of joy in your presence.  
At your right hand you will find  
happiness forever.’

**PSALM 15**

# 79

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‘Surely goodness and kindness will follow me all my days of my life.’

**PSALM 22**

# 80

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‘Our help will come from the Lord who made heaven and earth.’

**PSALM 123**

# 81

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‘Do you love me?  
Lord you know everything  
You know that I love you.’

**JOHN 21**

# 82

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‘I love you Lord my strength.’

**PSALM 18**

# 83

---

‘The marriage of the lamb has come.  
And his bride has made herself ready.’

**Rv 19**

# 84

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Jesus showed us the way to happiness in the 8 ways to be happy.

**MATT 5**

# 85

‘**H**appy are those who are poor in spirit.  
Happy those who are mourning.  
Happy those who are humble.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for God.  
Happy those who are merciful.  
Happy those who are pure of heart.  
Happy those who spread peace.  
Happy those who endure persecution in the cause of right.  
The kingdom of heaven are yours.  
Rejoice and dance for joy  
for great is your reward in heaven.’

**MATT 5**

# 86

‘**M**y beloved speaks and says to me;  
Arise my love  
My fair one  
And come away.’

**SONG OF SONGS**

# 87

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‘Ah, you are beautiful my love.  
Ah, you are beautiful.  
Your eyes are doves.  
Ah, you are beautiful my beloved.  
Truly lovely.’

SONG OF SONGS

# 88

---

‘The love of God is poured into your hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us.’

RM 5:5

# 89

---

‘God is love.  
And whoever lives in love  
lives in God  
And God lives in him.’

1 JOHN 4

# 90

---

‘**W**hoever loves me said Jesus will keep my words and my Father will love Him and we, Father and Son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.’

**JOHN 14:23**

# 91

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‘**T**he advocate the Holy Spirit will come to you whom my Father will send in my name. He will teach you everything and remind you of all I said to you.’

**JOHN 14:26**

# 92

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I am the vine, you are the branches.  
If you remain in me  
And I remain in you  
You will bear much fruit.  
For without me  
You can do nothing.

**JOHN 15**

# 93

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‘**T**he fruit of the Spirit is;  
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, humility and self-control.’

**GAL 5:22**

# 94

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‘**I**n this is my Father glorified that you bring forth much  
fruit.’

**JOHN 15**

# 95

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‘God you are my God  
I long for you.  
My soul thirsts for you  
Like a dry, weary land without water.’

## PSALM 62

# 96

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Solitude and silence. To seek God.

‘My soul is thirsting for God  
The God of my life.  
When can I enter and see the face of God?’

## PSALM 41

# 97

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‘I will seek him whom my soul loves.  
I found him whom my soul loves.’

## SONG OF SONGS

# 98

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‘I am my beloved’s  
and my beloved is mine.’

SONG OF SONGS

‘Firmly I believe and truly God is three and God is one. God is love. 1 John 4.

And today you will be with me in paradise.’ Luke 23

# 99

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‘The kingdom of God is within you.’

LUKE

‘What else have I in Heaven but you? Apart from you I want nothing on earth.’ Psalm 72

He who has the three persons one God living within him, see, John 14:23. He lacks nothing, God is enough. Even more than enough. Alleluia.

# 100

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*I end with St. Francis which sums it all up.*

Nothing, then, must keep us back, nothing must separate us from him, nothing come between us and him. At all times and seasons, in every country and place, every day and all day, we must have a true and humble faith, and keep him in our hearts, where we must love, honor, adore, serve, praise and bless, glorify and acclaim, magnify and thank, the most high supreme and eternal God, Three and One, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Creator of all and Savior of those who believe in him, who hope in him, and who love him; without beginning and without end, he is unchangeable, invisible, indescribable and ineffable, incomprehensible, unfathomable, blessed, and worthy of all praise, glorious, exalted, sublime, most high, kind, lovable, delightful and utterly desirable beyond all else for ever and ever.

## **From St. Bonaventure**

*3. This was shown also  
to blessed Francis,  
when in ecstatic contemplation  
on the height of the mountain –  
where I thought out these things I have written -  
there appeared to him  
a six-winged Seraph fastened to a cross,  
as I and several others heard  
in that very place  
from his companion who was with him then.  
There he passed over into God in ecstatic contemplation  
and became an example of perfect contemplation  
as he had previously been of action,  
like another Jacob and Israel,  
so that through him,  
more by example than by word,  
God might invite all truly spiritual men  
to this kind of passing over  
and spiritual ecstasy.*

*4. In this passing over,  
if it is to be perfect,  
all intellectual activities must be left behind  
and the height of our affection  
must be totally transferred and transformed  
into God.  
This, however, is mystical and most secret,  
which no one knows  
except him who receives it,  
no one receives  
except him who desires it,  
and no one desires except him  
who is inflamed in his very marrow  
by the fire of the Holy Spirit  
whom Christ sent into the world.  
And therefore the Apostle says that  
this mystical wisdom is revealed  
by the Holy Spirit.*

## The Souls Journey into God from St. Bonaventure

*8. Filled with all these intellectual illuminations,  
our mind like the house of God  
is inhabited by divine Wisdom  
it is made  
a daughter of God, his spouse and friend;  
it is made  
a member of Christ the Head, his sister and coheir;  
it is made  
a temple of the Holy Spirit,  
grounded on faith, built up by hope  
and dedicated to God  
by holiness of mind and body.  
All of this is accomplished  
by a most sincere love of Christ  
which is poured forth in our hearts  
by the Holy Spirit  
who has been given to us,  
without whom,  
we cannot know the secret things of God.  
No one can know the things of man  
except the spirit of man which is in him;  
so no one knows the things of God  
except the spirit of God.*

*Let us, therefore, be rooted and grounded  
in charity  
so that with all the saints  
we may be able to comprehend what is  
the length of eternity, the breadth of liberality,  
the height of majesty  
and the depth of discerning wisdom.*

## **Full Union With God**

In the Eucharist on earth to full union in Heaven in glory where we see with Christ and enjoy the 3 persons one eternal God for all eternity.

As we reach the peak of the way as only Jesus can show being the Son of God who said ‘I am the way, the truth and the life no one can come to the Father except through me’. John 14. From Baptism we follow Jesus, some in human marriage, some in priesthood and others in consecrated life, others in all kinds of professions of service in the world of creation. All of course loving God in the first place. If you love me keep my commandments, John 15.

Others as we see in the Gospels, Jesus’ Mother and the Apostles and Mary Magdalene and many others reach union with Jesus doing the Fathers will. As Jesus said; whoever does the will of my Father in Heaven he is my brother and sister and Mother, even in the Old Testament we see some souls hungry and thirsty for Gods love and happiness.

Seeking him in Psalm words of hearts desire.

Like, longing for God.

Thirsting for him.

Pining for him.

Yearning for God.

And the Song of Songs;

I will seek him whom my soul loves. And after spiritual marriage with the beloved bridegroom; ‘I found him whom my soul loves’. Song of Songs. And finally some having reached their full desire for union; What else have I in Heaven but you? Apart from you I want nothing on earth. Psalm 72

But as we know only a few chosen souls have reached that blessed state on earth in the Old Testament. But in the New when the Word became Flesh many today as Christians find it easier to find God in the Human Christ.

Since Baptism we reach with Jesus and share in his mysteries of Death, Resurrection and Ascension to the Father, as the risen Jesus said to Mary Magdalene. I ascend to my Father and your Father. To my God and your God. John 20

Now as we celebrate the Eucharist our Eternal salvation, we receive into us the bread of life as Jesus promised in John 6; My flesh is food indeed. My blood is drink indeed he who eats and drinks my body and blood lives in me and I in him. He has eternal life. And I will raise him up on the last day. John 6. The Eucharist keeps us united in love and leads us to full union as it says in John 14:23. ‘Whoever loves me will keep my word. And my father will love him and the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him. With this Presence in us day and night we yearn with a lovers desire. To be at home in glory where Christ is already there, awaiting us to enjoy with him the face to face union in full glory forever and ever. Three in One, Alleluia.

Where no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor heart has conceived. All that God has in store for those who love him. Alleluia. What remains for us to do? Just this, faith, hope and love and the greatest is love. 1 Cor 13. Alleluia.

The year 521 St Colmcille was born in Co. Donegal.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph invited me today, July 8th 2020 to visit Knock.

I first visited Knock in 1963. I was healed at Knock in 1982 from 7 years of deep depression and 2 migraine headaches a week.

1992 I became a hermit in Co Donegal.

Since Knock vision was silent and as Jesus, Mary and Joseph appeared with St John holding the Gospel book. Many angels adoring the lamb of God which takes the sins of the world away.

This is my last message for my Irish friends, taken from St John's Gospel.

'I give you a new commandment. Love one another just as I loved you. You also must love one another, by this love you have for one another everyone will know that you are my disciples.

John 13.

Abraham pleaded with you, “if there were only ten just men”, but now it’s down to one. Only you Jesus the Saviour of the World can save us. Jesus you come to our rescue in our time. We mankind are ever letting you down. Still you are our Saviour. Is the old enemy still able to take us from you?

Do not let him defeat you Jesus our Saviour. Come quickly to our rescue.

‘God so loved the world that He sent his only begotten Son.’ John’s Gospel.

‘You are Jesus  
The Saviour of the world.’                   John 4:42

An unbeliever in today’s pagan modern society hears a whisper saying, “I will be your salvation and lead you to eternal happiness in Heaven,” so he is led to a Catholic Church where the Parish Priest leads him in instruction with the life of Christ and is baptised. He leads for a while in parish life and he goes to a monastery. The Abbot asks him, “what are you looking for here?”

He says, I seek God, so he lives in the monastery for a long time, being well tried in virtue and he says to the Abbot, “now I want to be a Hermit.”

The Abbot explains to him how hard the life of a Hermit is, all alone with many trials and loneliness. But he insists that God is calling him to be alone with Him, so he is led to marriage with the Bridegroom, Christ. And now being deeply in love he is led to the last stage in the spiritual life as St John says in John 14:23: “Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and We will come to him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and make our home in him. Then being ready for death he passes over from faith in the three persons to see them face to face in Eternal Glory and waits for Christ to come back to earth in glory to raise the dead to be like his own in glorious body and pass judgement on those who denied him. Then a new Heaven and a new earth appears, where God’s family receives what God has in store for those who love him. Glory be to God and to the Lamb. Honour and glory and praise forever and ever. Amen.

Important 3's in Christian life.  
Christ. Death. Resurrection. Ascension.  
Holy Spirit. Truth. Fruits. Holiness.  
Christian. Baptism. Eucharist. Confirmation.  
Life. Faith. Hope and Love.  
Prayer. Vocal. Meditation. Contemplation.  
Vows. Chastity. Poverty. Obedience.  
Works. Prayer. Fasting. Almsgiving.  
Beatitudes. Poverty. Meekness. Peace.  
Fruits. Love. Joy. Peace.  
Sin. Repentance. Forgiveness. Grace.  
Enemies. World. Flesh. Devil.  
Family. Jesus. Mary. Joseph.  
Journey. Vocation. Spiritual Marriage. Indwelling Holy Spirit.  
Last. Death. Judgement. Heaven.  
Heaven. No beginning. No end.  
Father and Son and Holy Spirit.  
The Christian life begins with the Holy Trinity and ends with the  
Holy Trinity  
and lives forever with the Holy Trinity. Alleluia.

Psalm 72. What else have I in heaven but you. Apart from you I want nothing on earth.

I started childhood knowing nothing but faith in God. Now in old age after learning as much as I could all my life. I am now back to where I started with only faith, hope and love. Faith is necessary from start to finish.

Hope gives us love.

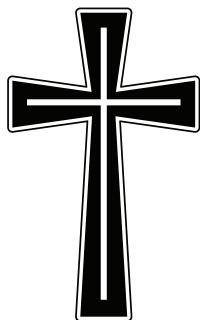
And St John says God is love and whoever lives in love, lives in God and God lives in him.

Jesus says ‘Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and the Father and Son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.

St Teresa of Avila says ‘The one who has God lacks nothing. God alone is enough.’

**‘WOULD THAT YOU WERE HOT OR COLD.  
BUT IF YOU ARE LUKEWARM I WILL SPIT  
YOU OUT OF MY MOUTH.’ SAID JESUS.**

**REV. 3**



**MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE**

St Bernard wrote 86 sermons on the Song of Songs.

St John of the Cross had the Song of Songs sung at his death. What pearls.

‘Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth for your love is better than wine.’

Song of Songs and most that follows.

‘Your anointing oils are fragrant, your name is perfume poured out.’

‘Ah, you are beautiful my love.

Ah, you are beautiful.

Your eyes are doves.

Ah, you are beautiful,

My beloved, truly lovely.’

‘O that his left hand were under my head and that his right hand embraced me.’

‘The voice of my beloved, look he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills’

‘The bride is for the bridegroom. But the bridegroom’s friend stands by and listens and is glad to hear the bridegroom’s voice.’ In this way my joy is complete.’

‘My beloved speaks to me;

‘Arise my love, my fair one and come away.’

‘Let me see your face

let me hear your voice.

For your voice is sweet

and your face is lovely.’

‘Upon my bed at night I sought him whom my soul loves. I will seek him whom my soul loves.’

‘When the messiah comes he will teach us everything. I who am speaking to you, I am He.’

Let my beloved come to the his garden and eat its choicest fruit.’

‘In this is my father glorified that you bear much fruit.’

I love you, just as my Father loves me, remain in my love.

You will remain in my love if you keep my commandments.

The fruit of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control.

‘You ravish my heart, my sister, my bride.  
You ravish my heart with a glance of your eyes.’

‘Your lips distil nectar my bride.  
Honey and milk are under your tongue.’

‘I slept, but my heart was awake.

Listen, my beloved is knocking,  
Open to me, my sister  
My love, my dove, my perfect one.’

‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock.  
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he will eat with me.’

‘Eat, friends, drink and be drunk with love.’

‘I am my beloved’s.  
And my beloved is mine.’

‘All I have is yours.  
And all you have is mine.’

Jesus said that the world might know that I love the Father.

‘Who is this coming up from the desert leaning on her beloved?’

‘Love is strong as death. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame. Many waters cannot quench love.

Neither can floods drown it. If one offered for love all the wealth of one’s house it would be utterly scorned.’

‘Let me hear your voice?’

‘Make haste my beloved, and be like a gazelle or a young stag upon the mountains of spices.’

4 years ago, Pope Francis raised the Feast of Mary Magdalene to a first class feast and prepared for her a special reading making her one of

Jesus' most special witnesses.

'Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.'

'Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and we, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, will come to him and make our home in him.'

This is the last stage of the journey to God. John 14:23

Even if you leave me alone, I am not really alone. The Father is with me.

'No greater love.'

'Then Pilate handed him over to be crucified.

So they took Jesus and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called the place of a skull which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near here, he said to his mother: "Woman, here is your son."

Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture) I am thirsty. A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of wine on a branch of hyssop and held it up to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said: 'It is finished.'

The he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

'They shall look on the one whom they pierced.'

'The tomb was nearby. They laid Jesus there. Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. 3 days later, risen Jesus said to her; Mary 'He is risen.' Alleluia.

'My Lord and my God.'

Ascension. I go to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God said Jesus to Mary Magdalene.

'Do you love me?

And Peter said to him.

Lord you know everything, you know that I love you.'

Feed my sheep.

'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them; Receive the Holy Spirit'

The Holy Spirit which the Father will send in my name will teach you everything and remind you of all that I said to you.'

The Spirit and the bride say; Come. Come Lord Jesus.Amen.

Alleluia.

'The marriage of the lamb has come and his bride has made herself ready.'

'I am my beloved's.

And my beloved is mine.'

How gently and lovingly you wake in my heart where in secret you dwell alone and in your sweet breathing full of good and glory. How tenderly you swell my heart with love. St John of the Cross.

The spiritual marriage is complete when the bridegroom Jesus gives his life nailed on the cross for his bride to make her pure and spotless and free from all sin. A beautiful bride for himself. Then as he rises, 3 days later, he leads his bride all the way to union with the 3 persons, first here on earth as Jn 14:23 says, then in the full glory of heaven, where God is seen as he is face to face. 3 in one God Almighty. The soul enjoying the full happiness of heavenly glory. And on the last day our Lord Jesus will come into glory, our bodies will rise again to be like the glorious body of Christ, then a new heaven and a new earth will appear where God's family will find all that God has in store for those who love him and judgement will be passed on all who rejected God and will go to hell.

What else have I in heaven but you?

Apart from you, I want nothing on earth. Psalm 72

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. John 3

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by my Father.

No one can come to the Father except through me.' John 14

The greatest love ever is the love of the Father for his Son and the love

of the Son for his Father. But the Spirit of the Father and the Son is another person so in God there are 3 persons and one love.

The Son says that the world might know that I love the Father.

In the Song of Songs it says ‘I will seek him whom my soul loves. You have to love God before you set out to seek him.

You love God by keeping his commandments like the Song of Songs. ‘I found him whom my soul loves.’

St Teresa of Avila says whoever has found God lacks nothing. God alone is enough. Spiritual marriage says St Bernard is when you love God whom your soul loves.

And the 3 persons one God comes to make their home in the soul who loves them.

Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make their home in him. John 4.23

The union with the 3 persons in heaven will be more perfect as we will see them as they really are according to St John of the Cross. Mystical doctor of the church. And our love will be more perfect. As St John says, ‘God is love and whoever lives in love, lives in God and God lives in him.’ 1 John 4.

The Trinity – this is our dwelling,  
our ‘home’,  
the Father’s house that we must  
never leave.

St Elizabeth of the Trinity



O Eternal Word,  
Word of my God,  
I want to spend my life  
in listening to You,  
to become wholly teachable  
that I may learn all from You.

St Elizabeth of the Trinity

*Let nothing disturb thee  
Let nothing dismay thee  
All things pass  
God never changes  
Patience attains  
All that it strives for  
He who has God  
finds he lacks nothing  
God alone suffices*

(PRAYER OF ST TERESA OF AVILA)

Bíodh an intinn sin agaibh a bhí ag Íosa Críost.  
Bhí sé riamh i gcló Dé,  
ach nár shanntaigh sé bheith ar chomhchéim le Dia.  
Gur fholmhaigh sé é féin le dhul i gcló seirbhísigh,  
agus teacht ar an saol i gcló agus i gcosúlacht duine.  
I gcló an duine dó, d'isligh sé é féin  
agus bhí umhal go bás, go fiú bás na croiche.  
D'ardaigh Dia go mór é dá bharr sin,  
gur bhronn air an t-ainm atá os cionn gach ainm,  
ionas nuair a luafai ainm Íosa go geromfadhbh gach glún,  
ar neamh, ar talamh agus faoi thalamh,  
agus go n-aidmheodh gach teanga le hómós do Dhia,  
gurb é Íosa Críost an Tiarna.

Phil 2: 5-11

Make your own the mind of Jesus Christ.

Who, being in the form of God,  
did not count equality with God  
something to be grasped.

But he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
becoming as human beings are;  
and being in every way like a human being,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death, death on a cross

And for this God raised him high,  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names;  
so that all things  
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, .  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus

and that every tongue should acknowledge  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Phil 2: 5-11



Myles at 20 years old. While working in Cadburys, Bournville, Birmingham 1952.

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, 4TH OCTOBER 2020

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

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Every since I was a boy at 12 years of age. I got panic attacks and that was the start of my vocation. From here to eternity. Long journey since then in my 12th year of age to my present 88 2020 -1932 2020. I covered a lot of ground miles and memory and where I'm now? It seems to me: This is the answer: John 14:23 Wonderful what does it say? Christ says: The Son of God 'Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him. And the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.' The problem is how do we get that far? It is easy. It starts with our birth, religion, male or female, school, education, work, money, falling in love, sex, chastity, marriage, virginity, mental health, anxiety, panic attacks, depression, faith, hope and love. Growing up. God and the devil, good and evil. Christ and the Trinity. 3 in 1. We are persons. Community. Individuality. Alone with God and with others. The virus and our response world wide? Are we coming closer to God? And to each other? Heaven and Earth are we coming closer? To be united or divided? Other world religions. The world's sin, hatred, redemption in Christs cross and resurrection and ascension of Jesus into Heaven. Coming of the Holy Spirit. Love, positive thinking, negative, thinking, healing needed by all. Whole healing, physical, sexual, mental, spiritual, forgiveness, mystical, love at last, body and soul. Men and women and children. All creation needed, personal response. My personal journey from a poor farm to taxi driving at 16. At 18 going to Birmingham. At 21. Going to New Zealand. 53 in 1957 meeting Teri a New Zealander of the modern type woman. Pleasures and good time seeker. She received my faith. And was baptized, happy at last. We were married 6 months together and I am alone ever since. She left me. But God I believe is with me. 1959 to 2020. A long journey through faith and love to find God more fully at last. But it took a long time. Going to Mass and Communion every day since 1959 to 2020. Becoming a Lay Franciscan in New Zealand 1959. Contact with Carmelites, so much faith needed, education,

grace, reading bible, world missions, Catholic teaching, mystical life, social contacts, Father and Mother. Brothers and sisters and family relations. Problems in our families. And that involved me with the whole world. Our own country and 1992 becoming a Hermit. The solution to it all? Tell me? Coming now to where I started, it seems to me to be resolved by John 14:23 Love God and everybody. Our God, the whole Trinity living in each one of us. Amen. If we fully believe 14:23. I found these words by a doctor who brings healing to many sufferers anxiety, panic attacks. If you can reshape your mind and your brain in anxiety and panic you will enter a new world. My final message is to be kind to yourself, and learn to unconditionally love and accept yourself for who you are. End. And as my mother Maggie continually prayed day and night all of her life: 'We have to thank God for all he does for us.'

William Butler Yeats 1865-1939.

