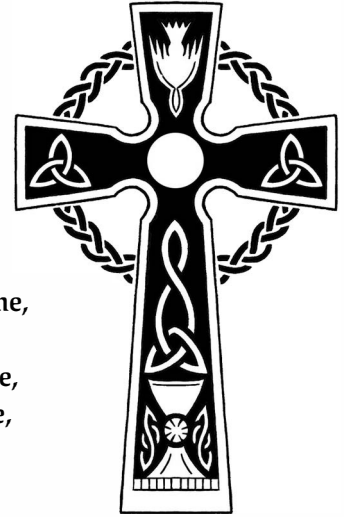


LORICA OF SAINT PATRICK

A PRAYER FOR DIVINE PROTECTION



I arise today
 Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity;
 Through a belief in the Threeness;
 Through confession of the Oneness
 Of the Creator of creation.

I arise today
 Through the strength of Christ's birth and his baptism,
 Through the strength of his crucifixion and his burial,
 Through the strength of his resurrection and his
 ascension,
 Through the strength of his descent for the judgment
 of doom.

I arise today
 Through the strength of the love of cherubim,
 In obedience of angels,
 In service of archangels,
 In the hope of resurrection to meet with reward,
 In the prayers of patriarchs,
 In preachings of the apostles,
 In faiths of confessors,
 In innocence of virgins,
 In deeds of righteous men.

I arise today
 Through the strength of heaven;
 Light of the sun,
 Splendor of fire,
 Speed of lightning,
 Swiftmess of the wind,
 Depth of the sea,
 Stability of the earth,
 Firmness of the rock.

I arise today
 Through God's strength to pilot me;
 God's might to uphold me,
 God's wisdom to guide me,
 God's eye to look before me,
 God's ear to hear me,

God's word to speak for me,
 God's hand to guard me,
 God's way to lie before me,
 God's shield to protect me,
 God's hosts to save me
 From snares of the devil,
 From temptations of vices,
 From every one who desires me ill,
 Afar and anear,
 Alone or in a multitude.

I summon today all these powers between me and evil,
 Against every cruel merciless power that opposes my
 body and soul,
 Against incantations of false prophets,
 Against black laws of pagandom,
 Against false laws of heretics,
 Against craft of idolatry,
 Against spells of women and smiths and wizards,
 Against every knowledge that corrupts man's body and
 soul.
 Christ shield me today
 Against poison, against burning,
 Against drowning, against wounding,
 So that reward may come to me in abundance.

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 in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me,
 Christ in the eye that sees me,
 Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today
 Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity;
 Through a belief in the Threeness;
 Through a confession of the Oneness
 Of the Creator of creation.