

Baby Blessings

Cultural Readings

You may want to include a poem in your Baby Blessing Ceremony. It can be read by the Parents, Godparents, other special person or by the Officiant.

Every Person Born into This World **From a passage by Martin Buber (adaptation)**

Every person born into this world represents something new, something that never existed before, something original and unique. It is the duty of every person in Israel to know and consider that he is unique in the world in his particular character, and that there has never been someone like him before. For if there had been someone like him before, there would be no need for him to be in the world. Every single person is a new thing in the world and is called upon to fulfill his particularity in the world.

Children learn what they live.

If a child lives with criticism, she learns to condemn.
If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight.
If a child lives with ridicule, she learns to be shy.
If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilt.
If a child lives with tolerance, she learns to be patient.
If a child lives with encouragement, he learns confidence.
If a child lives with praise, she learns to appreciate.
If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice.
If a child lives with security, she learns to have faith.
If a child lives with approval he learns to like himself.
If a child lives with acceptance, he or she learns to find love in the

Untitled

Excerpts from Francis Thompson and William Blake

Know you what it is to be a child? ... It is to have a spirit yet streaming from the waters of baptism; it is to believe in love, to believe in loveliness, to believe in belief; it is to be so little

that the elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice

into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything, - for each child has a fairy god-

mother in his/her own soul; it is to live in a nutshell and count yourself the king/queen of infinite space; it is:

To see the World in a grain of sand,
And a heaven in a wild flower,
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,
And eternity in an hour.

Irish Blessing

May the road rise 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.

May God be with you and bless you;
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune,
Rich in blessings,
May you know nothing but happiness
From this day forward.

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home
And may the hand of a friend always be near.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.

Zuni Indian Prayer

Now this is the day.
Our child,
Into the daylight
You will go standing.
Preparing for your day.

Our child, it is your day,
This day.
May your road be fulfilled.
In your thoughts may we live,
May we be the ones whom your thoughts will embrace,
May you help us all to finish our road

Celtic Blessing

May the strength of the wind and the light of the sun,
The softness of the rain and the mystery of the moon
Reach you and fill you.
May beauty delight you and happiness uplift you,
May wonder fulfill you and love surround you.
May your step be steady and your arm be strong,
May your heart be peaceful and your word be true.
May you seek to learn, may you learn to live,
May you live to love, and may you love - always.

by Spike Milligan

There is a song in man
There is a song in woman
And that is the child's song.
When that song comes
There will be no words.
Do not ask where they are.
Just listen to the song.
Listen to it-
Learn it-
It is the greatest song of all

Jewish Blessing

In every birth, blessed is the wonder.
In every creation, blessed is the new beginning.
In every child, blessed is life.
In every hope, blessed is the potential.
In every transition, blessed is the beginning.
In every existence, blessed are the possibilities.
In every love, blessed are the tears.
In every life, blessed is the love.
There are three names by which a person is called:
One which her father and mother call her,
And one which people call her,
And one which she earns for herself.
The best one of these is the one that she earns for herself.'

Irish Baby Blessing

May all the blessings of our Lord touch your life today.
May He send His little angels to protect you on your way.
Such a miraculous gift, sent from above.
Someone so precious to cherish and love.
May sunshine and moonbeams dance over your head.
As you quietly slumber in your bed.
May good luck be with you wherever you go.
And your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow.

An Adoption Poem

Not flesh of my flesh,
nor bone of my bone
but very remarkably,
all my own.
And never forget,
for a single minute,
that you weren't born
under my heart,
but in it.

From the Tao Te Ching

Giving birth and nourishing,
having without possessing,
acting with no expectations,
leading and not trying to control:
this is the supreme virtue.

Traditional Irish Blessing

May you always have walls for the winds,
A roof for the rain, tea beside the fire,
Laughter to cheer you, those you love near you,
and all your heart might desire.

May the sun shine all day long,
Everything go right, and nothing wrong.
May those you love bring love back to you,
And may all the wishes you wish come true.