He wishes for the cloths of Heaven. Had I the Heavens embroidered cloths interwoven with golden and silver light. The blue and dark cloths of night and

light and the half light,

I would spread the cloths under your feet, but I being poor have only my dreams

I have spread my dreams under your feet. Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

I end with my finding God in 3 persons in my wee mile life. Am I so important to this creator God that he lives in me? This saying of Jesus 14:23 is the most revolutionary promise that scripture contains. Should be made known far and wide all over the world. Since Jesus spoke them. They are little known. It took me a long time to find them. And I am happy to find them. And I thank God a million times. That's why I make them known. A last prayer. I make for a young scientist of vast knowledge about the huge cosmos. Her fears were; that this universe could end at any moment. Then she says? What comes next? If only she knew I prayed for her. She being lost in this vast universe. My God, please come to her rescue. As for me a poor man from Donegal. You carried me all along my long life of 88 years. And I believe in the word of John 14:23. Great. How good you are. 2000 years ago on earth in the little town of Nazareth for 30 years.

Mary and Joseph could say God in a human nature is living with us. But as believers we can say if we believe. John 14:23. That the 3 persons Father and Son and Holy Spirit is living deep within us. Though invisible. But in Heaven our spirit will see God face to face. That's really wonderful. The Eucharist in the Mass is really Christ present and we receive him in Holy Communion. But the Church tells us that Jesus presence is only for a few minutes. Why does the Church keep the wonderful truth of John 14:23 hidden from us? I went to Mass and Communion for years every single day. But no one told me about John 14:23. You need a priest and a Church to have the Eucharist made present in Mass. But anybody in a state of grace can receive the 3 persons. One God into oneself and that presence of the 3 persons is not for a few minutes. But all day and all night. Wherever you are in the air or land or sea. He the God of Heaven and Earth is with one who believes in John 14:23. That to me is the most consoling truth of our Catholic faith. Why keep it secret? Go, tell it on the mountains. God is with us. How do I know? I know John 14:23 Alleluia. One of the best ways to conquer the world, the flesh and the devil our 3 Christian enemies is to believe in John 14:23. God in 3 living in the soul. Jesus prayed to his father in John 17. 'Not that you would take them out of the world. But that you keep them safe from the evil one. St. John says; This is our victory over the world that you believe that Jesus is the Son of the God. And as for the flesh our human nature weak as it is, it becomes pure in Jesus and our sexual nature because Christ bore in himself our sexual nature. So in Christ our sexual nature becomes pure and serves God in purity of heart. Whether we are single or married or a priest or consecrated members of the Church with John 14:23 God in 3 living in us. It becomes easy for us to live our Baptismal life, which is eternal life. So as St. Paul says; We live by Grace and not slaves to sin. Jesus says if you are a slave to sin you are not free and the Son who is free can set you free indeed. And that is the difference between a believer and a non-believer. A non-believer because of his failure to believe is an easy prey to the slavery of the world the flesh and the Devil. But one who has faith in Baptism and believes in John 14:23 have the 3 persons one God always living in him. And if he sins, Christ promised to forgive not 7 times but 70 times 7. My God have mercy on me a sinner!



Teac Hudie OG an Bealtaine Gort A Choirce, now Myles's Hermitage, who is the last of his family of Hudie OG's.



Some of my two sisters families.



Myles outside his home Parish Church, Gort A Choirce, Christ the King.

# MY FAMOUS BROTHER NED

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

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There were 6 of us in Corney and Maggie Gallagher's family in Gortahork.

The oldest Shiela at the young age of 3 fell into a tub of hot water and died a very painful death in her Grannie's house in Baltoney.

I was the youngest born in 1932. Ned was next to me. Ned was born a delicate baby and until he died at 72 in the year 2000, he always remained at my home.

My memories of Ned are worth recording as in my young days we were both together. Then as I went away from home at 18 and didn't return until 1976. But from 1974 a year after my mother died, I came home on a short visit from Australia. It was my mother's last wish before she died that Myles would come home and live with Ned as it was a heavy cross for her to die leaving Ned on his own. I can only cover some of my experiences with Ned.

As I said he was born delicate. He went to Cashelnagore School with me. But learned nothing until he died at 72.

When he was about 10, a medical doctor who examined him at school discovered that Ned had a growth in his throat and was born with this.

Then Ned was taken into the children's hospital in Dublin, where this growth was removed. I missed Ned for the 3 months which he spent in Dublin.

When Ned came home, he had lost his Irish and could only speak in English. I couldn't understand this.

However with the growth removed, he still was the same Ned and not being able to read or write and as well he found that speaking did not come easy to him. One way over his difficulty to speak, as he stuttered badly, was to sing, the words would flow easier.

Ned loved his mother Maggie. So did I. But Ned honoured her more than me, by often singing,

'A mother's love's a blessing.'

He could sing that song so well with a deep voice and you could feel that

his mother's love was in his heart, even as our mother died in 1973. Ned lived on to the year 2000.

When I came home from my lay missionary work with the Aboriginal children in 1976. I was in bad health with deep depression, until a day in 1982, when Ned and I visited Knock Shrine. I was cured. And from then on, God called me into a deeper relationship with him during my worst sickness with the depression. Ned found me hard to live with. One day as I got up and was taking my breakfast, Ned showed how I got on his nerves by banging every door in the house. I said to him; Ned why can't you be patient. He said, so angry, I have no patience.

In those my depression 7 years, I used to go to the Day Centre of the old people's home in Falcarragh.

Ned also would spend some days at the home. A bus would pick him up and take him home again. However I always made my own way to the home. The day that Ned was so angry with me banging the doors.

After going to the home that day I would spend a while in the home's chapel praying.

When Ned arrived at the home that day when he was so angry with me that morning at home.

Ned walked into the chapel and made straight towards me with his hand out. When he reached me, he shook hands with me without saying a word. I learned much that day about the value of silent deeds.

And towards his last days on earth, I said to Ned; I want you to write your name for me. So for the first time in Ned's life, he copied me, as I made it easy for him to do one little strike at a time.

So Ned was able to write his name at last. Praise God. And that little piece of paper with the name 'Ned' is now in the possession of Dannie McGee, daughter of my nephew Seamus McGee, Service Petrol Station Falcarragh. Alleluia.

All that remains for me to do is to thank God for our whole family of Corney and Maggie. And two of our family especially, Sheila and Ned. I am sure both of these brought all of us so many blessings.

My mother's favourite prayer which never stopped coming out of her heart.

'We must thank God for everything he gives us.' As thanks was dear to Jesus, I am sure he loves my mother's prayer.



Taken in 1990, it shows the five siblings of the Gallagher family outside the now demolished McFaddens Hotel, Gortahork. From left, Myles Madge, Mary, Ned and Hugh.

## *Dhá Amhrán*

- *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*
- *A Mother's Love is a blessing*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit Bride of Crucified Love*

## ***When Irish Eyes are Smiling***

There's a tear in your eye  
And I'm wondering why  
For it never should be there at all  
With such pow'r in your smile  
Sure a stone you'd beguile  
So there's never a teardrop should fall

When your sweet lilting laughter's  
Like some fairy song  
And your eyes twinkle bright as can be  
You should laugh all the while  
And all other times smile  
And now, smile a smile for me

When Irish eyes are smiling  
Sure, 'tis like the morn in Spring  
In the lilt of Irish laughter  
You can hear the angels sing  
When Irish hearts are happy  
All the world seems bright and gay  
And when Irish eyes are smiling  
Sure, they steal your heart away

For your smile is a part  
Of the love in your heart  
And it makes even sunshine more bright  
Like the linnet's sweet song  
Crooning all the day long  
Comes your laughter and light

For the springtime of life  
Is the sweetest of all  
There is ne'er a real care or regret  
And while springtime is ours  
Throughout all of youth's hours  
Let us smile each chance we get

When Irish eyes are smiling  
Sure, 'tis like the morn in Spring  
In the lilt of Irish laughter  
You can hear the angels sing  
When Irish hearts are happy  
All the world seems bright and gay  
And when Irish eyes are smiling  
Sure, they steal your heart away

## ***A Mother's Love is a Blessing***

An Irish boy was leaving  
Leaving his native home,  
Crossing the broad Atlantic,  
Once more he wished to roam,  
And as he was leaving his mother,  
While standing on the Quay,  
He threw his arms around her waist  
And this to her did say:

And as the years grow onward,  
I'll settle down in life,  
And I'll choose a nice young colleen,  
And take her for my wife.  
And as the kids grow older,  
They'll play around my knee  
And I'll teach them the very same lesson  
That my mother taught to me:

Chorus:

A mother's love is a blessing,  
No matter where you roam.  
Keep her while she's living,  
You'll miss her when she's gone.  
Love her as in childhood,  
When feeble, old and grey,  
For you'll never miss a mother's love  
'til she's buried beneath the clay.



Myles' mother with stick & local woman, Mrs. Harkin

Having pondered with Our Lady the whole of scripture old and new, what treasure can I dwell on without ceasing all day and all night. So as to keep God's presence before me all the days of my remaining life?

It is this:

First:

'God is Love'  
and  
'whoever lives in love, lives in God  
and God lives in him.' 1Jn 4:16

Second:

'Love one another as Jesus loves me.' Jn13, 15

Help me Jesus, Mary and Joseph to live this simple life to the praise and glory and honor of the most Holy Trinity who dwells in me. See Jn 14.23

'And the lamb who invites me to his wedding.' Rv. 19  
Amen. Alleluia.



*Mount Errigal which I often climbed*

## **Dhá Amhrán**

- Sean-Dún na nGall
- Cruacha na hÉireann

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit. Bride of Crucified Love.*

## ***Sean-Dún na nGall***

Is grá geal mo chroí thú, 'Thír Chonaill, a stór,  
'Do luí mar bheadh seoid għlas san fħarraige mór,  
Ó gráim thí i gċónaí go moch is go mall,  
Is molfaidh mé a choich' thí, a Shean-Dún na nGall.

Nil contae in Éirinn níos deise ná thí,  
Nil daoine sa domhan níos fəarr cǎil is clú,  
Ná tá i dTír Chonaill abhus agus thall.  
Ó! Bláth bán ár dtíre thí, a Shean-Dún na nGall.

Tá teanga ár sinsear á labhairt ann go fóill  
Chomh milis binn blasta le hamhrán nó ceol  
Na n-aingeal sna Flaithis gan smachtú gan smál,  
Ó gráim go deo thí, a Shean-Dún na nGall.

# **Cruacha na hÉireann**

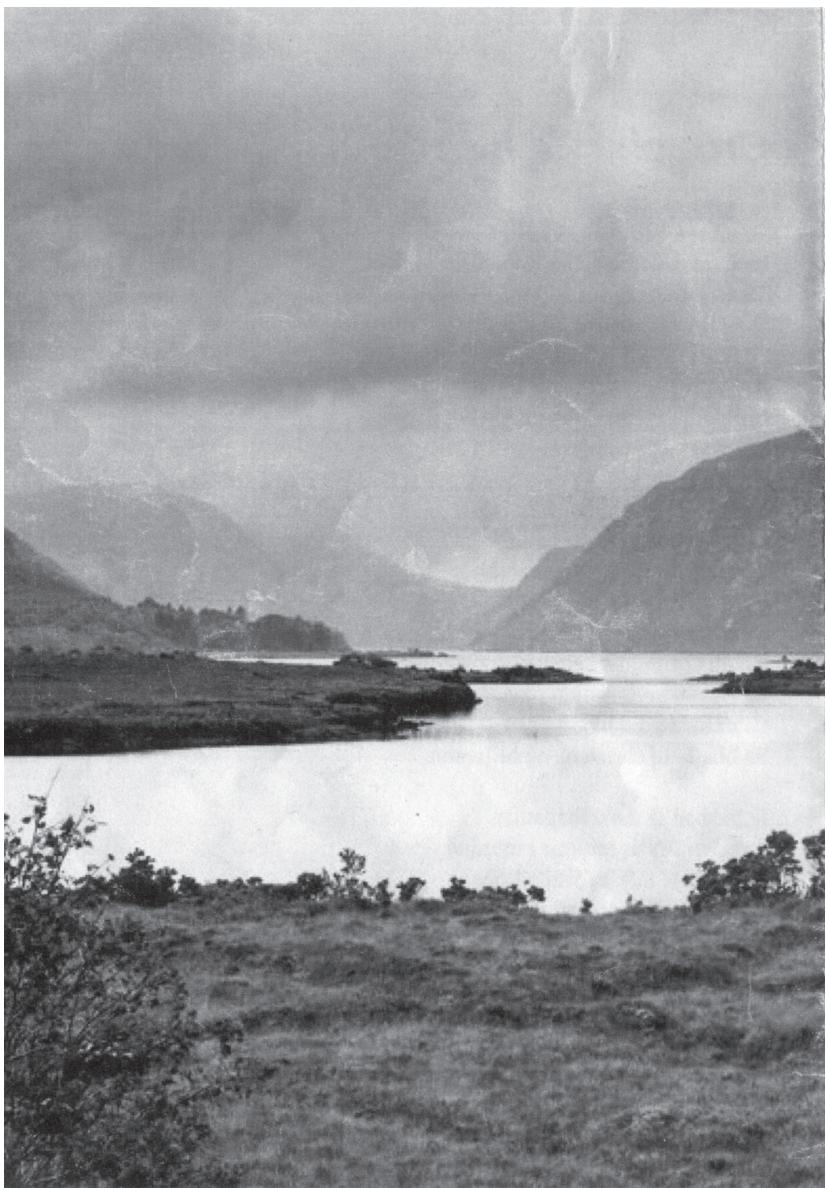
Tá an samhradh ag sileadh a shéada,  
Inniu ar fud Oileán na Naomh.  
Tá an ghrian ag soillsiú go gleígeal,  
'S ag líonadh le haoibhneas an tír.  
Ó, is minic mé 'smointiú ar filleadh,  
Ar ais annsar cárde mó chléibh;  
Imeasc subhailcí sona mo chine,  
'Na gcónai fé Chruacha na hÉireann.

## Curfá

Cruacha glas' na hÉireann,  
'Lonnru measc coillte craoibh.  
Ó a charaid nach méanair,  
Sinne fé dhere ag filleadh thar sáile.  
Gaotha grinn dár seoladh,  
Luascadh ar dhroim na mara;  
Ó, ní fada go mbeimid slán,  
Sa bhaile fé chracha na hÉireann

Is fada an lá é ó d'fhágamar  
Ár mbaile 's ár muintir i mbrón  
Ag dréim lenár bpócaí a líonadh  
Thar sáile le hairgead is ór  
Ó nach cuma má táimid ag filleadh  
Gan pingin inár bpócaí faraor  
Tá an sláinte go fóill inár gcnámha  
Ag filleadh go cruacha na hÉireann

## Curfá



*Glenveagh, Donegal.*



*Myles's mother holding a stick.  
Died 1973*

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

## **Danny Boy**

*Oh Danny Boy, the pipes the pipes are calling  
from glen to glen and down the mountain side  
the summer's gone and all the flowers dying  
it's you it's you must go and I must bide  
but come ye back when summer's in the meadow  
or when the valley's hushed and white with snow  
it's I'll be here in sunshine or in shadow  
Oh Danny Boy my Danny Boy I love you so*

*And when ye come and all the flowers are dying  
if I am dead as dead I well may be  
you'll come and find the place where I am lying  
and kneel and say an Ave there for me  
and I shall hear tho soft ye tread above me  
and all my grave will warmer sweeter be  
and if you bend and tell me that you love me  
than I shall sleep in peace until you come to me*

## ***The Dawning of the Day***

*One morning early I walked forth  
By the margin of Lough Leane  
The sunshine dressed the trees in green  
And summer bloomed again  
I left the town and wandered on  
Through fields all green and gay  
And whom should I meet but a colleen sweet  
At the dawning of the day.  
No cap or cloak this maiden wore  
Her neck and feet were bare  
Down to the grass in ringlets fell  
Her glossy golden hair  
A milking pail was in her hand  
She was lovely, young and gay  
She wore the palm from Venus bright  
By the dawning of the day.*

*On a mossy bank I sat me down  
With the maiden by my side  
With gentle words I courted her  
And asked her to be my bride  
She said, "Young man don't bring me blame"  
And swiftly turned away  
And the morning light was shining bright  
At the dawning of the day.*



*Taken in 1990, it shows the five siblings of the Gallagher family outside the now demolished McFaddens Hotel, Gortahork.  
From left, Myles, Madge, Mary, Ned and Hugh*

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*116 The Shortest of the Psalms*

*Praise the Lord all you nations  
Acclaim all your people  
for strong is his love for us  
He is faithful forever.*

*To remind ourselves at Christmas of  
‘The greatest ‘Love’ ever when God  
sent into the world his only  
begotten son’ ‘To be our bridegroom’.  
Let’s sing a few well known love songs to  
warm our hearts in gratitude this Christmas.*



Myles Joseph Gallagher - Hermit  
Bride of Crucified Love

## Once I had a secret love

Once I had a secret love  
That lived within the heart of me  
All too soon my secret love  
Became impatient to be free  
  
So I told a friendly star  
The way that dreamers often do  
Just how wonderful you are  
And why I am so in love with you  
  
Now I shout it from the highest hills  
Even told the golden daffodils  
  
At last my heart's an open door  
And my secret love's no secret anymore



## **Have I told you lately that I love you**

Have I told you lately that I love you

Could I tell you once again somehow

Have I told how my heart and soul adores you

Well darlin' I'm tellin' you now.

This heart would break in two if you refuse me

I'm no good without you anyhow

Dear have I told you lately that I love you

Well darlin' I'm tellin' you now.

Have I told you lately when I'm sleepin'

of the dreams I dreamt of you somehow

Have I told you how the nights are long when

you're not with me

Well darlin' I'm tellin' you now



*Merry Christmas*

## Forever and ever

Forever and ever,  
My heart will be true!  
Sweetheart, forever,  
I'll wait for you!



We both made a promise,  
That we'd never part,  
Let's seal it with a kiss,  
Forever my Sweetheart!

Let bygones be bygones forever,  
We'll fall in love once again . . .  
So, let's tell the world of our new love divine,  
Forever and ever you'll be mine!

### ISE

Pógadh sé me de phóga a bhéil  
óir is fearr do ghrá na fíon  
Is maith é cumhracht d'ola  
ola dhoirte d'ainm  
d'fhág na cailíní i ngéan leat.  
Tarraing i do dhiaidh mé, rithimis.  
Tabhair isteach mé, a rí, i do theach féin.  
Tú ár n-áthas, tú ár n-aoibhneas.  
Mórfaimid do ghrá thar fhíon.  
Is ciallmar a thug grá duit.



Myles and his sister Madge on Falcarragh Beach, Tory Island in the background 9 miles away in the Atlantic Ocean.

### EISEAN

Nach álann tú, a rún,  
nach álann!  
do shúile is coilm iad.  
Nach álann tú, a ghrá;  
is aoibhinn go deimhin.

**MARRIAGE ON 1 NOV 1958  
NEW PLYMOUTH, NEW ZEALAND.  
6 MONTHS WITH TERI MY NEW ZEALAND WIFE  
AT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE IN THE WORLD,  
MILFORD SOUND.**

**MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.**

---

With the beautiful Mitre Peak Mountain filling the heart of Milford Sound.

1959 May, saw the end of our marriage. She left me, and God took over, by me joining the Franciscan Lay Order.

Professed on Trinity Sunday 13th June and Feast of St Anthony 1961 in Christchurch.

Came home from Australia 1976.

1977-78 Novice in Portglenone, Co Antrim Monastery, for 18 months. Then back to Baltonney to become a hermit, Hudie Og's home 1978.

1982 Cured at Knock Shrine of 7 years deep depression and two migraine headaches a week.

1992 Became a fully consecrated hermit in Gortahork, Co. Donegal.

And so up to the present 2020 at the age of 88, now alone in Hudie Og's, An Bealtaine, and in good health, thank God. And happy to have chosen as Jesus called my vocation. Mary has chosen the better part and it won't be taken away from her. Gospel saying of Jesus.

With the Hudie Og's, I hope all are now in heaven. And me here. Praise God. I sailed to New Zealand 1953.



*Myles and Teri 1958*

A broken hearted Myles pondering on our 12,000 miles apart,  
while I was driving a CIE bus in Dublin, 1963.

Back to New Zealand 1964.

*“From the Waikato to the Liffey  
although 12000 miles apart  
yet deep down in oceans bosom  
these two great rivers meet  
and now I shed my tear drops  
where the river Liffey flows  
and how along the Waikato  
your precious teardrops flow.”*

*An Irish man's homecoming as reported in the Irish Independent 1969.*

Irish Independent, Friday 20th June 1969

## Touching letter from a far-away Irishman

As a change from election results nail-biting, here is a little exercise in ill-concealed human emotions. Anyone who experiences happiness in sharing another's happiness will, I think, find some pleasure in a piece of writing which has come 7,000 miles to me. I did, because it is infectious in its anticipated joy, and it is touching in its summation of all the eager longings of the exile returning after many years away from home. It goes to the heart, because it comes from the heart.

The piece comes from Myles Joseph Gallagher of Elizabeth Bay, Sydney, Australia, and he reminds me that about five years ago I wrote something about him under the heading "The-furthest-from-home Irishman in the world." He was then working in an hotel on the south tip of New Zealand. Now looks forward to joining the Irish National Association in a group flight to Ireland next month, and bubbling with excitement, he has written these anticipatory lines.

### 'Bound for Ireland'

"Up, up the graceful jet ascends, high over Botany Bay, climbing into the night sky 'neath the Southern Cross. I'm bound for old Ireland, O'Donnell Abu!

"Far, far we travel in the night, away from Sydney town.  
Greet Hawaii and San Francisco and New York on the way, and then, at last, I am approaching that native land of mine. From 30,000 feet above, I get a bird's eye view, an emerald gem in a setting of deep Atlantic blue.

"Down, down the giant bird descends, flagship of an Irish race.

Dublin Airport, here I come! Touch down, safe, whoosh to a stop, Deep from Ireland's bosom, Patrick, Brigid and Colmcille whisper melodiously in the air 'welcome, welcome!' and I praise the Almighty God for the miracle of modern transport.

