



REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

November is the traditional time when we remember and pray for those who have died. The following songs, prayers and poems might help you to do this.

Find a comfortable space where you won't be disturbed for 30 mins. Light a candle and have a few tealights to hand. Have photos of those who have died.

The music can all be found on You tube.

Song: There will ever be a Place - Liam Lawton

There's a time for remembering, a time to recall
The trials and the triumphs, the fears and the falls.
There's a time to be grateful for the moments so blest:
The jewels of our memory where love is our guest.

There is gold that is gleaming in a past we once knew:
In our tears and our laughter, 'twas love brought us through.
There's a road we have travelled where sunlight has kissed,
That carries us onwards when loved ones are missed.

There is treasure in our fields. There is treasure in our skies.
There is treasure in our dreaming from the soul to the eye;
For wherever we gather in the light of God's grace,
And for all whom we remember, there will ever be a place.

There's a promise of God that is written in the stars
For all who may travel, no matter how far.
God will be your companion, each journey you make
In the shadow of loved ones, to lighten your way.

In the quiet of the evening, at the close of the day,
We will rest on the journey. To the Lord we shall pray.
May we thank God for blessings, for the moments we've shared.
As we seek for tomorrow, close by us you'll stay.

Take time to re-call all those you know who have died this year be it husband, wife, family, friends, neighbours and especially those who have died from Covid19

Remember the good times in their company, remember the difficult times....

Thank God for their lives, for what they shared with you, for what you shared with them.....

Remember all those who are long dead, family, friends....**our saints** who are living forever in God, who live forever in us because they touched our lives and shaped us....

(5 mins quiet time)

The last line of the song we had at the beginning reminds us that our dead loved ones will always

remain close to us. One way of thinking about that is to imagine them as stars, stars to lighten our darkness, to lighten our way through life without them.

If you would like to write the name of someone on a piece of paper and put it in front of your candle or by the photo you have of them and then light a tealight to remember them.....

Song: Deep Peace - Aled Jones

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ,
of Christ the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

In the rising of the sun and its going down,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends
WE REMEMBER THEM.

When we are lost and sick at heart,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

When we have joys we yearn to share,
WE REMEMBER THEM.

As long as we live, they too shall live,
For they will always be a part of us.
WE REMEMBER THEM.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon them
May they rest in peace.

Lord those who die still live in your presence, their lives change but do not end. We pray in hope for our departed loved ones. May they live on in the memory of us left behind. And in company

with Christ, who died and now lives, may they rejoice in your kingdom, where all tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family to sing your praise forever and ever.



Now let's take time to think about our own death.....

(5 mins quiet)

We pray that we will have the blessing,
Of being consoled and sure about our own death.

May we know in our souls
There is no need to be afraid.

When our time comes, may we have
Every blessing and strength that we need.

May there be a beautiful welcome for us
In the home we are going to.

We are not going somewhere strange
Merely back to the home we have never left.

May we live with compassion
And transfigure everything
Negative within and about us.

When we come to die,
May it be after a long life.

May we be tranquil
Among those who care for us.

May our going be sheltered
And our welcome assured.

May our soul smile
In the embrace of The One Who loves us.

John O'Donohue Blessings

(5 mins quiet time)

Blessing Prayer

May the **God of Strength** be with us, holding us in strong fingered hands;
And may we be the sacrament of his strength to those whose hands we hold;
May the blessing of strength be with us.

May the **God of Gentleness** be with us, caressing us with sunlight and rain and wind;
May his tenderness shine through us to warm all who are hurt and lonely;
May the blessing of tenderness be with us.

May the **God of Compassion** be with us, holding us close when we are weary and hurt and alone,
when there is rain in our heart;
And may we be the warm hands and the warm eyes of compassion for our friend when s/he reaches
out to us in need;
May the blessing of compassion be with us.

May the **God of Patience** be with us,
waiting for us with outstretched arms, letting us find ourselves;
and may our patience with all the young who fall from small heights and the old who fall from
greater heights be our patience;
may the blessing of patience be with us.

May the **God of Peace** be with us,
Stilling the heart that hammers with fear and doubt and confusion;
And may the warm mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious;
May the blessing of peace be with us.

Song: The Lord bless you and keep you. (Aled Jones sings)

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance on you and give you peace. Amen

May the souls of all our faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Ending Song : “The Cloud’s Veil” Liam Lawton

Even though the rain hides the stars,
even though the mist swirls the hills,
even when the dark clouds veil the sky,
God is by my side.

Even when the sun shall fall in sleep,
even when at dawn the sky shall weep,
even in the night when storms shall rise,
God is by my side.
God is by my side.

Bright the stars at night
that mirror heaven’s way to you.

Bright the stars in light
where dwell the saints in love and truth.

Deep the feast of life
where saints shall gather in deep peace.
Deep in heaven’s light
where sorrows pass beyond death’s sleep.

Blest are they who sing
the fellowship of saints in light.
Blest is heaven’s King.
All saints adore the Lord, most high.

