

VERSE NO. 1

There is no light without
a dawning,
No Winter without a Spring,
And beyond death's
dark horizon
Our hearts once more will sing -
For those who leave us
for a while,
have only gone away
Out of a restless
careworn world,
Into a "Brighter Day".

Helen Steiner Rice

VERSE NO. 2

Prayer to Our Lady of Knock

*Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland,
you gave hope to your people in a time
of distress and comforted them in sorrow.*

*You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray
with confidence to your divine Son,
remembering His promise: "Ask and you
shall receive, seek and you shall find".*

*Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims
on the road to heaven. Fill me with love and
concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ,
especially those who live with me.*

*Comfort me when I am sick or lonely
or depressed. Teach me how to take part
ever more reverently in the holy Mass.
Pray for me now, and at the hour of my death.
Amen.*

VERSE NO. 3

We did not see you close your eyes,
We did not see you die,
All we knew was that you were gone,
Without a last goodbye.

It was a sudden parting,
Too bitter to forget,
Only those who loved you,
Are the ones who will never forget.

The happy hours we once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still,
But death has left a vacant place,
This world can never fill.

Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for others' needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.

VERSE NO. 4

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin
Mary,
that never was it known that
anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help, or sought thy
intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence
I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins,
my Mother, to thee I come;
before thee I stand, sinful and
sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in thy clemency hear and answer
me.

Amen.

VERSE NO. 5

We hold you close
within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
to walk with us
throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.
So rest in peace
dear loved one,
And thanks for all you've done,
We pray that God
has given you,
The crown you've
truly won.

VERSE NO. 6

Remembering

*Everybody loves to be remembered.
But if we want to be remembered,
we have a duty also to remember.*

*Memory is a powerful thing.
Wrongly used it can bring death
rather than life.*

*Rightly used it is a form of immortality.
It keeps the past alive.
Those we remember never die.
They continue to walk with and talk with us.
Their influence is still felt among us.
There is nothing stronger or more
helpful than a good remembrance.*

*Mother, we want you to know that
we haven't forgotten you.
We remember you, and your memory
most definitely brings life to us today.
May it also assure us of life for you,
that eternal life Christ came to earth
to give to us.*

VERSE NO.7

Togetherness

Death is nothing at all - I have only slipped
away into the next room. Whatever we were
to each other, that we are still. Call me by my
old familiar name, speak to me in the easy
way which you always used.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes
we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.

Let my name be the household word
that it always was. Let it be spoken without
effort. Life means all that it ever meant.

It is the same that it ever was; there is absolutely
unbroken continuity.

Why should I be out of your mind
because I am out of your sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval,
somewhere very near, just around the corner.
All is well. Nothing is past; nothing is lost.
One brief moment and all will be as it was
before - only better, infinitely happier
and forever - we will all be one together
in Christ.

VERSE NO.8

*Lonely is the home without you,
Life to us is not the same;
All the world would be like heaven,
If we could have you back again.*

*A light is from our household gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home,
That never can be filled.*

*May the God of Love and Mercy,
Care for our loved one who is gone,
And bless with consolation,
Those left to carry on.*

*The happy hours we once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still,
But death has left a vacant place,
This world can never fill.*

*How dearly we loved you,
And prayed you might live,
But Jesus just beckoned,
And we had to give.*

*God gave us strength to bear it,
And courage to fight the blow,
What it has meant to lose you,
God alone will ever know.*

VERSE NO.9

It was a sudden parting,
Too bitter to forget,
Those who loved you dearly,
Are the ones who can't forget.

We often sit and think of you,
And think of how you died,
To think you could not say goodbye,
Before you closed your eyes.

The blow was hard, the shock severe,
To part with one we loved so dear,
Our loss is great, we'll not complain,
But trust in God to meet again.

Two tired eyes are sleeping,
Two willing hands are still,
The one who worked so hard for us,
Is resting at God's will.

Our family chain is broken,
Nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The links shall join again.

VERSE NO. 10

A loving father, most sincere, loved by all he knew,
He loved us all so very dear, and we all loved him too.
But God in His mercy will give us hope,
And help us bear the strain,
Of the one we cherished, loved and lost,
To meet in Heaven again

In a near and silent graveyard,
where the trees their branches wave,
Sleeps a kind and loving father,
In his cold and lonely grave,
He bade no one a last farewell,
He raised his hand to none,
His spirit flew before we knew,
That he from us had gone.

You can only have one father, patient, kind and true;
No other friend in all the world, will be the same to you.
When other friends forsake you, to father you will return,
For all his loving kindness, he asks nothing in return.
As we look upon his picture, sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine, and a smile for one and all.
Sweet Jesus take this message, to our dear father up above;
Tell him how we miss him, and give him all our love.