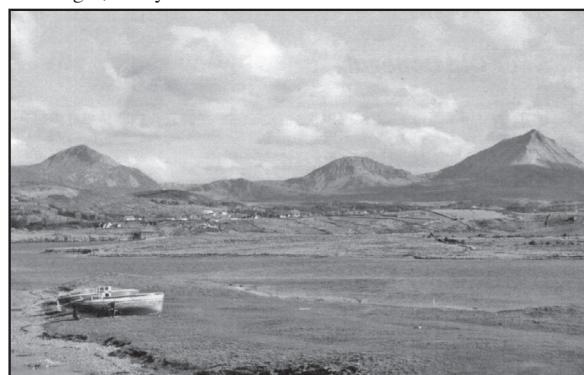
"Swiftly through customs, nothing to declare. A colleen escorts me to a self-drive car. A key, a smile and a salutation. All go well.' I drive nor' westwards through Swords and Monaghan and Strabane, and then into Donegal along the Swilly shore, proudly whistling the great war chant of O'Donnell Abu.

### 'Under Errigal's towering mast'

"At last I see my homestead under Errigal's towering mast. At the top of Mullaith Hudie (a brae named after my grandfather), I turn the ignition off and softly freewheel down to our front-door step. Knock, knock, I tap.

"Quickly, joyfully, I hear a tone of voice most sweet: 'Sinn Mylieanois'. On our flagstone kitchen floor I am beholding something grand. Oceans, continents I've crossed, dollars I've saved to get this glimpse again. Far more beautiful than a rising moon, or a setting sun, a mother's arms outstretched to clasp her wandering boy."

There is nothing to add, except that I hope every tiny detail of Myles Joseph Gallagher's home-coming dream will be fulfilled.



On 1st October the feast of the Little Flower St Therese, the young saint who died in Carmel at 24. The Popes call the greatest saint of modern times.

I was made a hermit on her feast, 1992. She helps so much. Other Carmelite Saints helped me greatly too. To advance in the mystical life. St Teresa of Avila, Spain and her companion, St John of the Cross, Spain.

St Elizabeth of the Trinity, French another young Carmelite saint, who made a great leap forward to make known the 3 persons in us. John 14:23

Myself joining the Lay Franciscan in 1959 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

My great friends in the Franciscan order.

St Francis of Assisi

St Anthony of Padua

St Clare of Assisi

St Elizabeth of Hungary

St Louis of France

A very holy king. Married with 11 children. He said to one of his sons as he was dying,

'I would rather you die a 1000 deaths than commit one mortal sin.'

My mother died on his feast day, 25 August 1973.

I was asked on the feast day of St Elizabeth of Hungary 1959, if I would like to join the 3rd order. I did, gladly.

Australian and Irish Canon lawyers said Teri is still my wife even though she divorced me. 1966.



*Milford Sound, New Zealand, where Myles & Teri spent their 6 months of marriage  
1958-59*



*The woman in the Book of Revelations*

# A DAY TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 16TH

## MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

On this day in 1959, September 16th, my daddy Cornelius Gallagher died in Letterkenny Hospital aged 72. Before he died he asked my Mammy ‘Did you hear from Myles in New Zealand?’

He told her, ‘I think Myles is in trouble.’

How did he know that. My New Zealand wife Teri was telling me she was divorcing me. I am sure I got the grace to persevere in my faith as my Daddy offered his life for me, his youngest son, age 26.

Having died on the Feast of St Cornelius Pope and Martyr. It is interesting too that in Acts of Apostles, Cornelius, the Roman Centurian had a visit from an angel telling him to send for Simon Peter who would lead Cornelius and his household into the Christian faith. He did as the angel told and St Peter came to him and baptised Cornelius and his whole household. The first pagan to be received into the church. I thank God for the faith that I have today 16th September 2020. Now being a hermit. Blessed be God and Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. And the same forever. Alleluia.

Teri and I were married in St Joseph’s Church, New Plymouth, New Zealand, by Mon. Minogue P.P. on All Saints Day, 1st November 1958. Paddy Boyle, my best man. And spent 6 months together at the most beautiful

place in the world, Milford Sound, where we worked at Hotel Milford as house barman and Teri, head waitress. After that she left me and divorced me. With God’s grace I endured the most painful trial of my life... and even today having walked with God alone, 1959-2020, I still pray for Teri, the New Zealander.

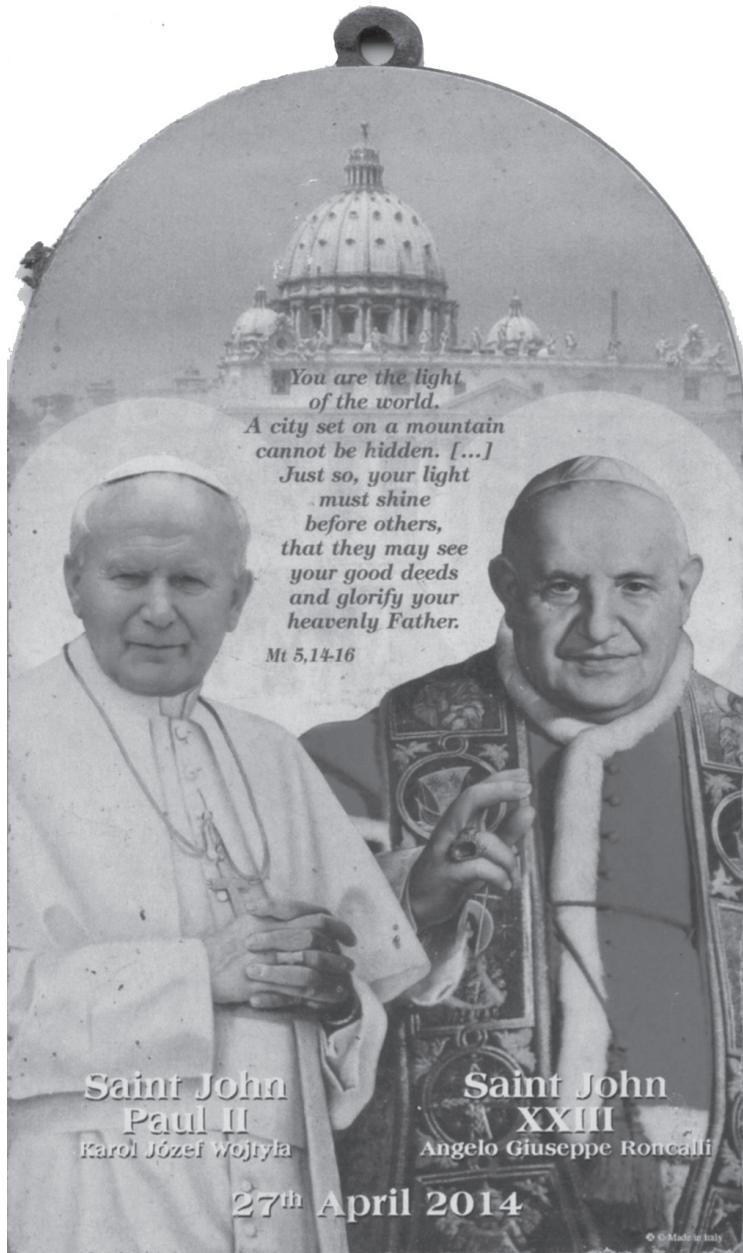
Pope John 23 called for prayers for Vatican II. I responded. St Elizabeth of Hungary one of the patrons of the secular Franciscan order on her feast day Nov 1959.

I joined the order in Christchurch. I also in 1959 supported the Carmelite Sisters from New Zealand to start to found monasteries in the South Pacific.

1959 also saw me become a lifetime supporter of world missions. P.M.S. My mother broke her hip in 1963 and never left the house until her death, the feast of St Louis, another patron of Franciscan Secular Order.

On the Feast of St Therese, 1 Oct 1992, I became a consecrated hermit. Living at home the only member of our family, the rest are all ‘up there’ and we are all united in Jesus. John 17 prayer.

‘That they may all be one as you Father are in me and I in you. That they also may be one in us’. You see how much after God and Christ I owe to Daddy and Mammy and family 5. Alleluia.

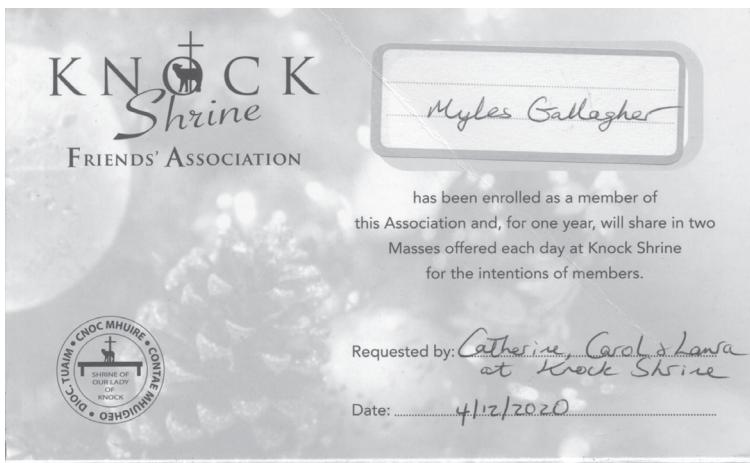


Pope Paul 6th also is now a saint.  
Also I was present as Pope Paul 6th was at the International  
Eucharistic Congress, Bombay, India, Nov. 1964.

# SÁINTE



*Shrine of Our Lady  
of Knock*



*Wishing you Happiness  
and Peace during  
Christmas and the New Year*

Outdoor Crib at Knock Parish Church



SAIN T-BENOIT-JOSEPH LABRE  
Peinture anonyme - Eglise d'Erin (P.-de-C.)  
"Sur les pas d'un Dieu toujours nomade.  
tu vas, tu pries,  
tu cherches sa réponse.  
Tu le poursuis, il te rejoint,  
il t'entraîne sur son passage."  
Lithurgie : Tropaire (C.F.C.)

**ISLAND**  
TURF  
CRAFTS

**5000 Years Ago**

in Ireland, the Great Elk wandered through the forests and mountains, it was a land of sweeping mists, gentle rain and soft sunlight. A land of pagan carvings and mysterious rituals. A land where the soothing lilt of the harp floated over the cool crystal lakes and rivers. It was a time of Cu Chulainn and Queen Maeve and the Red Branch Knights.

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## **Pray with the Missio family around the world**

**God our Father,**

we pray for those  
who are suffering,  
for those who are grieving,  
for those who are anxious,  
and for those who are  
working tirelessly to  
care for the sick.

God our Father,  
your Son Jesus Christ came  
into our world to heal us from  
division and to bring us  
life in abundance.

By the power of your Spirit  
help us to strive together as  
one family of many nations to  
help those in greatest need  
during this crisis.

We ask this in the name of  
Jesus our Risen Lord.

**Amen**



@missioIRL

**A change is  
coming...**

**MISSIO**  
*Ireland*

World Missions Ireland is part of a global network of charities serving the Church in over 120 countries. Internationally many are known as 'Missio' and together they are the Pope's official charity for overseas mission.

To honour this union and to harness the energy of the Missio family, over the coming months World Missions Ireland will become Missio Ireland.

All that is changing is our name. Our mission, made possible by you, remains: to support overseas missionaries and struggling faith communities through all challenges, struggles and hardships.



@missioireland



## **Trí Amhrán**

- *Dear Old Donegal*
- *The Homes of Donegal*
- *The Girl from Donegal*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit Bride of Crucified Love*

## ***Dear Old Donegal***

Three Years Ago to this very day, I left the port of Cork  
And on a ship from ol' Erin's Isle I landed in New York  
Without a friend to meet me there, just a stranger on the shore  
But I wore an honest Irish heart and fortune came galore

So here I am back again on Dear Ol' Erin's Isle  
And my friends they meet me on the pier and greet me with a smile  
For there's faces there that I've surely forgot, for I was so long away  
But me mother she introduces all, and this is what she'd say

Shake Hands with your uncle Mike me Boy  
Shake Hands with your sister Kate  
And this is the girl you used to swing, down on the garden gate  
Shake hands with all of the neighbours, and kiss the Colleens all

For your as welcome as the flowers in May to Dear Ol' Donegal  
Well they gave a party when I came back and they came from near and far  
And the road was lined for near a mile with Irish jaunting car  
And the whiskey flowed like buttermilk, to fill our hearts with Joy  
And the piper played an Irish reel to greet the Yankee boy

So tomorrow off to church I'll go, and wedded I will be,  
to my pretty little Colleen, sweet Bitty McGee,  
For Bitty was true and faithful, to her Barney over the sea  
And we'll join the Harps and Shamrocks, with the Stars of Liberty

There came Brannigan, Flannigan, Milligan, Gilligan,  
Duffy, McGuffy, Malackey, Malone,  
Rafferty, Laugherty, Donnely, Connely,  
Dooley, O'Hooley, Maddoney, Nalone.  
Bryan, Herlanahan, Flannian, Banninhan,  
Fagen, O'Hagen, O'Hoolihan, Flin,  
Shannahan, Monahan, Hogerty, Fogerty,  
Kelly, O'Skelly, McGinnis, McGinn.

Shake Hands with your uncle Mike me Boy  
Shake Hands with your sister Kate  
And I'll hug and I'll squeeze, as much as I please, the girl from the Garden Gate  
Shake hands with all of the neighbours, and kiss the Colleens all

And I'll live content, and pay no rent... in Dear Old Donegal

## ***The Homes of Donegal***

I've just dropped in to see you all  
I'll only stay awhile  
I want to hear how you're getting on  
I want to hear you smile  
I'm happy to be back again  
And greet you big and small  
For there's no place on earth just like  
The homes of Donegal  
I long to see your smiling children  
Standing by the door  
The kettle boiling on the hearth  
As I walk up the floor  
And then to see a welcome free  
For travellers one and all  
For your hearts are like your mountains  
In the homes of Donegal  
I'd like to stay along with you  
And while away the night  
With fairy lore and tales of yore  
Beside the turf fire bright  
And then to see laid out for me  
A shake-down by the wall  
For there's rest for weary wanderers  
In the homes of Donegal  
The time has come for me to go  
And bid you all adieu  
For the open highway calls me back  
To do these things I do  
But when I'm travelling far away  
Your friendship I'll recall  
And please God I'll soon return unto  
The homes of Donegal  
Donegal, Pride of all  
Donegal, Pride of all



## ***The Girl from Donegal***

Young girls draw near and I'll tell you here  
A story that makes me sad  
Sure he sailed away the other day  
My own true Irish lad  
And my heart did ache for his dear sake  
And the tears like rain did fall  
Oh, why did he part and break the heart  
Of this girl from Donegal

He was tall and strong, could sing a song  
That would delight your heart to hear  
His eyes were bright, his step was light  
And his voice was sweet and clear  
He could handle a spade or court a maid  
The fairest of them all  
Ah, but he was inclined to leave behind  
This girl from Donegal

How I wished in vain he did remain  
But see how he sailed away  
To a distant home, far o'er the foam  
In a foreign land to stay  
He would rather have toiled in his own native soil  
But the wages were too small  
That's why he did part and break the heart  
Of this girl from Donegal

The weather was bad and my love was sad  
As he had to sail away  
He left me here to pine and fear  
Till he'd return someday  
But if in time he does not return  
He need not come at all  
Oh, why did he part and break the heart  
Of this girl from Donegal

# Christmas Time of *Prayer in the Home*

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader:** Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace this Christmas.

**R.**      **Blessed be God forever.**

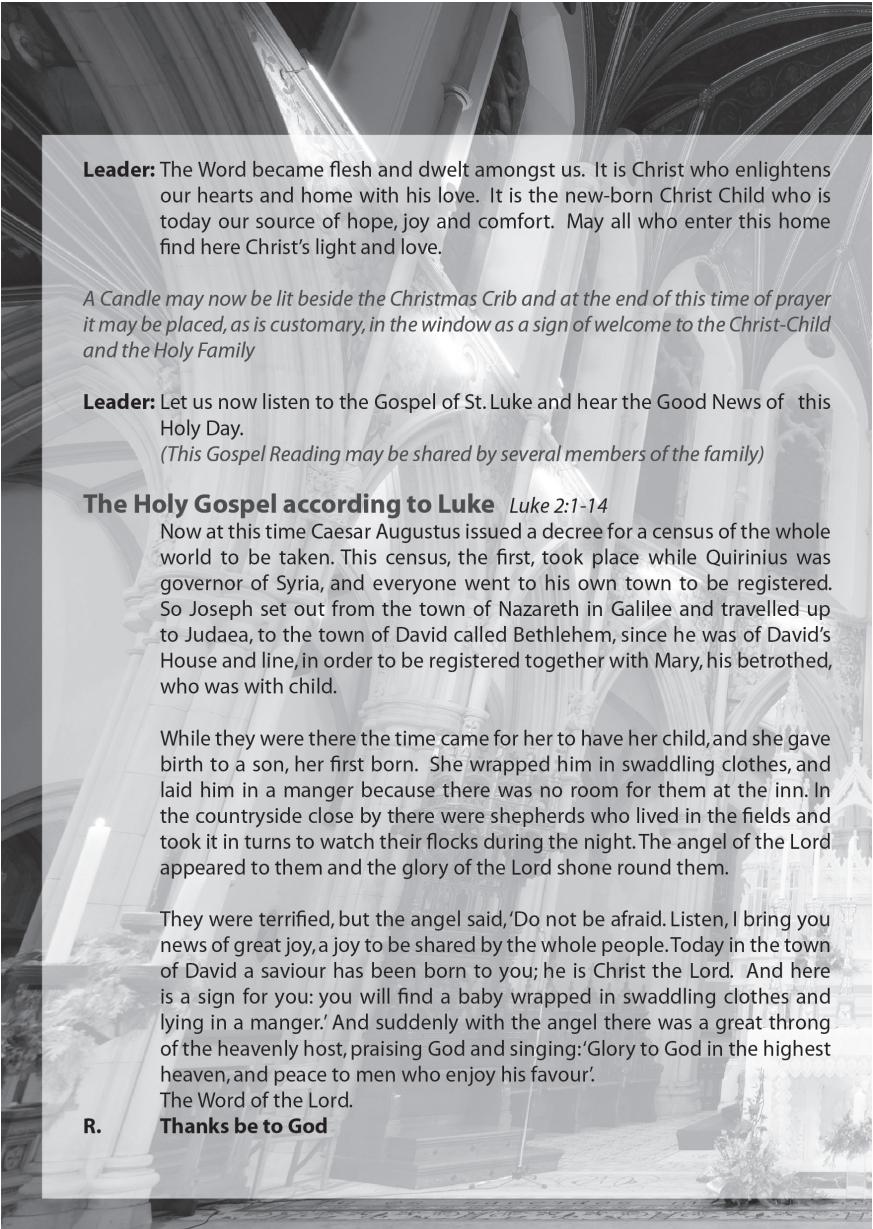
*After placing the Child Jesus figure in the Family Crib, those family members absent or to be prayed for should be named and the following or another suitable Carol may be sung:*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he - for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind -  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind:

'To you in David's town this day  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.  
And this shall be the sign:

'The heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
and in a manger laid.'



**Leader:** The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and home with his love. It is the new-born Christ Child who is today our source of hope, joy and comfort. May all who enter this home find here Christ's light and love.

*A Candle may now be lit beside the Christmas Crib and at the end of this time of prayer it may be placed, as is customary, in the window as a sign of welcome to the Christ-Child and the Holy Family*

**Leader:** Let us now listen to the Gospel of St. Luke and hear the Good News of this Holy Day.

*(This Gospel Reading may be shared by several members of the family)*

### The Holy Gospel according to Luke *Luke 2:1-14*

Now at this time Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census, the first, took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them.

They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

R.

## A Christmas Reflection by Pope Benedict XVI

God makes himself small for us. This is how he reigns. He does not come with power and outward splendour. He comes as a baby, defenceless and in need of our help. In this way God teaches us to love the little ones. In this way he teaches us to love the weak. In this way he teaches us respect for children.

Seeing city streets and squares decorated with shining lights, let us remember that these lights are a reminder of another light, which is invisible to the eyes but not to the heart. While we admire them, while we light candles in church or illuminate a Nativity scene or Christmas tree in our homes, let us open our hearts to the true spiritual light offered to all people of good will.

*The traditional Carol Silent Night may now be sung*

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!  
Christ the Saviour is born!  
Christ the Saviour is born!

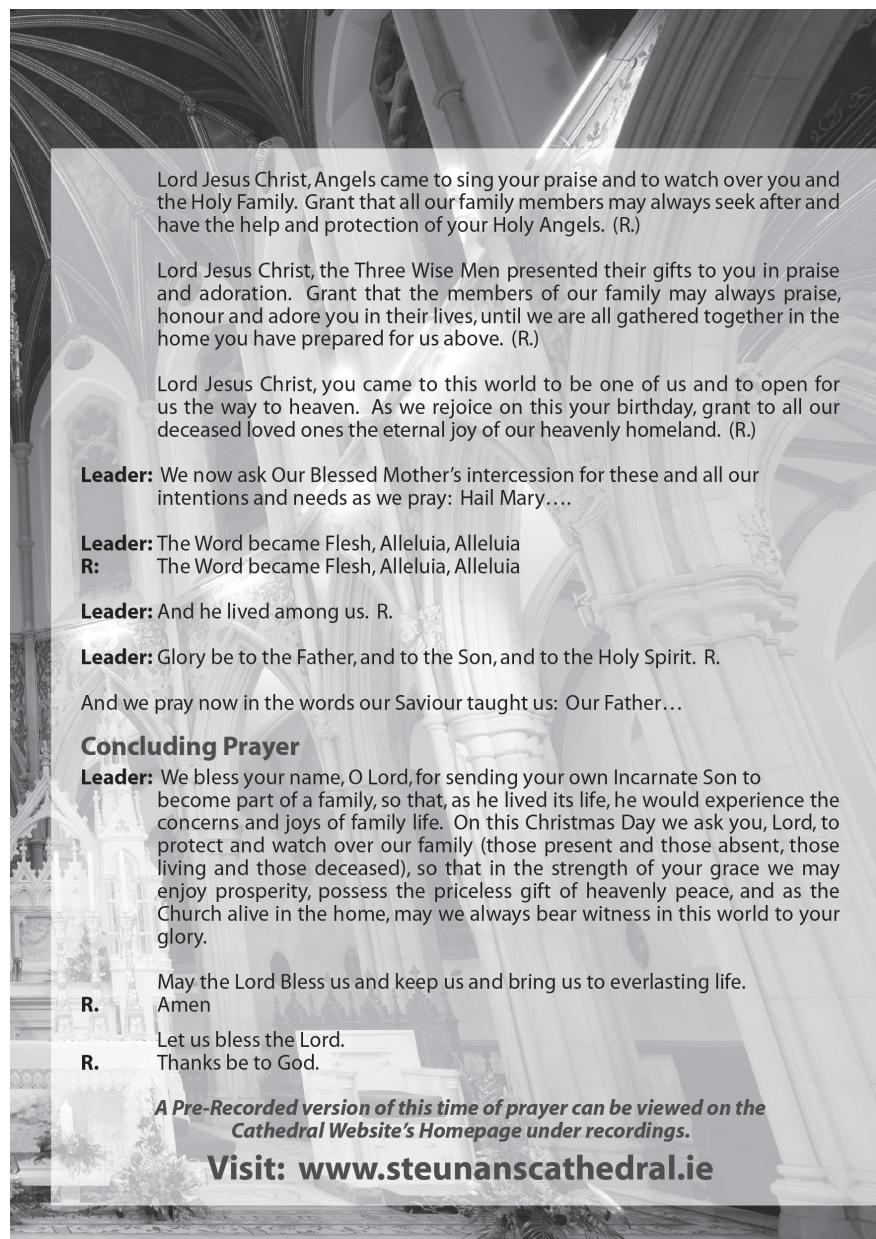


## Prayers of Intercession

**Leader:** The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him saying: ***Stay with us Lord.*** (R.)

Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family; remain in our home and with our family, that we may know you as our guest and true head of this household. (R.)

