

Verses, Poems, and Prayers
2018

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Messenger MIP Verses

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. It does not dishonor others,
it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not
delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
It always protects, always trusts, always
hopes, always perseveres.
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. It does not dishonor others,
it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.
It always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres.
Love never fails. But where there are
prophecies, they will cease; where there are
tongues, they will be stilled; where there is
knowledge, it will pass away.
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

1 Peter 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy,
he has caused us to be born again
to a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead, to an inheritance
that is imperishable, undefiled,
and unfading, kept in heaven for you,
- 1 Peter 1:3-4

2 Timothy 1:10

...But is now made manifest by
the appearing of our savior,
Jesus Christ, who hath abolished
death, and hath brought life
and immortality to light
through the gospel.
- 2 Timothy 1:10

23rd Psalm

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

23rd Psalm - Stanzas

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside still waters.
He restoreth my soul;
He leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for His name's sake;

Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff
they comfort me;

Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord,
forever.

Messenger MIP Verses

A Child

God needed an angel in heaven
to stand at the Savior's feet;
His choice must be the rarest,
a lily pure and sweet.
He gazed upon the mighty throng
then stopped and picked the best,
our child was His chosen one
with Jesus he's now at rest.

A friendly smile...

A friendly smile, a casual touch,
These are the things that mean so much,
To know you are with us in our time of sorrow,
Sharing our prayers, today and tomorrow,
God gives us comfort
in the form of good friends,
May His peace be with you, His love never ends.
By the family of

A Little Step Away

To close the eye, to fall asleep,
To draw a labored breath,
To find release from daily cares
In what we know as death.

Is this the crowning of a life,
The aim or end thereof?
The totaled sum of consciousness,
The repined fruit of love?

It cannot be, for works of God
Are wrought for nobler ends,
And those away continue on
In the hearts of kin and friends.

It cannot be, for they live on
A little step away.
The soul, the everlasting life,
Has found a better day.

--O.J. Hanson

A Little While

Remember
Fill not your heart with pain and sorrow,
but remember me in every tomorrow.
Remember the joy, the laughter, the smile.
I've only gone to rest for a little while.
Although my leaving causes pain and grief,
my going has eased my hurt and given me relief.
So dry your eyes and remember me,
not as I am now, but as I used to be.
Because I will remember you all,
and look on with a smile.
Understand in your hearts,
I've only gone to rest for a little while.
- Miles Davis

A Note To You

Life is like a vapor
On the side where you remain
Forever is where time goes on
Filled with joyful, timeless days

Please don't let the tears that glisten
Stay upon your face too long
Instead remember the time we had
And make tears give way to song

Goodbye is not the message
I would want to leave for you
Rather, what I want to say is,
I will see you soon.

I am quite alive, you see
And waiting here for you
So, please live your life with joy and love
Until you are timeless too

We will laugh again together
When life will have no end
No, this is not goodbye at all
It is, I will see you then

-- Sherrie Bradley Grubb

Messenger MIP Verses

A Place Upon The Green

When life on earth is over
Life anew is seen
Affording simple pleasures
In a place upon the green

When life on earth is in the past
A journey lived by faith
Step by step life's fairway
Brought me here by grace

Now I've gained new access
The course unfolding view
To master hill and valley
With each stroke straight and true

To enter into pleasures
Of the beauty I have seen
Since I was given entrance
To a place upon the green

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

A Prayer For You

I said a prayer for you today
and know God must have heard.
I felt the answer in my heart,
although He spoke no word.
I didn't ask for wealth or fame
I knew you wouldn't mind.
I asked Him to send treasures
of a far more lasting kind!
I asked that He'd be near you
at the start of each new day,
to grant you health and blessings
and friends to share your way.
I asked for happiness for you
in all things great and small.
But it was for His loving care
I prayed the most of all.

A Psalm of David

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

A Song of Ascents

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains;
From whence shall my help come.
My help cometh from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, He that keepeth Israel
Doth neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper;
The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep thee from all evil;
He shall keep thy soul.
The Lord guard thy going out and thy coming in
From this time forth and forever.

Messenger MIP Verses

A Treasure for the King

The wise may bring their learning,
The rich may bring their wealth,
And some may bring their greatness,
And some bring strength and health.
We too will bring our treasures
To offer to the King;
We have no wealth of learning,
So, what shall we children bring?

We'll bring Him hearts that love Him;
We'll bring Him thankful praise,
And young souls meekly striving
To be with Him for all days:
And these shall be the treasures
We offer to the King,
For these are gifts that even
The smallest of us can bring.

A Tribute to Mom

We couldn't begin to count the times
she tolerated our moods, counseled our
heartbreaks and disappointments, endured our
ups and downs. She listened to words confused
by tears, and just simply understood,
for no other reason than because she loved us.
The years hold precious memories, but most of all
they hold growth. In a way, we grew up together.
Mom is our definition of a special person.
Fantastic...
Exceptional...
Unique...
Enduring!
She filled our lives with happiness and sweet
feelings that we will carry in our hearts forever.

A True Fisherman

A true fisherman knows when
and where the fish are biting.
He rises up early in the morning,
plying the water for that elusive catch,
waiting in the stillness for a nibble.
A slight twitch in the line, expertly he
reels it in. A good fisherman knows a
keeper when he sees one,
he knows when to toss one back,
and when to head for home.

Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers' fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh abide with me.
Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I will triumph still, if Thou abide with me.
Hold then Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me
to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's
vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me

-- Henry Francis Lyte

Acknowledging with sincere thanks...

Acknowledging
with sincere thanks
your kind and
thoughtful expression
of sympathy

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.

Messenger MIP Verses

After the Rain

After the rain
The gray clouds divide
And the sun dries the tears
The storm left behind.

Your memory comes
Like a soft summer breeze
That drifts through the grass
Between petals and leaves

The earth blooms again;
Flowers lift their bowed heads.
Though our grief is not gone,
We remember instead

That the love in our hearts
Will outlast this pain,
And that sunshine brings healing
After the rain.
--D. Eberbach

Alone with Jesus

When you're alone with Jesus
and He sweetly smiles on thee
will you gently whisper to Him
a little prayer for me?
And when I'm alone with Jesus
and all else is hidden from view,
I'll gently drop into His heart
a little prayer for you.

*Jesus, Mary, Joseph my Jesus...
Mercy's sacred heart of Jesus,
I place my trust in thee*

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved,
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come,
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

America the Beautiful (1 stanza)

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

Messenger MIP Verses

America the Beautiful (2 stanzas)

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

An Old Irish Blessing

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

Anchored in the Harbor

Anchored in the harbor
Upon the sea of peace
Serenity surrounds me
With each wave that is released

Calm and peaceful waters
Warm embracing winds
Billows blowing in life's storm
Have ceased from coming in

The Light of Life has guided me
Making the way sure
Anchored in this harbor
To rest forevermore.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Angel Dance

There is a noise in Heaven
A happy, joyful sound
Heard as the feet of children
Are set to dancing all around

They are being taught by angels
No time for sadness there
Keeping step with music
As it rises in the air

A new song they hear playing
It banishes all pain
And sets their feet to dancing
None are sick or lame

With new unhindered cadence
Their eyes are shining bright
They are dancing with the angels
In the glory of Heaven's light
-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Angler's Prayer

God grant that I may live to fish, until my dying
day,
And when it comes to my last cast, I then most
humbly pray,
When in the Lord's safe landing net, I'm
peacefully asleep,
That in his mercy I be judged, As big enough to
keep.

Anniversary Sentiment

On the anniversary of your loss,
our thoughts are with you.
May fond memories of the past
fill your heart with comfort.

Appreciation

On behalf of the family, we wish to express
gratitude for your many kindnesses evidenced in
thought and deed, and for your attendance at
today's service.

Appreciation – Minister

Your comforting ministry at the services
for our loved one
is gratefully acknowledged and deeply
appreciated.

Messenger MIP Verses

Appreciation – Ministry of Music

Your ministry of music
at the services for
our loved one
is acknowledged with
sincere thanks
and deep appreciation

Appreciation – Service as Bearer

Acknowledging
with deep appreciation
your service as bearer
in honor of
our loved one

Ave Maria

Dios te salve Maria.
Llena eres de gracia
El Señor es contigo
bendita eres entre todas
las mujeres
bandito es el fruto de tu
vientre Jesus.
Santa Maria Madre de dios
ruega por nosotros los pecadores
ahora y en la hora de
nuestro muerte.
Amen.

Away

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead! He is just away!

With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land.

And left us dreaming how very fair
It must be, since he lingers there.

And you - O you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return -

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here;

Think of him still as the same, I say;
He is not dead - he is just away!

-- James Whitcomb Riley.

Baseball Quote

Baseball is a lot like life. It's a day-to-day existence, full of ups and downs. You make the most of your opportunities in baseball as you do in life." Ernie Harwell

Be at Peace

Do not look forward in fear to the changes in life; rather look to them with full hope that as they arise. God, whose very own you are, will lead you safely through all things; and when you cannot stand it, God will carry you in His arms. Do not fear what may happen tomorrow, the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you then and every day. He will either shield you from suffering, or will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

-- St. Francis DeSales

Be One Together

Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight?
I am 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 be one together with Christ.

Beautiful Spirit

A beautiful spirit endures through many transformations, and carries with it a patient endurance... a perseverance of the soul that stands the test of time. The color of our lives do not fade, but grow brighter with every changing season.

Messenger MIP Verses

Believe & Trust

Believe and trust. Through stars and suns,
Through life and death, through soul and sense,
His wise, paternal purpose runs;
The darkness of His providence
Is star-lit with benign intents.
I know He is, and what He is,
Whose one great purpose is the good
Of all. I rest my soul on His
Immortal Love and Fatherhood;
And trust Him, as His children should.

-- John Greenleaf Whittier

Beside Your Bedside

We sat beside your bedside,
our hearts were crushed and sore,
we did our best 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 some aching hearts,
that loved you most sincere;
we never shall and never will ever
forget you, father dear.

Beyond the Meadow

Just beyond the Meadow
I found my forever home
A simple place of beauty
Where only love grows
It blooms because of you
And all the memories we share
You made a world of difference
Just because you cared
Look out the window often
and continue to plant those seeds because
Love Lives Forever
in the Beauty that Abounds
--H. Garman

Blue Skies

God hath not promised
skies always blue,
flower-strewn pathways
all our lives through.
God hath not promised
sun without rain,
joy without sorrow,
peace without pain.
But God hath promised
strength for the day,
rest for the labor,
light for the way,
grace for the trials,
help from above,
unfailing sympathy
undying love . . .

Book Dedication

We respectfully
dedicate this book
to those we serve

Broken Chain

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

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

You left us peaceful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And though we cannot see you,
You are always by our side.

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

--Ron Tranmer

Messenger MIP Verses

Butterfly

The butterfly emerges
from its silken shell-
Reborn, it arises,
no longer bound to earth.
Free at last, the butterfly glides
to heights unknown before.

So do our loved ones find
a beautiful release
as, earthbound no more
they leave our sight and joyfully rise
to a garden of matchless beauty,
a place of light and peace.
-- Evelyn Phillips

C. S. Lewis Quote

Experience:
The most brutal of teachers.
But you learn, my God
do you learn.
- C. S. Lewis

Carried by Angels

Escorted in such splendor
If I could only see,
The beauty and the majesty
As angels carried me.

Far beyond the life I knew
Secure in their embrace,
My journey was a prelude
To the glory of this place.

Welcomed by rejoicing
No tears are ever found,
God Himself wipes them away
And angel's songs abound.

Eternal gates were opened
Peace met me there inside,
I rejoice now with the angels
In Heaven I abide.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Catholic Version – 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose.
Beside restful waters he leads me;
He refreshes my soul.
He guides me in right paths
For his name's sake.
You spread the table before me
In sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
Only goodness and kindness follow me
All the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
For years to come.

Chain

We knew little that morning
that God was going to call your name.
In life, we loved you dearly –
In death, we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you
the day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories,
your love is still our guide;
and though we cannot see you,
you are always 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.

Messenger MIP Verses

Christ Have Mercy

With the saints of the righteous made perfect, give rest to the soul of Thy servant, O Savior; and preserve it in that life of blessedness which is with Thee, O Thou who lovest mankind. In the place of Thy rest, O Lord, where all Thy saints repose, give rest also to the soul of thy servant for Thou only lovest mankind. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Thou art our God, who descended into Hell, and loosened the bonds of those who were there. Thyself give rest also to the soul of thy servant now and ever unto ages of ages. Amen.

Colossians 1:16-17

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.
- Colossians 1:16-17

Colossians 1:5

For the hope which is laid up for you in Heaven, where of ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel.
- Colossians 1:5

Come, Ye Disconsolate

Come, ye disconsolate, wherever ye languish;
Come to the Mercy seat, fervently kneel,
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.
Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying,
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure;
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot cure.
Here see the Bread of Life; see the waters flowing,
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above,
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
Earth has no sorrow but Heaven can remove.
-- Thomas Moore

Comfort

In everybody's garden
a little rain must fall.
Or life's sweetest, fairest flowers
wouldn't grow and bloom at all.
And though the clouds hang heavy,
so heavy oh my friend,
I'm sure that God who sends the showers
will send the rainbow's end.

Comfort (2)

I thank you for the love that each has shown,
but now it's time I travel on alone.

So grieve a while for me if grieve you must,
then let your grief be comforted by trust.

It's only a while that we must part,
so bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away; I'll be quite near.
Just call me softly and I will hear.

--Franklin Lee Stevenson

Messenger MIP Verses

Comfort (3)

When shadows fall about us
And sad hearts are alone,
There is a strength that comes to us
Far greater than our own ~

There is a love that comforts,
There is a light that leads,
There is a Heavenly Father
Who understands our needs!

Congregation - Jewish

Y'heh sh'meh rabbo m'vo-rach, l'O-lam ul'ol'meh
Ol-ma-yo:

Count Basie Quote

I'm saying, "to be continued...
Until we meet again.
Meanwhile, keep on listening
and tapping your feet."
- Count Basie

Courage and Hope

Nothing gives us more courage...
and hope to face life's
uncertainties than to remember
our moments of glory...
and we've all had a few.

