

V.

The Life of Saint David,¹ (Dewi.)

HERE IS AN ACCOUNT OF THE PEDIGREE OF SAINT DAVID,² AND A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

David was the son of Sandde, the son of Ceredig, the son of Cunedda, the son of Edeyrn, the son of Padarn Beisrudd, the son of Deil, the son of Gwrddail, the son of Dwfyn, the son of Gorddwfyn, the son of Amgnod, the son of Amweryd, the son of Onwydd, the son of Perw, the son of Dwfyn, the son of Owain, the son of Avallach, the son of Eugen, the son of Eirdolen, the son of the sister of the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ.

¹ From the MS. in the Cott. Library, British Museum, marked Titus D. XXII. collated with a MS. in the Library of Jesus College, Oxford.

² David, or as his countrymen call him Dewi, was the son of Sandde ap Ceredig ap Cunedda, by Non the daughter of Ynyr Caergawch. It is said by Giraldus Cambrensis that he was born at that place, since called Saint David's, and that he was baptized at Porth Clais in that neighbourhood, by Ælocus, or rather Albens, bishop of Munster, who had arrived at that time from Ireland. He also says that he was brought up at a place, the name of which, meaning the Old Bush, is in Welsh Hen Meneu, and in Latin Vetus Menevia. Saint David is reported to have received his religious education in the school of Illyd, and afterwards in the school of Paulinus, in White House on Tave. Geoffrey of Monmouth states that Dewi, Archbishop of Caerleon, died in the Monastery he had founded in Menevia, where he was honourably buried by Maelgwn Gwynedd. According to the computation of Archbishop Usher, Saint David died A.D. 554, aged 82 years. The order of generations, and the names of contemporaries, having rendered it necessary to fix the birth of David twenty years later than is fixed by Usher, and his life may be protracted to any period short of 566, to which year the death of Maelgwn Gwynedd is assigned. He was Canonized by Pope Calixtus, about the year 1120, and his commemoration is held on the first day of March.—Professor Rees's Welsh Saints, pp. 194, 204.

King Ceredig reigned a series of years, and from him Ceredigion received its name¹; and he had a son, and the name of that son was Sant, or Sandde; to whom an angel appeared while he was sleeping, and said to him, "Tomorrow thou wilt go a hunting, and wilt get three things near the river Teivy, namely a Stag, a Salmon, and a Swarm of bees in a tree above the river, at a place now called Henllan², which will belong to one who is not yet born, and he will own the two places, namely Linhenllan and Liconiuanacan, until the day of judgment.

Then Patrick came to the valley of Rosina, called Glyn Rosyn, and intended to pass his life there, but an angel came to him and said, "Thou must leave," said he, "this place to one who is not yet born." And he became angry, and said, "Why has the Lord treated his servant with contempt, who has been serving him with fear and love, and hath chosen before him one, who is not yet born, and will not be born for thirty years." And Patrick prepared in himself to leave that place in the Lord Christ; and the Lord loved Patrick much, and sent his angel to pacify him. And the angel said to him, "Patrick, be joyful, the Lord has sent me to shew thee the island of Ireland, from a station which is in Glyn Rosyn, (now called Eisteddva Padric, or Patrick's Station,) and thou wilt be an apostle in the island which thou shalt see, and thou wilt suffer much there for the love of God, but God will be with thee in whatever thou doest," And then the mind of Patrick was set at rest, and he left that place to David; and a ship was prepared in the harbour for him; and he rose from the dead one who had been buried there in the marsh for fifteen years, whose name was Cruchier. And Patrick went to Ireland accompanied by him, who afterwards became a bishop.

And at the end of thirty years afterwards, as the king called Sandde was walking by himself, lo, a nun met him,

¹ A district comprising the present county of Cardigan, with portions of the adjoining counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke.

² About three miles eastward from Newcastle Emlyn.

and he laid hold of her, and violated her person, who became pregnant. Her name was Nonn, and she had a son born to her, to whom was given the name of David. And she had not a husband either before or after, and she was chaste both in mind and deed.

