

Lorica of Saint Patrick

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,
Swiftness 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.

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St. Patrick (ca. 377)