

Concluding Blessing:

This Fire Blessing has been used as a prayer by the Aboriginal people for thousands of years.

May the fire be in your thoughts, making them good and just,
May it protect you from all harm.

May the fire be in your eyes,
May it open your eyes to see what is good in life,
May it protect you from speaking against another.

May the fire be in your ears,
We pray that you may hear with deep listening
So that you may hear the flow of water
and of all Creation and of the Dreaming.
May you be protected from gossip
And from those things that harm and break down your family.

May the fire be in your arms and hands,
So that you may be of service and build up love.
May the fire protect you from all violence.

May the fire be in your whole being, in your legs and feet,
Enabling you to walk the Earth with respect and care,
So that you may journey in ways of goodness and trust
And be protected from walking away from what is true.

Sources:

Kathleen Glennon, *Heartbeat of the Seasons*

Bruce Sanguin, *If Darwin Prayed*

<https://www.cam.org.au/acmv/Article/Article/13143/Fire-Blessing>

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Rediscovering



Fire

Gathering: At the recent royal wedding, Bishop Curry referred to Teilhard de Chardin's words that when we harness for God the energies of love, then we will have discovered fire for the second time. We have also recently celebrated the feast of Pentecost where the symbol of fire was a pointer to the life-giving energy of the Spirit which sent forth the frightened disciples to continue to spread the good news of the kin-dom of God. We gather now in darkness to rediscover this same fire.

Reader:

O Holy One,
We gather to rediscover fire-
Kindled by an ember that flew from the great radiance,
Love's bright beginning
In time and space.

May our own Spirit-fanned words
And the thoughts of our hearts
Become love's flames
Tongues of forgiveness,
Sentences of justice,
Declaring the good news:
That Wisdom burns
In the heart of this cosmic adventure.

When you hear the word "fire" what emerges in you?

Pour out a Pentecost blessing upon us
Transform our babbling into a syntax of blessing,
A proclamation that the world is ablaze with your glory,
That we are suffused in Spirit
And that all creation is awaiting
Our arrival as your sons and daughters-
Fire, now shape-shifted into conscious future-forgers-
Willing to reveal and realise the kin-dom of God. Amen

In the silence we hear this word:

Reader :In the beginning there was fire
And fire was with the divine and the fire was divine.
Fire flared forth its magnificent light.
through fire all things came to be.

Lament for the misuse of fire:

We recognise that fire has negative as well as positive impacts. We recognise, too, that fire is misused and for that we lament. Name your own laments, for example: We lament that our dependence on fossil fuels leading to a changing climate; We lament that missiles explode, killing people and laying waste the land.