Lord Jesus Christ, even at your birth you had no place of your own to lay your head, but in poverty and humility accepted the hospitality of a stable. As we welcome you into our home today, we ask you to remain with us always. (R.)  
***Stay with us Lord.***



Lord Jesus Christ, Angels came to sing your praise and to watch over you and the Holy Family. Grant that all our family members may always seek after and have the help and protection of your Holy Angels. (R.)

Lord Jesus Christ, the Three Wise Men presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration. Grant that the members of our family may always praise, honour and adore you in their lives, until we are all gathered together in the home you have prepared for us above. (R.)

Lord Jesus Christ, you came to this world to be one of us and to open for us the way to heaven. As we rejoice on this your birthday, grant to all our deceased loved ones the eternal joy of our heavenly homeland. (R.)

**Leader:** We now ask Our Blessed Mother's intercession for these and all our intentions and needs as we pray: Hail Mary....

**Leader:** The Word became Flesh, Alleluia, Alleluia  
**R:** The Word became Flesh, Alleluia, Alleluia

**Leader:** And he lived among us. R.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. R.

And we pray now in the words our Saviour taught us: Our Father...

### Concluding Prayer

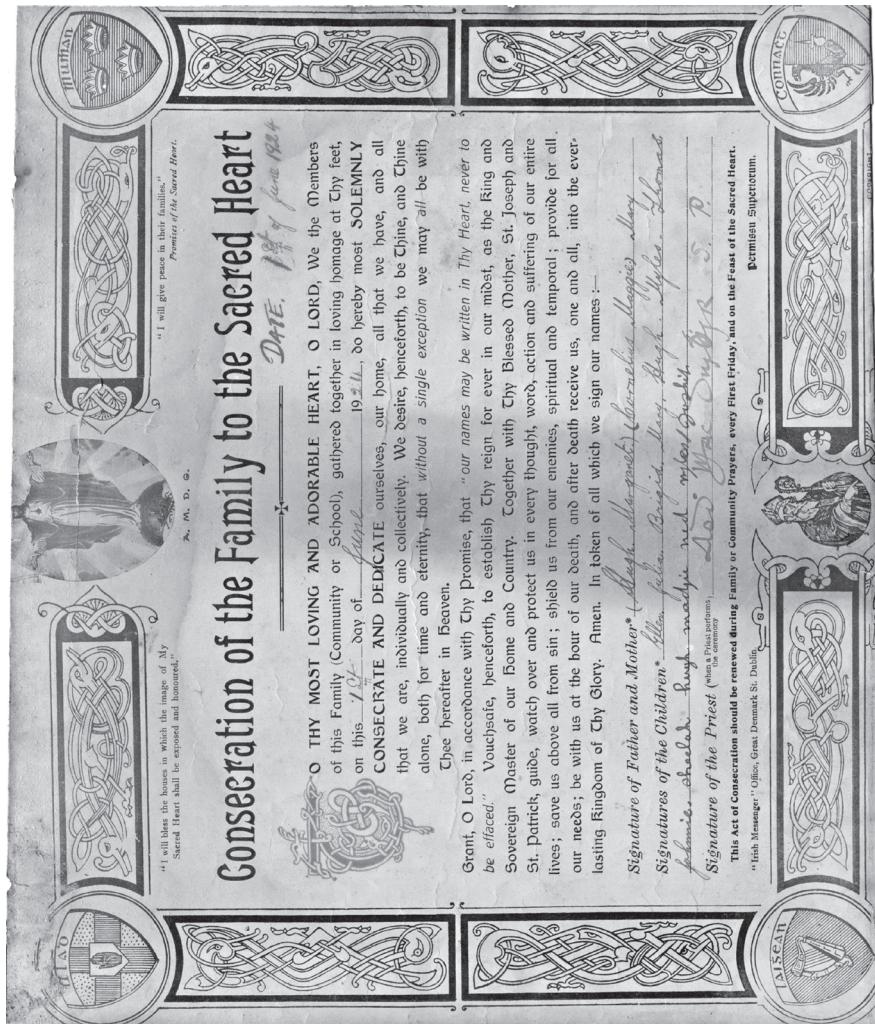
**Leader:** We bless your name, O Lord, for sending your own Incarnate Son to become part of a family, so that, as he lived its life, he would experience the concerns and joys of family life. On this Christmas Day we ask you, Lord, to protect and watch over our family (those present and those absent, those living and those deceased), so that in the strength of your grace we may enjoy prosperity, possess the priceless gift of heavenly peace, and as the Church alive in the home, may we always bear witness in this world to your glory.

**R.** May the Lord Bless us and keep us and bring us to everlasting life.  
Amen

**R.** Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*A Pre-Recorded version of this time of prayer can be viewed on the Cathedral Website's Homepage under recordings.*

**Visit: [www.steunanscathedral.ie](http://www.steunanscathedral.ie)**





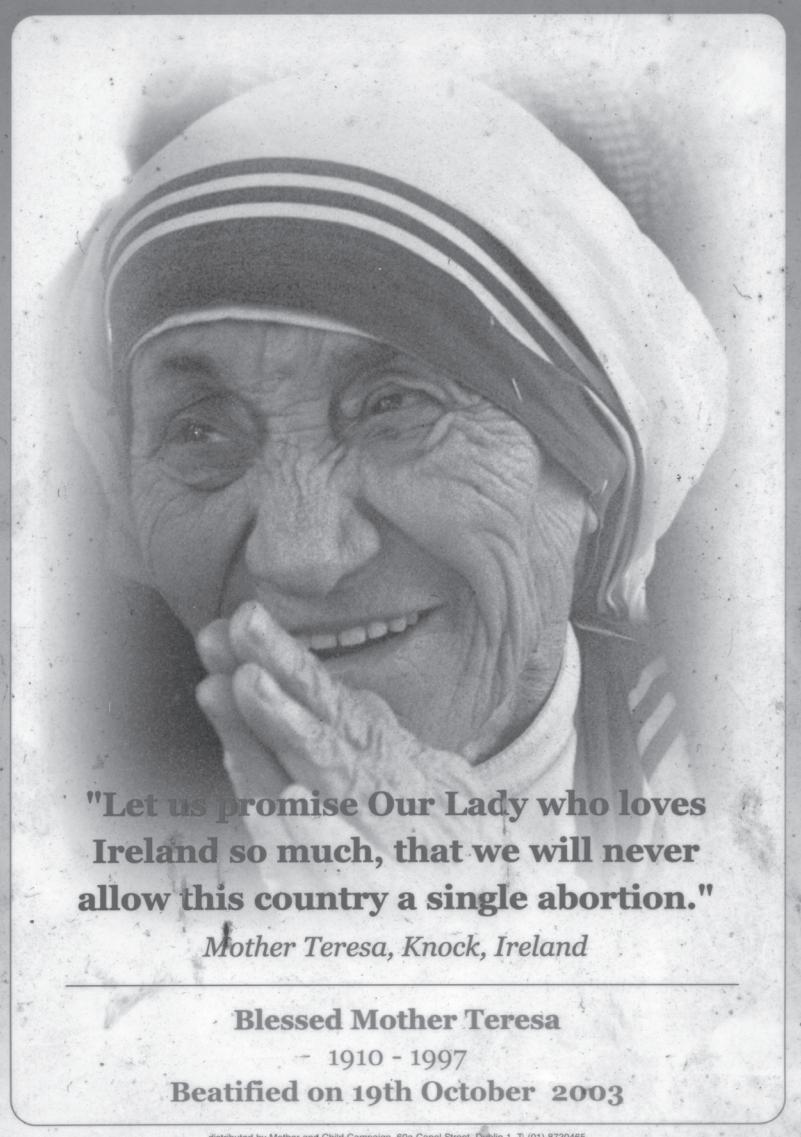
S. MARIA DE PERPETUO SUCCURSU.  
VETUS IMAGO MIRACULIS CLARA  
VENERATA ROMAE IN ECCL S. ALPHONSI.



N° 251 w

Cum approb. eccl.

B. Kühlen, M. Gladbach.



**"Let us promise Our Lady who loves  
Ireland so much, that we will never  
allow this country a single abortion."**

*Mother Teresa, Knock, Ireland*

---

**Blessed Mother Teresa**

– 1910 - 1997

**Beatified on 19th October 2003**

distributed by Mother and Child Campaign, 60a Capel Street, Dublin 1. T: (01) 8730465

ÉIRE

28



Saint Colmcille 521 - 597



An Post produced a 28p stamp to honour St. Colmcille. The stamp appeared only after a long campaign organised within the Diocese and outside. The Diocesan committee, Donegal Historical Society, local politicians and voluntary bodies eventually won the day. The Royal Mail launched two stamps on their own behest, recognising the significant role played by Colmcille in the development, not only for the spirit of life in Britain, but his political influence, scholarship and historical importance.

# St. Colmcille

As a Donegal Hermit, I rejoice and thank God for being able to celebrate the 3 important milestones in St. Colmcille's life. His birth in Donegal 521. His going to Iona to found a famous monastery, 563. His death in Iona 597. You are one of Ireland's patrons. I beg your prayers to strengthen our faith and love in the Church you loved so well. So that severely tried as we all are. We may arise more humble, and put the teaching of Vatican II to engage all the Church's members to bring Christ's salvation to everyone of all generations until Christ comes again in glory on the last day. Alleluia.

Remember Jesus what you said to the young infant Church at her start of taking on such a universal mission to all nations under Heaven. All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. Baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always at the end of the age. Matthew 28:16-20.

In Colmcilles days in Iona he spread the Gospel in Scotland and Northern England. And what did I find in Hamilton, New Zealand, 1965? Where my New Zealand wife Teri lived and lived there for a while to save our marriage before Teri got her divorce. I gave a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to the new Church of St. Colmcille in Hamilton. When later I worked in Sydney I visited the highest mountains in Australia called the Snowy Mountains, N.S.W. did I find a surprise to make my Donegal blood boil to High Do? A Church of St Colmcille in the heart of the Snowy Mountains.

Pray for us St. Colmcille here at home in Donegal and in the far flung ends of the Earth. Where Churches are built in your Honour, for the Glory of Him who made Heaven and Earth. And tell him St. Colmcille, that he once became man, and lived among us and did not say. Jn: 14-23.

If we love Him and keep his word, the Father will love us, and the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit will come and make home in us.

# Nollaig Shonan Duit

## Céad mile failte romhat, a losa,

Céad mile failte romhat, a losa, a losa

Céad mile failte romhat, a losa

Céad mile failte romhat a Shláintheoir

Céad mile failte romhat, a losa, a losa

Gloír agus moladh duit, a losa, a losa

Gloír agus moladh duit, a losa

Gloír agus moladh duit, a Shláintheoir

Gloír, moladh agus bulochás duit, a losa, a losa

## Father, we adore you.

Father, we adore You,

Lay our lives before You,

How we love You!

-Father, We Adore You

-Make Me a Channel of your Peace

-Be Thou my Vision

-Prayer of Contrition

-Isaiah 64

-St. Colmcille

Spirit, we adore You,

Lay our lives before You,

How we love You!

Myles Joseph Gallagher

Hermit Bride of Crucified Love



**Venerable  
Patrick Peyton  
*The Rosary Priest***

1909 - 1992

*The family that prays together stays together.*

Our Gallagher family said the rosary every night, in Baltoney, Gortahork, Co. Donegal.

Corney and Maggie, Sheila, Mary, Hudie, Madge, Ned, Myles.

## **The Rosary Priest**

Popes and Presidents praised him. The stars and moguls of Hollywood generously donated their time and talents to help him.

Millions of people who listened to his simple message were touched to the heart and made commitments they honoured throughout their lives.

He was Patrick Peyton, a humble, devout, single-minded Holy Cross priest who devoted his life to strengthening family life through family prayer. He wanted families everywhere to open their hearts and their homes to Our Blessed Mother and Pray the Rosary together every day.

Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, CSC was known as the “Rosary Priest.” He knew families that pray together have common moral and spiritual ideas and are supported by God’s grace and Our Lady’s loving guidance and protection. Families around the world responded eagerly to his message:

“The family that prays together stays together.”

But even though he achieved worldwide acclaim, he never forgot his humble beginnings, for his message sprang from his own rich and comforting experience of prayer with his family in their humble Irish Cottage.

I, Myles Joseph, met Fr Peyton in the Bishop’s house in Christchurch, New Zealand in the early 60’s. What a big hug he gave me. In 2020 Dec, I hired a taxi to take me to the Patrick Peyton Centre in Mayo. I prayed.



Patrick Peyton died the year I became a hermit, 1992.  
He was born 1909, a great man.

# God Bless This House



We the undersigned members of the family of:

C. GALLAGHER

## Solemnly Consecrated and Enthroned to the Divine Mercy

King of our Family and Home

on this 1 day of OCT 2016

Father CORNELIUS

Mother MARGARET

Children SHENA MARY

HUDIE MARGRET

REN

MYLES JOSEPH

Witnessed by Priest or Authorized Representative

Fr. DALE See & Gallagher

Pontifical Work of the  
Propagation of the Faith

This is to certify that

THE GALLAGHER FAMILY C O H I L E Y A N D M A N C H E S T E R V A N I T Y

are Perpetual Members of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and are entitled to all its spiritual privileges and to a share in the prayers and merits of the Missionaries, as well as in all the Masses offered every year for the living and deceased members of the Society.

Director

Date 17th December, 1992

Signature

Patricia Scanlon, G. J. ALVIN

This is the unworthy hermit speaking again to our God. Nobody listens to the modern apostle who tells the good news. Is this they say, good news? That God Almighty who made heaven and earth was born in a stable, and crucified on a cross, suffering so much until he died. All his people forsaking him? Even though Christ said; you will all leave me alone, but I am not really alone, the Father is with me. ‘Why is it if we your children whom you loved so much? Why do we all forsake you in the hour of you saving the human race. Tell us O God?’

---

Jesus said;  
Would that you were hot or cold  
But if you are lukewarm,  
I will spit you out of my mouth. Rev 3.

---

‘On top of old smoke.  
All covered with snow.  
I lost my true lover.  
For courting too slow.  
For courting’s a pleasure.  
And parting is grief.  
But a false hearted lover,  
Is worse than a thief.  
For a thief he will rob you.  
And take all you have.  
Like the cross tracks on a railroad.  
Or the stars in the sky.  
So come all you young maidens.  
Take warning from me.  
Never place your affections  
On a green willow tree.  
For the leaves  
They will wither.  
And the roots  
They will die.  
Your lover will leave you  
And you’ll never know why.’

---

History of my faith rooted in Abraham and fully blossomed in Christ Jesus, the son of God.

Myles an old man of 88. Soon I will meet my God, as I am at death's door. From 1932, with my baptism in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, my Catholic faith began in Corney and Maggie's family in Baltoney. That faith had its roots in Abraham's Our Father in faith and Moses gave it the Ten Commandments. After being guided by the prophets through a long historic journey of ups and downs. Finally God sent his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. Now in my time, 2000 years on, I still follow Christ who said; 'I am the way, the truth and the life, no one can come to the Father except through me.' John 14.

The year 2021 we celebrate the faith of a famous Donegal man, St Colmcille who received the faith from St Patrick who first was brought as a slave for 6 years in Antrim. After escaping he returned as a bishop missionary. And Ireland since then has kept the faith of Peter and Paul. I have many to thank for that holy faith handed down to me and soon I will have to give an account to God for the way I kept faith, hope and love., from 1932 to the 21st century. I tried to spread that faith by supporting the missions of the church worldwide, by my alms and prayers a lay Franciscan and as a consecrated hermit. Now in 2020 the only remaining member of our family left on earth. As I hope to be reunited in heaven. I will continue to help the faith on earth. Alleluia.

---

We people of Donegal should rejoice this 1500 years since St Colmcille's birth, 521 – 2021. Today the baptism of Jesus, I sang the lovely song 'Mo Sean Dun na nGall' at Ards Franciscan Friary to the son of Dr McGinley, Niall and his Dutch wife Marie and son and daughter Peter and Magdeline who teach in Dublin. Small world!!

I went to New Zealand in 1953 on my 21st birthday and as our famous Donegal singer of world fame, Bridie Gallagher, sang 'Why did he part to break the heart of the girl from Donegal.'

It's hard to beat a good example as our own Donegal Colmcille proves to us after 1500 years. Colmcille's example is sending us into monasteries and becoming hermits to seek God like many a lover as the psalms also show us. See how strong is the power of example.

So like an example, Colmcille would give his own county man, Myles headed to become a lay missioner to 150 aboriginal children in Western Australia.

---

See what I mean. The power of example.

Thank God even if takes many years and many words of god in the end like a moving advertisement, it catches a customer.

Coming back to my story after my Kiwi wife's divorce, I came to Sydney. I got a job as a room service waiter at Qantas, Australia's overseas airline hotel, looking after the rich and well to do guests from all over the world.

What did this restless son of Tir Connell is to do next?

Well to be honest looking after the well to do made me think. When we English and Irish went to Australia, wasn't it the 1000's years or more the home of the quiet Aboriginal race. One of the things that made me upset was the way they wiped out a tribe of Aboriginal natives in Tasmania.

As a lay missioner it was service without pay. I was so well liked that at the end of two years I stayed another year. I loved the Aboriginals. A shy, easy to get along with people once you got to know them.

After 3 years there, I went to North Queensland to work at a mine where I stayed for one year and I worked first as a labourer. But I was given every opportunity to improve my skills so in the end as I was ready to return to Donegal, I held the highest job at the plant, a kiln burner operator. A well paid job that filled my pockets with money to come home.

1974 I came home as my mother who died in 1973 wanted me to come home to keep Ned my brother company.

As my mother said, I don't like leaving Ned on his own, as he was born with a disability. I came home as she wished in 1974.

The aborigines called me back.

Missio of Aboriginals in Western Australia asked would I like to come back. As a follower of St Colmcille's eagerness to be a missioner, so Donegal Myles took off by air for faraway Australia.

But this time as I took up duties as bus driver and baker.

My health started to show on me and as I was so well thought of by all the priests and lay missionaries, now it is strange how human nature can go from loving you to hating you.

I had this experience from my loving Kiwi wife first. There was no man in her life like the Donegal Myles, but it soon went to hate. But it came to Jesus himself, had the same poisons given to him. Didn't he say as it is written that they hated me for no reason.

Jesus I know how you felt. And you made me your humble Donegal follower walk in your footsteps.

What was Jesus' most important message? You guessed right.  
LOVE.

But Jesus also pointed out:

Persecution

It's strange, is it not.

How the two are always appearing in the history of Christianity.

Persecution

And

Love.

It should be love. But Jesus himself was forever persecuted. Why?

A good question?

It seems that love is proved by what Jesus said;

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

As our Saviour that's how he loved us.

And Jesus' greatest friends got Jesus' invitation to do as he did.

That's why the martyrs who followed in Christ the world's Saviour in his footsteps, but as Jesus has the highest place in heaven, so also his closest friends has to be crucified with Jesus as Paul tells us,

With Christ, he says, I am crucified on the cross and I live and not I but Christ lives in me. Gal 2:20

But as the greatest love leads to the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, our eternal happiness where we will share with God his home which was his without beginning and will never end.

St Teresa of Avila used to feel out of herself by saying often in her cell in her monastery I am going to heaven forever and ever. Alleluia.

But think of Satan. What is at the end of his pilgrimage?

Hell. Where he and his rebels will suffer forever and ever the flames of hell fire. Unless he too and those he leads astray, repents, at the mercy God holds out to them.

Would it be so great a happiness to God and all if the end of the story

In God's great love story, as every actor is necessary in a story. So please try not to pray for such a request to St Michael. If as humans don't want any human to be lost. The angels too have a love for their angels who fell. Rather than throw Satan and his angels into hell; Jesus shows God's soft spot for fallen angels when he says to us; Do not rejoice when the evil spirits submit to you. Rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.

Jesus also said' There is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents.

Be patient like Jesus, who alone can see better than us. How much the Holy Trinity longs for his creatures to fill his house into the fullest; Did God not send his son into the world to become man and die the agony on the cross and rise again.

To open our Father's home to all who wander from him.

Glory to God. Who knows his love story and please God it is a great love. That one day coming into our hearts will know how great the love of the Holy Trinity is.

God is love.

Is that really understood?

With these thoughts wishing for all angels and humans to be saved and no one to be lost. How can we as human sinners, as a Pope did a few hundred years ago asking us, to pray to St Michael the Archangel with the power of God to cast Satan and the wicked spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls into hell fires. Now consider such a prayer said until Vatican II ended it. Now it starts to come back again.