Cowboy's Prayer

Oh Lord, I've never lived where churches grow. I
love creation better as it stood
That day You finished it so long ago
And looked upon Your work and called it good.
Just let me live my life as I've begun
And give me work that's open to the sky;
Make me a partner of the wind and sun,
And I won't ask a life that's soft or high.
Let me be easy on the man that's down;
Let me be square and generous with all.
I'm careless sometimes, Lord, when I'm in town,
But never let 'em say I'm mean or small!
Make me as big and open as the plains,
As honest as the horse between my knees,
Clean as the wind that blows behind the rains,
Free as the hawk that circles down the breeze!
Forgive me, Lord, if sometimes I forget.
You know about the reasons that are hid.
You understand the things that gall and fret;
You know me better than my mother did.
Just keep an eye on all that's done and said
And right me, sometimes, when I turn aside,
And guide me on the long, dim, trail ahead
That stretches upward toward the Great Divide.

Creation's Flight

With every changing season
The sky has seemed to say,
Lift your thoughts toward heaven
Come and fly away.

Through life there is a beckon
Toward a final flight,
The seasons are preparing
A change from faith to sight.

And then one day it can be heard
Seems nature hears it too,
The time has come to journey
To a place prepared for you.

Rising toward the cloudless day
On gentle winds to glide,
Toward that final season
Where eternity abides.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Messenger MIP Verses

Creation's Song

Creation wakes each morning
As darkness fades away,
Anticipating promise
Held in a bright new day.

All nature sings in harmony
Creating nature's song,
Arising toward the heavens,
Ascending to God's throne.

The Creator loves the melody
That His creation sings,
Arising as a symphony
As all the heavens ring.

A song that is not limited
But carried to the skies,
It will be heard forever
At eternity's sunrise.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Creation's Watch

All creation seems to watch
Awaiting a day to come,
Even nature will be changed
At the final setting sun.

Deep in rustic beauty
On mountain tops around,
A distant call is heard by all
Filled with eternal sound.

A promise held to all who hear
Whispers in the wind,
And dances on the waters
A call to enter in.

A final place of peaceful life
That never fades away,
All creation is made new
At the sunset of that day.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,
and one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning
on the bar,
when I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
too full for sound and foam.
When that which drew from out the
boundless deep, turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
and after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of
farewell, when I embark.

For though from out our borne
of time and place
the flood may bear me far.
I hope to see my pilot face to face
when I have crossed the bar.

-- Alfred Tennyson

Cuando tenga que dejarte...

Cuando tenga que dejarte por un corto tiempo,
por favor no te entristezcas, ni derrames
lágrimas,
ni te abrasces a tu pena a través de los años;
por el contrario, empieza de nuevo con valentía
y con una sonrisa por mi memoria
y en mi nombre vive tu vida
y haz todas las cosas igual que antes.
No alimentes tu soledad
con días vacíos, sino llena cada hora
de manera útil.
Extiende tu mano para confortar
y dar ánimo, y en cambio
y te confortaré y te tendré cerca de mí:
y nunca, nunca, tengas miedo de morir
porque yo estaré esperándote en el cielo!

Messenger MIP Verses

Dad

He never said, "I love you"
in words I can recall.
He felt it not the manly thing to do.
Yet deep within my heart,
I know that love was really there.
His eyes, his touch, the things he did
all told me that it's true.
And now it's time to say, "goodbye"
my father and my friend.
Sweet memories remain of him,
ones that will not end.

Dádme, Señor; la serenidad...

Dádme, Señor; la serenidad
par ver las realidades de
este mundo; ya sean pequeñas
o grandes, violentas o tranquilas
Que me sea concedido el entenderlas
como una Gracia y Bendición
de Vuestro Designo.

Dawn

Dawn;
Silent church before service begins;
The love of a little child;
The moment just before one is sure
of being loved;
The moment of rescue from danger;
The understanding between friends.
The mountains, the desert, the sea;
Two aged lovers going down the hill of life
together;
First Love;
The joy of existence.

"God's gifts put man's best dreams to shame."

-- Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Dedicated to those...

Dedicated
to those who mourn a departed one,
with the hope that time will heal all sorrow
and bring consoling peace.

Dios no nos a prometido...

Dios no nos a prometido que el cielo
siempre estará azul,
o que nuestro sendero estará
lleno de flores todas nuestras vidas;
Dios no nos a prometido solamente el sol
sin darnos los beneficios de la lluvia
o darnos alegrías sin tener tristezas
o paz sin tener dolor.
Pero Dios si nos a prometido
fortaleza para todo el día,
descanso después de laborar el día,
luz para ver nuestro camino,
bendiciones en nuestros padecimientos
y ayuda celestial llena de compasión
y con un amor eterno.

Dios te salve, María

Dios te salve, María, llena eres de gracia,
el Señor es contigo; Bendita Tú eres entre
todas las mujeres, y bendito es el fruto
de tu vientre, Jesús.
Santa María, Madre de Dios,
ruega por nosotros, pecadores,
ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte.
Amén.

Messenger MIP Verses

Distinguished Veteran

With respectful gratitude for a life shared and now blessedly at rest, and with heartfelt praise, this memorial book is dedicated to the living memory of a distinguished Veteran of the Armed Services of our beloved nation.

Always and everywhere, we live with personal remembrances of devoted loved ones and, under God, render Thanks and Praise to Him for the promise of everlasting life. This truth is perceived by us on a day to day basis as we note the sacrificial acts and personal commitment of our Veterans. Their uphold of such essential values as liberty and justice, individual dignity and national righteousness, ennoble the life of each of us. Through their example we move toward eternity with faith, charity, courage and hope.

The line of life between birth and immortality is one of no certain length. In considering this, as we bid farewell to this honored, respected Veteran, may we be ever more thoughtful, grateful and humble before our Creator as we all await our heavenly reunion.

Do Not Stand at My Grave

I'm Not There
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 softly falling snow,
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain,
I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush
of birds in circling flight.
I am the star shine of the night,
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room,
I am the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing,
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.

Down a Narrow Hidden Path (Peaceful Retreat)

Down a narrow hidden path
Sought out by Wisdom's eye
A peaceful place of refuge calls
To come rest awhile beside

Listen to the waters
Falling over mountains steep
To gently flow for endless days
Through eternity's retreat

And on the far horizon
Of the never setting sun
The harvest of the whitened wheat
Is very nearly done

As work on earth comes to a close
Peace will be complete
Surrounded by the beauty
Of eternity's retreat

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

During A Time (Landscape)

During a time like this we realize
how much our friends and relatives
really mean to us . . .

Your expression of sympathy
will always be remembered

During a time...

During a time
like this
we realize how much
our friends and relatives
really mean to us . . .
Your expression
of sympathy will always
be remembered

Messenger MIP Verses

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

There is a time for everything and a season
for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones
and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time
to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.
- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Ele Mole Rahamim

Memorial Prayer

O God, full of compassion, Thou who dwellest on high! Grant perfect rest unto the soul of

who has departed from this world. Lord of mercy,
bring him (her) into Thy presence and let his (her)
soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life. Be
Thou his (her) possession and may his (her) soul
repose in peace. Amen.

Ele Mole Rahamim – Jewish

Memorial Prayer

El Moleh Rahamim Shochayn Bamromim.
Hamtsay Menucha Nechona Tachas Kanfay
Hashechina Bema-alos Kedoshim Ut'horim
K'Zohar Harakia Mazhirim Es Nishmas

Shehalach (Shehalcha) Leolama (leolama)
Baavur She'ani Nodav Litzdaka Be'ad
Hazkaras Nishmaso (Nishmasa) Began Eden
Tehay Menuchaso (Menuchasa) Lachayn Ba'al
Harachamim Yastirayhu (Yastireha) Besaser
Kenafav Leolamim, Viyitzror Bitzror
Hachayim Es Nishmaso (Nishmasa), Adonai
Hu Nachalaso (Nachalasa) Veyanuach (Vesnuach)
Beshalom Al Mishkavo (Miskava) Venomar,
Amen.

El Salmo Veinte-Tres

El Señor es mi pastor; nada me faltara.
En lugares de delicados pastos me hara yacer;
junto a aguas de reposo me pastoreara.
Confortara mi alma; guiarama por sendas de
justicia por amor de su nombre. Aunque ande en
valle de sombra de muerte, no temere mal
alguno;
porque tu estaras conmigo; tu vara y tu cayado
me infundiran aliento. Aderezaras mesa delante
de mi en presencia de mis angustiadores ungiste
mi cabeza con aceite: mi copa esta rebosando.
Ciertamente el bien y la misericordia me seguiran
todos los dias de mi vida: y en la casa de
Jehova morare por largos dias.

En la soledad...

En la soledad,
Todas las cosas vuelven a mi.
En el silencio,
Te siento conmigo
Y soy consolado.
"El hombre es como u suspiro,
Su vida pasa como una sombra"
Salmo 144

Messenger MIP Verses

Ephesians 1:10-12

To be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory.
- Ephesians 1:10-12

Eternal Garden

This garden is my favorite place
The fragrance sweet
The sunshine warm

This garden is where I embrace
The love so pure
The glory here

This garden is my favorite place
Where I can always
See God's face

Eternal Morning

While the deepening shadows fall,
Heart of love, enfolding all
Through the glory and the grace
Of the stars that veil thy face,
Our hearts ascend.

When forever from our sight,
Pass the stars, the day, the night,
Lord of angels, on our eyes
Let eternal morning rise,
And shadows end!

Eternal Springtime

A simple weathered bench
Sits beside a well-worn trail
Leading to a garden
Where wisdom seems to dwell

In this refuge filled with fragrance
A refreshing can be found
And those who go to listen
Can hear contentment's sound

The resting place holds answers
For those who seek direction
They come to rest for just awhile
In the serenity of reflection

The fragrance of the Lily
Brings the weary soul to ease
Eternal Springtime, daily comes
Forever in Heaven's breeze

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Expressions Note Card Sentiment

This little note is to express our appreciation for your trust in us.

It is our purpose to give thoughtful service, and if in so doing we have helped to lighten your burden, our aim has been accomplished.

We sincerely hope that our service has been deserving of your confidence.

Very Respectfully,

Fair Promised Land

How very bright the angel band
That greets the blessed ransomed one
How very fair that promised land
With all the earthly trials done.

No grief or fear again is known
No sorrow on that dawning,
When God himself enfolds His own
Upon that shining morning.

Messenger MIP Verses

Fairways of Glory

A dedication to the endless pursuit
of the perfect game, fond memories
of the challenges of the greens
and trials of its traps and now,
the last putt has dropped
into the cup of life and the
light of the day has faded.
Lord - it is now on your fairways
of glory that the game will
continue to be played.

Faith

Wait in majestic peace
The hour of heaven. Generously trust
Thy fortune's net to the beneficent hand
That until now has put
His world in fee To Thee.
He watches o'er thee still. His love
Broods o'er thee, and as God lives in heaven,
However long thou walkest solitary,
The hour of heaven shall come.
--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Father a Light

A light is from our household gone,
a voice we loved is stilled,
a place is vacant in our home,
which never can be filled.
God gave us a beautiful father,
a father who never grew old,
you were always there
with a helping hand,
help us now to accept His plan.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
as time goes by, we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face,
no one can take our "Father's Place."

May the choirs of the angels receive
you and may you have rest
and peace everlasting.
Amen.

Father We Entrust Our Brother

Father we entrust our brother to your mercy.
You loved him greatly in this life:
Now that he is freed from all its cares,
give him happiness and peace forever.
Welcome him now into paradise where
there will be no more sorrow,
no more weeping or pain, but only
peace and joy with Jesus your Son,
and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

Father We Entrust Our Sister

Father we entrust our sister to your mercy.
You loved her greatly in this life:
Now that she is freed from all its cares,
give her happiness and peace forever.
Welcome her now into paradise where
there will be no more sorrow,
no more weeping or pain, but only
peace and joy with Jesus your Son,
and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Fire Fighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God,
whenever flames may rage;
give me strength to save some life,
whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child before
it is too late,
or save an older person from the
horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert
and hear the weakest shout,
and quickly and efficiently to put
the fire out,
I want to fill my calling,
and to give the best in me,
to guard my every neighbor and
protect his property.
And if, according to my fate,
I am to lose my life,
please bless with your protecting hand
my family and friends.

Messenger MIP Verses

Fireman's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God,
whenever flames may rage;
give me strength to save some life,
whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child before
it is too late,
or save an older person from the
horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert
and hear the weakest shout,
and quickly and efficiently to put
the fire out,
I want to fill my calling,
and to give the best in me,
to guard my every neighbor and
protect his property.
And if, according to my fate,
I am to lose my life,
please bless with your protecting hand
my children and my wife.

Fisherman's Prayer

Surely Jesus loves fisherman
for He chose them for His own,
to be with Him and learn from Him
and someday share His home.
It must have been their trust in God
and patience He found rare,
that keeps them very near His
heart and ever in His care.

-- Anne Kujawo

Footprints

One night I had a dream. I was walking
along the beach with the Lord, and
across the skies flashed scenes of my
life. In each scene I noticed two sets of
footprints in the sand. One was mine,
and one was the Lord's.

When the last scene of my life
appeared before me, I looked back at the
footprints in the sand, and to my
surprise, I noticed that many times along
the path of my life there was only one
set of footprints. And I noticed that it
was at the lowest and saddest times in
my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you
said that once I decided to follow you,
you would walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the most
troublesome times in my life there is
only one set of footprints. I don't
understand why you left my side when I
needed you most."

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

Messenger MIP Verses

Footprints (third person)

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One belonging to him and 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 that 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 I 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."

FootPrints (Huellas) Spanish

Huellas de Pisadas sobre la arena
Una noche soñe que iba caminando por la playa junto con Dios.
Muchas escenas de mi vida resplandecieron ante mí, sobre el horizonte.
En cada escena noté que había huellas de pisadas sobre la arena.
A veces habían dos conjuntos de huellas de pisadas,
otras veces solo había un conjunto de pisadas.

Esto me molestó porque noté que durante las etapas mas bajas de mi vida, cuando yo estaba sufriendo de angustia, pena o derrota, solo podía ver un conjunto de pisadas.

Así es que le dije a Dios,
"Tu me prometiste, Señor, que si yo te seguía, siempre caminarías conmigo. Pero he notado que durante los períodos más penosos de mi vida solo ha habido un conjunto de pisadas en la arena. Por qué, cuando más te he necesitado, no has estado allí para apoyarme?"

El Señor me contestó,
"Las veces que solo has visto un solo conjunto huellas de pisadas sobre la arena, son cuando yo te llevaba cargando."

Footsteps

God sees when the
footsteps all falter,

When the pathway
has grown too steep.

Then He touches the
weary eyelids

And gives
His dear ones sleep.

Messenger MIP Verses

For Whom You Cared

The one for whom you cared
With such abiding love,
Has found the wondrous shining path
Up to the home above.
The home where joy forever dwells
Where loved ones but await,
For us to share their happiness
Beyond the heavenly gate.