VERSE NO.11

God's Lent Child

I'll lend you for a little while, a child of mine,
God said. For you to love while she lives, and
mourn for while she's dead. It may be six or seven
years, or forty-two or three. But will you, till
I call her back, take care of her for me. She'll
bring her charms to gladden you and should
her stay be brief, you'll always have her memories as
a solace for your grief. I cannot promise she will
stay since all from earth return. But there are
lessons taught below I want this child to learn.
I've looked this whole world over in my search for
teachers true.
And from the folks that crowd life's lane I have chosen
you. Now will you give her all your love not
think the labour vain. Nor hate me when
I come to take this lent child back again?
I fancied that I heard her say, dear Lord Thy
will be done. For all the joys Thy child will bring,
the risk of grief we'll run. We'll shelter her with tenderness,
we'll love her while we may. And for the
happiness we've known forever grateful stay. But
should the Angels come for her much sooner than
we've planned, we'll brave the bitter grief
that comes, and try to understand.

VERSE NO. 12

Jesus walked with his beautiful Mother,
In the Heavenly Gardens one day.
He looked down at millions of children,
Sleeping, toddling or at play.

And then he saw our little
Like a flower, unique and rare,
He spoke to Mary about her,
Isn't she lovely and fair?

Isn't she a lovely baby?
Isn't she cuddly and sweet?
Wouldn't it be nice to have her,
Play all day round our feet.

The Holy Ghost, in his wisdom, was silent,
As he saw so sweet and pure,
Yes! how wonderful to have her,
But her family will miss her for sure.

The Blessed Virgin said, her parents love her,
Her family does too,
But I'll mind her and keep her safe,
Wrapped up in my mantle of blue.

VERSE NO. 13

Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky floated scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to him, the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times of his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord you said once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way.

But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you.

VERSE NO. 14

*May He support us
all the day long until
the shadows lengthen and
the evening comes and the busy
world is hushed and the fever
of life is over and our work is
done: then in His mercy may
He give us a safe lodging and
a holy rest and peace at last*

VERSE NO. 15

A light from our household gone,
A voice we loved is stilled,
A place is vacant in our home,
That never can be filled.

The happy hours we once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still,
But death has left a vacant place,
This world can never fill.

How dearly we loved you,
And prayed you might live,
But Jesus just beckoned,
And we had to give.

God gave us the strength to bear it,
And courage to fight the blow,
What it has meant to to lose you,
God alone will never know.

May the God of love and mercy,
Care for our loved one who is gone,
And bless with consolation,
Those left to carry on.

VERSE NO. 16

*May the God
of love and
Mercy,
Care for our loved
one who
is gone,
And bless with
consolation,
Those left to
carry on.*

VERSE NO. 17

Our Lady of Knock

I come to thee, my Mother,
To lay before thy feet,
My fears, my hopes, my longings,
My bitter hours and sweet.

O take them, Mother Mary,
And place them by God's throne,
Your hands will give them value,
They're worthless on their own.

And as I kneel before you,
Speak to your Son for me,
Though poor and small my offering,
I know 'tis dear to thee.

For you, your Son at Cana,
Changed water into wine,
The needs of bride and bridegroom,
Were small compared to mine.

And so, my Mother Mary,
I lay before Thy feet,
My fears, my hopes, my longings,
My bitter hours and sweet.

VERSE NO. 18

God grant me the

Serenity

to accept the things

I cannot change...

Courage to

change the things I can

and the Wisdom

to know the difference

VERSE NO. 19

The Divine Weaver

Man's life is laid in a loom of time
To a pattern he does not see.
While the Weaver works and the shuttles fly
Until the end of eternity.

Some shuttles are filled with silver thread,
And some with threads of gold;
While often but the darker hue
Is all that they may hold.
But the weaver watches with skillful eye
Each shuttle fly to and fro,
And sees the pattern so deftly wrought
As the loom works sure and slow.

God surely planned that pattern
Each thread - the dark and the fair -
Was chosen by his master skill
And placed in the web with care.
He only knows the beauty
And guides the shuttles which hold
The threads so unattractive
As well as the threads of gold.

Not until the loom is silent,
And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unroll the pattern
And explain the reason why
The dark threads are as needful
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern he had planned.