Is this prayer all going to the mind of Jesus? Did not Jesus as our only Saviour show that Satan even if he doesn't know it, he is necessary to keep us all from falling into hell.

Take Satan way as the prayer asks. Will we as human sinners be correct if there is no Satan? Try to see why God allows Satan to try us, even Jesus himself was tempted by Satan. It seems to me that always kept hidden.

But what a joy if please God all is saved and no one lost.

Praise God that one day still to come,

The story of God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now living in us. See John 14.23

May it be the home of all. Alleluia.  
By us angels or humans?  
If you don't understand God's love, ask him.  
He said; Ask and you will receive.  
St Paul said; Hope doesn't disappoint us, because God's love is poured  
into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. Rom 5.5  
I love you, said Jesus, just as the Father loves me. Remain in my love.  
John 15.

To approach God who is wisdom.  
One has to see how God gave King Solomon the gift of wisdom.  
Solomon asked God for the gift of wisdom. And God was so glad to  
give King Solomon the gift of wisdom. The same King Solomon said  
as he then possessed God's wisdom. He said only God can give us  
the gift of chastity. It was in wisdom which only God has, that Mary  
got the gift of perpetual chastity. Now to see how, wisdom enable  
King Solomon to judge rightly. When two women came before him  
to see which of them was the true mother of the baby in dispute. King  
Solomon as he questions both to see who was the real mother?  
To the first woman he asked; Do you want me to kill the baby and let  
you have the dead baby? She said yes.

Then the other did not want to kill the baby. King Solomon said' Give  
this woman the live baby, for he knew by God's wisdom that a true  
mother would not kill her baby.

Because of this wisdom, the people saw that King Solomon judged as  
God would judge. Now recently a man asked about the Pope's prayer  
to St Michael of the heavenly host. To cast Satan into hell. Some told  
him that the church stopped the prayer at Vatican II. But the man said,  
I must look into this prayer. To see if God would allow this prayer to  
be fulfilled. Just as the Virgin Mary's prayer was fulfilled immediately  
when she answered the Angel Gabriel saying to him when God wanted  
Mary's consent to the great mystery of the incarnations. At this point  
waiting the virgin's answer, St Bernard was saying, Mary say yes, or  
will we ever again have God become man as our Saviour. As if Mary  
heard Bernard's request so urgently needed by us sinners of Adam and  
Eve. So Mary said these words that delighted God, and all angels and  
the whole human race.

Say it Mary, Bernard said to Mary. We all await your answer.  
And Mary said; Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done into me

according to your word. And behold the word became man, and lived among us.

Praise God, for sending his son born of a virgin woman. Mary was her name. And her son was called Jesus because he was to save his people of their sin.

Glory to God in the highest and to men on earth, peace. Sang the host of angels. When Christ the Saviour was born and laid in a manger by Mary his mother, for there was no room at the inn in Bethlehem.

So this humble child – God the son, eventually climbed the tree of the cross to die and rise again on the 3rd day. So now we can go with him back to our father in heaven. For he said; to us all on earth; ‘I am the way, the truth and the life, no one can come to the Father except through me.’

First God created angels then humans, both stand in need of eternal salvation.

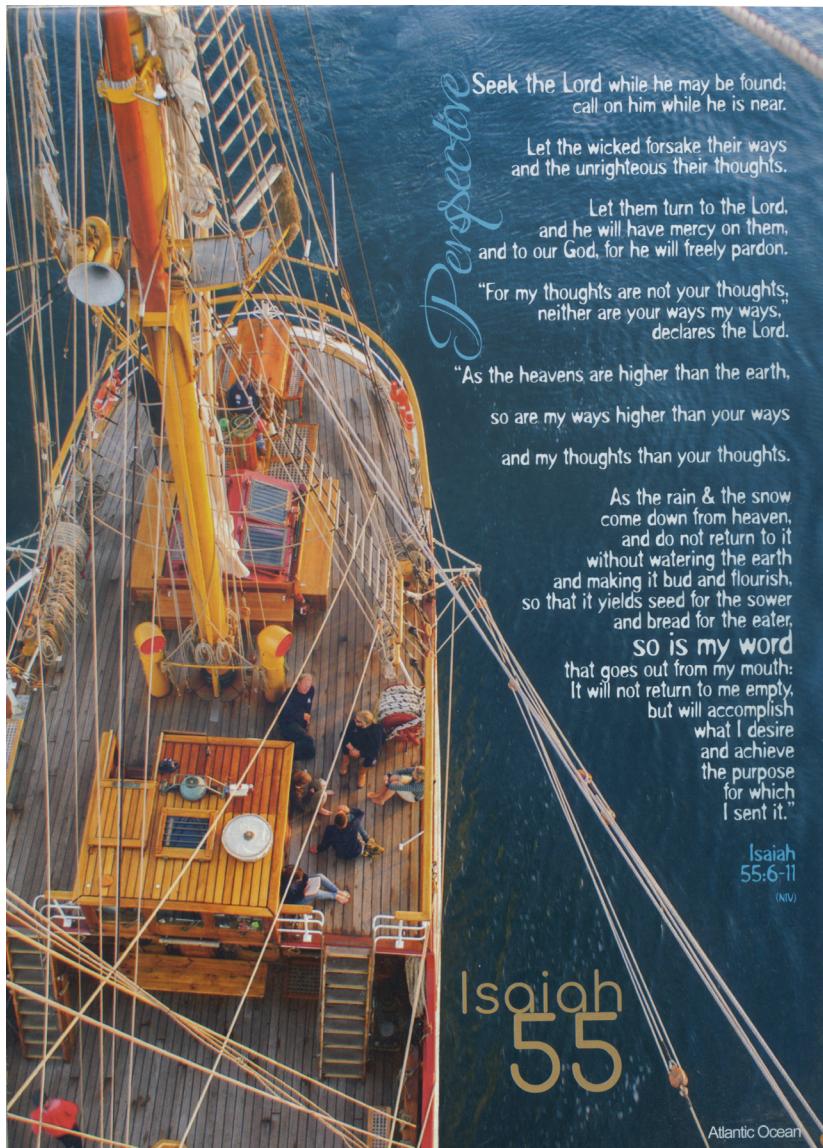
To be saved to enjoy forever and ever.

The Holy Trinity, Father and Son and Holy Spirit, who always was, is now, and ever shall be. Forever.

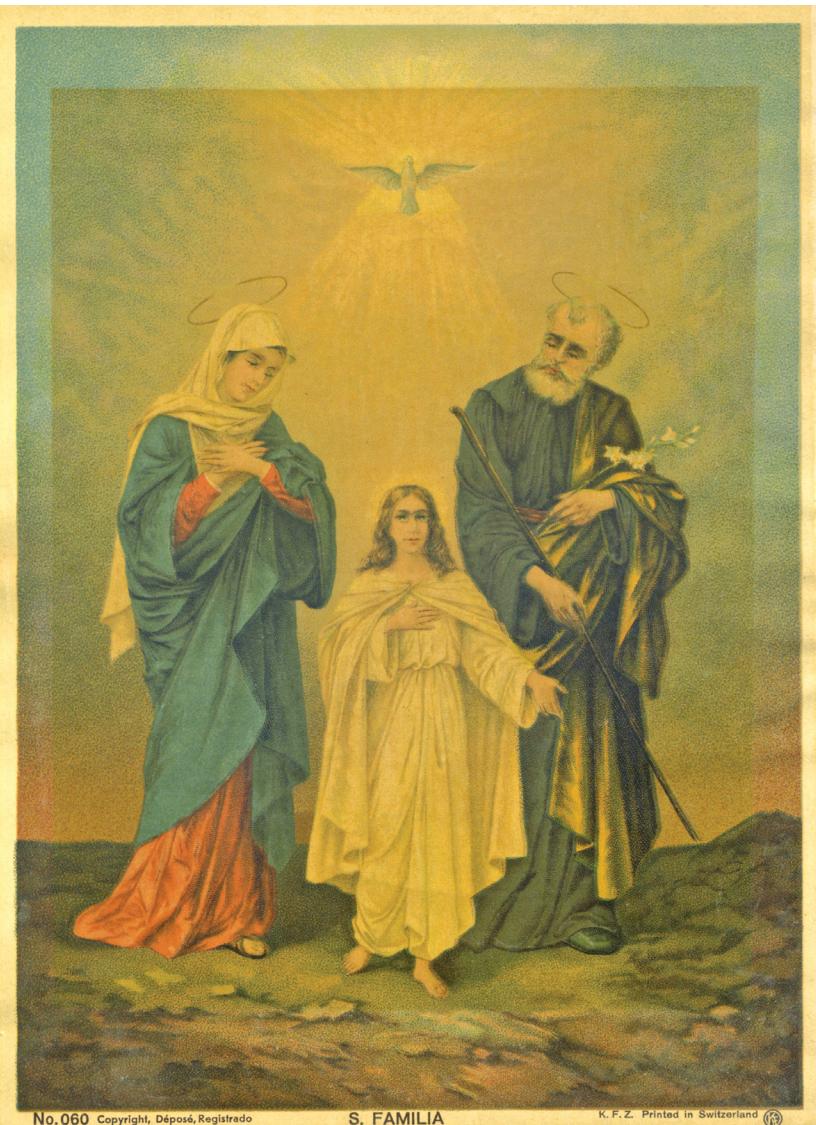
That's our great destiny, where joy, love and peace shall be ours forever. We thank God. And the lamb that was slain. Glory and praise by all angels and saints. Forever and ever.

Amen. Alleluia.

This year of grace 2021.



Isaiah  
55



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S. FAMILIA

K. F. Z. Printed in Switzerland



Jesus, Mary and Joseph



### *Céad mile fáilte romhat, a lósa*

Céad mile fáilte romhat, a lósa, a lósa  
Céad mile fáilte romhat, a lósa  
Céad mile fáilte romhat a Shlánaítheoir  
Céad mile mile failte romhat, 'lósa, a lósa

Glór agus moladh duit, a lósa, a lósa  
Glór agus moladh duit, a lósa  
Glór agus moladh duit, a Shlánaítheoir  
Glór, moladh agus buíochas duit, 'lósa, a lósa.

# Nollaig Shona Duit

### *Father, We Adore You.*

Father, We adore You.  
Lay our lives before You.  
How we love You.

Jesus, We adore You.  
Lay our lives before You.  
How we love You.

Spirit, We adore You.  
Lay our lives before You.  
How we love You.

- *Father, We Adore You*
- *Make Me a Channel of your Peace*
- *Be Thou my Vision*
- *Prayer of Contrition*
- *Isaiah 64*
- *St. Colmcille*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit Bride of Crucified Love*

## **Make Me a Channel of your Peace**

Make me a channel of Your peace

Where there is hatred let me bring Your love

Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul*

Make me a channel of Your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness, ever joy

## **Be Thou My Vision**

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me save that thou art;  
thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,

I ever with thee and thou with me Lord;  
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;  
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

3 Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,  
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my strong tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul*

Make me a channel of Your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life

4 Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,  
thou mine inheritance through all my days;  
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

5 High King of heaven, when battle is done,  
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heav'n's sun;  
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **Prayer of contrition: fourth psalm of repentance**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offense.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give  
sentence  
and be without reproach when you judge.  
O see, in guilt was I born,  
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;  
then in the secret of my heart teach me  
wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,  
that the bones you have crushed may revive.  
From my sins turn away your face  
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me,  
O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervor sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,  
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,  
burnt offering from me you would refuse;  
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.  
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

## **Isaiah 64 1-9**

Oh, that you would rend the heavens  
and come down,  
    that the mountains would tremble  
before you!  
2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze  
    and causes water to boil,  
come down to make your name known  
to your enemies  
    and cause the nations to quake before  
you!  
3 For when you did awesome things  
that we did not expect,  
    you came down, and the mountains  
trembled before you.  
4 Since ancient times no one has heard,  
    no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
    who acts on behalf of those who wait  
for him.  
5 You come to the help of those who  
gladly do right,  
    who remember your ways.  
But when we continued to sin against  
them,  
    you were angry.  
How then can we be saved?  
6 All of us have become like one who is  
unclean,  
    and all our righteous acts are like  
filthy rags;  
we all shrivel up like a leaf,  
    and like the wind our sins sweep us  
away.  
7 No one calls on your name  
    or strives to lay hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us  
    and have given us over to[b] our sins.  
8 Yet you, Lord, are our Father.  
We are the clay, you are the potter;  
    we are all the work of your hand.  
9 Do not be angry beyond measure,  
Lord;  
    do not remember our sins forever.  
Oh, look on us, we pray,  
    for we are all your people.

## **St. Colmcille**

As a Donegal Hermit, I rejoice and thank God for being able to celebrate the 3 important milestones in St. Colmcille's life. His birth in Donegal 521. His going to Iona to found a famous monastery, 563. His death in Iona 597. You are one of Ireland's patrons. I beg your prayers to strengthen our faith and love in the Church you loved so well. So that severely tried as we all are. We may arise more humble, and put the teaching of Vatican II to engage all the Church's members to bring Christ's salvation to everyone of all generations until Christ comes again in glory on the last day. Alleluia.

Remember Jesus what you said to the young infant Church at her start of taking on such a universal mission to all nations under Heaven. All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. Baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age. Matthew 28:16-20

In Colmcille's days in Iona he spread the Gospel in Scotland and Northern England. And what did I find in Hamilton, New Zealand, 1965? Where my New Zealand wife Teri lived and I lived there for a while to save our marriage before Teri got her divorce. I gave a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to the new Church of St. Colmcille in Hamilton. When later I worked in Sydney I visited the highest mountains in Australia called the Snowy Mountains, N.S.W. Did I find a surprise to make my Donegal blood boil to 'High Do'? A Church of St. Colmcille in the heart of the Snowy Mountains.

Pray for us St. Colmcille here at home in Donegal and in the far flung ends of the Earth. Where Churches are built in your Honour, for the Glory of Him who made Heaven and Earth. And tell him St. Colmcille, that he once became man, and lived among us and did not say. Jn:14-23

If we love Him and keep his Word, the Father will love us, and the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit will come and make home in us.

# I HAD A DREAM. O, WHAT A DREAM.

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

---

I had a dream. It was about my first conversion. When I seemed to wake up from my sleepy faith. I was carried to the holy city of Jerusalem 2,000 years ago, when Jesus was all the news. I could not believe my eyes, as I and all Jerusalem were struck to the heart by the presence of God in our midst. The Holy Spirit made us understand this Saviour sent by the Father to save the world. I was convinced with a strong faith in the power and love of this Saviour of mankind that nothing I thought would destroy. Victory was certain right through until he said, he would return again to complete our salvation. But my dream saw me facing a world so different in its coldness to the first fire set alight by Jesus, I began to lose faith in Jesus and the church like Peter as he began to sink in the stormy waters crying to Jesus; Save me or I perish.

Me now returning from my dream of dreams to face the reality of the year 2020 and see such a vast difference since you

Jesus was the heart and soul of the first Christians who went through with you in your death and resurrection, ascension and coming of the Holy Spirit. This is the faith as we believe it in the New Testament that would survive every attack against it until you would come again in glory and complete our universal salvation. But like other believers such a rosy faith as I had, had to be tested by you Jesus to see if we could stand firm to the end. Like the prophets of old in their testing. They humbly said; one after the other.

‘I am no better than my forefathers  
O God do not count on me.’  
The Psalms too saw through our poor spiritual lives saying;  
‘There is no one who does good.  
No, not even one.’

After all my reasons to be confident I was now reduced to trust neither myself or the church. But only you Jesus. I put my trust in the Son of God our Saviour and no other. Alleluia.

Since the church in our time is undergoing a crisis because of Covid 19, this brings about a strain on everything from top to bottom. Each one can help to strengthen the whole church using every means possible to him. Faith, hope and love. ‘The fruits of the Holy Spirit.’ The 8 Beatitudes. Union with Christ in the Eucharist. Spiritual marriage. And John 14:23 which helps every believer to worship the 3 persons. Although now on earth invisible. Yet the word of God is a sure guide, to guide us through this valley of darkness to the eternal sunshine of the wonderful glory of heaven. Our true home prepared for us by Jesus who ascended and is getting a place ready for us, and will come to take us where he is to enjoy the sight of the glory of his humanity. But also to share with him the fullness of his divinity, the Son of God, together with his Father and the Holy Spirit. Lord Jesus, strengthen our faith, to overcome the trial of Covid 19. And when the house of the whole church is back to normal again, each of us will sigh a breath of relief as we go on together building each other up in the amazing faith, hope and love, God the Father gave us when he sent into the world his only begotten Son, Jesus our Saviour. The whole church is at work with Jesus; we love you Jesus, today, and always.

Christ yesterday.

Christ today.

And Christ forever, the Son of the living God, Alleluia.

St Peter tells us to strengthen us after our trials;

‘You love him. Even though you do not see him. Yet you are filled with a joy so great that it cannot be described, because you believe. Lord increase our faith and St Paul in his letter to Colosians says also a word of encouragement to our time. Thanks St Paul.

As you say;

‘For you are dead, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ is revealed and he is your life. You also will be revealed with him in glory.’

While we all are as weak as water,

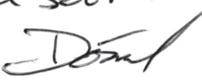
‘Christ once changed water into wine.’ Jn 2. Alleluia.

Last Saturday November 21st was the 56th anniversary of Vatican II publication to the world of its new constitution to the church. I was in Rome that historic day in the life of the church. As Father Liddy

of Christchurch, New Zealand invited me if I liked it to become sacristan of the Catholic Cathedral in Christchurch. I accepted his invitation. I was then a bus driver for C.I.E. in Dublin, 1963-64. Being in Rome on 21st Nov 1964 was a surprise to me.

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My nephew's son, a young scientist, a doctor of marine biology, working now in England, sent me his reflections on the effects of Covid 19 and how it provides time to enter a hermit's life, and taste the rich food for the soul in God's word to everyone no matter what is our calling.

HERE ARE DONALD'S WORDS  
TO MYLES THE HERMIT.  
It's been a tough year for everyone  
this year. Maybe its good to have  
some time to reflect. We have all  
been given a taste of hermit life! :-)  
I wish you all the best in 2021.  
I hope to see you soon.  


- *St. Patrick's Breastplate*
- *Laudato sia Dio mio Signore*
- *Lord of the Dance*
- *Colossians 3:12-17*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit Bride of Crucified Love*

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## ***St. Patrick's Breastplate***

1 I bind unto myself today  
the strong name of the Trinity  
by invocation of the same,  
the Three in One and One in Three.

2 I bind this day to me forever,  
by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,  
his baptism in the Jordan river,  
his death on cross for my salvation,  
his bursting from the spiced tomb,  
his riding up the heavenly way,  
his coming at the day of doom,  
I bind unto myself today.

3 I bind unto myself today  
the virtues of the starlit heaven,  
the glorious sun's life-giving ray,  
the whiteness of the moon at even,  
the flashing of the lightning free,  
the whirling wind's tempestuous  
shocks,  
the stable earth, the deep salt sea  
around the old eternal rocks.

4 I bind unto myself today  
the power of God to hold and lead,  
God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,  
God's ear to hearken to my need,  
the wisdom of my God to teach,  
God's hand to guide, God's shield to  
ward,  
the word of God to give me speech,  
God's heavenly host to be my guard.

5 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.

6 I bind unto myself the name,  
the strong name of the Trinity  
by invocation of the same,  
the Three in One and One in Three,  
of whom all nature has creation,  
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.  
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;  
salvation is of Christ the Lord!

## **Laudato sia Dio mio Signore**

1 All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam:

O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;  
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire, so masterful and bright,  
that givest us both warmth and light:

4 Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in thee  
grow,  
let them his glory also show:

5 All ye that are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God, and on him cast your care:

6 And thou, most kind and gentle  
death,  
waiting to hush our latest breath,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou leadest home the child of God,  
and Christ our Lord the way has trod:

7 Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness;  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the  
Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

## ***Lord of the Dance***

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem  
I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you  
may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance,  
said he*

I danced for the scribe  
And the pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people

Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high,  
And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.

## ***Colossians 3:12-17***

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Every year the Catholic church follows Christ from Advent to the end of Christ's saving mysteries which is Pentecost.

The greatest words of Christ which St John's Gospel contains is the 14th Chapter to the end of the 17th Chapter. These treasures of God's words is recalled every year as the greatest proof of God's love for us.

At the end of my book I will with the grace of God follow the church by the love I show Jesus by listening like Mary Magdalene like a beloved disciple like John to the words that make us follow Jesus to the heavenly Father.