Forever Fragrant Garden

Forever-fragrant garden
With beauty all around
Blossoms of the rarest kind
Can easily be found

Gentle breezes dancing
Through leaves that never fade
Clinging to the tree of life
Providing heaven's shade

No winter's chill now comes to me
No need to be disheartened
I'll rest here now, forevermore
In God's eternal garden.
-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Forever Touch

Each life leaves unique legacy
Embossed upon our hearts
A touch that lingers on and on
When time has come to part

Memories like fingerprints
Leave a special place
Knitted to the people
That time cannot erase

They live forever in our hearts
As time continues on
In memories of days gone by
We still shared a special bond

That bond cannot be broken
Even death can't separate
A touch that lives forever
Time cannot erase.

-- Sherrie Bradley-Grubb

Forget

Forget the mistakes of the past
and press on to the greater
achievement of the future.

Wear a cheerful countenance
at all times and give every
living creature you meet
a smile.

Founders Prayer

God made us a family.
We need one another.
We love one another.
We work together.
We play together.
We worship together.
Together we use God's word.
Together we grow in Christ.
Together we love all people.
Together we serve God.
Together we hope for Heaven.
These are our hopes and ideals.
Help us attain thee, O God,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Fragrant Garden (short version)

Forever-fragrant garden
With beauty all around,
Blossoms of the rarest kind
Can easily be found.

No winter's chill now comes to me
No need to be disheartened,
I'll rest here now, forevermore
In God's eternal garden.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the spirit
is love, joy, peace, forbearance,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness
gentleness and self-control.
Against such things,
there is no law.
- Galatians 5:22-23

Messenger MIP Verses

Getting Tired

God saw he was getting tired
and a cure was not to be,
so He put His arms around him
and whispered, "Come with me."
With tearful eyes we watched
him suffer and saw him fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
we could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands to rest.
We love you,
you were the very best.

God Grant Me Serenity

God -
grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change...
courage to change
the things I can...
and wisdom to know
the difference.

God Hath Not Promised

God hath not promised
Skies always blue.
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.
But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
Light for the way,
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy,
Undying love . . .

God Hath Not Promised/His Promise

God hath not promised skies always blue,
flower strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain,
joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
But God hath promised strength for the day,
rest for the labor, light for the way,
grace for the trials, help from above,
unfailing sympathy, undying love.

God Looked

God looked around His garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He saw the road was getting rough,
And the hills were hard to climb,
So He closed your weary eyelids,
And whispered "Peace be thine."
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.

God Promises

God gives grace for each trial,
and courage for each sorrow,
and faith to face in confidence
a blessed, bright tomorrow.

God Saw

God saw you were getting tired
and a cure was not to be,
so He put His arms around you,
and whispered, "Come to me."
With tearful eyes we watched you,
and saw you pass away.
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.

Messenger MIP Verses

God the Creator

God the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, grant unto the soul of (name)
Thy servant departed, the remission of all sins; that by pious supplications, (s/he) may obtain that pardon which (s/he) has always desired.
Grant this, O God, who liveth and reigneth forever and ever,
Amen.

Sweet heart of Mary
be (his/her) salvation.

Our Father, - - Hail Mary, - -

God the Creator (2)

O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, grant unto the souls of Thy servants departed the remission of all their sins; that, by pious supplications, they may obtain that pardon which they have always desired.
Grant this, O God, Who livest and reignest forever and ever.
Amen.

Sweet Heart of Mary be my salvation!
Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help,
pray for us.

God the Giver

"Blessed are they that mourn
for they shall be comforted."
- St. Matthew, Verse 5

O God, the giver of pardon and lover of human salvation, have mercy on your servant who has departed from this world. May the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, and all your Saints assist this soul in attaining eternal happiness.
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

God's Garden

God looked around His garden,
and found an empty space.
He looked down upon the Earth,
and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
for He only takes the best.
He knew that you were weary,
He knew that you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
be well on Earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough,
and the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
and whispered "Peace be thine."

God's Garden

God's garden has need of
a little flower
It had grown for a time here below,
But in tender love,
In more favorable climate to grow.

God's Infinite Compassion

O God of infinite compassion, who art the comforter of Thy children; look down in Thy tender love and pity, we beseech Thee, upon Thy servants. In the stillness of our hearts we entreat for them Thy sustaining race. Be Thou their stay, their strength, and their shield, that trusting in Thee they may know Thy presence near, and in the assurance of Thy love be delivered out of their distresses; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Messenger MIP Verses

Good Friends

A friendly smile
A casual touch,
These are the things
That mean so much;

To know you are with us
In our time of sorrow,
Sharing our prayers
Today and tomorrow.

God gives us comfort
In the form of good friends,
May His peace be with you,
His love never ends.

The family of

Goodbye Is Not Forever

When you lived your life for others
and you loved without condition—
when you made so many laugh
and your smile won't be forgotten—
when you left behind an empty place
that no one else can fill—
when the friendships that you shared
long to be renewed—
when you built your life on hope,
and fulfilled it every day.
The footprints that you left behind
will bring us face to face,
so goodbye is not forever,
you're only steps away.

Gratefully Acknowledging

Gratefully acknowledging
and thanking you
for your kind
expression of
sympathy

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.

Harvest of Memories

When you plant seeds
in the lives of others,
and water them
with love and care -
you will reap a harvest
of sweet memories
that will follow
you everywhere.

Heaven's Backyard

Fragrant Rose of Sharon
Borders every side,
Lily of the Valley
Forever here abides.

Nature is perfected
and peace no better known,
Than here in Heaven's backyard
My new forever home.

Friends and family gather
never more to part,
from joyful celebration
There are no broken hearts.

Please don't be bowed down with grief
the way has been made clear,
Heaven's bounty all around
Is waiting for you here.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Messenger MIP Verses

Heavenly Garden

Your gentle touch, your tender care,
a smile as bright as sunshine,
a heart of no compare.
A spirit that will glow forever,
in the memories that we share.

Hebrews 10:34-39

You suffered along with those in prison
and joyfully accepted the confiscation
of your property, because you knew that
you yourselves had better and lasting
possessions. So do not throw away your
confidence; it will be richly rewarded.
You need to persevere so that when you
have done the will of God, you will receive
what he has promised.
For, "In just a little while, he who is coming
will come and will not delay,"
And, "But my righteous one
will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in
the one who shrinks back."
But we do not belong to those who shrink
back and are destroyed, but to those who
have faith and are saved.
- Hebrews 10:34-39

Helen Keller Quote

Behind me and before me is God
and I have no fears.
- Helen Keller

Henry David Thoreau Quote 1

An early morning walk is a blessing
for the whole day.
- Henry David Thoreau

Henry David Thoreau Quote 2

How vain it is to sit down to write
when you have not stood up to live.
- Henry David Thoreau

Her Love

Bring comfort to my heart I pray,
I've lost a dear, dear friend.
She understood and loved me,
with a love that will not end.
I'll carry it within me,
and give it all away.
To each of my own children,
as I live with them each day.
And when my years have been fulfilled,
my time on earth is gone,
the love she richly gave to me,
will still be living on.

Holy God

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal
have mercy on us. May He who rose from
the dead, Christ our true God;
through the intercessions of
His all-immaculate Mother;
of the holy and glorious and all-laudable
Apostles; of our venerable and
God-bearing Fathers and of all the Saints,
establish in the mansions of the righteous
the soul of His servant,
who hath just been taken away from us,
and number this soul among
the just; and have mercy upon us,
for as much as He is good
and loveth mankind.
Amen.

Messenger MIP Verses

Homeward Flight

Peace was my companion
As I made my homeward flight
There was no fear or sorrow
All darkness turned to light

The canopy of stars above
Turned into brightest day
As I approached the heavens
I heard the angels say

The mysteries unshrouded
You are about to see
There is prepared a place for you
Here in eternity

Surrounded by serenity
Forever you will sing
A song unknown to angels
The song of the redeemed

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

How Sleep the Brave

How Sleep the brave, who sink to rest
By all their country's wished blessed
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hollowed mold,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.
By fairy hands their knell is rung;
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;
And Freedom shall awhile repair;
To dwell, a weeping hermit, there.

How to Use the Bible

When in sorrow
Read John 14
When men fail you
Read Psalm 27
When you have sinned
Read Psalm 51
When you worry
Read Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger
Read Psalm 91
If you have the blues
Read Psalm 34
When God seems far away
Read Psalm 139
If you are discouraged
Read Isaiah 40
If you are lonely or fearful
Read Psalm 23
If you feel down and out
Read Romans 8:39
When you want courage for
your task
Read Joshua 1
When the world seems
bigger than God
Read Psalm 90
When you want rest and peace
Read Matthew 11:25-30
When leaving home for
labor or travel
Read Psalm 121 & 107:23-31
If you get bitter or critical
Read 1 Corinthians 13
If thinking of investments
and returns
Read Mark 10:17-31
For a great invitation-
A great opportunity
Read Isaiah 55

Messenger MIP Verses

I Am Always With You

As you hold me close in memory,
even though we are apart,
my spirit will live on
in the haven of your heart.
I am with you always.

When you lean on trusted friends
and their caring hugs enfold you,
within their loving arms
I will also hold you.
I am with you always.

In nature's consolations—
a sunrise veiled in mist,
with butterflies alighting
on each flower to be kissed.
I am with you always.

And beyond that far horizon
when we'll finally be together,
where love will be eternal
and life will last forever.
I am with you always.

I Am Not There

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am in a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow.
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain,
I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush
Of birds in circling flight.
I am the star shine of the night.
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room,
I am the birds that sing,
I am in the each lovely thing.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I did not die.

-- May Frye

I Do Not Go Alone

If Death should beckon me with outstretched
hand
And whisper softly of "An Unknown Land" ...
I shall not be afraid to go,
For though the path I do not know,
I take Death's Hand without fear,
For He who safely brought me here
Will also take me softly back,
And though in many things I lack,
He will not let me go alone
Into the "Valley That's Unknown" ...
So reach out and take Death's Hand
And journey to the "Promised Land!"

I Will Lift Up

I will lift up
mine eyes unto the hills,
From whence cometh
my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
which made heaven
and earth.
- Psalm 121:1-2

I Wonder, O I Wonder

"I wonder, O I wonder, where the little faces go,
That come and smile and stay awhile, and pass
like flakes of snow -

The dear, wee baby faces that the world has
never known,

But mothers hide, so tender-eyed deep in their
hearts alone.

I love to think that somewhere, in the country
we call heaven,

The land most fair of anywhere will unto them
be given.

A land of little faces - very little, very fair -
And every one shall know her own and cleave
unto it there."

In Memory of: All Babies Lost

Messenger MIP Verses

If Death Should Beckon

If Death should beckon me with
outstretched hand and whisper
softly of "An Unknown Land"
I shall not be afraid to go.
For though the path I do not know,
I will take Death's Hand without fear,
For He who safely brought me here
will also take me safely back
and though in many things I lack,
He will not let me go alone
into the "Valley That's Unknown"...
So I reach out and take Death's Hand,
and journey to the "Promised Land".

If Tears Could Build a Stairway

If tears could build a stairway,
and memories a lane...
I'd walk right up to Heaven
and bring you home again.

In God's Protection

In God's protection and gracious mercy we leave
you, may He bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
and give you peace and light and joy forevermore.

In Memory of Mother

I remember thee in this solemn
hour my dear mother.
I remember the days when
thou didst dwell on earth,
and thy tender love watched
over me like a guardian angel.
Thou hast gone from me,
but the bond which unites our
souls can never be severed;
thine image lives within my heart.
May the merciful Father reward
thee for the faithfulness and
kindness thou has ever shown me;
may He lift up the light of His countenance
upon thee, and grant thee eternal peace.
Amen.

Incline Thine Ear

Incline Thine ear, O Lord,
unto our prayers,
wherein we humbly pray
Thee to show Thy mercy
upon the soul of Thy servant,
whom Thou hast
commanded to pass out of this world
that Thou wouldst place him
in the region of peace and light,
and bid him be a partaker
with Thy saints through
Christ our Lord.
Amen

Independence Forever

From lives well spent
earthly duties we learn,
From childhood dreams,
to active virtue turn;
Let freedom, friendship,
faith our soul engage...
and serve, like them,
our country and our age.

Indian Prayer

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 glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you wake in morning hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circling flight,
I am the soft starlight at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I did not die.

Messenger MIP Verses

Inspired by the Beauty

Inspired by the beauty
That each day tends to give
We set out on a journey
To find how best to live

We walk by faith and not by sight
As step-by-step we climb
Upon this stairway, upward,
Towards Heaven's paradise

The steps are sometimes difficult
But each day made complete
By treasured moments that we share
And a promised place of peace

Finally our steps ascend
Beyond the veil of life
Destiny unfolds in glory
In Heaven's paradise

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Inspiring Goals

Inspiring goals...
Victory
A life of accomplishments
Unique challenges
Inspiring goals for all
who follow in your steps

Isaiah 12:2

Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my
strength and my song;
he also has become my salvation.
- Isaiah 12:2

Isaiah 40:29

He gives strength to the weary,
and to him who lacks might
He increases power.
- Isaiah 40:29

Isaiah 40:31

...but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.
- Isaiah 40:31

Isaiah 41:10, 13

Fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you,
yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my
righteous right hand.
For I, the Lord your God, will hold
your right hand,
Saying to you,
"Fear not, I will help you."
- Isaiah 41:10, 13

It is our hope...

It is our hope that this book
may be a comfort
to you in the coming years.
We deeply appreciate your
selecting us to serve you, and, if we
have helped lighted your burden
of sorrow, our aim
has been achieved.

It's Difficult

It's difficult when someone
Who is loved cannot be there,
But memories that are made and shared
Will keep a loved one near.
And God, with loving wisdom,
Will be there to guide us through;
He'll help us meet tomorrow
And He'll give us strength anew.

Messenger MIP Verses

Jewish Blue Leather Psalm 23

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 guideth me in straight paths 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 hast anointed my head with oil; my cup
runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said,
"I am the resurrection
and the life;
he who believes in me,
though he die,
yet shall he live,
and whoever lives and
believes in me
shall never die."
- John 11:25-26

John 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled:
ye believe in God,
believe also in me.
In my Father's house
are many mansions:
if it were not so,
I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you.
And if I go and prepare
a place for you,
I will come again,
and receive you unto myself;
that where I am,
there ye may be also.
- John 14:1-3

John 14:1-3, 27

"Do not let your hearts be troubled.
You believe in God; believe also in me.
My Father's house has many rooms;
if it were not true, would I have said so?
I am going there to prepare a place for you.
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come back and take you to be with
me that you also may be where I am.
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 heart be troubled
and do not be afraid."
- John 14:1-3, 27

John 3:16

For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten
Son, that whosoever believeth
in Him should not perish, but
have everlasting life.
- John 3:16

John 5:24

Verily truly I tell you, whoever hears
my word and believes Him who sent me
has eternal life and will not be judged,
but has crossed over from death to life.
- John 5:24

John Muller Quote

Let children walk with nature.
Let them see the beautiful blending
and communions of death and life,
their joyous inseparable unity,
as taught in woods and meadows,
plains and mountains and streams
of our blessed start, and
they will learn that death
is stingless indeed,
and as beautiful as life.
- John Muller

Johnny Cash Quote

I found out that there weren't
too many limitations if I did it my way.
- Johnny Cash

Messenger MIP Verses

Just when friends are needed...