The first miracle which David performed after she became pregnant, was that she would not take any food besides bread and water, and David tasted no other food. The second miracle which David did, was, when his mother went to church to hear Saint Gildas preaching. When Gildas began to preach, he was not able to go on; then he said, "Go out all of you from the church," said he, and he a second time attempted to preach, but could not; and then he enquired whether there were any one in the church besides himself. "I am here" said the nun, "between the door and the partition," "Go thou," said the saint, "out of the church, and request all the parish to come in." And all of them came to the place, and then the saint preached clearly, and loud. Then the parish asked him, "Why couldst thou not preach to us a little while ago, and we were anxious to hear thee?" "Call," said the saint, "the nun to come in, whom just now I sent from the church." "Here I am," said Nonn. Then said Gildas, "The child that is in the womb of this nun, has more property and grace, and dignity than I have, for God has himself given to him the privilege, and supreme authority over all the saints of Wales for ever, both before the day of judgment, and afterwards. "And therefore," said he, "there is no way for me to remain here any longer on account of the child of that nun, to whom the Lord hath given supreme government over all the people of this island; and I must go," said he, "to some other island, and leave this to the child." Another miracle was performed by David at the hour of his birth. There came thunder and lightning, and a stone that was opposite Nonn's head split into two parts, and one of the halves leaped over her head to her feet at her delivery. David performed another

miracle when he was baptized; a fountain sprung up from the ground, where there had not been a fountain before; and a blind person, who held David at his baptism, received his sight at the time; and the blind person knew that the child, whom he held to be baptized, was full of the grace of God, and he took the baptismal water, and washed his face therewith. And from the hour of his birth, the blind man had his face covered; and when he received his sight, he caused every one, who belonged to him, to praise God, as they ought.

The place where David was instructed, was called The Old Bush, which in Welsh is Yr Henllwyn. There he was taught the Psalms and the Lessons, and the public prayers; and there his disciples saw a pigeon with a golden beak instructing him, and playing about him. From thence David came to a master who was called Paulinus,¹ and had been a disciple to a bishop at Rome; and he taught David until he was a master. And it so happened that the master of David lost his eye-sight, through great pain in his eyes; and he called to him all his disciples, that he might receive from them a remedy for his eyes, and no one was able to relieve him; and last of all he called David, and said to him, "David, look at my eyes, for they pain me." "Lord, Master," said he, "do not order me to look at thy eyes; for the ten years since I came to thee to be instructed, I have not yet looked in thy face." And the master considering and admiring his modesty, said to the young man, "Since it is so," said he to the youth, "put forth thy hand on my face, and bless my eyes, and I shall be quite well." And when David put his hands on his eyes, they were thoroughly restored. And then Paulinus blessed David with every blessing to be met with in the Old and the New Testament.

Then an angel came to Paulinus, and said to him, as follows, "The time," said he, "is come for David to go

¹ Paulinus, or Pawl Hên, appears to have been a North Briton, and one of the founders of the Monastery of Tŷ Gwyn ar Daf, or Whiteland Abbey, Carmarthenshire.

from here to perform those things which are appointed for him by God to accomplish. Then came David to Glastonbury, and there he built a church; and he came to a place where the water was full of poison, and he blessed it, and he caused it to become warm until the day of judgment; and it was called the "Hot Baths." Then David came to Cowlan, and to Repicwn;¹ and from thence to Collan, and Glasgwm,² afterwards he built Leominster, on the banks of the Severn;³ and then cured Bebrawc⁴, king of Erging, who was blind; then he built a church in Gwent, at a place called Raglan, and afterwards built one at a place which is called Llangyvelach, in Gower. There were two saints in Kidwelly, who were named Bonducat and Nailtrim,⁵ who became disciples to David. From thence David returned to the place which is called the Old Bush, and there was a bishop, who was called Gweslan, and he was a brother in the faith to David; and David said to him, "An angel of Lord has said to me, that scarcely one in a hundred of this place will enter into the kingdom of heaven; and he shewed me another place, and from that no one would go to hell, if he had faith and belief in him; and of those who were buried in the churchyard of that place, none would go to hell."

On a certain day, David and his disciples, namely Aedan, and Eliud, and Ismael,⁶ and many persons with them, came to the place which God had shewn to them, namely in Glyn Rosyn, the name of which was Hodnant, and the first place under the sky where they lighted a fire was there; and when they lighted the fire there early in the morning, there arose smoke which surrounded all that island, and much of Ire-

¹ Query, whether this place may not be Kilpedec, or Kilpeck, in Herefordshire.

² Colva and Glasgwm, in Radnorshire, both of which churches are dedicated to Saint David.

³ Mentioned by mistake, instead of the river Lugg.

⁴ Called in the Latin Version of his Life, *Pepiau*, a Regulus of Ergyng, noticed in the *Liber Landavensis*, as grandfather of Saint Dubricius.