# A WORD FROM EACH OF THE 21 CHAPTERS OF ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

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|--|--|
| Chapter 1. 'The word was made flesh and lived among us.'   | Chapter 12. 'Whoever believes in me, believes not only in me but in Him who sent me.'  |
| Chapter 2. 'Do what he tells you.'   | Chapter 13. 'Love one another as I have loved you.'  |
| Chapter 3. 'God loved the world so much as to give his only Son so that those who believed in him may not perish but have eternal life.' | Chapter 14. 'Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him. And we, Father, Son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.' |
| Chapter 4. 'The time is now when the true worshippers will adore the Father in spirit and in truth.'                                     | Chapter 15. 'I love you, just as my Father loves me. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandment you will remain in my love.'                              |
| Chapter 5. 'I am telling you the truth, those who hear my words and believe in him who sent me has eternal life.'                        | Chapter 16. 'I came from the Father into the world and go to the Father.'  |
| Chapter 6. 'I am the bread of life.'   | Chapter 17. 'That they may all be one.'  |
| Chapter 7. 'Let him who is thirsty, come to me and drink.'   | Chapter 18. 'My kingdom is not of this world.'   |
| Chapter 8. 'I am the light of the world.'  | Chapter 19. I thirst   |
| Chapter 9. 'I believe Lord and knelt beside Jesus.'  | Chapter 20. 'My Lord and my God.'  |
| Chapter 10. 'I am the good shepherd.'  | Chapter 21. 'Do you love me? Lord you know everything, you know that I love you.'  |
| Chapter 11. 'I am the resurrection and the life.'  |  |

# A SINGLE WORD FROM EACH OF THE 150 PSALMS TO PONDER

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Psalm 1.	Happy	Psalm 37.	Mourning
Psalm 2.	Son	Psalm 38.	Watchful
Psalm 3.	Holy	Psalm 39.	Waited
Psalm 4.	Answer	Psalm 40.	Happy
Psalm 5.	Words	Psalm 41.	Yearning
Psalm 6.	Mercy	Psalm 42.	Defend
Psalm 7.	Justice	Psalm 43.	Victories
Psalm 8.	Name	Psalm 44.	Wedding
Psalm 9.	Rejoice	Psalm 45.	Power
Psalm 10.	Refuge	Psalm 46.	Clap
Psalm 11.	Help	Psalm 47.	Joy
Psalm 12.	Anxiety	Psalm 48.	Hear
Psalm 13.	Heart	Psalm 49.	Beauty
Psalm 14.	Holy	Psalm 50.	Repent
Psalm 15.	God	Psalm 51.	Goodness
Psalm 16.	Cry	Psalm 52.	Heaven
Psalm 17.	Love	Psalm 53.	Save
Psalm 18.	Glory	Psalm 54.	Rest
Psalm 19.	Victory	Psalm 55.	Trust
Psalm 20.	Strength	Psalm 56.	Shine
Psalm 21.	Forsaken	Psalm 57.	Speak
Psalm 22.	Goodness	Psalm 58.	Love
Psalm 23.	Fullness	Psalm 59.	Bravely
Psalm 24.	Soul	Psalm 60.	Exile
Psalm 25.	Judgment	Psalm 61.	Firm
Psalm 26.	Safe	Psalm 62.	Longing
Psalm 27.	Call	Psalm 63.	Voice
Psalm 28.	Power	Psalm 64.	Vows
Psalm 29.	Rescued	Psalm 65.	Thanksgiving
Psalm 30.	Shame	Psalm 66.	Song
Psalm 31.	Happy	Psalm 67.	Blessed
Psalm 32.	Ring	Psalm 68.	Love
Psalm 33.	Humble	Psalm 69.	Aid
Psalm 34.	Plead	Psalm 70.	God
Psalm 35.	Sin	Psalm 71.	Justice
Psalm 36.	Life	Psalm 72.	Good

Psalm 73.	Remember	Psalm 113.	Alleluia
Psalm 74.	Sing	Psalm 114.	Alleluia
Psalm 75.	Great	Psalm 115.	Gratitude
Psalm 76.	Compassion	Psalm 116.	Alleluia
Psalm 77.	Teaching	Psalm 117.	Thanks
Psalm 78.	Tell	Psalm 118.	Happy
Psalm 79.	Shepherd	Psalm 119.	Peace
Psalm 80.	Harvest	Psalm 120.	Help
Psalm 81.	Poor	Psalm 121.	Rejoiced
Psalm 82.	Silent	Psalm 122.	Mercy
Psalm 83.	Lovely	Psalm 123.	Help
Psalm 84.	Forgave	Psalm 124.	Peace
Psalm 85.	Console	Psalm 125.	Sowing
Psalm 86.	Home	Psalm 126.	House
Psalm 87.	Prayer	Psalm 127.	Home
Psalm 88.	Promises	Psalm 128.	Name
Psalm 89.	Favour	Psalm 129.	Repentance
Psalm 90.	Protection	Psalm 130.	Silent
Psalm 91.	Good	Psalm 131.	Son
Psalm 92.	Holiness	Psalm 132.	Unity
Psalm 93.	Happy	Psalm 133.	House
Psalm 94.	Joy	Psalm 134.	Alleluia.
Psalm 95.	Proclaim	Psalm 135.	Love
Psalm 96.	Rejoice	Psalm 136.	Exile
Psalm 97.	Salvation	Psalm 137.	Faithful
Psalm 98.	Holy	Psalm 138.	Search
Psalm 99.	Joy	Psalm 139.	Rescue
Psalm 100.	Friend	Psalm 140.	Prayer
Psalm 101.	Endure	Psalm 141.	Goodness
Psalm 102.	Soul	Psalm 142.	Repentance
Psalm 103.	Renew	Psalm 143.	Love
Psalm 104.	Wonderful	Psalm 144.	Works
Psalm 105.	Alleluia.	Psalm 145.	Fidelity
Psalm 106.	Redeemed	Psalm 146.	Alleluia
Psalm 107.	Victory	Psalm 147.	Praise
Psalm 108.	Silent	Psalm 148.	Alleluia
Psalm 109.	Revelation	Psalm 149.	Alleluia
Psalm 110.	Alleluia	Psalm 150.	Alleluia
Psalm 111.	Alleluia		
Psalm 112.	Alleluia		

# WORDS FROM THE 8 CHAPTERS OF THE SONG OF SONGS

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Kiss	Sister
Love	Bride
Oils	Fountain
Perfume	Fruits
Exult	Awake
Rejoice	Garden
Wine	Come
Beautiful	Eat
Fragrance	Drink
Beloved	Love
Vineyards	Listen
Lovely	Knocking
Rose	Perfect
Lily	Garment
Voice	Love
Mountains	Radiant
Hills	Spices
Arise	Appearance
Love	Speech
Dove	Friend
Sweet	Fairest
Blossom	Beloved
Beloved	Beautiful
Seek	Darling
Found	Moon
Held	Sun
Wedding	Graceful
Bride	Pleasant
Bridegroom	Palm
Ravished	Desire
Scent	Love

**THE CHURCH HAS GREAT LOVE FOR THE GOSPEL  
OF JOHN ALSO A GREAT LOVE FOR THE FIRST  
LETTER OF JOHN WHICH THE FAITHFUL CHURCH  
PUTS INTO PRACTICE IN HER OWN LIFE. ONE JOHN  
IS A SURE GUIDE A SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL. IF  
WE TAKE IT TO HEART, WE CAN'T GO WRONG.**

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER, HERMIT,  
BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE

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## **1 JOHN** **THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **The incarnate Word**

**1**

Something which has existed since the beginning,  
that we have heard,  
and we have seen with our own eyes;  
that we have watched  
and touched with our hands:  
the Word, who if life -  
this is our subject.  
That life was made visible:  
we saw it and we are giving our testimony,  
telling you of the eternal life  
which was with the Father and has been made visible to us.  
What we have seen and heard  
we are telling you  
so that you too may be in union with us,  
as we are in union  
with the Father  
and with his Son Jesus Christ.  
We are writing this to you to make our own joy complete.

### **1. WALK IN THE LIGHT**

This is what we have heard from him,  
and the message that we are announcing to you:  
God is light; there is no darkness in him at all.  
If we say that we are in union with God  
while we are living in darkness,  
we are lying because we are not living the truth.

But if we live our lives in the light,  
as he is in the light,  
we are in union with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus, his Son,  
purifies us from all sin.

**First condition: break with sin**

If we say we have no sin in us,  
we are deceiving ourselves  
and refusing to admit the truth;  
but if we acknowledge our sins,  
then God who is faithful and just  
will forgive our sins and purify us  
from everything that is wrong.  
To say that we have never sinned  
is to call God a liar  
and to show that his word is not in us.

**2**

I am writing this, my children,  
to stop sinning;  
but if anyone should sin,  
we have our advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ, who is just;  
be is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,  
and not only ours,  
but the whole world's.

**Second condition: keep the commandments, especially the law of love**

We can be sure that we know God  
only by keeping his commandments.  
Anyone who says, 'I know him',  
and does not keep his commandments,  
is a liar,  
refusing to admit the truth.  
But when anyone does obey what he has said,  
God's love comes to perfection in him.  
We can be sure  
that we are in God  
only when the one who claims to be living in him  
is living the same kind of life as Christ lived.  
My dear people,  
this not a new commandment that I am writing to tell you,  
but an old commandment  
that you were given from the beginning,  
the original commandment which was the message brought to you.  
Yet in another way, what I am writing to you,  
and what is being carried out in your lives as it was in his,

is a new commandment;  
because the night is over  
and the real light is already shining.  
Anyone who claims to be in the light  
but hates his brother  
is still in the dark.  
But anyone who loves his brother is living in the light  
and need not be afraid of stumbling;  
unlike the man who hates his brother and is in the darkness,  
not knowing where he is going,  
because it is too dark to see.

### **Third condition: detachment from the world**

I am writing to you, my own children,  
whose sins have already been forgiven through his name;  
I am writing to you, fathers,  
who have come to know the one  
who has existed since the beginning;  
I am writing to you, young men,  
who have already overcome the Evil One;  
I have written to you, children,  
because you already know the Father;  
I have written to you, fathers,  
because you have come to know the one  
who has existed since the beginning;  
I have written to you, young men,  
because you are strong and God's word has made its home in you,  
and you have overcome the Evil One.  
You must not love this passing world  
or anything that is in the world.  
The love of the Father cannot be  
in any man who loves the world,  
because nothing the world has to offer  
the sensual body,  
the lustful eye,  
pride in possessions -  
could ever come from the Father  
but only from the world;  
and the world, with all it craves for,  
is coming to an end;  
but anyone who does the will of God  
remains for ever.

### **Fourth condition: be on guard against the enemies of Christ**

Children, these are the last days;  
you were told that an Antichrist must come,  
and now several antichrists have already appeared;

we know from this that these are the last days.  
Those rivals of Christ came our of our own number, but they had never really belonged;  
if they had belonged, they would have stayed with us;  
but they left us, to prove that not one of them ever belonged to us.  
But you have been anointed by the Holy One,  
and have all received the knowledge.  
It is not because you do not know the truth that I am writing to you but rather because you know it already and know that no lie can come form the truth.  
The man who denies that Jesus is the Christ - he is a liar,  
he is Antichrist;  
and he is denying the Father as well as the Son, because no one who has the Father can deny the Son, and to acknowledge the Son is to have the Father as well.  
Keep alive in yourselves what you were taught in the beginning: as long as what you were taught in the beginning is alive in you, you will live in the Son  
and in the Father;  
and what is promised to you by his own promise is eternal life.  
This is all that I am writing to you about the people who are trying to lead you astray.  
But you have not lost the anointing that he gave you, and you do not need anyone to teach you; the anointing he gave teaches you everything; you are anointed with truth, not with a lies, and as it has taught you, so you must stay in him.  
Live in Christ, then, my children, so that if he appears, we may have full confidence, and not turn from him in shame at his coming.  
You know that God is righteous - then you must recognise that everyone whose life is righteous has been begotten by him.

## II. LIVE AS GOD'S CHILDREN

### 3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore is doesn't acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God

but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

First condition: break with sin  
Surely everyone who entertains this hope  
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.  
Anyone who sins at all  
breaks the law,  
because to sin is to break the law.  
Now you know that he appeared in order to abolish sin,  
and that in him there is no sin;  
anyone who lives in God does not sin,  
and anyone who sins  
has never seen him or known him.  
My children, do not let anyone lead you astray:  
to live a holy life  
is to be holy just as he is holy;  
to lead a sinful life is to belong to the devil,  
since the devil was a sinner from the beginning.  
It was to undo all that the devil has done  
that the Son of God appeared.  
No one who had been begotten by God sins;  
because God's seed remains inside him,  
he cannot sin when he has been begotten by God.

**Second condition: keep the commandments, especially the law of love**

In this way we distinguish the children of God  
from the children of the devil:  
anybody not living a holy life  
and not loving his brother  
is no child of God's.  
This is the message  
as you heard it from the beginning:  
that we are to love one another;  
not to be like Cain, who belonged to the Evil One  
and cut his brother's throat;  
cut his brother's throat simply for this reason,  
that his own life was evil and his brother lived a good life.  
You must not be surprised, brothers, when the world hates you;  
we have passed out of death and into life,  
and of this we can be sure  
because we love our brothers.  
If you refuse to love, you must remain dead;  
to hate your brother is to be a murderer,  
and murderers, as you know, do not have eternal life in them.

This has taught us love -  
that he gave up his life for us;  
and we, too, ought to give up our lives for our brothers.  
If a man who was rich enough in this world's goods  
saw that one of his brothers was in need,  
but closed his heart to him,  
how could the love of God be living in him?  
My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience and he knows  
everything.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.  
Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Third condition: be on guard against the enemies of Christ and against the world**

**4** It is not every spirit, my dear people, that you can trust;  
test them, to see if they come from God;  
there are many false prophets, now, in the world.  
You can tell the spirits that come from God by this:  
every spirit which acknowledges that Jesus the Christ has come  
in the flesh  
is from God;  
but any spirit which will not say this of Jesus  
is not from God,  
but is the spirit of Antichrist,  
whose coming you were warned about.  
Well, now he is here, in the world.  
Children,

you have already overcome these false prophets,  
because you are from God and you have in you  
one who is greater than anyone in this world;  
as for them, they are of the world,  
and so they speak the language of the world  
and the world listens to them.

But we are children of God.  
and those who know God listen to us;  
those who are not of God refuse to listen to us.  
This is now we can tell  
the spirit of truth from the spirit of falsehood.

### III. LOVE AND FAITH

#### Love

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,  
because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed  
when God sent into the world his only Son  
so that we could have life through him;  
this is the love I mean:  
not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

My dear people,  
since God has loved us so much,  
we too should love one another.  
No one has ever seen God;  
but as lone as we love one another  
God will live in us  
and his love will be complete in us.  
We can know that we are living in him  
and he is living in us  
because he lets us share his Spirit.

We ourselves saw and we testify  
that the Father sent his Son  
as saviour of the world.

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,  
God lives in him, and he in God.

We ourselves have known and put our faith in  
God's love towards ourselves.

God is love  
and anyone who lives in love lives in God,

and God lives in him.  
Love will come to its perfection in us  
when we can face the day of Judgement without fear;  
because even in this world  
we have become as he is.  
In love there can be no fear,  
but fear is driven out by perfect love:  
because to fear is to expect punishment,  
and anyone who is afraid is still imperfect in love.  
We are to love, then,  
because he loved us first.  
Anyone who says, ‘I loved God’.  
and hates his brother,  
is a liar,  
since a man who does not love the brother that he can see  
cannot love God, whom he had never seen.  
So this is the commandment that he has given us,  
that anyone who loves God must also love his brother.

**5** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ  
has been begotten by God;  
and whoever loves the Father that begot him  
loves the child whom he begets.  
We can be sure that we love God’s children  
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;  
this is what loving God is -  
keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world;  
this is the victory over the world -  
our faith.

## Faith

Who can overcome the world?  
Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;  
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,  
not with water only,  
but with water and blood;  
with the Spirit as another witness -  
since the Spirit is the truth -  
so that there are three witnesses,  
the Spirit, the water and the blood,  
and all three of them agree.  
We accept the testimony of human witnesses,  
but God’s testimony is much greater,  
and this is God’s testimony,

given as evidence for his Son.  
Everybody who believes in the Son of God  
has his testimony inside him;  
and anyone who will not believe God  
is making God out to be a liar,  
because he has not trusted  
the testimony God has given about his Son.  
This is the testimony:  
God has given us eternal life  
and this life is in his Son;  
anyone who has the Son has life,  
anyone who does not have the Son does not have life.

### **Conclusion**

I have written all this to you  
so that you who believe in the name of the Son of God  
may be sure that you have eternal life.

### **Prayer for sinners**

We are quitted confident that if we ask him for anything,  
and it is in accordance with his will,  
he will hear us;  
and, knowing that whatever we may ask, he hears us,  
we know that we have already been granted what we asked of him.  
If anybody sees his brother commit a sin  
that is not a deadly sin,  
he has only to pray, and God will give life to the sinner  
- not those who commit a deadly sin;  
for there is a sin that is death,  
and I will not say that you must pray about that.  
Every kind of wrong-doing is sin,  
but not all sin is deadly.

### **Summary of the letter**

We know that anyone who had been begotten by God does not sin,  
because the begotten Son of God protects him,  
and the Evil Ones does not touch him.  
We know that we belong to God,  
but the whole world lies in the power of the Evil One.  
We know, too, that the Son of God has come,  
and have given us the power  
to know the true God.  
We are in the true God,  
as we are in his Son, Jesus Christ.  
This is the true God,  
this is eternal life.  
Children, be on your guard against false gods.



**MOST FAMOUS SAYINGS OF  
JESUS THE SON OF GOD  
THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD  
AND BRIDEGROOM OF THE CHURCH.**

*Words from the 4 Gospels  
of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.*

M.J.G. HERMIT,  
BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE

**S**ee Gods love for us and our love for God thats what its all about. Its vital that God loves us. But its no use unless we love him in return. That's the big difference between Satan and Christ. One loves, the other hates, our eternal destiny will depend on which side we are on? Chose 'Eternal love! Reject 'Eternal Hatred!' We say in the Lords prayer deliver us from evil thats what we promised in Baptism. Then all God's promises will be ours.

The Church, Christs bride prays for us before we receive the bridegroom in Holy Communion. 'Deliver us O Lord from every evil, grant us peace in our time and in your mercy keep us free from sin and safe from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our saviour Jesus Christ. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours then the church grants us peace with God and each other and then prays 'Lord I am not worthy that you should come under my roof say but the word and my soul shall be healed.' Amen, Alleluia. Then we receive Jesus pledge of eternal life.

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the lamb. Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

‘I have made known to you all that I heard from my Father’ Jn 15

Mary the mother of God said; “Do whatever my son Jesus tells you.” John 2. ‘This is my son, the beloved with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him. Matt 17. ‘Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life and we believe and know that you are the holy one of God.’ John 6. ‘I still have many things to say to you.’ John 16:12 ‘Everyone is searching for you’ Mark 1 ‘All spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth’. Luke 4

### **Matthew**

[The angel said], “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”

“She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, God is with us.

When Jesus had been baptized [by John], just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

A voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.

The tempter came and said to Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, ‘It is written: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’

The devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, He will command his angels concerning you; and On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash you foot against a stone.” Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written, Worship the Lord your God, and

serve only him.'

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

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.'

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.'

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.'

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.'

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.'

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.'

'In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

'You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.'

'You have heard that it was said: An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also.'

'You have heard that it was said: You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.'

'If you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?'

‘Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.’

‘Whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.’

‘When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.’

‘Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.’

‘Your kingdom come.’

‘Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.’

‘Give us this day our daily bread.’

‘Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.’

‘Do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.’

‘If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.’

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?’

‘Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.’

‘Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.’

‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.’

‘Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.’

‘Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.’

‘Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord”, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven.’

‘Everyone then who bears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.’

The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.”

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.’

‘Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.’

‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.’

‘Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.’

‘Whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.’

‘Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.’

‘My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.’

Jesus said to [his disciples] ‘Who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter

answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.’

‘I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’

‘Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If you want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.’

‘For what will it profit someone to gain the whole world but forfeit his life? Or what will someone give in return for that life?’

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, ‘this is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!’

When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Get up and do not be afraid.’ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times.’

Someone came to Jesus and said, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” And he said to him, ‘Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.’ He said to him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, ‘You shall

not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honour your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, 'If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

'Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!'

'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you? And the king will answer them: Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me.'

### Mark

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.'

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

'All things can be done for the one who believes.' Immediately the father of the [sick] child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

Jesus took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

'Truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.'

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as those that the kingdom of God belongs.’

‘Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.’

‘The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.’

Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’

[A scribe asked] “Which commandment is the first of all? Jesus answered, ‘The first is: Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.’

“Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, ‘Take; this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and said, ‘Take; this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, ‘This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine

until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.'

Jesus began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.'

And going a little farther, Jesus threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.<sup>24</sup>

Jesus came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you sleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

Again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

The high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, 'I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.' Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy!"

[They] condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.<sup>28</sup>

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out, carrying his own cross<sup>29</sup>, to crucify him.

They bought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

Jesus cried out with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ which means, My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last....When the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.....They saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”

[The women] left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings!’ And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, ‘So not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’<sup>30</sup>

Later Jesus appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.

‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been giving to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.’<sup>31</sup>

‘Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

### Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.

Gabriel came to her and said, “Greetings, O favoured one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greetings this might be.

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He

will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; He will be called Son of God.”

Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was not place for them in the inn.

An angel of the Lord stood before [the shepherds], and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.”

“To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Jesus went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read... ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’ He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

All spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!”..... Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.’ When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Word about Jesus spread abroad; many crowds would gather to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. But he would withdraw to deserted places and pray.

Some men came, carrying a paralysed man on a bed .... finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, ‘Friend, your sins are forgiven you.’

The scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say: Your sins are forgiven you; or to say: Stand up and walk? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’ - he said to the one who was paralysed - ‘I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.’ Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God.

All in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: ‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.’

‘Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.’

‘Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.’

‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.’

‘Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.’

‘Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.’

‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.’

‘Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.’

‘Do to others as you would have them do to you.’

‘If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.’

‘Love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.’

‘Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.’

‘Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do no condemn, and you will not

be condemned.'

'Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

'The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.'

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him - that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' "Teacher," he replied, "speak." 'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.'

Turning towards the woman, Jesus said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

'No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light.'

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.” But he said to them, ‘My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.’

‘Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects the one who sent me.’

At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.’

Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, ‘Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.’

“Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.” And Jesus said to him, ‘You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.’

“[But] who is my neighbour?” Jesus replied: ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, “Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.” Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ He said, “the one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’

Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many

things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Someone asked Jesus, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He said to them, 'Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able.'

'People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.'

'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

'Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, "Come; for everything is ready now." But they all alike began to make excuses .... Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, "Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame." And the slave said, "Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room." Then the master said to the slave, "Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner."

The Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.'

'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went

and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said , “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe - the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate.’

‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who had devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying this, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.” But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.’

[Zacchaeus] was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up

and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.’ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.’

‘The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.’

‘Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

‘Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strength your brothers.’

[Simon Peter] said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!” I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.<sup>32</sup>

[Later that evening the crowd] seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. A servant girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, “This man also was with him.” But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!” Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, “Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.” But Peter said, “Man I do not know what you are talking about!” At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed.

The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows today, you will deny me

three times.' And he sent out and wept bitterly.

As they led him away [to be crucified], they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus,

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one of his right and one on his left.

'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

'Two of [his disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus,<sup>33</sup> [when] Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognising him. 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along? They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going he walked ahead as if

he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he held them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

### **John**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was the God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of

the will of man, but of God.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said: After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me."

"I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is Spirit.'

'The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'

'No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.'

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.'

'God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink' .... "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" ..... 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink

of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ .... “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, where the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’

The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming .... When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’

The disciples were urging Jesus, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about .... My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.’