Just when friends are needed
You find them always near;
Just when shadows darken,
Their comforting words you hear.
Thank you.

Keepsakes of the Heart

A collection of your memories;
precious times enjoyed together;
keepsakes of the heart
that remain with us forever.

La Oracion De Senor

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
sanctificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino. Sea hecha tu voluntad,
como en el cielo, así también en la tierra.
Danos hoy nuestro pan cotidiano.
Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como
también nosotros perdonamos á
nuestros deudores.
Y no nos metas en tentación, mas líbranos del
mal:
Porque tuyo es el reino, y el poder, y la gloria,
por todos los siglos. Amén.
-Matthew 6:9-13

Lasting Impression

A legacy enduring
beyond life's final breath
impressed forever upon our hearts
undisturbed by death

Unchanged at final passing
The giver, only one
fingerprints left on our lives
when the journey here is done

This touch will linger always
etched in memories
The impression carried with us
As we reach eternity

-- Sherrie Bradley Grubb

Lead, Kindly Light

Lead Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark and I am far from home—
Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene—one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor pray'd that Thou
Shouldst lead me on.
I loved to choose and see my path, but now
Lead Thou me on!
I loved the garish day and spite of fears,
Pride ruled my will: remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blessed me, sure it still
Will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which I have loved long since and lost awhile.

-- Cardinal Newman

Messenger MIP Verses

Lead, Kindly Light (DK)

Lead Kindly Light,
amid the circling gloom,
Lead thou me on!
The night is dark
and I am far from home - -
Lead thou me on!
Keep thou my feet;
I do not ask to see
The distance scene --
Once step enough for me.

I was not ever thus,
Nor prayed that thou
Shouldst lead me on.
I loved to choose and
See my path but now,
Lead thou me on!
Pride ruled my will;
Remember not past years.

So long thy power
Hath blest me,
Sure it still will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen,
O'er crag and torrent,
till the night is gone;
And with the morn
Those angel faces smile
Which I have loved long
Since and lost awhile.

--Cardinal Newman

Leaf After Leaf

Leaf after leaf drops off,
flower after flower,
some in the chill,
some in the warmer hour.
Alive they flourish,
and alive they fall,
and the earth who nourished them
receives them all.
Should we, her wiser sons,
be less content
to sink into her lap
when life is spent?

-- Walter Savage Landor

Leonardo da Vinci Quote 1

In rivers... the water that you touch
is the last of what has passed ~
and the first of that which comes;
so too with present time.
- Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo da Vinci Quote 2

He who loves practice without theory
is like the sailor who boards ship
without a rudder and compass,
and never knows where he may cast.
- Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo da Vinci Quote 3

While I thought I was learning how to live,
I have been learning how to die.
- Leonardo da Vinci

Life

Life is but a stopping place,
a pause in what's to be,
a resting place along the road
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
different paths along the way.
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place
far greater than we know.
For some, the journey quicker,
for some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
we'll claim a great reward,
and find everlasting peace,
together with the Lord.

Messenger MIP Verses

Life is Like a Vapor

Life is like a vapor
on the side where you remain
Forever is where time goes on
Filled with joyful, timeless days

Please don't let the tears that glisten
Stay upon your face too long
Instead remember the time we had
And make tears give way to song

Goodbye is not the message
I would want to leave for you
Rather, what I want to say is,
I will see you soon.

I am quite alive, you see
And waiting here for you
So, please live your life with joy and love
Until you are timeless too

We will laugh again together
When life will have no end
No, this is not goodbye at all
It is, I will see you then

-- Sherrie Bradley Grubb

Life is Not a Question But an Event

Life is not a question to be answered,
but an event to be experienced.

Life is Not Measured

Life is not measured
by the number of breaths we take,
but by the moments
that take our breath away.

Life Without Sadness

There is never life without sadness,
there is never a heart free from pain;
if one seeks in this world for true solace,
he seeks it forever in vain.

So when to your heart comes the sorrow
of losing some dear one you've known
'tis the touch of God's sickle at harvest
since he reaps in the fields he has sown.

Light a Candle

And I will light a candle for you.
To shatter all the darkness and bless the times we
knew.

Like a beacon in the night
The flame will burn bright and guide us on our
way.

Oh, today I light a candle for you.
The seasons come and go, and I'm weary from the
change.
I keep on moving on; you know it's not the same.

And when I'm walking all alone
Do you hear me call your name?
Do you hear me sing the songs we used to sing?

You filled my life with wonder, touched me with
surprise,
Always saw that something special deep within
your eyes.

And through the good times and the bad,
We carried on with pride.

I hold onto the love and life we knew.
And I will light a candle for you.
To shatter all the darkness and bless the times we
knew.

Like a beacon in the night
The flame will burn bright and guide us on our
way.

Oh, today I light a candle for you.

-- Paul Alexander

Messenger MIP Verses

Light of Peace

Many waters I have sailed
Throughout the voyage of life
Over waters tranquil
Free of pain and strife

Sometimes tossed in raging storms
Though never left alone
There was a light that beckoned me
Toward the shores of home

Always in the distance
This beacon I could see
Giving me direction
As I sailed upon life's sea

My journey is completed now
The tide is drifting in
My vessel moves on gentle waves,
Eternity begins
-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Little Angels

When God calls little children
to dwell with Him above,
We mortals sometimes question
the wisdom of His love.
For no heartache compares
with the death of one small child
Who does so much
to make our world
seem wonderful and mild.
Perhaps God tires of calling
the aged to His fold,
So He picks a rosebud
before it can grow old.
God knows how much
we need them,
and so He takes but a few,
To make the land of heaven
more beautiful to view.
Believing this is difficult
still somehow we must try
The saddest word mankind knows
will always be "Goodbye."
So when a little child departs,
we who are left behind,
Must realize God loves children,
Angels are hard to find.

Little Rose

I would rather have a little rose
from the garden of a friend,
than have the choicest flowers
when my stay on earth shall end.

I would rather have the kindest words
and a smile that I can see,
than flattery when my heart is still
and this life ceased to be.

I would rather have a loving smile
from the friends I know are true,
than tears shed around my casket
when the world I bid adieu.

Louis Armstrong Quote 1

We all do 'do... re... mi...'
But you've got to find the other notes yourself.
- Louis Armstrong

Louis Armstrong Quote 2

There are some people that if they don't know,
you can't tell them.
- Louis Armstrong

Love

Love is patient
love is kind;
love is not jealous,
it does not put on airs,
it is not snobbish.
Love is never rude.
It is not self seeking,
it is not prone to anger;
neither does it brood over injuries.
Love does not rejoice in what is wrong
but rejoices with the truth.
There is no limit to love's forbearance,
its trust, its hope, its power to endure.
Love never fails.

Messenger MIP Verses

Love Poem – I Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient,
love is kind.
It does not envy,
it does not boast,
it is not proud.

It is not rude,
it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects,
always trusts,
always hopes,
always perseveres.

Luke 15:7

I say unto you, that likewise
joy shall be in heaven over
one sinner that repenteth,
more than over ninety and nine
just persons, which need
no repentance.
- Luke 15:7

Luke 6:23

Rejoice ye in that day,
and leap for joy: for, behold,
your reward is great in heaven:
for in the like manner did their
fathers unto the prophets.
- Luke 6:23

M. C. Escher Quote

Are you really sure that a floor
can't also be a ceiling?
- M. C. Escher

Magic of Mother

There's magic in a Mother's touch
and sunshine in her smile.
There's love in everything she does
to make our lives worthwhile.

We can find both hope and courage
just by looking in her eyes.
Her laughter is a source of joy,
her words are warm and wise.
There is a kindness and compassion
to be found in her embrace,
and we see the light of heaven
shining from a Mother's face.

Make Me An Instrument

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

Mama

Her heartbeat was my very first sound,
her kiss was my first affection,
her loving arms brought security.
Her instruction – clear direction.
I owe the person I've become
to her unselfish love.
There's comfort knowing
she's not gone...
she lives with God above.

Messenger MIP Verses

Mark 10:21

Jesus looked at him and loved him.
"One thing you lack," he said,
"Go sell everything you have
and give to the poor,
then you will have treasure in
Heaven. Then, come follow me."
- Mark 10:21

Mark 14:23

And he took the cup,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them:
and they all drank of it.
- Mark 14:23

Mark Twain Quote

Twenty years from now you will be
more disappointed by the things
you didn't do, than the things you did.
So throw off the bowlines and sail away
from the safe harbor.
Catch the trade winds in your sails...
explore... dream...
- Mark Twain

Martin Luther King, Jr. Quote

God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone,
but also on trees, and in the flowers, and clouds
and stars.
- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Matthew 10:32

Whoever acknowledges me before others,
I will also acknowledge them before
my Father in Heaven.
- Matthew 10:32

Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus said,
"Come unto me, all ye that labor
and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.
Take up my yoke upon you, and learn
of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart;
and you will find rest unto your souls.
For my yoke is easy,
and my burden is light."
Matthew 11:28-30

Matthew 12:50 (KJV)

For whosoever shall do the will
of my Father which is in heaven,
the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.
- Matthew 12:50

Matthew 12:50 (NIV)

For whoever does the will of my Father in Heaven
is my brother and sister and mother.
- Matthew 12:50

Matthew 16:19

I will give you the keys of the kingdom
of Heaven; whatever you bind on earth
will be bound in Heaven, and whatever
you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven.
- Matthew 16:19

Matthew 18:10

Beware that you don't look down on
any of these little ones. For I tell you
that in heaven their angels are always
in the presence of my heavenly Father.
- Matthew 18:10

Matthew 18:14

Even so it is not the will of your Father
which is in heaven, that one of these
little ones should perish.
- Matthew 18:14

Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the little children
come to me, and do not hinder them -
for the kingdom of Heaven belongs
to such as these."
- Matthew 19:14

Matthew 23:9

And call no man your father upon the earth:
for one is your Father, which is in heaven.
- Matthew 23:9

Messenger MIP Verses

Matthew 5:14-16

Ye are the light of the world.
A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
Neither do men light a candle,
and put it under a bushel,
but on a candlestick; and it giveth light
unto all that are in the house.
Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
- Matthew 5:14-16

Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine
before others, that they may see
your good deeds and glorify your
Father in heaven.
- Matthew 5:16

Matthew 6:20-21

But store up for yourselves treasures
in Heaven, where moths and vermin
do not destroy, and where thieves
do not break in and steal.
For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.
- Matthew 6:20-21

Matthew 6:9-13

This then, is how you should pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
- Matthew 6:9-13

Matthew 7:21-23

Not everyone who says to me,
'Lord, Lord...' will enter the
kingdom of heaven, but only
the one who does the will
of my Father who is in heaven.
Many will say to me on that day,
'Lord, Lord... did we not prophesy
in your name and in your name
drive out demons and in your
name perform many miracles?'
Then I will tell them plainly,
'I never knew you. Away from me,
you evildoers!'
- Matthew 7:21-23

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
For every one that asketh receiveth;
and he that seeketh findeth;
and to him that knocketh
it shall be opened.
- Matthew 7:7

Memorare

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

Messenger MIP Verses

Memories Eternal

Precious are the memories
Displaying smiles and tears
Placed lovingly in albums
Passed down throughout the years

Quickly all the days go by
And time cannot erase
Love shining from the faces
On every treasured page

Traits through generations
Reflected still today
A unique smile, a sound of voice
The way that you prayed

When the final page is turned
Still destiny goes on
To make eternal memories
When the life is done

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Miles Davis Quote

Do not fear mistakes.
There are none.
- Miles Davis

Miss Me

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,
I'd like to leave an echo whispering
Miss me but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,
and each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick of heart,
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
Miss me, but let me go.

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the day
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloomy 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 we once shared
Miss me, but let me go
For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone
It's all part of the maker's plan
A step on the road to home
When you are lonely and sick at heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds
Miss me, but let me go

Most Gracious

Most gracious and loving Father,
we commend our loved one into
Your hands. We are filled with
the sure hope that Your departed
servant will, like Your Son,
rise again. We thank You for all
the good things You gave our
loved one while here on earth.
May Your servant praise You
forever in the joy of Your presence.
We ask this through Christ, our
Resurrected Lord, Amen.

Mother

Nobody dies, and Mother least of all.
Her loving guise, the sound of her
footfall, brighten the dark hall.
Some feature of her face repeats in
every year. Her voice, her gentle
grace, in some dear child appear,
her vision stills our fear.
She cannot
pass while our remembering crowns
the green grass with happy flowers
of spring. Recalling everything;
her kindness most of all, that passed
nobody by. Whatever may befall,
whatever changing sky, Mother
will not die.
--Anne Campbell

Messenger MIP Verses

Mother Dear

Dear Mother, I'm grateful
for your tender cares,
the worries and heartaches
and your constant prayers.
May Mary, God's Mother
spread her mantle blue,
enfold you forever
with her son there, too.

Each day while I'm thinking
heaven is eminent for you,
my heart keeps on singing,
Mother, Mother, I love you.

Mother How I Will Miss You

From the moment I was conceived,
she prayed for me.
When I was born,
she welcomed me.
Through my childhood years
she trained me.
With each success,
she applauded me,
In the midst of my failures,
she believed in me.
I have known her love,
benefited from her sacrifices,
received her forgiveness...
how I will miss her!

Mourners – Jewish

Yis-gad-dal v'yis-kad-dash sh'meh rab-bo, b'ol-
mo di'v-ro kir'-u-seh v'yam-lich mal-chu-seh,
'cha-ye-chon u-v'yo-me-chon u-v'cha-yeh d'chol
bes yis-ro-el, ba-a-go-lo u-viz-man ko-riv, v'im-ru
O-men.