VERSE NO. 20

When I Must Leave You

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

VERSE NO. 21

*O Jesus in Thy infinite mercy
and through the prayers of the
Blessed Mother of Sorrows,
have compassion on the poor
suffering souls in Purgatory.
Oh! bring comfort to them in
their pains, shorten their exile,
and conduct them finally into Thy
Heavenly Kingdom,
where with Thy Saints
and Angels they shall praise
and glorify Thee for all eternity.
Amen.*

VERSE NO. 22

Comfort for those who Mourn

The great and sad mistake of many people, among them even pious persons, is to imagine that those whom death has taken leave us. They do not leave us, They remain! - Where are they? in darkness? Oh, no! it is we who are in darkness. We do not see them, but they see us. Their eyes, radiant with glory, are fixed upon our eyes full of tears. Oh! infinite consolation! Though invisible to us, our dear dead are not absent.

I have often reflected upon the surest comfort for those who mourn. It is this: a firm faith in the real and continual presence of our loved ones; it is clear and penetrating conviction that death has not destroyed them, nor carried them away. They are not even absent, but living near to us, transfigured: having lost in their glorious change no delicacy of their souls, no tenderness of their hearts, nor especial preference in their affection; on the contrary, having in depth and fervour of devotion, grown larger a hundredfold. Death is for the good, a translation into light, into power, into love. Those who on earth were only ordinary Christians, become good; those who were good become sublime.

VERSE NO. 23

*Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond's glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle Autumn's rain.
When you awaken
in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush,
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.*

VERSE NO. 24

Miss Me But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not too long
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared
Miss me, but let me go.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know,
And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds
Miss me, but let me go.*

VERSE NO. 25

God called your name
 so softly,
 That only you could hear;
 And no one heard the
 Footsteps,
 Of angels drawing near.
 The golden gates stood open,
 God saw you needed rest;
 His garden must be beautiful,
 He only takes the best.

VERSE NO. 26

Prayer of St. Francis
Lord, make me an instrument
of Thy peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so
much seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in forgiving that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to
Eternal Life.
St. Francis of Assisi

VERSE NO. 27

O Divine Master
grant that I may not
so much seek to be consoled
as to console;
to be understood
as to understand;
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in forgiving
that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that
we are born to
Eternal Life.

VERSE NO. 28

Not gone from Daddy's memory,
 Not gone from Mammy's love,
 But gone to shine with Jesus,
 In His beautiful home above.

Our Lady wished a pretty flower,
 To lay at Jesus' feet,
 Her choice was of the fairest,
 A lily pure and sweet.

She gazed amid the little ones,
 And stooped to pick the best,
 Dear was the chosen one,
 With Jesus now she rests.

Fold her, O Jesus in Thy arms,
 And let her henceforth be,
 A messenger of love between
 Our human hearts and thee.

VERSE NO. 29

*You can only have one mother,
Patient, kind and true,
No other friend in the world,
Will be the same to you.*

*When other friends forsake you,
To mother you will return,
For all her loving kindness,
She asks nothing in return.*

*As we look upon her picture,
Sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all.*

*Sweet Jesus take this message,
To our dear mother up above,
Tell her how we miss her,
And give her all our love.*

VERSE NO. 30

T*hink of stepping on the shore
and finding Heaven;*

*Of taking hold of a hand
and finding it God's hand;*

*Of breathing a new air
and finding it celestial air;*

*Of feeling invigorated
and finding it immortality;*

*Of passing from storm and
tempest to an unknown calm;*

*Of waking -
and finding you're Home.*

VERSE NO. 31

*They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
But neither time nor reason,
Will change the way we feel.*

*For no-one knows the heartache,
That lies behind our smiles,
No one knows how many times,
We have broke down and cried.*

*Gone from home that smiling face,
Those cheerful, happy ways,
The heart that won so many friends,
In bygone, happy days.*

*We want to tell you something,
So there won't be any doubt,
You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to do without.*

*We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken,
But memories live forever.*

VERSE NO. 32

The Rose beyond the Wall

*Near a shady wall a rose once grew,
Budded and blossomed in God's free light,
Watered and fed by morning dew,
Shedding its sweetness by day and night.*

*Shall claim of death cause us to grieve,
And make our courage faint and fall?
Nay! Let us faith and hope receive,
The rose still grows beyond the wall.*

*Scattering fragrance far and wide,
Just as it did in days of yore,
Just as it did on the other side,
Just as it will forever more.*

VERSE NO. 33

After Glow

*I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one.*

*I'd like to leave an after glow of smiles
when life is done.*

*I'd like to leave an echo,
whispering softly down the ways.*

*Of happy times and laughing times
and bright and sunny days.*

*I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
to dry before the sun.*

*Of happy memories that I leave
when life is done.*

VERSE NO. 34

Far Horizon

We seem to give them back to Thee O
God, who gavest them to us. But as
Thou didst not lose them in giving,
so do we not lose them on their return.

Not as the world giveth, givest Thou
O Lover of souls. What thou givest
Thou takest not away, for what is Yours,
is ours also if we are Thine, and life is
eternal and love is immortal and death
is only an horizon and an horizon is
nothing save the limit of our sight.