⁵ Called in the Latin Version *Martuin*.

⁶ Aidan, Teilo, and Ishmael, the later of whom is Patron Saint of Llanishmael, Carmarthenshire; according to the *Liber Landavensis*, he was after the decease of Saint David appointed suffragan bishop of Saint David's under Saint Teilo, who had removed to Llandaff.

land; and remained from an early hour in the morning until the time of evening service. And then the prince, who was called Boya, and the Scots saw the smoke, and from anger he remained in a high rock from morning until the time of evening service, without meat and drink. And his wife came to him there, and asked him, "Why he would have neither meat nor drink." "Truly," said he, "I am sorrowful and angry respecting the smoke which I saw this day rising in Hodnant, and surrounding many cities; the man," said he, "who has lighted that fire will possess, and travel the way the smoke has gone." His wife said to him, "Thou art foolish, arise," said she, "and take thy men with thee, and slay whomsoever has lighted that fire on thy land without thy consent." And then came Boya, and his esquires with him, with the intention of killing David and his disciples; and when they came to the part of the country where David was, they were seized with a trembling, and were unable to do any injury either to David or his disciples, except to mock them, and utter contemptuous words, and return home. And as they so acted the wife of Boya met them, and said to them, "Our herdsman has informed me that all our stock is dead, namely the cows and oxen, and horses, and sheep, and they are all dead, with their eyes open, and are wailing, howling, and groaning; and Boya, and his wife, and family, said, "The saint whom we have been mocking, hath done this," and they were advised to pray to the saint, and request him to grant what he and his family wished to have. And then Boya gave Hodnant to David for ever. And Boya and his family returned homeward, and when they arrived at home, they found their cattle alive and well. And then the wife of Boya said to her female servants, "Go," said she, "to the river which is near the saint, and take off your clothes, and when naked, say to them indecent and immodest words." All the disciples of David could scarcely bear such immodesty, and they said to him, "Let us go away from here," said they, "we cannot endure this, nor look on those

naughty women." Then the saint said, "Would not it be best for us to order them to leave the place to us." And then David and his disciples remained there that night, until the next day. On the following day, the wife of Boya said to her stepdaughter, "Arise, girl," said she, "and we will go to Twyn Alun, to get nuts." The girl said to her stepmother, "I am ready to go." And they walked, and went to the bottom of the glen; and when they came there the stepmother said to her stepdaughter, "Put thy head on my lap that I may behead thee," said she. And the chaste maiden placed her head on the lap of her stepmother, who drew her knife, and cut off the head of the holy girl; and opposite the place where the blood fell to the ground, a fountain sprung up, and many persons received health and were cured there; and to this day that fountain is called Dunawd's Fountain, for Dunawd was the name of the maiden. Then the wicked stepmother went away, and no one in the world knew what kind of death took her off. And Boya began to follow his evil custom, but David and his disciples rejoiced. Then Boya intended to kill David and his disciples; but very soon, and it happened on the following morning, an enemy of Boya came to the tower where he was sleeping, and finding the gates open, he cut off Boya's head in his bed. And immediately fire came from heaven, and burnt all the buildings to the floor. Be it known to all that the Lord God slew Boya the Governor, and his wife on account of David.

And David was building in Glyn Hodnant, and there was not any water there, besides a little running water; and then David prayed to the Lord, and immediately there arose a clear fountain, and whilst David was in Glyn Hodnant that fountain was full of wine, so that while he lived he was never in want of good wine; this was a worthy gift from God to a man of his worth. Afterwards bishop Gwelan brother in the faith to David, and a disciple to David who was called Eliud, both fasted, and prayed to God for pure water, for there was no water in the city, on account

of the drought of the season. And they obtained from God two fountains, which are called to this day Gweslan's Fountain, and Eliud's Fountain. And cripples, and blind, and diseased persons have received cures from those two fountains.

And in the midst of those things, Aedan was praying in his own church in the city of Gwerwin, namely on the eve of Easter itself; and he saw an angel of the Lord coming to him who said, "Dost thou, good and blessed man, know," said he, "what is preparing for Saint David, thy master, in Glyn Rosyn?" "I know not indeed," said Aedan. Then said the angel, "It is certain that three of the family of the monastery are acting treacherously, that is, to put poison in bread, and to give that bread to him to-morrow to eat; therefore send a messenger to thy master, and advise him to take care of the bread that has poison in it. Then the Saint became sorrowful, and wept. "Lord," said he, "how shall I be able to send a messenger there, the time is so short, and there is no ship ready to be had." "Send thou," said the angel, "thy fellow disciple, namely Scuthyn, to the sea-side, and I will enable him to pass over." Then Scuthyn did cheerfully what he was ordered to do, and he went to the sea-side, and walked in the water until it was as high as his knees, and suddenly a monster came from the sea, and took him on his back, and going with him over, landed him the other side; and at mid-day, on Easter day, he was with his master. And as David was coming from church, after saying mass, and preaching to all the brethren, lo, he saw the messenger, who met him at a place called Bed Yscolan. Then David greeted him cheerfully, and shook hands with him, and asked him how Saint Aedan his disciple was.

