

THE INTERNATIONAL
ORDER of ST. LUKE
— THE PHYSICIAN —
UNITED KINGDOM

BLESSINGS

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Aaronic Blessing

The LORD bless you and keep you: The LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26 RSV)

The meaning of the word **Bless** is to do, or give something of value to another. God "respects" us by providing for our needs and we in turn "respect" God by giving him of ourselves as his servants.

Keep means to guard you.

When we hear the word **peace** we usually associate this to mean an absence of war or strife. However, the Hebrew word for Peace is shalom and has a very different meaning. The word is usually used in the context of making restitution. When a person has caused another to become deficient in some way, such as a loss of livestock, it is the responsibility of the person who created the deficiency to restore what has been taken, lost or stolen. The verb shalom literally means to make whole or complete. The noun shalom has the more literal meaning of being in a state of wholeness, or being without deficiency.

God will kneel before you presenting gifts and will guard you with a hedge of protection.

God will illuminate the wholeness of his being toward you bringing order and he will give you comfort and sustenance.

God will lift up his wholeness of being and look upon you and he will set in place all you need to be whole and complete.

Northumbrian Blessing

A Blessing from the Northumbrian Community.

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you wherever He may send you;

May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm;

May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors;

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

Scottish Blessing

SCOTTISH Blessing

May the blessing of light be on you, light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire, so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.

And may light shine out of the two eyes of you, like a candle set in the window of a house, bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm. And may the blessing of the rain be on you,

May it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean, and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines, and sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the earth be on you, soft under your feet as you pass along the roads, soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day;

and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.

May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be out from under it quickly; up and off and on its way to God.

And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly.

Irish Blessings

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.

2

May joy and peace surround you both,

Contentment latch your door,

And happiness be with you now,

And love be cherished evermore.

3 St Patrick's

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,

Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,

Christ on my right, Christ on my left,

Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise,

Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,

Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,

Christ in every eye that sees me,

Christ in every ear that hears me.