Lift us up, strong son of God, that we
may see more clearly, draw us closer to
Thyself, that we may be nearer to our
loved one who is with Thee. And while
Thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare
us for that happy place, that where
Thou art we may be also for evermore.
Amen.

VERSE NO. 35

Safely Home

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trod the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have no doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still;
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth -
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

VERSE NO. 36

We sat beside your bedside,
Our hearts were crushed and sore;

We did our duty to the end,
'Til we could do no more.

In tears we watched you sinking,
We watched you fade away;
And though our hearts were breaking,
We knew you could not stay.

You left behind some aching hearts,
That loved you most sincere;
We never shall and never will,
Forget you, Mother dear.

VERSE NO. 37

We lost a mother with a heart of gold,
How much we miss her can never be told,
She shared our troubles and helped us along,
If we follow her footsteps,
We can never go wrong.

What she suffered she told but few,
She did not deserve what she went through,
Tired and weary she made no fuss,
But tried so hard to stay with us.

We prayed for a miracle but all in vain,
That God would make you well again,
But God knew best, we had to part,
It eased your pain but broke our hearts.

We cannot bring the old days back
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken now,
But memories live forever.

She was a mother so very rare,
Content in her home and always there,
On earth she toiled, in heaven she rests,
God bless you Mother,
You were one of the best.

VERSE NO. 38

*There comes a time for all of us
When we must say goodbye,
But faith and hope and love and trust
Can never, never die.
Although the curtain falls at last
Is that a cause to grieve?
The future's fairer than the past
If only we believe.
Trust in God's eternal care –
So when the Master calls
Let's say that life is still more fair
Although the curtain falls.*

VERSE NO. 39

Distance takes us far apart,
And darkens my today.
I have to keep remembering -
You're just a thought away.

When the world is too confusing,
Times are hard to bear,
I pull your precious meaning,
Your bright spirit, from the air.

If I sometimes drift into
A lonely state of mind,
I gather up the memories
Of days we left behind.

And though you're not beside me,
I can tap into my heart
And draw upon the warmth and love
That lives when we're apart.

And with these fond reflections
On the times when you were near,
I sense a little bit of what
It's like to have you here.

VERSE NO. 40

A bouquet of beautiful memories,
Sprayed with a million tears,
Wishing God could have spared you,
If just for a few more years.
It does not take a special day,
For us to think of you,
Each Mass we hear, each prayer we say,
Is offered up for you,
We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together,
The family chain is broken now,
But memories live forever.
It was a sudden parting,
Too bitter to forget,
Only those who loved you,
Are the ones who will never forget.
May he rest in peace, dear Jesus,
In Thy heavenly home above,
With the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
In His own eternal love.
Along the road to yesterday,
That leads us straight to you,
Are memories of happy days,
Together we once knew.
The blow was hard, the shock severe,
To part with one we loved so dear,
Our loss is great, we'll not complain,
But trust in God to meet again.
A silent grief that's in our hearts,
No human eye can trace,
For many a broken heart is hid,
Beneath a smiling face.

VERSE NO. 41

It Will Be The Little Things

*It will be the little things
That you will remember,
The quiet moments,
The smiles, the laughter.
And although it may seem
Hard right now,
It will be the memories
Of these little things
That helps to push
Away the pain
And bring the smiles
Back again.*

VERSE NO. 42

Our Memories Build A Special Bridge
When loved ones have to part
To help us feel we're with them still
And soothe a grieving heart
They span the years and warm our lives
Preserving ties that bind
Our memories build a special bridge
And bring us peace of mind

VERSE NO. 43

In Our Hearts

We thought of you today.
But that is nothing new.
We thought about you yesterday.
And days before that too.

We think of you in silence.
We often speak your name.
Now all we have memories.
And your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake.
With which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping.
We have you in our heart.

VERSE NO. 44

Nothing Is Lost

Nothing is lost - not a hair, not a breath!
The lilac that blooms today is made of
last year's crumbled leaves and
this morning's dew.

It has in it perhaps the breath of a tiger
and minerals that were part of an
ancient dinosaur.
The raw materials of that lilac have
perhaps spent time in
a seashell, a wagon wheel, a butterfly
and a hawk.

How old is this morning's lilac? - And
how old are you?
You are as young as the morning,
as old as the world,
You are as new as a raindrop,
as old as the mountains.
You are forever a part of the world

VERSE NO. 45

The Day God Took You Home

In tears we saw you sinking,
And watched you pass away.
Our hearts were almost broke,
We wanted you to stay.
But when we saw you sleeping,
So peaceful, free from pain,
How could we wish you back with us,
To suffer that again.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
The day God took you home.