Mourners – Jewish 2

Yis-bo-rach v'yish-tab-bach, v'yis-po-ar, v'yis-ro-
mam, v'yis-nas-seh, v'yis-had-dor, v'yis-al-leh,
v'yis-hal-lol, sh'-meh d'kud'-sho, b'rich hu. L'e-lo
min kol bir-cho-so v'shi-ro-so, tush-b'cho-so v'ne-
cho-mo-so, da-a-mi-ron b'ol-mo, v'im-ru: O-men.
y'heh sh'lo-mo rab-bo min sh'may-yo v'cha-yim,
o-le-nu v'al kol yis-ro-el, v'imru: O-men.
O-seh sho-lom bim'ro-mov, hu ya-a-seh sho-lom,
o-le-nu v'al kol yis-ro-el, v'imru: O-men.

My Farm

My farm, to me is not just land,
where bare, unpainted buildings stand.
To me, my farm is nothing less,
than all created loveliness.
My farm is not where I must soil,
my hands in endless, dreary toil.
But where, through seed and swelling pod,
I've learned to walk and talk with God.
My farm, to me, is not a place
Outmoded by a modern race,
for here, I think I just see less
of evil, greed and selfishness.
My farm's a haven – here dwells
rest, security, and happiness.
Whate'er befalls the world outside
here faith, and hope, and love abide.
And so my farm is not just land
where bare, unpainted buildings stand.
To me, my farm is nothing less
than all God's hoarded loveliness.

My Heart

If my heart wants to dance, then
I want to dance with my heart,
If my heart wants to sing, then
I want to sing with my heart.
It is the one component of me
that I cannot afford
to be alienated from.
My wisdom lies
in what I can feel
in my heart every
single day of my life.

Nature's Beauty

Consider the trees and how easily
they let go of the season's bounty...
how with simple grace and elegance they
share their natural warmth and beauty.

Messenger MIP Verses

Nearer, My God to Thee

Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer to Thee!
E'en though it be a cross
That raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer to Thee.
There let the way appear,
Steps unto heaven;
All that Thou sendest me,
In Mercy given;
Angels to beckon me
Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer to Thee.
Or if, on joyful wing
Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot,
Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer to Thee.

Now the Laborer's Task is O'er

Now the laborer's task is o'er;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

"Earth to earth and dust to dust,"
Calmly now the words we say;
Left behind, we wait in trust
For the resurrection day.

Father, in Thy gracious keeping,
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

Nuestro Padre

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
sanctificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino. Sea hecha tu voluntad,
como en el cielo, así también en la tierra.
Danos hoy nuestro pan cotidiano.
Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como
también nosotros perdonamos á
nuestros deudores.
Y no nos metas en tentación, mas
líbranos del mal:
Porque tuyo es el reino, y el poder, y la
gloria, por todos los siglos.
Amén.

Nurse's Prayer

Almighty God,
Divine healer of all, grant me,
your handmaiden, strength
and courage in my calling.
Give to my heart compassion
and understanding.
Give to my hands skill
and tenderness. Give to my mind knowledge
and wisdom.
Especially, dear Lord,
help me always to remember the true purpose of
my vocation,
that of selfless service and dedication
to the weak and disbaring
in body and spirit.

O Divine Master

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are
born again to eternal life.

Messenger MIP Verses

O Gentle Heart of Jesus

O gentlest heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory, have mercy on the Soul of Thy departed servant. Be not severe in Thy judgment but let some drops of Thy precious blood fall upon the devouring flames, and do Thou O merciful Savior send Thy angels to conduct Thy departed servant to a place of refreshment, light, and peace. Amen. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

O Gentlest Heart

O Gentlest heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory have mercy on the soul of Thy departed servant. Be not severe in Thy judgment but let some drops of Thy Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames, and do Thou O merciful Savior send the angels to conduct thy departed servant to a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen. May the souls of all the faithful depart, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

O Happy Soul

O happy soul,
be thankful now and rest!
Heaven is a goodly land;
and God is love; and those He
loves are blessed;
now thou dost understand
the least thou hast is
better than the best
that thou didst hope for;
new upon thine eyes.
The new life opens fair;
before thy feet the
blessed journey lies
through homelands
everywhere;
and heaven to thee
is all a sweet surprise.
O happy soul,
be thankful now and rest!

O Most Amiable Protector

O most amiable protector, Saint Anthony, of Padua, what worthy gift can I possibly offer to show my gratitude? I have nothing that is of worth to you, But I offer you all of the esteem in which you are continuously held throughout the world, and all the miracles you have filled the church even to the benefit to those outside its fold. All these, admirable Saint Anthony, please express my humble thanks for everything to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary through endless ages. Amen.

O' Divine Master

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 received
It is in pardoning that we
Are pardoned
It is in dying that we are born
To eternal life.

Messenger MIP Verses

October Garden

The garden seems forsaken, now
Transformed by chill October's vow
Of season's passing. Dark clouds fly
Where tangled vestiges belie
Late blooms. The Gardener's head is bowed.

The harvest made life's purpose known
In wondrous clarity unshown
To earthbound hearts. October's rest
Rejoins companions prior blessed
With welcome in the Gardener's home.

So sleep, October garden, where
Youth blossomed into fullness barely
Yesterday. But from dreaming, rise
Up in flowered fields to thrive
Forever in the Gardener's care.

On Eagle's Wings

And He will raise you up
on eagle's wings,
bear you on
the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine
like the sun,
and hold you in the palm
of His hand.

Onan - Jewish

One who loses by death one of his next to kin
for whom he is bound to observe mourning is
termed ONAN from the time death occurred until
after the interment. An Onan is concerned only
with funeral preparations and is exempt from
observing many precepts, because of the honor
due to the dead and because in this most intense
period of grief he is in a traumatic state.
But the Onan must observe all prohibitive laws,
be they even enforceable only by Rabbinic
enactment.

Oración

Reconoce, Señor, tu criatura, obra no
de dioses extraños, sino tuya, Dios único,
vivo y verdadero, porque no hay otro
Dios más que tû, y nadie te iguala en las
obras. Haz, Señor, que tu dulce presencia
le llene el alma de alegría; Olvida sus
iniquidades pasadas y los extravíos a que
fué arrastrada por sus pasiones; porque aún
cuando pecó no ha renunciado a la fé del padre,
del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, sino que ha
conservado el celo del Señor y adorado fielmente
a Dios, creador de todas las cosas. Amén.

Oración de San Francisco de Asís

Oh, Señor, hazme un instrumento de Tu Paz .
Donde hay odio, que lleve yo el Amor.

Donde haya ofensa, que lleve yo el Perdón.

Donde haya discordia, que lleve yo la Unión.

Donde haya duda, que lleve yo la Fe.

Donde haya error, que lleve yo la Verdad.

Donde haya desesperación, que lleve yo la
Alegría.

Donde haya tinieblas, que lleve yo la Luz.

Oh, Maestro, haced que yo no busque tanto ser
consolado, sino consolar;

ser comprendido, sino comprender;

ser amado, como amar.

Porque es: Dando , que se recibe;

Perdonando, que se es perdonado;

Muriendo, que se resucita a la Vida Eterna.

Our Departed Mother

She always leaned to watch for us,

anxious if we were late,

in winter by the window,

in summer by the gate.

And though we mocked her tenderly,

who had such foolish care,

the long way home would seem more safe,
because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us,

she never could forget,

and so I think that where she is

she must be watching yet,

waiting 'til we come to her,

anxious if we are late,

watching from Heaven's window

leaning from Heaven's gate.

Messenger MIP Verses

Our Father – Spanish

Nuestro Padre
Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
sanctificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino. Sea hecha tu voluntad,
como en el cielo, así también en la tierra.
Danos hoy nuestro pan cotidiano.
Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como
también nosotros perdonamos á
nuestros deudores.
Y no nos metas en tentación, mas
líbranos del mal:
Porque tuyo es el reino, y el poder, y la
gloria, por todos los siglos.
Amén.

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

O Mother of God; Mary Immaculate, we
dedicate and consecrate ourselves to you
under the title of Our Lady of the
Miraculous Medal. May this medal be
for each of us a sure sign of your
affection for us and a constant reminder
of our duties toward you.
Even while wearing it, may we be blessed
by your loving protection and preserved
in the grace of your Son, O most powerful
virgin, Mother of our Savior keep us
close to you every moment of our lives.
Obtain for us, your children, the grace of
a happy death; so that in union with you,
we may enjoy the bliss of heaven
forever, Amen

Paul's Second Letter to Timothy

The time has come for me
to leave this life.
I have fought the good fight.
I have finished the race.
I have kept the faith.
Now there is in store for me
a crown of righteousness
which the Lord, the righteous judge,
will award me on that day.
- II Timothy 4:6-7

Peace Like a River (It is Well With My Soul)

When peace like a river attendeth my way;
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

And Lord, haste the day
when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trumpet shall sound
and the Lord shall descend;
even so, it is well with my soul.

Peaceful Retreat

Down a narrow hidden path
Sought out by Wisdom's eye,
A peaceful place of refuge calls
To come rest awhile beside.

Listen to the waters
Falling over mountains steep,
To gently flow for endless days
Through eternity's retreat.

And on the far horizon
Of the never setting sun,
The harvest of the whitened wheat
Is very nearly done.

As work on earth comes to a close
Peace will be complete,
Surrounded by the beauty
Of eternity's retreat.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Peaceful Shores

I have lived in sight of the ocean,
where the water runs into land.
I have walked on the beach in the
morning, and left my tracks in the sand.
But musical waves have been calling
and the ocean is so wide and vast,
that I've struck for the silver horizon
and put out to sea at last.

Messenger MIP Verses

Perhaps you sent...

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As only friends could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.
By the family of

Perpetual Help

O Mother of perpetual help, grant that I
may ever invoke your most powerful
name, which is the safeguard of the
loving and the salvation of the dying.
O Purest Mary! O Sweetest Mary!
Let your name henceforth be ere on my
lips. Delay not, O blessed lady! To
help me whenever I call on you, for in
all my temptations, in all my needs, I
shall never cease to call on you. Ever
repeating your sacred name, Mary!

Mary! O what consolation, what
sweetness, what confidence, what
emotion fills my soul when I utter your
sacred name or even only think of you.
But I will not be content with merely
uttering your name, let my love for you
prompt me ever to hail you,
Mother of Perpetual Help.

Petals of Her Life

As beautiful as a rose to see,
was her life she lived so gracefully.
She made things precious by her touch,
her selfless love lives on in each of us.
The petals of her life fell one by one.
Each a gift of her heart till there were none.
Yet her radiance blooms once again,
in fields of Glory with no end.

Philippians 2:10-11

That at the name of Jesus every
knee should bow, of things in
heaven, and things in earth,
and things under the earth;
And that every tongue should
confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
- Philippians 2:10-11

Philippians 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in
Heaven. And we eagerly await
a Savior from there, the Lord
Jesus Christ, who, by the
power that enables Him to
bring everything under His
control, will transform our
lowly bodies so that they will
be like his glorious body.
- Philippians 3:20-21

Police Officer's 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want,
His comforting hand reduces fear to naught;
He makes me walk through streets of crime,
But He gives me courage
and peace of mind.
He leads me by still waters in the path I trod,
And he says in Romans I'm a
"minister of God,"
He leads me in righteousness
as He restores my soul,
For His name's sake He keeps me whole.
When I walk through death's valley,
right up to the door,
I will fear no evil, for He comforts me more;
For Thou art with me every step of the way,
As thy rod and thy staff protect me each day.
He prepares a table, especially for me,
As I work daily among life's enemies;
He gives me authority to uphold the law,
And He anoints my position
in the midst of it all.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,
Each day of my life through eternity;
As I long to hear Him say, "Well done..."
When I lay down my life,
my badge and my gun.

Messenger MIP Verses

Police Officer's 23rd Psalm – 2

The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall not want,
He makes me walk through
streets of crime,
But He gives me courage
and peace of mind.
He leads me by still waters
in the path I trod,
And he says in Romans
I'm a "minister of God,"
He leads me in righteousness
as He restores my soul,
For His name's sake He keeps
me whole.
When I walk through death's valley,
right up to the door,
I will fear no evil,
for He comforts me more;
For Thou art with me every step
of the way,
As thy rod and thy staff protect me
each day,
He prepares a table,
especially for me,
As I work daily among life's enemies;
He gives me authority
to uphold the law,
And He anoints my position
in the midst of it all.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me,
Each day of my life through eternity;
As I long to hear Him say,
"Well done..."
When I lay down my life,
my badge and my gun.

Police Officer's Prayer

O almighty God whose great power and eternal wisdom embrace the universe, watch over all Law Enforcement Officers. Protect them from harm in the performance of their duty to stop crime, robberies, riots and violence. We pray to help them keep our streets and homes safe day and night. We recommend them to your care because their duty is dangerous. Grant them your unending strength and courage in their daily assignments. Dear God protect these brave officers, grant them your almighty protection, unite them safely with their families after duty ends. Amen.

Polish – Eternal Rest Grant Unto Her

Wieczny odpoczynek racz jej
dac Panie, a swiatlosc
wiekuista niechaj jej swieci.
Niech odpoczywa w pokoju wiecznym.
Amen.

Polish – Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him

Wieczny odpoczynek racz
mu dac Panie, a swiatlosc
wiekuista niechaj mu swieci.
Niech odpoczywa w pokoju wiecznym.
Amen.

Polish – Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them

Wieczny odpoczynek racz mud ac,
O Panie, a swiatlosc wiekuista niechaj jej swieci
na wieki wiekow, Niech odpoczywa
w pokoju wiecznym.
Amen.

Messenger MIP Verses

Prayer for a Happy Death

Oh, my Lord and Savior, support me in that hour in the strong arms of Thy sacraments, and by the fresh fragrance of Thy consolations. Let the absolving words be said over me, and the holy oils sign and seal me, and Thy own body be my food, and Thy blood my sprinkling; and let my sweet mother, Mary breathe on me and my angel whisper peace to me and my glorious saints smile upon me; that in them all, and through them all, I may receive the gift of perseverance, and die, as I desire to live, in Thy faith, in Thy church, in Thy service and in Thy love. Amen
Peace of God be with you.

Prayer of St. Francis – Spanish

Senor, haced de mi un instrumento de vuestra paz.
Que alli donde haya odio,
ponga yo amor;
que alli donde haya ofensa,
ponga yo perdon;
que alli donde haya Discordia,
ponga yo armonia;
que alli donde haya error;
ponga yo verdad;
que alli donde haya duda,
ponga yo la fe;
que alli donde haya desesperacion,
ponga yo esperanza;
que alli donde haya tinieblas,
ponga yo la luz;
que alli donde haya tristeza,
ponga yo alegria.
Oh Divino Maestro,
que no me emperie tanto en ser consolado,
como en consolar; en ser comprendido
como en comprender; en ser amado,
como en amar;
pues dando es como se recibe,
perdonando se es perdonado y muriendo
se resucita a la vida eternal.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred,
let me sow love;
where there is injury pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
and it is in dying
that we are born to eternal life.