‘Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise.’

‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’

‘Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.’

‘This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.’

‘No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day .... Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.’

‘I am living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

‘Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.’

‘Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.’

‘The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.’

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

“Jesus cried out, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said: Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, ‘Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.’ And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, ‘Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?’ She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, ‘Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.’

‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’

‘If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’

‘Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there

for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.'

'Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death.'

'Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad.' ... "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I AM.'

'The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

'I am good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.'

'I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.'

'I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.'

'My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.'

'If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.'

Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

'Where have you laid him?' .... "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.'

‘Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.’

Then Jesus cried aloud: ‘Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.’

‘I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.’

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, ‘You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ “You will never wash my feet.” ‘Unless I wash you, you have not share with me.’ “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” ‘One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.’ For he knew who was to betray him.

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord - and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.’

‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.’

‘In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a

place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.'

'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?"

'I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?"

'I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.'

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.'

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.'

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.'

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.’

‘Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.’

‘I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.’

‘If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.’

‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.’

‘If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments, you will abide in my love.’

‘I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.’

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.’

‘No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called your friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.’

‘You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.’

‘If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world - therefore the world hates you.’

‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.’

‘It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you.’

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.’

‘So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.’

‘The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father. On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.’

‘In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!’

‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.’

‘I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.’

‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.’

‘Now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect in your name those that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.’

‘Now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.’

‘I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be done. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.’

‘Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.’

‘I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

‘Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’ Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face.

Pilate went out again and said to [the people], “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!” When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), ‘I am thirsty.’ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

Mary [Magdalene] stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels [who] said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be a gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them: I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘So you love me?’ And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.’

There are also many other things that Jesus did; if everyone of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

At the time Jesus was filled with joy by the holy spirit and said I thank you father for showing these things to little infants. Yes Father you were pleased to do that.

How do I respond to love in the scriptures? To start with ‘You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole, with your whole mind and with all your strength and you shall love your neighbour as yourself.

Thats the teaching of both old and new testaments. With the coming of Jesus I see love in a new light. He tells us ‘Love one another as I have loved you.’ We see from the 4 Gospels how Jesus loved God and us his people. He said, ‘No greater love than this, to lay down your life for your friends.’ Jesus did that on Calvary and St. Paul responded by saying ‘With Christ I am crucified on the cross and I live, now no not I but Christ lives in me.’ Then we have the sayings of scripture to help us to love as God loves us. ‘God is love and whoever lives in love lives in God and God lives in him.’ The love of God is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us.’

‘I love you’ said Jesus ‘As the father love me, remain in my love you will remain in my love if you keep my commandments just as I have kept my fathers commandments and remained in his love.

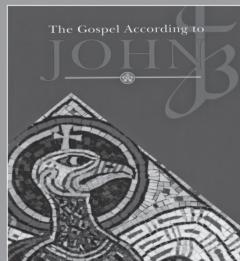
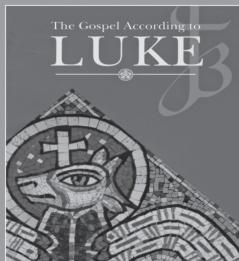
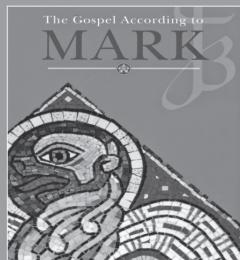
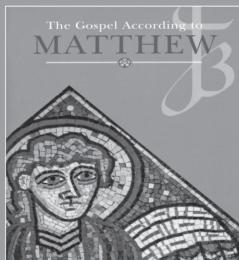
‘These 3 remain faith, hope and love and the greatest is love. Jesus gave us the Evangelical councils to be more like him poor, chaste and obedient and the church receives from us. Those 3 vows in the consecrated life. To enable us to live our Baptism promises more easily and Jesus not only gives himself to us in the Eucharist but says in John 14.23. ‘Whoever loves me will keep my words and my father will love him and we, father, son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.’ That is love from start to finish and I hope that following Jesus to Calvary and resurrection and receiving the Holy Spirit of love. I may live in ‘love’ now and forever for the praise and glory of God, Amen, Alleluia.

A courtship through scripture with my bridegroom ending with the Song of Songs. Seek and find and love him for God loves us from first to last as his bride and he proves it. Recently I covered the whole of scripture seeking, finding and loving the Lord. The first and second commandments sums it all up for one who is ready for the marriage of the lamb. The Song of Songs is the song par excellence between the bride and the bridegroom. ‘God is love’ and it is he who seeks us first with the greatest love ever. With the breath of the scripture Spirit breathing in me I relax in the intimacy and embrace of the Song of Songs praising and singing and making melody in my heart and in the heart of my bridegroom for the marriage of the lamb has come Rv. 19. Amen, Alleluia.

When Jesus had completed his work of redemption he ascended back to Heaven and he and his father sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts not only to know the Gospel but to live every word of it. And be truely blessed in love, joy and peace and spread the Gospel to the ends of the world, Amen, Alleluia.

# THE FOUR GOSPELS

WHAT THEY MEAN FOR ME A PLAIN MAN IN THE  
STREETS, AS THE PLAIN MAN PETER SAID.  
“LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? YOU HAVE THE  
WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE.” JN 6.



COMPILED FROM JER. BIBLE WITH COURTESY  
by Myles Joseph Gallagher, Hermit  
Bride of Crucified Love

“As a deer yearns for running streams so I yearn for you my God. I thirst for God, the living God; when shall I go to see the face of God?” Psalm 42.

“God you are my God I pine for you, my heart thirsts for you, my body longs for you, as a land parched, dreary and waterless.

Thus I have gazed on you in the sanctuary seeing your power and your glory.

Better your faithful love than life, my lips will praise you, thus I will bless you all my life, in your name lift up my hands, all my longings fulfilled, as with fat and rich foods. A song of joy on my lips, and praise in my mouth.

On my bed when I think of you, I muse on you in the watches of the night, for you have always been my help, in the shadow of your wings I rejoice, my heart clings to you, your right hand embraces me.” Psalm 63

“What else have I in Heaven but you? Apart from you I want nothing on earth my body and my heart faint for joy, God is my possession forever.” Psalm 73.

“I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine.” Song of songs.

“The marriage of the Lamb has come and his bride has made herself ready.” Rev. 19

“The Spirit and the Bride say; Come, Come Lord Jesus.” Amen, Alleluia, Rev. 22.

“I hear my love,  
See how he comes,  
Leaping on the mountains,  
Bounding over the hills.....  
My love lifts up his voice  
He says to me  
Come then my beloved

My lovely one come...  
Show me your face,  
Let me hear your voice,  
For your voice is sweet,  
And your face is lovely."

I found him whom my soul loves,  
I held him fast and would not let him go." Song of Songs

"Go out to the whole world and tell the Good News". Mark 16.

What the Gospels meant to St. Therese who carried a copy of the four Gospels next to her heart.

She had this to say; "Since our Lord has ascended into Heaven I can only follow him by means of the traces he has left behind. But they are full of light and love one glance at the Holy Gospel and the life of Jesus becomes a perfume that fills the very air I breathe."

Micah 6.8 Sums up the whole bible. Jesus fulfilled it. "This is all God asks for; only this. To act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with you God."

To those who do that, with Gods grace Jesus promises; what a promise! "Whoever loves me will keep my word and my father will love him and we Holy Trinity one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him." Jn 14.23

That is fulfilment, nothing more could be desired here on earth, except to see God in Heaven face to face. That's what makes the journey worth while. Ready to come to the Heavenly nuptials where the Bridegroom awaits us for the marriage of the Lamb. Alleluia.

## **The Gospel According the Matthew**

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel; she gave birth to a son; and he named him Jesus.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.’

Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’.

### **The Sermon on the Mount**

#### **The Beatitudes**

Seeing the crowds, he went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven; this is how they persecuted the prophets before you.

Salt of the earth and light of the world

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same

way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.

Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

So you should pray like this:

'Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be held holy,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,  
as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us.

And do not put us to the test,  
but save us from the evil one.

'Yes, if you forgive others their failing, your heavenly Father will forgive you yours; but if you do not forgive others, your Father will not forgive your failing either.

But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor woodworms destroy them and thieves cannot break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well.

### **The Golden Rule**

'So always treat others as you would like them to treat you; that is the meaning of the Law and the Prophets.

### **The true disciple**

'It is not those who say to me, "Lord, Lord", who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven.

'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head'.

As Jesus was walking on from there he saw a man named Matthew sitting by the customs house, and he said to him, 'Follow me'. And

he got up and followed him.

For she said to herself, 'If I can only touch his cloak I shall be well again'. 'Courage, my daughter, your faith has restored you to health'. And from that moment the woman was well again.

Do not worry about how to speak or what to say; what you are to say will be given to you when the time comes; because it is not you who will be speaking; the Spirit of your Father will be speaking in you.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me'.

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you.

At that time Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart. A good man draws good things from his store of goodness; a bad man draws bad things from his store of badness.

### **Parables of the treasures and of the pearl**

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells

everything he owns and buys the field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes'. And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

### **The transfiguration**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' 'He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

One day when they were together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, 'The Son of Man is going to be handed over into the power of men; they will put him to death, and on the third day he will be raised to life again'. And a great sadness came over them.

### **Who is the greatest?**

At this time the disciples came to Jesus and said, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? So he called a little child to him and set the child in front of them. Then he said, 'I tell you solemnly, unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. And so, the one who makes himself as little as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

### **Forgiveness of injuries**

Then Peter went up to him and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven-times? Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

### **Jesus and the children**

People brought little children to him, for him to lay his hands on them and say a prayer. The disciples turned them away, but Jesus said, ‘Let the little children alone, and do not stop them coming to me; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs’. Then he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

For many are called, but few are chosen.’

### **The greatest commandment of all**

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

### **Jerusalem admonished**

‘Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often have I longed to gather your children, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you refused!

‘This Good News of the kingdom will be proclaimed to the whole world as a witness to all the nations. And then the end will come.

### **The universal significance of this coming**

‘Immediately after the distress of those days the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will fall from the sky and the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven; then too all the peoples of the earth will beat their breasts; and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet to gather his chosen from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. But as for that day and hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, no one but the Father only.

### **The death of Jesus**

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ that is, ‘My God, my God why have you deserted me?’

But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

‘There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him”. Now I have told you.’

### **Appearance in Galilee. The mission to the world**

Meanwhile the eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.’

## **The Gospel According the Mark**

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.’

Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. ‘The time has come’ he said ‘and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.’

Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, ‘Everybody is looking for you’.

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.  
The worship they offer me is worthless,  
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

### **Peter's profession of faith**

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say I am?’ And they told him. ‘John the Baptist,’ they said ‘others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.’ But you,’ he asked ‘who do you say I am?’ Peter spoke up and said to him, ‘You are the Christ’. And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

He was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, ‘Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.’ And he said to him, ‘Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days’. Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, ‘There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

### **The greatest commandment of all**

One of the scribes who had listened to them debating and had observed how well Jesus had answered them, now came up and put a question to him, ‘Which is the first of all the commandments?’ Jesus replied, ‘This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.’ The scribe said to him,

'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God'. And after that no one dared to question him any more.

### **The widow's mite**

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

Lastly, he showed himself to the Eleven themselves while they were at table. He reproached them for their incredulity and obstinacy, because they had refused to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. And he said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers; in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and the unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

## The Gospel According to Luke

### The Magnificat

And Mary said:

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;  
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.  
Yes, from this day forward all generations  
will call me blessed,  
for the Almighty has done great things for me.  
Holy is his name,  
and his mercy reaches from age to age for those  
who fear him.  
He has shown the power of his arm,  
he has routed the proud of heart.  
He has pulled down princes from their thrones  
and exalted the lowly.  
The hungry he has filled with good things,  
the rich sent empty away.  
He has come to the help of Israel his servant,  
mindful of his mercy according to the promise he made to our  
ancestors of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for  
ever.'

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manager,' the heavenly host, praising God and singing:  
'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace to men who enjoy his favour'

As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.

the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordon district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:  
A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

### **Jesus begins to preach**

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

### **Jesus at Nazareth**

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives  
and to the blind new sight,  
to set downtrodden free,  
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

### **Love of enemies**

'But I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and

the wicked.

### **Compassion and generosity**

Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

### **The mission of the Twelve**

He said to them, 'Take nothing for the journey: neither staff, nor haversack, nor bread, nor money; and let none of you take a spare tunic. Whatever house you enter, stay there; and when you leave, let it be from there. As for those who do not welcome you, when you leave their town shake the dust from your feet as a sign to them.' So they set out and went from village to village proclaiming the Good News and healing everywhere.

### **The condition of following Christ**

Then to all he said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross every day and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, that man will save it. What gain, then, is it for a man to have won the whole world and to have lost it ruined his very self? For if anyone is ashamed of me and of my words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his own glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels.

### **On using the name of Jesus**

John spoke up. 'Master,' he said 'we saw a man casting out devils in your name, and because he is not with us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said to him, 'You must not stop him: anyone who is not against you is for you'.

'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God'.

### **True cause for the apostles to rejoice**

The seventy-two came back rejoicing. ‘Lord’, they said ‘even the devils submit to us when we use your name.’ He said to them, ‘I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.’

### **The great commandment**

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert him, stood up and said to him, ‘Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said to him, ‘What is written in the Law? What do you read there?’ He replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself. ‘You have answered right,’ said Jesus ‘do this and life is yours.’

### **Martha and Mary**

In the course of their journey he came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord’s feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.’ But the Lord answered: ‘Martha, Martha,’ he said ‘you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.’

### **Effective Prayer**

‘So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

### **No compromise**

‘He who is not with me is against me; and he who does not gather with me scatters.’

### **The truly happy**

Now as he was speaking, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said, 'Happy the womb that bore you and the breasts you sucked!' But he replied, 'Still happier those who hear the word of God and keep it!'

'I tell you, if anyone openly declares himself for me in the presence of men, the Son of Man will declare himself for him in the presence of God's angels. But the man who disowns me in the presence of men will be disowned in the presence of God's angels.'

There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

### **On almsgiving**

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where not thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.'

### **The reward of renunciation**

Then Peter said, 'What about? We left all we had to follow you.' He said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, there is not one who has left house, wife, brothers, parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God who will not be given repayment many times over in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life'.

'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost'.

### **Be on the alert**

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

### **The good thief**

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the

Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

### **The death of Jesus**

'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. With these words he breathed his last.

Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

# The Gospel According to John

## Prologue

In the beginning was the Word:  
and the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.

The Word was made flesh,  
he lived among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

## The wedding at Cana

When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine’. Jesus said ‘Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.’ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you’.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world  
not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.

‘The bride is only for the bridegroom;  
and yet the bridegroom’s friend,  
who stands there and listens,  
is glad when he hears the bridegroom’s voice.  
This same joy I feel, and now it is complete.

But the hour will come - in fact it is here already -  
when true worshippers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth:  
that is the kind of worshipper  
the Father wants.  
God is spirit,  
and those who worship  
must worship in spirit and truth.’  
‘My food  
is to do the will of the one who sent me,

and to complete his work.

Anyone who eats his bread will live forever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:  
I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink his blood,  
you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I shall raise him up on the last day.  
For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink.  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me and I live in him.

### **Peter's profession of faith**

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not chosen you, you Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil.' He meant Judas son of Simon Iscariot, since this was the man, one of the Twelve, who was going to betray him.

### **The promise of living water**

On the last day and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood there and cried out:

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!

Let the man come and drink who believes in me!'

As scripture says: From his breast shall flow fountains of living water.

He was speaking of the Spirit which those who believed in him were to receive; for there was no Spirit as yet because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

Jesus, the light of the world  
When Jesus spoke to the people again, he said:  
'I am the light of the world;  
anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark;  
he will have the light of life'.

Your father Abraham rejoiced  
to think that he would see my Day;  
he saw it and was glad.'

I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

'I am the resurrection.  
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,  
and whoever lives and believes in me  
will never die.  
Do you believe this?  
'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of  
God, the one who was to come into this world.'

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another;  
just as I have loved you,  
you also must love one another.  
By this love you have for one another,  
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am going now to prepare a place for you.  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am  
you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'  
Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are  
going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:  
'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.'

No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too.  
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied'. 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip.' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.  
I tell you most solemnly,  
whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father.  
Whatever you ask for in my name I will do,  
so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.  
If you ask for anything in my name,  
I will do it.  
If you love me you will keep my commandments.  
I shall ask the Father,  
and he will give you another Advocate  
to be with you for ever,  
that Spirit of truth  
whom the world can never receive  
since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him,  
because he is with you, he is in you.  
I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come back to you.  
In a short time the world will no longer see me;  
but you will see me,  
because I live and you will live.  
On that day  
you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.  
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me;  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Judas this was not Judas Iscariot - said to him, 'Lord,  
what is all this about? Do you intend to show yourself to us and not  
to the world?' Jesus replied:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him  
and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.  
And my word is not my own:  
it is the word of the one who sent me.  
I have said these things to you  
while still with you;  
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you,  
my own peace I give you,  
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say:  
I am going away, and shall return.  
If you loved me you would have been glad  
to know that I am going to the Father,  
for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens,  
so that when it does happen you may believe.  
I shall not talk with you any longer,  
because the prince of this world is on his way.  
He has no power over me,  
but the world must be brought to know  
that I love the Father  
and that I am doing exactly what the Father told me.  
Come now, let us go.

The true vine  
'I am the true vine,  
My Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,

and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes  
to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away  
- he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should  
bear much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.  
As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you.  
Remain in my love,  
If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.  
This is my commandment:  
love one another,  
as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You did not choose me,  
no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.  
What I command you  
is to love one another.

The hostile world  
'If the world hates you,  
remember that it hated me before you.  
If you belonged to the world,  
the world would love you as its own;  
but because you do not belong to the world,  
because my choice withdrew you from the world,  
therefore the world hates you.  
Remember the words I said to you:  
A servant is not greater than his master.  
If they persecuted me,  
they will persecute you too;  
if they kept my word,  
they will keep yours as well.  
But it will be on my account that they will do all this,  
because they do not know the one who sent me.  
If I had not come,  
if I hadn't spoken to them,  
they would be blameless;  
but as it is, they have seen all this,  
and still they hate both me and my Father.  
But all this was only to fulfil the words  
written in their Law:  
They hated me for no reason."  
When the Advocate comes,  
whom I shall send to you from the Father,

the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,  
he will be my witness.  
And you too will be witnesses,  
because you have been with me from the outset.

'I have told you all this  
that your faith may not be shaken.  
They will expel you from the synagogues,  
and indeed the hour is coming  
when anyone who kills you will think he is doing  
a holy duty for God.  
They will do these things  
because they have never known either the Father or myself.  
But I have told you all this,  
so that when the time for it comes  
you may remember that I told you.

The coming of the Advocate  
'I did not tell you this from the outset,  
because I was with you;  
'but now I am going to the one who sent me.  
Not one of you has asked, "Where are you going?"  
Yet you are sad at heart because I have told you this.  
Still, I must tell you the truth:  
it is for your own good that I am going  
because unless I go,  
the Advocate will not come to you;  
but if I do go,  
I will send him to you.  
And when he comes,  
he will show the world how wrong it was,  
about sin,  
and about who was in the right,  
and about judgement:  
about sin:  
proved by their refusal to believe in me;  
about who was in the right:  
proved by my going to the Father  
and your seeing me no more;  
about judgement:  
proved by the prince of this world being  
already condemned.

I still have many things to say to you  
but they would be too much for you now.  
But when the Spirit of truth comes  
he will lead you to the complete truth,  
since he will not be speaking as from himself  
but will say only what he has learned;  
and he will tell you of the things to come.  
He will glorify me,  
since all he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.  
Everything the Father has is mine;  
that is why I said:  
All he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.

Jesus to return very soon  
'In a short time you will no longer see me,  
and then a short time later you see me again.'

Then some of his disciples said to one another,  
'What does he mean, "In a short time you will no longer see me,  
and then a short time later you will see me again" and, "I am going  
to the Father"? What is this "short time"? We don't know what he  
means.' Jesus knew that they wanted to question him, so he said,  
'You are asking one another what I meant by saying: In a short time  
you will no longer see me, and then a short time later you will see  
me again.  
'I tell you most solemnly,  
you will be weeping and wailing  
while the world will rejoice;  
you will be sorrowful,  
but your sorrow will turn to joy.  
A woman in childbirth suffers,  
because her time has come;  
but when she has given birth to the child  
she forgets the suffering  
in her joy that a man has been born into the world.  
So it is with you: you are sad now,  
but I shall see you again, and your hearts will be full of joy,  
and that joy no one shall take from you.  
When that day comes,  
you will not ask me any questions.  
I tell you most solemnly,

anything you ask for from the Father  
he will grant in my name.  
Until now you have not asked for anything in my name.  
Ask and you will receive,  
and so your joy will be complete.  
I have been telling you all this in metaphors,  
the hour is coming  
when I shall no longer speak to you in metaphors;  
but tell you about the Father in plain words.  
When that day comes  
you will ask in my name;  
and I do not say that I shall pray to the Father for you,  
because the Father himself loves you  
for loving me  
and believing that I came from God.  
I came from the Father and have come into the world and how I  
leave the world to go to the Father.'  
His disciples said, 'Now you are speaking plainly and not using  
metaphors! Now we see that you know everything, and do not have  
to wait for questions to be put into words; because of this we believe  
that you came from God.' Jesus answered them:  
'Do you believe at last?  
Listen; the time will come - in fact it has come already -  
when you will be scattered, each going his own way  
and leaving me alone.  
And yet I am not alone,  
because the Father is with me.  
I have told you all this  
so that you may find peace in me.  
In the world you will have trouble,  
but be brave:  
I have conquered the world.'  
The priestly prayer of Christ  
After saying this, Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:  
'Father, the hour has come:  
glorify your Son  
so that your Son may glorify you;  
and, through the power over all mankind  
that you have given him,  
let him give eternal life to all those you have  
entrusted to him.  
And eternal life is this:

to know you,  
the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.  
I have glorified you on earth  
and finished the work  
that you gave me to do.  
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me  
with that glory I had with you  
before ever the world was.  
I have made your name known  
to the men you took from the world to give me.  
They were yours and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.  
Now at last they know  
that all you have given me comes indeed from you,  
and have believed that is was you who sent me.  
I pray from them;  
I am not praying for the world  
but for those you have given me,  
because they belong to you:  
all I have is yours  
and all you have is mine,  
and in them I am glorified.  
I am not in the world any longer,  
but they are in the world,  
and I am coming to you.  
Holy Father,  
keep those you have given me true to your name,  
so that they may be one like us.  
While I was with them,  
I kept those you have given me true to your name.  
I have watched over them and not one is lost  
except the one who chose to be lost,  
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.  
But now I am coming to you  
and while still in the world I say these things  
to share my joy with them to the full.  
I passed your word on to them,  
and the world hated them,  
because they belong to the world.  
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,  
but to protect them from the evil one.