VERSE NO. 46

If Roses grow in Heaven

*If Roses grow in Heaven
Lord, please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my Mother's arms
and tell her they're from me.*

*Tell her that I love her and miss her,
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek
and hold her for awhile.*

*Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
but there's an ache within my heart
that will never go away.*

VERSE NO. 47

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

VERSE NO. 48

Love Lives On

*Those we love are never really lost to us--
we feel them in so many special ways--
through friends they always cared about
and dreams they left behind,
in beauty that they added to our days...
in words of wisdom we still carry with us
and memories that never will be gone...*

*Those we love
are never really lost to us--
for everywhere their special love lives on.*

VERSE NO. 49

“And if I go,
while you're still here...
Know that I live on,
Vibrating to a different measure
Behind a thin veil you
cannot see through.
You will not see me,
So you must have faith.
I wait for the time when
we can soar together again,
Both aware of each other.
Until then,
live your life to the fullest
And when you need me,
Just whisper my name in your heart,
...I will be there”

VERSE NO. 50

Silent Now

*Though your loving voice is silent now,
And Death's cold hand has touched your brow,
We know your spirit has but flown
To kneel in love at Jesus' throne;*

*And, there, surrounded by a throng
Of friends and family, you join the song
Of joy that you have been set free,
From pain and illness--liberty!*

*And though we'll miss you every day
And all your kind and loving ways,
We would not call you back from there
Where such great happiness you share;*

*And so we'll trust God's promise sweet
That someday in heaven again we'll meet. Had we only know, -----,
dear,
That when the month of March came round this year
We'd no longer see your loving face*

*Or your happy smile and your sunny grace,
We'd no doubt have gazed at you hard and long,
And listened as well to the lovely song
Which always surrounded your every word*

*And which from now till forever will be unheard,
Except, of course, in the hearts and minds
Of the friends and family you've left behind;
But we'll carry forever that song--and a prayer--*

*And whenever we think of you, you will be there
To gladden our hearts you lived with us a while,
And shared your sweet song and your face and your smile*

VERSE NO. 51

Your Presence

*Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure*

*Loving you always,
Forgetting you never*

*You're in our thoughts always,
missing you always,*

*and loving you forever.
When you walk through a storm*

*Hold your head up high
And don't be afraid of the dark*

At the end of the storm

*Is a golden sky
And the sweet silver song of the lark*

*Walk on through the wind
Walk on through the rain*

*Though your dreams be tossed and blown
Walk on, walk on with hope in your heart*

And you'll never walk alone

YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE!

VERSE NO. 52

Dreams

*Dreams drift away like leaves on the water.
They roll down the river and slip out of sight.*

*Too many times we do what we ought.
Put off 'til tomorrow what we'd really rather do tonight,*

*And later realize:
Time passes by, people pass on.*

*At the drop of a tear, they're gone. Let's do what we dare,
do what we like,
And love while we're here before time passes by.*

*Thoughts are like pennies we keep in our pockets.
They're never worth nothing 'til we give them away.*

*But love's like a promise in an un-opened letter,
Where nights full of pleasure seldom see the light of day,
When life gets in the way.*

?

VERSE NO. 53

Call Your Name

We little knew that morning,
God was going to call your name,
In life we loved you dearly,
In death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,
You did not go alone.
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken,
and nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.

VERSE NO. 54

A Difficult Year

It has been a difficult year without you ~
for all of us to come to accept your absence.

Through your guidance and your laughter there
was always somewhere to turn.
Now, no more.

They say that life goes on.
This is true, but it will never, ever, be the same.

We are all left with a great emptiness inside yet
unable to understand such a senseless loss .

It is with much sadness that we arrive at
the one-year anniversary of your death.

Your family will always have you in our hearts
and in our minds.
We all miss you tremendously.

We thank you and praise you for all that you
have given of yourself.

Many fond memories forever remain with us.

God Bless You!

VERSE NO. 55

Hail Mary

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the
fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now
and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

VERSE NO. 56

Come to Me

God saw you getting tired,
and a cure was not to be,

so he put his arms around you and
whispered, "Come to me."

With tearful eyes we watched you,
and saw you pass away, and although
we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands at rest.

God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.

VERSE NO. 57

Prayer of Solace

May Christ support us all the day long,
till the shadows lengthen,
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over
and our work is done.

Then in his mercy
may he give us a safe lodging,
and holy rest and peace at the last.

Amen

VERSE NO. 58

Prayer for the Faithful Departed

Eternal rest grant unto them,

O Lord,

And let perpetual light
shine upon them.

May their souls
and the souls
of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.

