

May The Road Rise Up To Meet You

May the road rise up 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.

(traditional gaelic blessing)

This traditional Irish blessing is an ancient Celtic prayer. Celtic literature is famed for using images of nature and everyday life to speak of how God interacts with His people.

"May The Road rise up to meet you" is about God's blessing for your journey - may your walk be an easy one - with no huge mountains to climb or obstacles to overcome.

It alludes to three images from nature - the **wind**, **sun** and **rain** - as pictures of God's care and provision. The "wind" can be likened to the Spirit of God, who came as a "mighty wind" at **Pentecost**. The sun's warmth in the prayer reminds us of the tender mercies of God, "by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven" (**Luke 1:78, NIV**), whilst the soft falling rain speaks of God's provision and sustenance. Finally, we are reminded that we are held safe in God's loving hands as we travel on our journey through life.