And after the messenger had told him every thing relating to the state of his disciple Aedan, he called David aside, and mentioned to him his message, and what, and how the angel had spoken to Saint Aedan. Then David became silent, and considerate, and returned great thanks to God.

He then came to the monastery, and when they had all sat down in the manner they ought, and grace being said, the deacon arose to serve David with the poisoned bread. Then Scuthyn arose, and said, "Thou shalt not serve," said he, "to-day; I will," said Scuthyn, "be the servant on this day." Then he went, and having sat down, was beheld with surprise. Then David took the poisoned bread, and divided it into three parts; and he gave one of them to a bitch that was standing out side the door; and when the bitch tasted the bread, she died, and all her hair fell off so soon as it could be seen, and the skin that was about her broke, and all her entrails fell to the ground. And when all the brethren saw it, they were greatly astonished. And David sent the second part of the bread to a crow that was lying in its nest on an ash tree of the monastery, over the river which was towards the south; and when the crow took the bread into its beak, it fell dead from the tree to the ground. The third part of the poisoned bread, David himself took, and he blessed it, and eat it; and he caused all the brethren to look upon him, and they greatly wondered, and were in great fear for David. And then David related the matter to all the brethren; namely that the deceiver had attempted to poison him; and all the brethren uttered a curse on those men; and therewith the heavenly Father appointed that they should not receive an eternal share of the kingdom of heaven.

And after confirming the faith and belief in this island, all the spiritual labourers of the island came together to the door of the synod at Brevi; and the bishops, and the doctors, and the clergy, and the kings, and the princes, and the earls, and the barons, and the nobles, and the esquires, and the pleaders, and the multitude, that could not be numbered, were assembled together at the synod of Brevi; and an agreement was made at that meeting, that whosoever of the saints should preach at the synod, so that the great multitude in general should hear, should be sovereign over the saints of the isle of Britain. Then the saints be-

gan to preach, every one in his turn; and some one spoke for the company in general, "The hundredth part of this congregation," said he, "cannot hear any part of your preaching, you labour altogether in vain." Then all the saints said to one another, "There is no one of us, who can preach to so many; and we have all of us tried in our turn, and we have seen that no one of us has ability to preach to this multitude, look, and consider, and enquire whether there is any one who is so worthy, and is able to preach to the large number here assembled."

Then Saint Paulinus, who was an old holy bishop, answered, "I know," said he, "a comely and virtuous young man, who is always accompanied by an angel, and I also know that he is eloquent, and chaste, and that he loves God much, and that God loves him, and that he is a performer of all good works; and I myself know that he has the most of the grace of God of any one in this island, and he is called Saint David. First of all, he obtained in the beginning the instruction which he ought to have, and afterwards he was instructed by me in the Holy Scriptures, and he became a Doctor, and at home he was ordained an archbishop; and I saw," said he, "an angel coming to him, and calling on him, and directing him to go, and dwell in the country, which God had appointed for him, namely the kingdom of Dyfed, that is Mynyw, in the South. Go and call that person, who greatly loves God, and preaching in Christ, for I know that God has given his grace to him." And then the met saints sent messengers to the city of Rubi, where Saint David, the servant of God, prayed and taught. And when he heard the errand of the messengers, this was the answer he gave to them, namely, "I shall not go there," said he, "for I choose rather to pray to God here, but go you," said he, "in the peace and the love of God." And a second time the saints invited Saint David, and he returned the same answer as he had done before.