Prayer of St. Theresa

O Lord, who hast said:
“Unless you become as little children,
you shall not enter into the kingdom
of heaven,” grant us, we beseech Thee,
so to walk in the footsteps of Thy
blessed Virgin Theresa with a humble
and single heart that we may attain
to everlasting rewards, who livest
and reignest world without end.
Amen.

Messenger MIP Verses

Praying Hands

Praying Hands call many pictures
to the mind:
Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.
The Pilgrims giving thanks for safe passages to
these shores.
Washington praying at Valley Forge.
The safe return of a loved one from a field of
battle.

... but, more than all of these, except the
Savior, these hands will call back memories of
home and loved ones, and our faithful friends.
They will recall the times of trials and
tribulations
... they will call to mind the time of joy,
and keep us ever mindful that prayers are
answered.

Look to Praying Hands each day to find the road
to life and light.

The Family that prays together, stays together.

Precious Gift

One gift, above all others,
God gives to us to treasure,
one that knows no time, no place
and one gold cannot measure.

The precious, poignant tender gift
of memory, that will keep
our dear ones ever in our hearts,
although God gives them sleep.

It brings back long remembered
things; a song, a word, a smile.
And our world's a better place
because ...
we had them for a while!
-- Jessie H. Fairweather

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,
all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness:
come before his presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us,
and not we ourselves; we are his people,
and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth to all generations.
- Psalm 100

Psalm 107:29-30

He stilled the storm to a whisper;
the waves of the sea were hushed.
They were glad when it grew calm,
and he guided them to their haven of rest.
Psalm 107:29-30

Psalm 119:89 (KJV)

Forever, O LORD,
thy word is settled in heaven.
- Psalm 119:89

Psalm 119:89 (NIV)

Your Word, Lord, is eternal,
it stands firm in the Heavens.
- Psalm 119:89

Messenger MIP Verses

Psalm 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the Lord,
which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper,
the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from
all evil; he shall preserve thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy
going out and thy coming in from
this time forth, and even for evermore.
- Psalm 121

Psalm 123

Unto thee lift I up mine eyes,
O thou that dwellest in the heavens.
Behold, as the eyes of servants
look unto the hand of their masters,
and as the eyes of a maiden unto
the hand of her mistress; so our eyes
wait upon the LORD our God,
until that he have mercy upon us.
Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us: for we are
exceedingly filled with contempt.
Our soul is exceedingly filled with
the scorning of those that are at ease,
and with the contempt of the proud.
- Psalm 123

Psalm 139:9-10

If I take the wings of the morning,
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
Even there shall Thy hand lead me,
and Thy right hand shall hold me.
- Psalm 139:9-10

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not
want. He maketh me to lie down in
green pastures; He leadeth me beside
still waters. He restoreth my soul; He
leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake; Yea, though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art
with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they
comfort me; Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of mine
enemies; Thou anointest my head with
oil, my cup runneth over. Surely
goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life, and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord, forever.
- Psalm 23

Psalm 23 – Spanish

En Memoria De
Jehová es mi pastor; nada me faltará. En
lugares de delicados pastos me hará
acer: Junto á agues de reposo me
pastoreará. Confortará mi alma;
Guiárame por sendas de justicia por
amor de su nombre. Aunque ande en
valle de sombra de muerte, No temeré
mal alguno; porque tú estarás conmigo:
Tu vara y tu cayado me infundirán
aliento. Aderezarás mesa delante de mí
en presencia de mis angustiadores:
Ungiste me cabeza con aceite; mi copa
está rebosando. Ciertamente el bien y la
misericordia me seguirán todos los dias
de mi vida: Y en la casa de Jehová
moraré por largos días.

Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and
your staff, they comfort me.
- Psalm 23:4

Psalm 55:6

Oh, that I had wings like a dove!
For then would I fly away and be at rest.
- Psalm 55:6

Messenger MIP Verses

Psalm 73:25

Whom have I in Heaven but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.
- Psalm 73:25

Psalm 73:26

My flesh and my heart faileth;
but God is the strength of my heart,
and my portion forever.
- Psalm 73:26

Psalm CXXI

A SONG OF AXCENTS

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains;
From whence shall my help come?
My help cometh from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Behold, He that keepeth Israel
Doth neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper;
The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep thee from all evil;
He shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall guard thy going out and thy
coming in
From this time forth and forever.
"The Lord is my light and my salvation
Whom shall I fear?"

Psalm XVI

I set the Lord before me at all times,
Since He is at my right hand,
I shall not be moved.
Therefore, my heart is glad.
And my spirit rejoiceth;
Yea, my flesh dwelleth in security.
For Thou wilt not give me up to destruction;
Nor will Thou suffer Thy beloved to see
corruption.
Thou wilt show me the path of life;
In Thy peace is fullness of joy;
At Thy right hand are pleasures for ever more.

Psalm XXIV

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;
The world, and they that dwell therein.
For he hath founded it upon the seas,
And established it upon the floods.
Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?
Or who shall stand in his holy place?
He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart;
Who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity,
Nor sworn deceitfully.
He shall receive the blessing from the Lord.
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Rainbow's End

In everybody's garden
a little rain must fall.
Or life's sweetest, fairest flowers
wouldn't grow and bloom at all.
And though the clouds hang heavy,
so heavy oh my friend,
I'm sure that God who sends the showers
will send the rainbow's end.

Ralph Waldo Emerson Quote

Every natural fact is a symbol
of some spiritual fact.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ray Charles Quote 1

What is a soul?
It's like electricity...
We don't know what it is,
But it's a force that can light up a room.
- Ray Charles

Ray Charles Quote 2

There's nothing written in the Bible,
Old or New Testament, that says,
"If you believe in me, you ain't gonna
have no troubles."
- Ray Charles

Messenger MIP Verses

Reaching the Shore

In the dark night of sorrow,
came a bright and loving light,
the Beautiful Vision,
surpassing human sight.

I heard the Master calling
lovingly, upon the shore,
"Come, let down the net of life
that I may give you more."

There was no death, my darling,
for my immortal soul
just reached my destination,
for heaven was my goal.

Remember Me

If I should leave for Home, some unexpected day...
Please do not be too sad, nor grieve too long ...
Say, instead, "He loved us, he believed in us,
He was proud of us!"
Do not forget me! No!
Remember Me!

Remember the things I loved.
The things I believed in, the things I laughed at
But remember me. Be Happy!
Take up your busy days of love,
And walk in confidence and faith
Along YOUR life's road and someday
In God's own time, I'll be seeing you!
-- Annice Harris Brown

Resurrection Prayer

Most merciful Father, we commend our
departed into your hands. We are filled
with the sure hope that our departed will
rise again on the last day with all who
have died in Christ.
We thank you for all the good things you
have given during our departed's earthly life.
O Father, in your great mercy,
accept our prayer that the
Gates of Paradise may be opened for
your servant. In our turn, may we too
be comforted by the word of faith
until we greet Christ in glory and are
united with You and our departed.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Revelation 14:13

Blessed are the dead which die
in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit,
that they may rest from their labors;
and their works do follow them.
- Revelation 14:13

Revelation 19:1

After this I heard what sounded
like the roar of a great multitude
in Heaven shouting;
Hallelujah!
Salvation and glory
and power belong to our God.
- Revelation 19:1

Revelation 21:3-7

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
"Look! God's dwelling place is now among the
people, and He will dwell with them. They will be
His people, and God Himself will be with them
and be their God. He will wipe every tear from
their eyes. There will be no more death or
mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of
things has passed away."

He who was seated on the throne said,
"I am making everything new!" Then he said,
"Write this down, for these words are
trustworthy and true."

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the
Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty
I will give water without cost from the spring of
the water of life. Those who are victorious will
inherit all this, and I will be their God and they
will be my children."
- Revelation 21:3-7

Messenger MIP Verses

Revelation 5:13

And every creature which is
in heaven, and on the earth,
and under the earth,
and such as are in the sea,
and all that are in them,
I heard saying:
"Blessing and honor and glory and power
be unto him that sitteth upon the throne,
and unto the Lamb forever and ever."
- Revelation 5:13

Rezo De St. Franciso (Prayer of St. Francis) Spanish

Senor, haced de mi un instrumento
de vuestra paz.
Que alli donde haya odio,
ponga yo amor;
que alli donde haya ofensa,
ponga yo perdon;
que alli donde haya Discordia,
ponga yo armonia;
que alli donde haya error;
ponga yo verdad;
que alli donde haya duda,
ponga yo la fe;
que alli donde haya desesperacion,
ponga yo esperanza;
que alli donde haya tinieblas,
ponga yo la luz;
que alli donde haya tristeza, ponga yo alegria.
Oh Divino Maestro,
que no me emperie tanto en ser consolado,
como en consolar; en ser comprendido
como en comprender; en ser amado,
como en amar;
pues dando es como se recibe,
perdonando se es perdonado y muriendo
se resucita a la vida eternal.

Robert Frost Quote

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by
And that has made all the difference.
-- Robert Frost

Roman Ritual

May he lead thee into paradise.
May the martyrs receive thee
at thy coming and take thee to
the holy city.
May the choirs of angels
receive thee and mayest thou
have rest everlasting.
Amen.

Romans 14:7-8

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.
For whether we live,
we live unto the Lord;
and whether we die,
we die unto the Lord:
whether we live therefore,
or die, we are the Lord's.
- Romans 14:7-8

Romans 8:28

And we know that
all things
work together for good
to them
that love God.
- Romans 8:28

Roots of Love

To plant a seed in one's heart...
to root it in love...
to nourish it with
time spent together...
Yields a blossom that
will flourish forever.

Messenger MIP Verses

Russian Orthodox

With the saints give rest,
O Christ,
to the soul of Thy servant
(name),
where there is neither sickness,
nor sorrow, nor sighing
but life everlasting . . .
Wither, also, all we mortals
wend our way,
making of our funeral dirge
the song:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Eternal Memory!

Sacred Heart of Jesus Spanish

Corazón sagrado de Jesús
Oh Piadoso Corazon e Jesus, siempre
presente en el Sagrado Sacramento,
siempre illeno de amor ardiente hacia las
pobres almas cautivas en el Purgatorio,
ten piedad del alma de tu siervo, que ha
fallecido. No seas muy severo al
juzgarle, mas deja que algunas gotas de
tu Preciosa Sangre caigan sobre las
llamas devoradoras y envia tus Angeles,
Oh Salvador Misericordioso, para que lo
conduzcan a un lugar de descanso y paz
eternal. Amén.
Bienaventurados los que sufren porque
ellos serán consoladors.
San Mateo 5:4

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 why 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 one 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!

Serenity

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change . . .
Courage to change the
things I can and wisdom
to know the difference.

Messenger MIP Verses

She Knew Me

My mother always knew the me that others didn't know. The deeper part of me that thought and felt. She knew where my belongings were, the ones I couldn't find; My socks, my keys, my wallet, my favorite missing belt. She knew just what I loved to eat and when to make each dish. The way she knew remains a mystery. How did she sense my troubled times and help with every hurt? I truly had a mom who loved and gave herself for me. I'm grateful for the precious years I've had and known her love. Her memory will live within my heart. But God has called her to His side to live forevermore. I cannot hold her back. I know my mother must depart.

Sheaf of Wheat

The Sheaf of Wheat is a symbol of the Christian faith. The seeds of faith are sown in the human personality and grow into the mature faith of the Christian man or woman. The sown seed must lose its life in order that it may develop and grow and multiply. So, symbolically, a sheaf of wheat is used by Christians to mark the passing of a fellow Christian. We believe death is not the end but the beginning of life eternal. The mature grain in this sheaf is the direct symbol of the Resurrection - - the life beyond the grave, the fulfillment of the promises of Jesus Christ.

Siempre Fragante Jardín

Siempre fragante jardín
Con belleza todo alrededor
Flores de la especie más rara
Puede encontrarse fácilmente

Brisa bailando
A través de hojas que nunca se descoloran
Limpieza para el árbol de la vida
Proporcionar sombra de heaven

Frialdad de no winter ahora viene a mí
No necesitas estar desanimados
I podrás descansar aquí ahora, para siempre
En jardín eterno de God

Sikh Verse

As the sparks flying out of a flame
Fall back on the fire from which they came,
As the dust rising from the earth
Falls back upon the same earth,
As waves beating upon the shingle
Recede and in the ocean mingle,
So from GOD comes all things, under the sun,
And to GOD return when the race is run.
-- Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, 10th Guru

Sincere Condolences

We wish to express our sincere condolences
and our deep appreciation for the trust you
have placed with us.

It is our purpose to provide you with
extraordinary
thoughtful service during these days, and if in
doing so,
we have helped to lighten your burden,
our aim has been accomplished.

Sir Edmund Hillary Quote 1

It is not the mountains we conquer,
but ourselves.
- Sir Edmund Hillary

Sir Edmund Hillary Quote 2

People do not decide
to become extraordinary.
They decide to accomplish
extraordinary things.
- Sir Edmund Hillary

Messenger MIP Verses

Smiles in Sorrow

I saw you smile, I felt befriended,
It was a beautiful smile, it never ended.
I shared it with many friends that day.
They passed it along, in the very same way.
It will come back to you,
on some thoughtful face.
When you need it most,
at the right time and place.
A friendly smile, a casual touch.
These are the things that mean so much.
To know you are with us in our time of sorrow,
sharing our prayers, today and tomorrow.
God gives us comfort
in the form of good friends.
May His peace be with you. His love never ends.
-- Judy Dimbleby

Spring Garden

So when I looked at those flowers,
I was looking at God
For they bloomed in His sun
And grew in His sod
And each lovely flower
Was a "voice from above"
That whispered a message
Of kindness and love
For I feel in my heart,
And I know you do too
That God speaks to us all
Through the kind things we do
And when I looked at those flowers
I couldn't help but feel
That they brought heaven nearer
And made God so real.
-- Helen Steiner Rice

St. Anthony

Oh holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints,
your love for God and charity for His
creatures, made you worthy, when on
earth, to possess miraculous powers.
Miracles waited on your word, which
you were ever ready to speak for those in
trouble or anxiety. Oh gentle and loving
St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full
of human sympathy, whisper my petition
into the ears of sweet infant Jesus, who
loved to be folded in your arms; and the
gratitude of my heart will ever be yours.

