Some Additional words of reflection and comfort

SOMETIMES PAIN SWEEPS OVER ME

Lord
Sometimes pain sweeps over me –
pain of limbs, pain of heart.
There is heaviness in movement and thought.
But why am I telling you this?
You already know and are bearing it with me –
Enabling me to carry on –
Blessing me with your strength and love.

Joyce Clarke

BLESSING FOR THOSE IN DISTRESS

May you come safely to shore across the dark ocean and know that even in the darkest depths there is hope to be found and peace.

Mary Taylor

IN TIMES OF AFFLICTION

May we discover that the road we didn't choose didn't want to travel, is a highway that leads unerringly towards the light.

Frances Copsey



© The Iona Community from *The Iona Abbey Worship Book*, published by Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community, Fourth Floor, Savoy House, 140 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3DH.

A Morning Liturgy

(We encourage people to use this at the time when they would normally go to church)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning before time, before people, before the world began, God was.

Here and now among us, beside us, enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven, God is.

In the future, when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its fulfilment, God will be.

Not denying the world but delighting in it, not understanding the world, but redeeming it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, God was, God is, God will be.

PRAYER

Eternal God, we praise you as centuries of people have done.

We are not alone: saints and angels, invisible, yet in splendour, surround us. Jesus, the healer, is with us.

Your Holy Spirit leads us to yearn for our own completeness, for the well-being of others, and for a better life.

Fill us with the expectation of goodness; and should any feel burdened by guilt or inadequacy, let the grace of Jesus be made real in all its liberating power.

Here let your word come alive in our hearing; here let our concern respond to your compassion. Here let hope lead a path through heaviness; here may your kingdom come. Amen.

WORD OF GOD

A weekly readings and reflections sheet will be produced.



PRAYERS

We pray for others in the quiet of our hearts:

Pray for yourself in your isolation, that you would know God's presence with you Pray for others in their loneliness Pray for our country Pray for the world

THE COLLECT

You may wish to use one or more of these prayers before the Lord's Prayer.

Tend your sick ones, O Christ, rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones, shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake.

The prayer of St Augustine

O God.

who set before us the great hope that your Kingdom shall come on earth and taught us to pray for its coming: give us grace to discern the signs of its dawning and to work for the perfect day when the whole world shall reflect your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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,
the power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING BLESSING

To God be the glory to the saints and angels be honour, to those who work evil be confusion.

To the cross be reverence, to the church, discernment, to the departed, new life, to the penitent, acceptance, to the suffering, timely healing.

To the four corners of the world be peace, and on us in this place, may the compassion of God come to bless us and overshadow us continually.

Ancient Syriac Prayer