And the third time, all the saints by agreement sent to David, as messengers, the two principal saints who were

there, namely, Deiniol and Dubricius; and on the night before they went to David, he said to his disciples, "My sons, know ye that two messengers will come here to-morrow, go to the sea to catch fish, and bring here clear water from the fountain." And the messengers came on the day he had told them; and he and his disciples prepared for the saints their dinner, and placed before them a sufficiency of fish, and water from the fountain, which became wine to them. And David said to them, "Eat, my brethren, and be cheerful." And then the two saints said to him, "We will take neither meat, nor drink," said they, "unless thou wilt come with us, to the wonderful large synod, where there is a multitude, that cannot be numbered, waiting for thee; therefore," said they, "hasten thou to go with us, for the sake of God, and for the blessing of the saints, unless thou dost desire to deserve their curse." "Then," said David, "I will go for the love of God, to those there assembled; but," said he, "what you desire of me, I cannot perform, I will however go with you to the synod, and do you pray to the supreme Father to give his assistance to us miserable persons; and I beseech you brethren to partake of the meat and drink which has been kindly and charitably given us from heaven."

And afterwards David went with the messengers to the synod at Brevi; but before he came to the Meeting, lo, they saw coming to meet them a woman, whose only son had died, and she was crying, and wailing; and when David saw the woman in such a state, he stopped, and requested the messengers to go before him. And the miserable woman having heard of the fame of David, dropped upon her knees, and mentioned to him that her only son was dead; and David had compassion on her, and went with her to the place, where her son was lying dead on the banks of the river called Teivy. And when he came to the house where was the body of the young man, he prayed to the Lord saying, "O Lord God, who hast descended to this world from the bosom of the Father, on account of us mi-

serable sinners, and to redeem us from the mouth of the old enemy, have mercy, Lord on this widowed woman, and give her, her only son alive, with his soul again, that thy name may be magnified in all the earth." And when David had finished his prayer, the young man arose in perfect health, as if he had risen from sleep; and David laid hold of his right hand as he arose, and delivered him quite well to his mother. And the young man who had risen from the dead, followed David from the place in mind and deed, and was many years with him, serving God.

Then David went from thence, with the messengers of the saints, to the place where they were waiting for him; and when he came there, all the saints arose to meet him; and when they saw him, they greeted him, and fell on their knees, and requested him to preach, and they would take him to the top of a high hill, where he had before preached. And he excused himself for some time to them, saying that he dared not, and that he could not do what they requested. But he received a blessing from them in general, and complied with them, yet he refused to go to the top of the hill, and said that he would have no place to stand on but the flat ground. And David began to preach from thence out of the law of Christ, and the gospel, clearly as the sound of a trumpet, and plainly to every man, so as to be heard in general by the most distant as well as by the nearest, as the sun is seen by every body when it is mid-day; and it caused wonder to all. And as David was preaching on the surface of the flat ground before mentioned, the ground arose as a high mount under his feet, and all the people of that assembly beheld it; and which is yet a high hill visible to every body, and it is flat every where about it; and that miracle, and marvellous act was done by God to David at Llanddewibrefi.

And then they agreed among themselves to praise David, and to acknowledge unanimously that he was a prince over the saints of Britain, saying as follows, "As God has set a governor in the sea over all kinds of fishes, and as God

has given a governor on the earth over the birds, so he has given David to be a governor over men in this world : and in the same manner as God gave Mattheus in Judea, and Luke in Alexandria, and Christ in Jerusalem, and Peter in Rome, and Martyn in France, and Sampson in Brittany, he has given Saint David to be in the island of Britain. And therefore Saint David was made a sovereign, and prince of the saints of the island of Britain, on account of his preaching at the great synod to all the people, in which no one was able to preach besides himself. And on that day all the saints of this island, and all the kings fell on their knees to do homage to David, and they granted to him to be the sovereign of the saints of the island of Britain, and he deserved it. And on that day David granted privileges, and protection to all such persons as had committed a crime, and went to the sanctuary of David. This is the privilege of David to every one, who is in the city of Rubi in the sanctuary of David, and under protection from the world ; he has permission to go from Towy to Teivy, safe from the world, and what is still more, he may go secure from every saint, king, and prince of this island. The privilege of David is wherever the land is consecrated to Saint David ; and no authority is granted to any king, or prince, or bishop, or saint to have protection before David, because he had the privilege before everybody, and no one has had it before him, because he was appointed by God and men to be sovereign over the whole island ; and then was excommunicated from the saints, and from the society of kings, whosoever should break the privilege of Saint David.

And afterwards, as David was, on the last Tuesday in February, hearing his disciples serving God, lo, he heard an angel speaking to him, and saying as follows, "David," said he, "that which thou hast requested some time back of the Lord God, is ready for thee whenever thou wilt have it." And he raising his face upwards rejoiced, and said as follows, "Now, O Lord, take thy servant to thy peace."