May luck be your friend
In whatever you do
And may trouble be always
A stranger to you.

Iona Community Prayer

Deep peace of the running wave to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you

Omaha Native American Blessing

Sun, Moon, Stars, all you that move in the heavens, hear us!
Into your midst has come a new life.
Make his/her path smooth, that he/she may reach the brow of the first hill!

Winds, Clouds, Rain, Mist, all you that move in the air, hear us!
Into your midst has come a new life.
Make his/her path smooth, that he/she may reach the brow of the second hill!

Hills, Valleys, Rivers, Lakes, Trees, Grasses, all you of the earth, hear us!
Into your midst has come a new life.
Make his/her path smooth, that he/she may reach the brow of the third hill!

Birds, great and small, that fly in the air, Animals, great and small, that dwell in the forest, Insects that creep among the grasses and burrow in the ground, hear us!
Into your midst has come a new life.
Make his/her path smooth, that he/she may reach the brow of the fourth hill!

All you of the heavens, all you of the air, all you of the earth, hear us!
Into your midst has come a new life.
Make his/her path smooth, then shall he/she travel beyond the four hills!

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL

We give you the greatest gift of all,
a headstart that will last throughout your life

We shall do our best to teach you,
but it will be up to you to learn

We shall try to guide you in the right directions,
but it will be up to you to make the right decisions

We shall also encourage you to seek your own independence
but it will be up to you to be responsible

We shall tell you about 'drink and drugs',
but it will be up to you to say 'no'

We shall teach you about respect,
but you will choose whether to appreciate it's value

We shall encourage you to try,
but you should want to succeed for yourself

We shall teach you kindness,
but it will be up to you to be good-natured

We shall teach you to share,
but it will be up to you to be unselfish

We shall model values for you.
but you have to develop your own morals

We give you this knowledge as a gift
with all our love.

You are the poem
I dreamed of writing,
The masterpiece
I longed to paint.

You are the shining star
I reached for in my ever-hopeful quest
For life fulfilled...

You are my child.

Now with all things
I am blessed.

A Parent's Love

A parent's love is something that no one can explain
It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it or take that love away...

It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking,
It never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking
It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns
It glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems

It is far beyond defying, it defies all explanation,
It still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation.
A many splendor miracle. Man cannot understand

And another wondrous evidence of Life's tender guiding hand.

Boy Is . . .

Trust with dirt on its face,
Beauty with a cut on its finger.
Wisdom with bubble gum in its
hair, and the
Hope of the future with
A frog in its pocket.

*

One small hand to hold in yours,
One small face to smile,
One wet kiss as he says "good-night"
One small child.

Catch the moment, put it in your heart
The years too soon will fly.
These are precious moments,
more than money can buy.

Two small arms to hold you tight,
Two small feet to run,
Two small eyes full of love for you,
One small son.

Catch the moment and put it in your heart
and never let it go.
Save it for the years to come
when he, too, will know.

One small hand to hold in his
One small face to smile.
One small kiss and he says "Good Night"
One small child.

*

I look at your cute little nose,
And how you wiggle your toes,
I love how you smile at me.
You're cute as a button, don't you agree?

I look at the darling clothes you wear

And the tiny bow in your hair.
You seem to say to me,
"I'm as cute as I can be."

You're cute as a button, yes you are,
You were sent to earth from heaven afar.
I love you, I hope you know.
I will always tell you so.

*******The above poem for a baby girl opens with:**

A baby girl...

one of the most beautiful miracles in life,
one of the greatest joys we can ever know,
and one of the reasons why
there is a little extra sunshine, laughter and happiness
in your world today.

What is a Family?"

Author Unknown

A family is
The sweetest feelings
The warmest hugs
Trust and togetherness
Unconditional love
The stories of our lives written on the same page
The nicest memories anyone has ever made
Treasured photos
Thankful tears
Hearts overflowing with all the years
Being there for one another
Supporting and caring
Understanding, Helping, Sharing
Walking life's path together
And making the journey more beautiful because
We are a family.....And a family
is Love.