They do not belong to the world  
any more than I belong to the world.  
Consecrate them in the truth;  
your word is truth.

As you sent me into the world,  
I have sent them into the world,  
and for their sake I consecrate myself  
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.

I pray not only for these,  
but for those also  
who through their words will believe in me.  
May they all be one.

Father, may they be one in us,  
as you are in me and I am in you,  
so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.  
I have given them the glory you give to me,  
that they may be one as we are one.

With me in them and you in me,  
may they be so completely one  
that the world will realise that it was you who sent me and that I  
have loved them as much as you loved me.

Father,  
I want those you have given me  
to be with me where I am,  
so that they may always see the glory  
you have given me  
because you loved me  
before the foundation of the world.

Father, Righteous One,  
the world has not known you,  
but I have known  
that you have sent me.

I have made your name known to them  
and will continue to make it known,  
so that the love with which you loved me may be in them,  
and so that I may be in them.'

### **Jesus and his mother**

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister,  
Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother  
and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his  
mother, 'Woman, this is your son. Then to the disciple he said 'This

is your mother'. And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

### **The death of Jesus**

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said: 'I am thirsty'. A jar-full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in the vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is accomplished'; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit. They will look on the one whom they have pierced.

### **The appearance of Mary of Magdala**

Meanwhile Mary stayed outside near the tomb, weeping. Then, still weeping, she stooped to look inside, and saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head, the other at the feet. They said, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' 'They have taken my Lord away' she replied 'and I don't know where they have put him.' As she said this she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not recognise him. Jesus said, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him'. Jesus said, 'Mary!' She knew him then and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbuni' - which means Master. Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to me, Because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go and find the brothers, and tell them: I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' So Mary of Magdala went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord that he had said these things to her.

### **Conclusion**

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you'. Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs'. A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you'. Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep'. Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son

of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said Lord you know everything you know I love you and Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

### **Conclusion**

This disciple is the one who vouches for these things and has written them down, and we know that his testimony is true.

There were many other things that Jesus did; if all were written down, the world itself, I suppose, would not hold all the books that would have to be written.

Four steps to follow the Gospel and as Our Lord tells us “To be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect.”

First Step. Sorry for our sins and confess them to be forgiven. It is not good if we don't give up sin and strive to love God and neighbour even to love our enemies forgive them and pray for their conversion.

Third Step is to have a love for Christ crucified so that we ourselves are crucified with him. That is our greatest help to overcome our old habits of sin.

Fourth Step is to remain in the state of grace by frequent confession and assistance at mass and receive Holy Communion worthy. Then we will grow in the love of God and as Jesus promised in Jn 14.23. to have the Holy Trinity make their home in us.

Then when we follow those four steps courageously we will have the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit and reach perfect joy even in this life and we will have a strong hope that we will see God face to face when we die a Holy death.

Thank you Jesus for eternal life and help us to begin now. Amen, Alleluia.

What are you to me  
O God, my love? Tell me and I will tell others.  
You are the fragrance  
Of the Summer breezes,  
Scented by millions  
Of blooms and flowers and blossoms,  
Basking in their beauty  
In the warm sunshine  
On mountains, hills and valleys.  
You are sweet nectar drawing the hearts of all men to yourself.  
As the bees know so well,  
Busy with the task you gave them,  
Gathering into their honeycomb,  
The sweetness of honey,  
For their winter storage. Providence.  
O God how your creation  
Charms me towards you  
At the height of her beauty,  
As I gaze in silence and solitude  
Drawing me to contemplate you  
My true love above every created thing.  
How beautiful you are, “More glorious than the surgings of the ocean.”  
“O beauty so ancient and so new,  
Late have I loved you.”  
As your beloved Augustine sang as he turned from his sins to  
embrace life itself. Do for me as you did for him.  
Lead me “Jesus, the Good Shepherd”  
“The way, the truth and the life” into the rich pastures of the psalms,  
the Gospels, the Song of Songs, to prepare me for the wedding of  
the lamb.  
Take me with you to the place you prepared for us from all eternity  
into the eternal home of the Holy Trinity.  
O Holy Trinity. O sweet delights. Amen. Alleluia.

# SPIRITUAL GEMS FROM JESUS FAREWELL. JOHN 14-17 CHAPTERS.

MYLES JOSEPH GALLAGHER  
HERMIT. BRIDE OF CRUCIFIED LOVE.

'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' John 14:6

'Lord show us the Father and we will be satisfied.' John 14:8

'Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?' John 14:10

'If you love me you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate to be with you forever. This is the spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he lives with you and he will be in you.' John 14:15-17

'Whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him and we, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will come to him and make our home in him.' John 14:23

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.' John 14:26

'As the Father has loved me so I have loved you. Live in my love. If you keep my commandments you live in my love... I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.' John 15:8

'This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

John 15:12

'I came from the Father and have come into the world, again I am leaving the world and I am going to the Father.'

John 16:28

'Take courage, I have conquered the world.'

John 16:32

'This is eternal life that they may know you the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.'

John 17:2

'As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.'

John 17:16

'Father, I desire that those also whom you have given me may be with me where I am to see my glory...' John 17

'I have made your name known to them so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.'

John 17

'That they may all be one as you Father are in me and I in you that they also may be one in us.'

John 17

O search me God and know my heart  
O test and know my thoughts  
See that I follow not the wrong path  
And lead me on the path of life eternal.

Psalm 138

# Daily Reading with the Church

## The Gospel of St John, Chapters 14 to 17



Compiled by Myles Joseph Gallagher, Hermit

*I would like to take this excellent opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to the very good priests, bishops and popes who ministered and taught me throughout my life in Ireland and throughout the world.*

*I would also like to pay a tribute to my teachers who taught me the only education I had in my life at the National School, Cashelnagore.*

*Andy Carr RIP*

*Hughie Curran RIP*

*Danny Sweeney RIP*

*I would also like to thank the many members of the consecrated life who helped me in my faith. Also my many friends and my parents, brothers and sisters. I owe them all a deep gratitude and I hope I will always pray for them. That's the least I can do.*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher*

## FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER: FRIDAY

**Gospel**      *John 14:1-6*

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father’s house;  
if it were not, I should not have told you.  
I am going now to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am  
you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said, “Lord, we do not know where you are going,  
so how can we know the way?”

Jesus said:

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER: SATURDAY

**Gospel**      *John 14:7-14*

*To have seen me is to have seen the Father.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.”

Philip said, “Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.”

“Have I been with you all this time, Philip,” said Jesus to him, “and you still do not know me?”

“To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, ‘Let us see the Father’?

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing the work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.

Whatever you ask for in my name I will do,

so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

If you ask for anything in my name,

I will do it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: MONDAY

**Gospel**      *John 14:21-26*

*The Advocate, whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me;  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I shall love him and show myself to him.”

Judas – this was not Judas Iscariot –said to him, “Lord, what is all this about? Do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

Jesus replied

“If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him and make our home with him.  
Those who do not love me do not keep my words.  
And my word is not my own:  
it is the word of the one who sent me.  
I have said these things to you  
while still with you;  
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all I have said to you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: TUESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 14:27-31*

*My own peace I give you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Peace I bequeath to you,  
my own peace I give you,  
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.  
You heard me say:  
I am going away, and shall return.  
If you loved me you have been glad to know that I am going to the  
Father,  
For the Father is greater than I.  
I have told you this now before it happens,  
so that when it does happen you may believe.  
I shall not talk with you any longer,  
because the prince of this world is on his way.  
He has no power over me,  
but the world must be brought to know that I love the Father  
and that I am doing exactly what the Father told me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: WEDNESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 18:1-8*

*Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me  
that bears no fruit  
he cuts away  
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes  
to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away  
– he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: THURSDAY

**Gospel**      *John 15:9-11*

*Remain in my love, and let your joy be complete.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father has loved me,

so I have loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments

you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.

I have told you this

so that my own joy may be in you

and your joy be complete.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: FRIDAY

**Gospel**      *John 15:12-17*

*What I command you is to love one another.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“This is my commandment  
love one another,  
as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master’s business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You do not choose me,  
no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.  
What I command you  
is to love one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER: SATURDAY

**Gospel**      *John 15:18-21*

*You do not belong to the world because my choice withdrew you from the world.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If the world hates you,  
remember that it hated me before you.  
If you belonged to the world,  
the world would love you as its own;  
but because you do not belong to the world,  
because my choice withdrew you from the world,  
therefore the world hates you.

Remember the words I said to you:  
A servant is not greater than his master.  
If they persecuted me,  
They will persecute you too;  
if they kept my word,  
they will keep yours as well.  
But it will be on my account that they will do all this,  
because they do not know the one who sent me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: MONDAY

**Gospel**      *John 15:26-16:*  
*The Spirit of truth will be my witness.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“When the Advocate comes,  
whom I shall send to you from the Father,  
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,  
he will be my witness.  
And you too will be witnesses,  
because you have been with me from the outset.

“I have told you all this  
so that your faith may not be shaken.  
They will expel you from the synagogues,  
and indeed the hour is coming  
when anyone who kills you will think he is doing a holy duty for  
God.  
They will do these things  
because they have never known either the Father or myself.  
But I have told you all this,  
so that when the time for it comes  
you may remember that I told you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: TUESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:5-11*

*Unless I go, the Advocate will not come to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Now I am going to the one who sent me.  
Not one of you has asked, ‘Where are you going?’  
Yet you are sad at heart because I have told you this.  
Still, I must tell you the truth:  
it is for your own good that I am going  
because unless I go,  
the Advocate will not come to you;  
but if I do go,  
I will send him to you.  
And when he comes,  
he will show the world how wrong it was,  
about sin,  
and about who was in the right,  
and about judgement:  
about sin:  
proved by their refusal to believe in me;  
about who was in the right:  
proved by my going to the Father  
and your seeing me no more;  
about judgement:  
proved by the prince of this world being already condemned.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: WEDNESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:12-15*

*The Spirit of truth will lead you to the complete truth.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I still have many things to say to you  
but they would be too much for you now.  
But when the Spirit of truth comes  
he will lead you to the complete truth,  
since he will not be speaking as from himself  
but will say only what he has learnt;  
and he will tell you of things to come.  
He will glorify me,  
since all he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.  
Everything the Father has is mine;  
that is why I said:  
All he tells you  
will be taken from what is mine.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: THURSDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:16-20*

*You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“In a short time you will no longer see me,  
and then a short time later you will see me again.”

Then some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean, ‘In a short time you will no longer see me, and then a short time later you will see me again’ and ‘I am going to the Father’? What is this ‘short time’? We don’t know what he means.” Jesus knew they wanted to question him, so he said, “You are asking one another what I meant by saying: In a short time you will no longer see me, and then a short time later you will see me again.

“I tell you most solemnly,  
you will be weeping and wailing  
while the world will rejoice;  
you will be sorrowful,  
but your sorrow will turn to joy.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: FRIDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:20-23*

*No one shall take your joy from you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I tell you most solemnly,  
you will be weeping and wailing  
while the world will rejoice;  
you will be sorrowful,  
but your sorrow will turn to joy.  
A woman in childbirth suffers,  
because her time has come;  
but when she has given birth to the child she forgets the suffering  
in her joy that a man has been born into the world.  
So it is with you: you are sad now,  
but I shall see you again, and your hearts will be full of joy,  
and that joy no one shall take from you.  
When that day comes,  
you will not ask me any questions.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER: SATURDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:23-28*

*The Father loves you for loving me and believing.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I tell you most solemnly,  
anything you ask for from the Father  
he will grant in my name.  
Until now you have not asked for anything in my name.  
Ask and you will receive,  
and so your joy will be complete.  
I have been telling you all this in metaphors;  
the hour is coming  
when I shall no longer speak to you in metaphors,  
but tell you about the Father in plain words.  
When that day comes  
you will ask in my name;  
and I do not say that I shall pray to the Father for you,  
because the Father himself loves you  
for loving me  
and believing that I came from God.  
I came from the Father and have come into the world  
and now I leave the world to go to the Father.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER: MONDAY

**Gospel**      *John 16:29-33*

*Be brave: I have conquered the world.*

His disciples said to Jesus,

“Now you are speaking plainly and not using metaphors! Now we see that you know everything, and do not have to wait for questions to be put into words; because of this we believe that you came from God.”

Jesus answered them:

“Do you believe at last?

Listen; the time will come – in fact it has come already – when you will be scattered, each going his own way and leaving me alone.

And yet I am not alone,  
because the Father is with me.

I have told you all this  
so that you may find peace in me.  
In the world you will have trouble,  
but be brave:  
I have conquered the world.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER: TUESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 17:1-11*

*Father, glorify your Son.*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Father, the hour has come:

glorify your Son

so that your Son may glorify you;

and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,  
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.

And eternal life is this:

to know you,

the only true God,

and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth

and finished the work

that you gave me to do.

Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me

with that glory I had with you

before ever the world was.

I have made your name known

to the men you took from the world to give me.

They were yours and you gave them to me,

and they have kept your word.

Now at last they know

that all you have given me comes indeed from you;

for I have given them

the teaching you gave to me,

and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,

and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them;

I am not praying for the world

but for those you have given me,

because they belong to you:

all I have is yours

and all you have is mine,

and in them I am glorified.

I am not in the world any longer,

but they are in the world,

and I am coming to you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER: WEDNESDAY

**Gospel**      *John 17:11-19*

*May they be one like us.*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Holy Father,

keep those you have given me true to your name,  
so that they may be one like us.

While I was with them,

I kept those you had given me true to your name.  
I have watched over them and not one is lost  
except the one who chose to be lost,  
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.

But now I am coming to you

and while still in the world I say these things  
to share my joy with them to the full.

I passed your word on to them,

and the world hated them,

because they belong to the world  
no more than I belong to the world.

I am not asking you to remove them from the world,  
but to protect them from the evil one.

They do not belong to the world

any more than I belong to the world

Consecrate them in the truth;

your word is the truth

As you sent me into the world,

I have sent them into the world,

and for their sake I consecrate myself

so that they too may be consecrated in truth.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER: THURSDAY

**Gospel**      *John 17:20-26*

*May they be completely one.*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Holy Father,  
I pray not only for these,  
but for those also  
who through their words will believe in me.  
May they all be one.  
Father, may they be one in us,  
as you are in me and I am in you,  
so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.  
I have given them the glory you gave to me,  
that they may be one as we are one.  
With me in them and you in me,  
may they be so completely one  
that the world will realise that it was you who sent me  
and that I have loved them as much as you loved me.

Father,  
I want those you have given me  
to be with me where I am  
so that they may always see the glory  
you have given me  
because you loved me  
before the foundation of the world.

Father, Righteous One,  
the world has not known you,  
but I have known you,  
and these have known  
that you have sent me,  
I have made your name known  
and will continue to make it known,  
so that the love with which you loved me may be in them,  
and so that I may be in them.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Baltoney  
Gortahork  
Pentecost 2013

*A Final Prayer*

Most Holy Trinity, I rejoice in your eternal happiness.  
In your blissful existence for all eternity you formed a plan to create a cosmos. Your marvellous work is splendidly shown in the fruitful abundance of planet earth which you visited in poverty and humility to redeem creation by your crucified love and made the human race partakers of your divine nature. With the whole church I beg of you, Holy Trinity to complete your plan and let us exult with you for all eternity free from sin and full of praise and love and joy.

Amen. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Bride of Crucified Love*  
*Myles Joseph Gallagher, Hermit*

Baltoney  
Gortahork  
Ireland  
Pentecost 2007

*Dear Sister Mary Jospeh*

The Easter greeting and invitation

*“Stay with us Lord, Alleluia  
Since evening is approaching.  
Alleluia”*

You and I are in the evening of our life. Soon the day of eternity will break forth in our lives with happy joyful praise. Let us comfort one another while our brief exile lasts for the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia. Amen.

*Bride of Crucified Love  
Myles Joseph Gallagher, Hermit*

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

*John 21.24*



Of the wonderful love Christ had for Mary Magdalene, who represents all sinners truly converted and called to contemplation.

Sweet was the love between Mary and Jesus. How she loved him! How much more he loved her! Do not take the Gospel account lightly as if it were some superficial tale. It depicts their relationship in utter truth. Reading it, who could fail to see that she loved him intensely, withholding nothing of her love and refusing the comfort of anything less than his love in return. This is the same Mary who sought him weeping at the tomb in return. This is the same Mary who sought him weeping at the tomb that first Easter morning. The angels spoke to her so gently then. "Do not weep, Mary," they said. "For the Lord whom you seek is risen as he said. He is going on before you into Galilee. There you will see him with his disciples, as he promised." But even angels were powerless to reassure her or stop her tears. Mere angels could hardly comfort one who had set out to find the King of Angels.

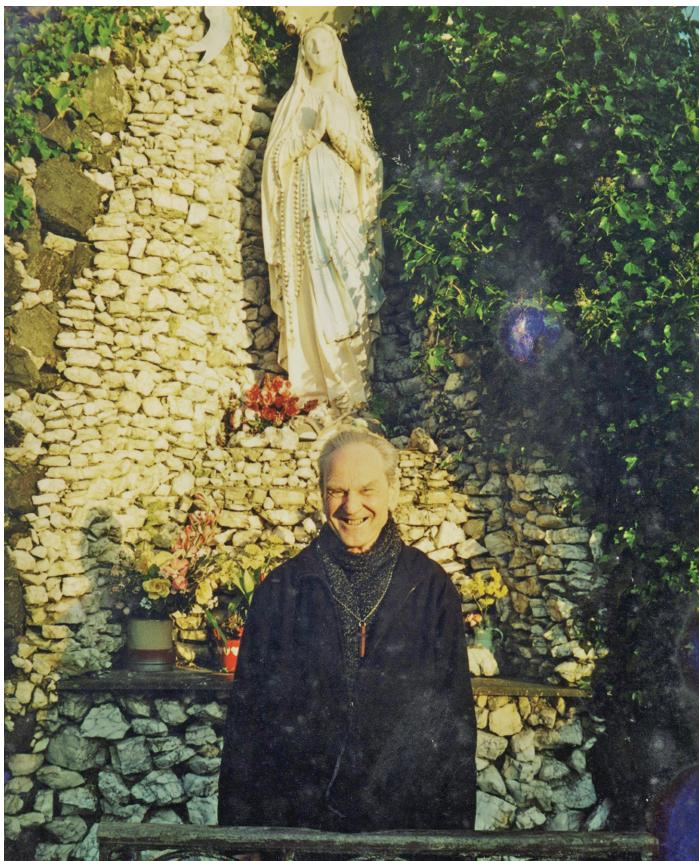
Shall I go on? Surely anyone who studies the Scripture will find many instances of Mary's total love for Christ recorded there for our benefit. They will confirm all I have been saying. In fact, one would think they had been written specifically for contemplatives. And so they were, for anyone discerning enough to see. Anyone who recognizes in our Lord's wonderful personal love for Mary Magdalene the marvellous and matches love he has for all sinners sincerely repentant and dedicated to contemplation will realize why he could tolerate no one - not even her sister - to speak against her without coming to her without coming to her defence himself. Yes, and more did he do. For on another occasion he even rebuked his host, Simon the Leper, in his own house, for merely thinking harshly of her. Great indeed was his love; truly it was unsurpassed.

That in a spiritual way God will answer and provide for all those who will not leave their contemplation to answer and provide for themselves.

I assure you that if with God's grave and reliable counsel we strive wholeheartedly to pattern our love and our life after Mary Magdalene's, our Lord will defend us as he did her. Anyone who thinks or speaks against us will feel the Lord's rebuke in the secret of his conscience. This is not to say that we shall have nothing to put up with. Certainly we shall, as Mary did. But I am saying that if we pay no attention to it, but peacefully go on with our contemplative work despite criticism, just as she did, our Lord will admonish those who plague us in the depths of their hearts. If they are sincere and open people, they will no doubt feel ashamed of their thoughts or words within a few days.

And just as he will see to our spiritual defence, so he will prompt others to provide us with food and clothes and life's necessities when he sees that we will not leave the work of love to see about such things for ourselves. I say this specifically to refute those who erroneously maintain that no one may devote himself to the contemplative life before he has provided for all his material needs. They say: "God sends the cow, but not by the horn." But they misinterpret God and they know it. For God will never disappoint those who truly abandon worldly concerns to dedicate themselves to him. You can be certain of this: he will provide one of two things for his friends. Either they will receive and abundance of all they need or he will give them the physical stamina and a patient heart to endure want. What difference does it make which he does? It is all the same to the true contemplative. Anyone doubting this only reveals that the evil one has robbed his heart of faith or that he is not yet as wholly committed to God as he should be, despite cleverly contrived appearances to the contrary.

And so I say again to anyone who wants to become a real contemplative like Mary, let the wonderful transcendence and goodness of God teach you humility rather than the thought of your own sinfulness, for then your humility will be perfect. Attend more to the wholly otherness of God rather than to your own misery. And remember that those who are perfectly humble will lack nothing they really need, either spiritually or materially. God is theirs and he is all. Whoever possesses God, as this book attests, needs nothing else in this life.



Myles the Hermit at the Cathedral Grotto, Letterkenny. He spent many happy hours in adoration before the blessed sacrament was exposed in St. Pius Chapel. Since 1959 Myles got a great grace in Wanganui Church, North Isle New Zealand. And ever since now 2020, I believe firmly in Jesus presence in the Mass and Communion and continually in the tabernacle.