Amen

VERSE NO. 59

Take my Hands

Take my hands, O Blessed Mother,
Hold them firmly lest I fall,

I am nervous when I'm walking,
So today I humbly call.

Guide me over every crossing
Watch me as I move about,
help me at my daily duties,

Lessen all my cares and doubts.
And when evening falls upon us,
and I fear to be alone,
Take my hands, O Blessed Mother,

Once again.... and lead me home.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen

VERSE NO. 60

Behold

Behold, O Good and Most Sweet Jesus,

I cast myself upon my knees in Thy sight,
and with the most fervent desire of my soul,

I pray and beseech Thee
that Thou wouldst impress upon my heart,
lively sentiments of Faith, Hope and
Charity,

with true repentance for my sins
and a firm purpose of amendment,
whilst with deep affection
and grief of soul,

I ponder within myself and
mentally contemplate

Thy five most Precious Wounds,
having before my eyes that which

David spoke in prophecy of Thee,
O Good Jesus,
"They pierced My Hands
and My Feet, they have numbered
all My bones."

VERSE NO. 61

Prayer for Our Souls in Purgatory

O God, the Creator and
Redeemer of all the faithful,
grant to the souls of Thy
servants departed,
the full remission of their sins,
that through pious
supplications they may obtain the
pardon which they have
always desired.
Who livest and reignest
world without end.

Amen

VERSE NO. 62

Oh, guard and protect me,
St. Joseph, each day
as onward I journey
to Heaven, I pray.

I ask, when I'm dying
That thou wilt be there.
to cheer by thy presence
to aid by thy prayer.

Now hear me, St. Joseph
I count upon thee
to grand my petitions,
Whatever they be.

VERSE NO. 63

Remember Me This Way

*When I come to the end of my journey
And I travel my last weary mile,
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned
And remember only the smile.*

*Forget unkind words I have spoken;
Remember some good I have done.
Forget that I ever had heartache
And remember I've had loads of fun.*

*Forget that I've stumbled and blundered
And sometimes fell by the way.
Remember I have fought some hard battles
And won, ere the close of the day.*

*Then forget to grieve for my going,
I would not have you sad for a day,
But in summer just gather some flowers
And remember the place where I lay,*

*And come in the shade of evening
When the sun paints the sky in the west
Stand for a few moments beside me
And remember only my best.*

VERSE NO. 64

Miss Me - But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free.

Miss me a little, but not too long,
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me, but let me go.
For this journey that we all must take,
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan,
a step on the road to home.

When we are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know,
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds,
Miss me, but let me go

VERSE NO. 65

Missing You

I surround myself with pictures
Some you made,
And some made of you
And I stretch across the wall of time
To touch you.
If I could speak some magic words,
Would you return?
My ears play tricks--
Is that your laughter that I hear?
Your smile, so bravely shining on my walls--
Could it not warm my countenance once more?
Your eyes, so bright,
Which always glowed with pleasure--
Could they not gaze upon my own again?
But no, your lovely eyes are forfeit;
They shine in others' faces now
And view a world
That is no longer yours.
And parts of you are scattered
Far and wide
And bring new life to other mothers' sons.
And though I grieve,
I cherish, too, the thought
That part of you lives on,
Though hidden far from me.

VERSE NO. 66

Who Ever Thought

*Who ever thought your life would end
So suddenly one dreadful morn?
Your soul has flown to heaven above
Where you dwell in endless love,
But we are left down here, forlorn.*

*For we who loved you are now left
With arms and hearts so sore bereft
Of all the love you had to give.
We miss you every single day---
Your smile and all your loving ways---
We wanted you to always live.*

*Although your life was much too brief
And our hearts are filled with grief,
We're glad we had those precious years.
So we give thanks to God above
For sending you to us with love
And know someday He'll dry our tears.
For you still live, in heaven above,
And watch o'er us in constant love---*

*A love that never more will end.
And someday we will join you there
When heaven's joys we, too, will share
Forevermore with you, dear friend!*

VERSE NO. 67

A Year Later

*Am I different now?
Sometimes it seems that way--
That I have only one identity:
A mother who has lost a child.
Do others think of me that way, too?*

*The pain has seared my very soul
And left scars on my psyche.
Do they show?
Do strangers mark me as one who mourns?*

*I do sometimes laugh now,
But I never truly forget.
I remember HIS laughter
And wish I could hear it once more.*

*I feel guilty whenever I forget for even an instant
That he is gone and will never come back.
But my heart goes on beating
And my lungs go on breathing
And the days go on passing.*

*One by one.
I begin to take small pleasures,
Just baby steps at first--
Sights or sounds or colors or tastes.
But soon I am running again*