St. Augustine

Watch Thou, dear Lord,
with those who wake,
or watch, or weep tonight
and give Your angels charge
over those who sleep.
Tend your sick ones,
O Lord Christ,
rest Your weary ones,
pity Your dying ones,
pity Your afflicted ones,
and all for Your love's sake!

St. Joseph

Oh St. Joseph, whose protection is so
great, so strong, so prompt before the
throne of God, I place in you all my
interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph do
assist me by your powerful intercession,
and obtain for me from your divine
foster-son all spiritual blessings, through
Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that, having
engaged here below your heavenly
power, I may offer my thanksgiving and
homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary
contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in
your arms. I dare not approach while He
reposes near your heart. Press Him in
my name and kiss His fine head for me
and ask Him to return the kiss when I
draw my dying breath. St. Joseph,
patron of departing souls, pray for us.
Amen

Messenger MIP Verses

St. Jude

O glorious apostle, St. Jude Thaddeus,
true relative of Jesus and Mary,
I salute you through the
most sacred Heart of Jesus.
Through this Heart I praise
and thank God for all the graces
He has bestowed upon you.
Humbly prostrate before you,
I implore you through this heart
to look down upon me with compassion.
Oh despise not my poor prayer,
let not my trust be confounded.
To you God has granted the
privilege of aiding mankind
in the most desperate cases.
Oh, come to my aid that I may praise the
mercies of God. All my life I will be
grateful to you and will be your faithful
client until I can thank you in heaven.
Amen.

St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against the
wickedness and
snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O prince of the
heavenly house,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell
Satan and all evil spirits
who wander through the world
for the ruin of souls.
Amen

St. Patrick

O great Apostle of Ireland,
glorious St. Patrick to whom
under God, so many are indebted for
the most precious of all treasures,
the great gift of faith.
Receive our fervent thanks for the
zeal and charity which have been to
thousands the source of blessings
so invaluable.
Ask for all who dwell in this land
and the land of thy labors, the
precious light of faith, and beg for
us on whom its glorious rays have long
since beamed, the grace to regulate
our lives by its sacred maxims.

St. Theresa

O little flower of Jesus,
ever consoling troubled souls
with heavenly graces,
in your unfailing intercession
I place my confident trust.
From the heart of our blessed
savior petition these blessings
of which I stand in greatest need.
Shower upon me your promised roses
of virtue and grace, dear St. Theresa,
so that swiftly advancing in
sanctity and in perfect love of
neighbor, I may someday receive
the crown of life eternal.
Amen.

Messenger MIP Verses

Stairway to Paradise

Inspired by the beauty
That each day tends to give
We set out on a journey
To find how best to live

We walk by faith and not by sight
As step-by-step we climb
Upon this stairway, upward,
Toward Heaven's paradise

The steps are sometimes difficult
But each day made complete
By treasured moments that we share
And a promised place of peace

Finally our steps ascend
Beyond the veil of life
Destiny unfolds in glory
In Heaven's paradise

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Suffer the Little Children

"Suffer the little children
to come unto me
and forbid them not;
for of such is
the kingdom of God."
- Mark 10:14

Sunset

O little flower of Jesus,
Ever consoling troubled souls
with heavenly graces,
In your unfailing intercession
I place my confident trust.
From the Heart of our Blessed
Savior petition these Blessings
of which I stand in greatest need.
Shower upon me your promised Roses
of Virtue and Grace, dear
St. Theresa, so that swiftly
advancing in sanctity and in
perfect love of neighbor, I may
someday receive the
Crown of Life Eternal.
Amen.

Taps

Day is done, gone the sun
from the lake, from the hill,
from the sky.
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.
Thanks and praise for our days
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,
'neath the sky.
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

Taps (2 stanzas)

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

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

Taps - Chappius

There will be a great encampment
In the land of clouds today.
A mingling and a merging
Of our boys who've gone away.
Though on earth they are disbanding,
They are very close and near,
For these brave and honored heroes
Show no sorrow, shed no tear.
They have lived a life of glory,
History pins their medals high,
Listen to the thunder rolling,
They are marching in the sky!

-- Arta Nottingham Chappius

Tested By Fire

When your character is
refined in the crucible of
adversity, and your mettle
has been tested by its flames;
When you dedicated your life
to keeping others safe from harm,
then eternity waits for you with
a hero's welcome.

Messenger MIP Verses

Thank You

Thank you sincerely
for sharing our sorrow.

Your thoughtfulness is
appreciated and will
always be treasured.

Thank You – Prayers

Thank you for your
thoughts, prayers and kindness
during this difficult time.

From the family of

Thank You – Remembrance

Thank you . . .
Your remembrance
was most
kind.

Thank You Sincerely

Thank you sincerely
for your thoughtful kindness
at a time when
it was deeply appreciated
by the family of

Thanking you...

Thanking you for
your lovely
remembrance and
the kind thoughts
it expresses.

Thanks to the Human Heart...

Thanks to the human heart by which we live,
Thanks to its tenderness, its joys, and fears,
To me the smallest flower that blows can give
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.

-- William Wordsworth

That the memory...

That the memory
of the beloved departed
may always be preserved, we have compiled
this book of Inscribed Memories.

We present this record to you
in appreciation of your confidence and
as a tribute to your loved one, who will
linger in fond remembrance throughout
the years to come.

The Baseball Prayer

As we approach the field to prepare for the game,
Help us to remember that we do all in your name.
Please be with us as we take to the field
And guide all our actions and be our shield.
We are a team so all we will share
The glory or defeat and always play fair.
Guide our feet to move smooth and swift,
And when a teammate is down give them a lift.
As we look for the ball and a pitch to hit
Remember as your team we should never quit
We will play strong and hard and if a strike out is
given, let us accept our mistakes and know we
are forgiven.
Help our eyes see the ball and the slider from the
mound
To slug for the fences or hit on the ground
When we are tired and leave the field of grass,
We are thankful for our coach's guidance and
class.
Help us to be good sports and show pride in our
team, And be grateful for helping us follow our
dream.

Messenger MIP Verses

The Bridge of Faith

A still small voice is calling
Beyond the bridge of faith,
Inviting all to enter
A holy, secret place.

Sickness falls behind the stride
Of those who hear the call,
To walk in light forever
Where no darkness comes at all.

The bridge of faith gives entrance
To serenity's abode,
And rest to all who journey
By faith along life's road.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

The Eternal Goodness

I know not what the future hath
Of marvel or surprise,
Assured alone that life and death
His mercy underlies.

And if my heart and flesh are weak
To bear an untried pain,
The bruised reed He will not break,
But strengthen and sustain.

No offering of my own I have,
Nor works my faith to prove;
I can but give the gifts He gave,
And plead His love for love.

And so beside the Silent Sea
I wait the muffled oar;
No harm from Him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

I know not where His islands lift
Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond His love and care.

-- John G. Whittier

The Family of

The family of

acknowledges with grateful
appreciation your kind expression
of sympathy.

The family wishes

The family wishes to express their appreciation
to each of you for your attendance and
expressions of sympathy.

The Family Wishes...

The family wishes to acknowledge
with deep appreciation the many
expressions of love, concern and
kindness shown to them during this
hour of bereavement.

May God bless and keep you!

The family of

The Garden of Prayer

Quiet place of refuge
From trouble I am safe
Nothing there can harm me
My cry brings His embrace

He lifts me to His vantage point
Such beauty I can see
My prayers arising to His hearing
His grace will carry me

Though I walk through valleys deep
And places filled with sorrow
Each visit to that secret place
Gives hope for each tomorrow

So I will go there often
And linger there to hear
His footsteps in the garden
As my prayer brings Him near

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Messenger MIP Verses

The Garden of Promise

There is a place, I have been told,
Beyond an open gate
All have been invited
Where friends and loved ones wait

It holds eternal promise
Of everlasting peace
No pain or sorrow ever comes
And teardrops there have ceased

Abundant life is evident
Constant, fresh and new
A garden of provisions
With eternity in view

The promise is awaiting
A place we can abide
Fulfilled for all who answer
The call to come inside.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

The Hand of God

Though today you walk in sorrow,
you will not be alone.
There is one whose loving wisdom
is far greater than our own.
Put your trusting hand in His,
as a little child would do,
and He, like a loving father,
will guide and comfort you!
Day by day, there will come to you
new faith, new hope, new light;
You'll find that stars unseen by day
shine through the darkest night.
And though your heart is longing,
for the dear one who's at rest,
you'll know before the journey's end
that God's dear ways are best!
-- Jessie Home Fairweather

The Harvest

Sown in the earth by skillful hands
Brought forth by sun and storm,
Destined for a harvest day
Fulfilled when ripe grain forms.

Golden wheat in sheaves prepared
For winter that will reign,
The story of the life of man
Told by the golden grain.

Made from the earth by loving hands
Through heat and rain prepared,
To face the joys and storms of life
And treasured moments shared.

When at last the harvest comes
As the fields receive the dew,
A life well lived leaves legacy
The Master's plan in view.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

The Honor of Bearer

The honor which you conferred upon by acting as
pallbearer is gratefully acknowledged and deeply
appreciated

The Irish Prayer

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

The Leaves May Fall

The leaves may fall,
The flowers may fade and pass away,
They only wait through wintry hours
The coming of the May

Messenger MIP Verses

The Legend of the Dogwood

At the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood attained the size of the oak and other forest trees. So strong and firm was the wood it was chosen as the timber for the Cross.

To be thus used for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this and His gentle pity for all sorrow, said to it: "Because of your regret and pity for my suffering, I make you this promise: Never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a Cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and shall be bent and twisted, and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross - two long and two short petals.

"And in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints. And in the center of the flower, brown with rust and stained with blood, will be a crown of thorns - so that all who see it will remember it was upon a dogwood tree that I was crucified, and this tree shall not be mutilated nor destroyed but cherished and protected as a reminder of my agony and death upon the Cross."

The Light of Peace

Many waters I have sailed
Throughout the voyage of life
Over waters tranquil
Free of pain and strife

Sometimes tossed in raging storms
Though never left alone
There was a light that beckoned me
Toward the shores of home

Always in the distance
This beacon I could see
Giving me direction
As I sailed upon life's sea

My journey is completed now
The tide is drifting in
My vessel moves on gentle waves...
Eternity begins

--Sherrie Bradley Neal

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive
those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer - Catholic Version

Our Father who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.

The Lord's Prayer - Spanish

PADRE NUESTRO
Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
sanctificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino. Sea hecha tu voluntad,
como en el cielo, así también en
la tierra.
Danos hoy nuestro pan cotidiano.
Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como
también nosotros perdonamos á
nuestros deudores.
Y no nos metas en tentación, mas
líbranos del mal:
Porque tuyo es el reino, y el poder, y la
gloria, por todos los siglos.
Amén.
Matthew 6:9-13

Messenger MIP Verses

The Love of a Mother

The giving of life to another is not the end, but the beginning of being a Mother. The living of life for another is not a chore, but the delight of being a Mother. The receiving of life from another is not the reason, but the reward of being a Mother. The giving, the living, the receiving of life is but the love of a Mother.

- Pastor Lawrence C. Raftery

The Mourner - Jewish

One becomes a mourner upon the burial of a parent, husband, wife, child, brother or sister. The laws of mourning are not obligatory for children under the age of thirteen and do not apply when the deceased is an infant of age thirty days or less.

The Open Gate

Thoughts surround your mind today
That cause you heart to grieve
The moment is approaching
When you will turn to leave

Envision with me if you will
A place beyond death's gate
Life goes on forever there
And beauty never fades

Sickness can't gain entrance
And death has lost its hold
Tears are wiped by God's own hand
And no one can grow old

The moment that I left you here
I stepped into that place
Prepared for me and ready
When I stepped through the gate.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

The Other Side

This isn't grief - it's having
My last tear wiped away;
It's sunrise - it's the morning
Of my eternal day

This isn't even praying
It's speaking face to face;
Listening and glimpsing
The wonders of His grace
This is the end of pleading

For strength to bear my pain;
Not even pain's dark memory
Will even live again

How did I bear the earth-life
Before I knew this rapture
Of meeting face to face
The one who sought me, saved me,
And kept me by His grace!

Messenger MIP Verses

The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven and Earth. It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its many colors. Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass.

When a beloved pet dies, the pet goes to this place. There is always food and water and warm spring weather. All the animals who have been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind. They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. Her bright eyes are intent; her eager body begins to quiver. Suddenly she begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, her legs carrying her faster and faster. You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated!

The Rose Still Grows 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 day and night.

As it grew and blossomed fair and tall,
Slowly rising to loftier height,
It came to a crevice in the wall,
Through which there shone a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength,
With never a thought of fear or pride.
It followed the light through the crevice's length
And unfolded itself on the other side.

The light, the dew, the broadening view
Were found the same as they were before;
And it lost itself in beauties new,
Breathing its fragrance more and more.

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

The Shivah – Jewish

The traditional week of mourning is observed for seven days and begins immediately after the funeral, this period includes the day of the funeral. The mourning of the seventh day is regarded as a full day. On the Sabbath and holidays the mourners go to the synagogue, otherwise they remain at home where morning and evening services are conducted. A memorial light burns in the home during the entire week. Circumstances which permit the mourners to engage in their occupations should be discussed with the Rabbi. When a funeral is held the day before a festival, and one hour of mourning was observed before the festival, there is no Shivah.

Messenger MIP Verses

There's A Reason

For every burden that we bear,
for every sorrow, every care -
There's a reason
For every grief that bows the head,
For every teardrop that is shed -
There's a reason
For every hurt, for every plight,
For every lonely, pain-racked night -
There's a reason
But if we trust God as we should,
All this must work out for our good.
He knows the reason.

They Softly Walk

They are not gone who pass
Beyond the clasp of hand,
Out from the strong embrace.
They are but come so close
We need not grope with hands,
Nor look to see, nor try
To catch the sound of feet.
They have put off their shoes
Softly to walk by day
Within our thoughts, to tread
At night our dream-led paths
Of sleep.

They are not lost who find
The sunset gate, the goal
Of all their faithful years.
Not lost are they who reach
The summit of their climb,
The peak above the clouds
And storms. They are not lost
Who find the light of sun
And stars and God.

They are not dead who live
In hearts they leave behind.
In those whom they have blessed
They live a life again,
And shall live through the years
Eternal life, and grow
Each day more beautiful
As time declares their good,
Forgets the rest, and proves
Their immortality.
-- Hugh Robert Orr

Thy Faithful People

For Thy faithful people, O Lord,
life is changed, and when the
house of this life on earth is gone,
an eternal home is prepared.
With them, O Lord, let us be
united, knowing that neither death
nor life can separate us
from Thy love.