And the disciples heard what both said, and were greatly astonished, and fell as dead men, and in their distress they heard a pleasing voice, and the sweetest perfumes filled the city. And David spoke a second time aloud, "Lord Jesus Christ," said he, "take my soul, and cause that I should not live any longer amidst those evils." And after this they heard the angel speaking a second time to David, "Saint David, prepare for the first day of March, as thy Lord Jesus Christ will come with nine orders of angels from heaven with him, and the most beautiful on earth, to meet thee; and he will call to come with thee, such as thou mayest desire of the clergy and laity, of the righteous and the wicked, of the young and the old, of virgins and harlots, of Jews and Saracens, and leave them with thee." And the brethren, all of them together, when they heard it, with weeping, lamenting, wailing, and sighing, raised their voice and said, "Lord Saint David," said they, "who will aid us in our sorrow?" And David said to them to comfort and cheer them, "My brethren, be always in the same mind, and whatsoever ye have seen and heard from me, keep it, and leave off what you are doing."

From that day until the eighth, David did not go out of the church to preach and pray; there is a report that he went one day with the angel throughout this island, and Ireland. As the angel had said, "Know ye that in the next week, which is coming, your master Saint David will go from this world to the Lord," there were seen going together the saints of this island, and those of Ireland from all parts to visit Saint David. O, who could endure the lamentation of the saints, and the wailing of hermits; and the instructors with their disciples, saying, "Who will teach us?" the complaint of the clergy saying, "Who will assist us?" the despair of kings, saying, "Who will ordain us? Who will be a father to us as merciful as was David? Who will pray for us to the Lord?" The poor complaining, and the diseased lamenting, and the monks, and the youths, and the married, and the performers of penance,

the young men and maidens, and the sons and daughters, and the newly born on the breast, shedding tears. What shall I say, but that there was the same lamentation by every body, kings lamenting for their brother, the aged lamenting for their son, and the sons lamenting for their father. On Sunday, David sang mass, and preached to the people; and the like to him they never heard before, and after him they never will hear. No one ever saw so many in one place as were there. And when the sermon and mass were concluded David pronounced his blessing on all in general who were there. And after he had given his blessing to all, he spoke as follows, "Lords, brethren, and sisters, be joyful, and keep your faith and belief, and perform the small things which you have heard and seen with me, and I will go the road which our fathers have travelled. Be courageous whilst you are on the earth, for you will not any more see me in this world." Then you might see the multitude in general rising with lamentation, and wailing and weeping, and saying, "Alas! the earth will not swallow us! Alas! fire will not come to consume us; Alas! the sea will not come over the land: Alas! the mountains will not fall to cover us." And all who were there, were going to die. From the Sunday to the Wednesday after the death of David, they tasted neither meat nor drink, but prayed through sorrow. And on Tuesday night, about the time of cock-crowing, lo, a host of angels filled the city, it was full of all kinds of songs and mirth; and in the morning, lo, the Lord Jesus came, and with him nine orders of angels, as he had left his majesty, and the sun was shining on all the hosts.

And on that Tuesday, the first day of March, Jesus Christ took the soul of Saint David, with great victory, and joy, and honour; after hunger and thirst, and cold and labour, and fasting and granting charitable relief, and affliction and trouble, and temptations, and anxiety for the world. The angels took his soul to the place where there is light without end, and rest without labour, and joy without sorrow,

and plenty of all good things, and victory, and brightness, and beauty. The place where there is praise to the champions of Christ, and where wealthy wicked persons are neglected, the place where there is health without pain, and youth without old age, and peace without disagreement, and music without affliction, and rewards without end; the place where Abel is with the martyrs; where Enoch is with the living; where Noah is with the sailors; where Abraham is with the patriarchs; where Melchisedec is with the priests; where Job is with the patient; where Moses is with the princes; where Aaron is with the bishops; where David is with the kings; where Isaiah is with the prophets; where Mary is with the virgins; where Peter is with the Apostles; where Paul is with the Greeks; where Thomas is with the Indians; where John is with the men of Asia; where Matthew is with the men of Judea; where Luke is with the men of Achaia; where Mark is with the men of Alexandria; where Andrew is with the men of Scythia; where the angels and archangels, and the cherubim, and seraphim, and the King of kings are for ever and ever. Amen.

And as we have commemorated David in his life and works here on earth, so may he be our assistant, and effectually strengthen us before our true Creator, to obtain mercy hereafter. Amen.