*And sometimes I even feel joy.
Then I remember
What joy HE always found in life,
And then I don't feel guilty any more.
I can almost see him smile
As I finally learn this lesson.*

VERSE NO. 68

Never Ready to Say Goodbye

*We're never ready to say goodbye
To someone we hold dear.
If it were up to us, sweet Dad,
We'd always keep you here.*

*But God has reasons of His own
And plans we do not know,
And these are always for our good,
Though it may seem not so.*

*Our arms are empty, and our hearts
Are filled with tears and grief,
For we who loved each day with you,
Now find those days too brief.*

*Yet if only we could heaven see,
We'd know you're happy there,
And we would never call you back
When such great joy you share.*

*And so we'll trust you to God's great care
And know some day, once more,
We'll hold you to our hearts again
When we reach heaven's shore.*

VERSE NO. 69

Heaven

*I am home in heaven, dear ones.
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is a perfect joy and beauty
In the everlasting light.*

*All the pain and grief is over;
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever;
Safely home in heaven at last.*

*There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand,
Do it now; while life remaineth--
You shall rest in God's own land.*

*When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting
Oh, the joy to see you come!*

VERSE NO. 70

Don't Grieve For Me

Don't grieve for me, from pain I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid, you see.
I took his hand when I heard his call
I turned around and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found the peace on a sunny day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A family shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good family, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seem all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; From pain I'm free.

VERSE NO. 71

*Forever in our Hearts
A million times we needed you,
A million times we cried,
If love alone would have saved you,
You would of never died.*

*In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still,
In our hearts you hold a place,
No one can ever fill.*

*A light from our household is gone,
A voice from our love is stilled,
A place in our vacant home,
Which never can be filled.
Some may think you are forgotten,
Though on earth you are no more,
But in our memory you are with us,
As you always were before.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
A part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

*Your precious memories are for keepsakes,
with which we never part,
God has you safely in his keeping,
But we have you forever in our hearts*

VERSE NO. 72

Death is but a Passageway
When I have left this earthly shore,
I pray you happy be,
For I shall be in pain no more
When I'm beyond the sea.
For death is but a passageway
And Christ waits at the door,
And I've been longing for the day
When I shall see my Lord.

I do not wish my life to end,
For I have much to do,
Good times to spend with family and friends,
And work to finish, too.
But when it's time to pass that door,
I know I'll have no fear,
I'll be accompanied by my Lord,
Who'll wipe away each tear.

We Christians know we need not fear
How death may come or when,
Our Christ walks with us each step here
And will our souls attend.
So walk with joy through every day;
To death, give not a thought;
Our Christ walks with us each day here,
And our salvation is bought.

If you have come to say goodbye
To this, my earthly shell,
Be glad for me and do not cry
I now in heaven dwell.
And I am safe with Christ my Lord
And in His arms I rest.
My earthly time and life are o'er,
But now my soul is blessed.

For death is but a passageway,
And Christ waits at the door,
And I've been longing for the day
When I shall see my Lord.

VERSE NO. 73

*Let not your hearts be troubled;
believe in God, believe also in me.
In my father's house are many rooms;
if it were not so, would I have told you
that I go to prepare a place for you?
And when I go and prepare a place
for you, I will come again
and I will take you to myself,
that where I am you may be also.*

VERSE NO. 74

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and
I will dwell in the house of the Lord for
ever.

VERSE NO. 75

He is gone

*You can shed tears that he is gone
Or you can smile because he has lived*

*You can close your eyes
and pray that he will come back
Or you can open your eyes
and see all that he has left*

*Your heart can be empty
because you can't see him
Or you can be full of the love that you shared*

*You can turn your back on tomorrow
and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow
because of yesterday*

*You can remember him
and only that he is gone
Or you can cherish his memory
and let it live on*

*You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what he would want:
smile, open your eyes,
love and go on.*

VERSE NO. 76

O great apostle of Ireland,
glorious Saint Patrick,
to whom under God so many are indebted to the most
precious of all treasures,
the great gift of faith,
receive our fervent thanks for the zeal
and charity that have been
to thousands the source of blessings so invaluable.

Ask for all who dwell in this land and
the land of their labours not only
the precious light of Faith,
and for us on
whom its glorious rays have long since beamed,
the grace to regulate our lives by its
sacred maxims but also
that Ireland will continue to value life.
Amen.

VERSE NO. 77

Saint Anthony's Blessing
Behold, the Cross of the Lord! Begone, all
evil powers! The Lion of the tribe of Judah,
The Root of David, has conquered!
Alleluia, Alleluia!

VERSE NO. 79

A silent thought,
a quiet prayer;
For a special person
in God's care

VERSE NO. 81

Deep are the memories,
Precious they stay;
No passing of time,
Can take them away.