Thy Will Be Done

We sorrow so and yet we know
Thy will O Lord must be,
O hear our prayer this dark'ning hour
Our trust is all in thee.

We know that in the realms above
And in your gentle care
Our loved one waits the happy dawn
When we shall meet up there.

Timeless

Etched in timeless photographs
Taken by the heart
Memories held and cherished
Though time has come to part

Laughter, tears and love we share
Paint portraits to be treasured
Valued heirlooms captured
Priceless beyond measure

Snapshots of time gone by
Cause us to remember
With hearts of hope we look ahead
To a time beyond forever
-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Timeless (Shortened)

Snapshots of a time gone by
Cause us to remember
With hearts of hope we look ahead
To a time beyond forever

Messenger MIP Verses

To One In Sorrow

Let me come in where you are weeping, friend,
And let me take your hand.
I, who have known a sorrow such as yours,
Can understand.
Let me come in - I would be very still
Beside you in your grief;
Let me come in - I would only breathe a prayer,
And hold your hand,
For I have known a sorrow such as yours,
And understand.
-- Grace Noll Crowell

To thank you for your kindness...

To thank you for your
kindness
and sympathy
at a time
when it was
deeply appreciated

To Those I Love & Leave Behind

When I am gone, release me, let me go,
I have so many things to see and do,
Please don't tie yourself to me with tears,
Be thankful for our beautiful years.

I gave you my love. You can only guess
How much you gave to me in happiness...
I thank you for the love you each have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a time that we must part,
So bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So, If you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear All
my love around you soft and clear,

Then, when you must come this way alone, I'll
greet you with a smile, and say

"Welcome Home!"

--Therese Marie Horn

Together with the Lord

Life is but a stopping place,
a pause in what's to be,
a resting place along the road
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
different paths along the way.
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay . . .
Our destination is a place
far greater than we know.
For some, the journey quicker,
for some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
we'll claim a great reward,
and find everlasting peace,
together with the Lord.

Messenger MIP Verses

Togetherness

Death is nothing at all
I have only slipped away to the next room
I am I and you are you
Whatever we were to each other
That we are still are
Call me by my old familiar name
Speak to me in the easy way you always used
Put no difference into your tone.
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow
Laugh as we always laughed
At the little jokes we enjoyed together.
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me
Let my name be ever the household word that it
always was.
Let it be spoken without effort
Without the ghost of a shadow on it
Life means all that it ever meant
It is the same that it ever was
There is absolute unbroken continuity
What is death but a negligible accident?
Why should I be out of mind
Because I am out of sight?
I am 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
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting
when we meet again!

-- Henry Scott-Holland,
Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral

Treasured Rose

Always in the springtime
When life comes forth anew,
The roses bloom and flourish
Embracing morning's dew.

Emerging from the winter's chill
Held in death's grip no more,
Strengthened now by resting
Through all storms gone before,

Clothed in perfect rosy hue
Poised in seasoned grace,
That only living life can give,
Each moment leaving trace

Of treasures hidden deep inside,
Wrapped in velvet folds,
Shown always in the springtime
Proof death has lost its hold.

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Treasured Seasons

For everything there is
an appointed season.
And a time for everything
under heaven:
A time for sharing;
A time for caring;
A time for loving;
A time for giving;
A time for remembering;
A time for parting.
You have made everything
beautiful in its time,
for everything You do
remains forever.

Messenger MIP Verses

Trusted Friend (Angel Dance)

There is a noise in Heaven
A happy, joyful sound
Heard as the feet of children
Are set to dancing all around

They are being taught by angels
No time for sadness there
Keeping step with music
As it rises in the air

A new song they hear playing
It banishes all pain
And sets their feet to dancing
None are sick or lame

With new unhindered cadence
Their eyes are shining bright
They are dancing with the angels
In the glory of Heaven's light

-- Sherrie Bradley Neal

Turn Again

If I should die, and leave you here a while,
be not like others sore undone, who keep
Long vigils by the silent dust and weep.
For my sake, turn again to life, and smile,
Nerving thy heart and trembling hand to do
Something to comfort other souls than thine.
Complete these dear unfinished
tasks of mine, And I, perchance,
may therein comfort you!

-- Mary Lee Hall

Until We Meet

How blessed is the tie that binds
Our hearts in lasting love,
The comradeship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.
So when at last we have to part
In sorrow and in pain
We know we still are joined in heart,
Until we meet again

Un Poco De Tiemp

No llenes tu corazón de dolor y tristeza,
pero recuérdame en cada día siguiente .
Recuerda la alegría, la risa, la sonrisa.
Solo he ido a descansar un rato.
Aunque mi partida causa dolor y pena,
mi ida ha aliviado mi dolor y me ha dado alivio.
Así que seca tus ojos y recuérdame,
no como soy ahora, sino como yo fui.
Porque los recordaré a todos ustedes,
y mira con una sonrisa. Comprende en sus
corazones, Solo he ido a descansar por un ratito.

Upon the Green

When life on earth is over
Life anew is seen
Affording simple pleasures
In a place upon the green

The course behind is in the past
A journey lived by faith
Step by step life's fairway
Brought me here by grace

Now I've gained a new access
The course unfolding view
To master hill and valley
With each stroke straight and true

To enter into pleasures
Of the beauty I have seen
Since I was given entrance
To a place upon the green

--Sherrie Bradley Neal

Veterans Gratitude Page

With respectful gratitude for a life shared and
now blessedly at rest, and with heartfelt praise,
this memorial book is dedicated to the living
memory of
[name]
a distinguished Veteran of the Armed Services of
our beloved nation.

Messenger MIP Verses

Veterans Gratitude part 2

Always and everywhere, we live with personal remembrances of devoted loved ones and, under God, render thanks and praise to Him for the promise of everlasting life. This truth is perceived by us on a day to day basis as we note the sacrificial acts and personal commitment of our Veterans. Their upholding of such essential values as liberty and justice, individual dignity and national righteousness, ennoble the life of each of us. Through their example we move toward eternity with faith, charity, courage and hope.

The line of life between birth and immortality is one of no certain length. In considering this, as we bid farewell to this honored, respected Veteran, may we be ever more thoughtful, grateful and humble before our Creator as we all await our heavenly reunion.

Vincent van Gogh Quote

As we advance in life,
it becomes more
and more difficult -
but in fighting the difficulties,
the inmost strength of
the heart is developed.
- Vincent van Gogh

We are deeply mindful...

We are deeply mindful of the
confidence you have placed in
us and we sincerely hope that
our service has been satisfactory
and comforting to you...
Most Respectfully,

We Deeply Appreciate

We deeply appreciate
and wish to thank you
for the kind thoughts
and expression of sympathy
extended during our recent sorrow

We Feel Deeply Grateful

We feel deeply grateful
to you in our sorrow.
Your kindness and sympathy
have meant so much to us and
will always be remembered.

We Give Them Back to You

We give them back to You, O Lord
who first gave them to us;
yet as You did not lose them in the giving,
so we do not lose them by their return.
For what is Yours is ours also,
if we belong to You. Love is undying,
and life is unending and the boundary of
this mortal life is but a horizon, and the
horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.
Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may
see further. Cleanse our eyes that we may
see more clearly... And while You prepare the
place for us, prepare us also for that happy
place that we may be with You, and with
those we love forevermore.
Amen.

We Present This Record

That the memory of the beloved departed may
always be preserved, we have compiled this book
of Inscribed Memories. We present this record to
you in appreciation of your confidence and as a
tribute to your loved one, who will linger in fond
remembrance throughout the years to come.

We Sincerely Appreciate

We sincerely appreciate the
confidence you have placed in us.

As an expression of our appreciation
of your trust, please accept this
laminated memorial in memory of
your loved one.

Please call if we can assist
you further in any way.

Respectfully,

Messenger MIP Verses

We Will Share Eternity

My mother is a treasure
that I carry in my heart,
her memory is safely kept within.
All the love she spent on me
is held in sweet reserve;
every kiss and every touch
and every precious grin.
I'll miss the many things she was,
the special things she did.
Each one will be remembered gratefully.
Though I will miss her through the years,
I'm comforted to know she's with her Lord.
We'll meet again and share eternity.

We Wish to Express

We wish to express our
sincere sympathy and our
appreciation for your trust in us.
It is our purpose to give
thoughtful service, and if in so
doing we have helped to lighten
your burden, our aim has been
accomplished.

Very Respectfully,

We'll Always Remember

That special smile,
that caring heart,
that warm embrace
you always gave us.
We'll always remember
you being there
for Mom and us,
through good and bad times,
no matter what.
We'll always remember you Dad,
because there'll never be any one
to replace you in our hearts
and the love we will always
have for you.

Welcome Home

When I am gone, let me go.
I have so many things to see and do.
You must not tie yourself
to me with tears.
Be happy
that we had such good years.
I gave you my love,
you can only guess,
how much you gave to me
in happiness.
I thank you for the love
you each have shown,
but know that it's time
to travel on alone.
So grieve awhile for me if you must.
Then let your grief
be comforted by trust.
It's only for awhile that we must part,
so treasure the memories
within your heart.
I won't be far away,
for life goes on.
So if you need me,
call and I will come.
Though you can't see or touch me,
I'll be near.
And if you listen with your heart,
you'll hear all of my love around
you so soft and clear.
And then when you must come
this way alone, I'll greet you with
a smile and a "Welcome Home."

Messenger MIP Verses

What's A Fireman

He is just like you and me,
Yet he stands taller than most of us.
He is a fireman.
He puts it all on the line
when the bell rings.
A fireman is the most fortunate
and least fortunate of men.
He is a gentle man.
He is a man who appreciates
simple pleasures of life:
hot coffee held in numb,
unbending fingers—
the camaraderie of brave men,
willing to risk their lives daily—
the divine peace and selfless service
of a job well done.
He doesn't criticize others or
shout obscenities.
When he marches, it is to
honor a fallen comrade.
He doesn't preach the
brotherhood of man. He lives it.
Heaven holds a special place
for our firemen.

When God Sends Forth a Tiny Soul

When God sends forth a tiny soul
To learn the ways of earth,
A mother's love is waiting here
We call this wonder birth.

When God calls home a little soul
And stills a fleeting breath,
A Father's love is waiting there,
This too is birth, not death.

When I Am Dead

When I am dead, my dearest,
Sing no sad song for me;
Plant thou no roses at my head,
Nor shady cypress tree:
Be the green grass above me
With showers and dew drops wet;
And if thou wilt, remember,
And if thou wilt, forget.

I shall not see the shadows,
I shall not feel the rain;
I shall not hear the nightingale
Sing on, as if in pain:
And dreaming through the twilight
That doth not rise nor set,
Haply I may remember,
And haply may forget.

--Christina Rossetti

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 a gallant smile;
And for my sake
and in my name,
Live on and do all things
the same,
Feed not your loneliness
on empty days,
But fill each waking hour
in useful ways,
Reach out your hand
in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn
will comfort you
And hold you near;
And never, never
be afraid to die,
For I am waiting
for you in the sky!

Messenger MIP Verses

When I'm Gone

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 a heartache
And remember I've had
loads of fun.
Forget that I have 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 evening
When the sun paints
the sky in the west
Stand for a few moments beside me
And remember only my best.

When My Soul Takes Flight

Lord, when my soul takes flight,
may it rise swiftly to live forever
in your love and care.

Where I Am

No breaking heart is here,
No sad and chilling pain;
No wasted cheeks where the frequent tear
Rolls down and leaves its stain.
Dear friends of mortal years,
the trusted and the true,
You are watching still in the valley of tears,
But I wait to welcome you.
I won't forget, O no!
For memory's golden chain
Shall bind my heart to the hearts below
Till we meet to touch again.
Each link is strong and bright,
And love's eternal flame,
Flows freely down, like a river of light,
To the world from where I came.

White Wings

White wings
Swirling gently ride
The wind that takes
you with the tide
To shores unknown,
unseen by me.
Today you sail
a different sea
With God to guide
your spirit free.

William Penn Quote

For death is no more than a turning
of us over from time to eternity.
- William Penn

Messenger MIP Verses

Wings of Gold

When I first saw those wings of gold
So tiny, precious, yet so bold
Pure joy began to fill my heart
As I watched this work of art
Too quickly then they disappeared
Gone forever is what I feared
Can I make this moment last
It's too soon to be the past
So I looked into the sky
As the glitter caught my eye
There they were, those wings of gold
So tiny, precious, yet so bold
Flitting by as if to say
I'll be with you every day
Oh, the beauty of those wings
They're the reason my heart sings

-- Jane Stone

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Quote

It is a great consolation
For me to remember that the
Lord, to whom I had drawn near
In humble and child-like faith,
Has suffered and died for me,
And that He will look on me
In love and compassion.
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Yesterday

Where have you gone since yesterday -
And left us lonely here?
Today you seem so far away
Who yesterday was near.
No map of ours, that we may use,
Your journey can we trace;
We only know you've reached your Home
And seen your Father's face.

Yo soy la Ressurrección y la Vida

"Yo soy la Ressurrección y la Vida
el que cree en Mí
A unque esté muerto vivirá
Y todo aquel que vive y cree en Mí
No morirá eternamente."
San Jun 11:25, 26

You Are Not Forgotten

You are not forgotten
loved one, nor will you ever be.
As long as life and memory last,
we will remember thee.
We miss you now,
our hearts are sore.
As time goes by we'll
miss you more.
Your loving smile,
your gentle face no one
can fill your vacant place.

You Never Said Goodbye

You never said I'm leaving.
You never said goodbye.
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knew why.

A million times we needed you.
A million times we've cried.
If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died.

In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still.
In our hearts we hold a place,
That no one could ever fill.

It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you didn't go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God took you home.

Your Comforting Expression

Your comforting expression
of sympathy
will always be
remembered with
deep gratitude...

Your Comforting Ministry

Your comforting ministry at the services for is
gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated

Your Comforting Remembrance

Your comforting remembrance and kindly
thoughts are deeply appreciated

Messenger MIP Verses

Your Kind Expression

Your kind expression of sympathy
is deeply appreciated
and gratefully acknowledged
by the family of

Your Kind Message

Your Kind message of comfort for the service of is
gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated

Your Kindness

Your kindness and sympathy
are more deeply appreciated than
any words of thanks can ever express.

Your Ministry of Music

Your ministry of music at the services for is
acknowledged with sincere thanks and deep
appreciation

Your Spiritual Bouquet

Your Spiritual Bouquet
and kind expression
of sympathy
will always be held
in grateful
remembrance
by the family of

Your Service Bearer

Acknowledging with deep appreciation your
service as bearer in honor of

Your Thoughtfulness

Your thoughtfulness is
sincerely appreciated.