VERSE NO. 83

Loved with a love
beyond all telling,
missed with a grief
beyond all tears.

VERSE NO. 85

Deep in our hearts your memory is kept
To love, to cherish, and never forget.

VERSE NO. 87

It does not take a special day for us to think
of you, a heart of gold that won so many
friends, your care for others, your smile,
the kiss, the welcome, the willing hands.
Love and memories never die, as each of us remember
you in our own special way.

VERSE NO. 78

No matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our hearts,
Is always kept for you.

VERSE NO. 80

Fold him O Jesus in Thine arms
and let him henceforth be a
messenger of love between
our human hearts and Thee.

VERSE NO. 82

Those who die in grace
go no further from us than God,
and God is very near.

VERSE NO. 84

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon him
and may his soul and all the souls of
the faithful departed rest in peace.

VERSE NO. 86

To live in the hearts of those
who love is not to die.

VERSE NO. 88

As each day dawns we think of you;
As each night falls,
we pray for you.
And throughout our lives,
no matter where;
In our hearts you are always there.

VERSE NO. 89

Loving Memory

In loving memory of a dear son who passed away.
Silent thoughts, a secret tear.
A constant wish that you were here.
No need for words except to say,
we love and miss you every day.
Always loved and never forgotten.

VERSE NO. 91

Smile

A special smile, a special face,
and in our hearts, a special place.
No words we speak can ever say
How much we miss you every day.
To hear your voice and see you smile,
To sit and talk with you awhile.
To be together in the same old way,
Would be the dearest wish of ours today.

VERSE NO. 93

A year has passed

A year has passed since you were taken from us so early in your life
Forever remembering your infectious
smile, your generous nature, your great spirit.

We miss you everyday, and you are always in our hearts

VERSE NO. 95

Thine Arms

Hold her/him O Jesus in Thine arms

And let her/him henceforth be

A messenger of love between

Our human hearts and Thee

VERSE NO. 97

Although it's difficult today
to see beyond the sorrow,
may looking back in memory
help comfort you tomorrow.

VERSE NO. 99

"Death is more universal than life;
everyone dies but not everyone lives."

VERSE NO. 90

The Little Things

It will be the little things that you will remember,
the quiet moments, the smiles, the laughter.
And although it may seem hard right now,
it will be the memories of these little things
that help to push away the pain
and bring the smiles back again.

VERSE NO. 92

Day is Done

Day is done, gone the sun, from the hills, from the sky.
All is well, safely rest, safely rest, all is well.
Fading light dims the sight, and a star gems the sky,
Gleaming bright from afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.
Dear one, rest!

VERSE NO. 94

Our Father and Hail Mary

Our Father and Hail Mary

Eternal rest grant unto her/him. O Lord.

And let Thy perpetual light shine upon her/him.

May she/he rest in peace

VERSE NO. 96

Those who die in grace go no
further from us than God
and God is very near.

VERSE NO. 98

"The day which we fear as our last,
is but the birthday of eternity."

VERSE NO. 100

"Earth has no sorrow that
Heaven cannot heal."

VERSE NO. 101

"A good character is the best tombstone.
Those who loved you and were helped
by you will remember you
when forget-me-nots have withered.
Carve your name on hearts, not on marble."

VERSE NO. 103

"It is healthy and honorable to weep at the
loss of someone we love.
Healthy because such passion must be
released. Honourable because it is respectful
to admit the importance of people
who have loved and supported
us...people whose footprints
cannot ever be matched."

VERSE NO. 105

"Perhaps they are not the stars,
but rather openings in Heaven where
the love of our lost ones pours through
and shines down upon us to let us
know they are happy."

VERSE NO. 107

"There is no distance on this earth
as far away as yesterday."

VERSE NO. 109

"Unable are the Loved to die.
For Love is Immortality."

VERSE NO. 111

"When someone you love becomes a memory,
the memory becomes a treasure."

VERSE NO. 102

"I am fully convinced that the soul is indestructible,
and that its activity will continue through eternity.
It is like the sun,
which, to our eyes, seems to set in night;
but it has in reality only gone to diffuse its light elsewhere."

VERSE NO. 104

"Life is eternal,
and love is immortal,
and death is only a horizon;
and a horizon is nothing save
the limit of our
sight."

VERSE NO. 106

"Sympathy is two hearts tugging at one load."

VERSE NO. 108

"Time heals what reason cannot."

VERSE NO. 110

"We shape our lives not by what we carry with us...
but by what we leave behind."

VERSE NO. 112

"With every friend I love who has been taken into
the brown bosom of the earth a part of me has been buried
there;

but their contribution to my being of happiness,
strength and understanding remains to sustain me in an altered
world."