

IRISH BLESSING – by Mary Clare Mendick

Sign language: by Emily Ryan

May the **road** (first two fingers of each hand point like a gun, move forward like two tracks moving forward on a road)
rise (lift both hands, palms up)
to **meet** you, (index finger of each hand point and touch each other)
the **wind** (both hands move to the left, then both hands move to the right)
be always at your **back**; (both thumbs point backward over your shoulders)
the **sun** (Make “O” with thumb & index finger of right hand and move high in the sky)
shine **warm** (right hand open up and shine down)
upon your **face** (Right hand index finger make circle around your face beginning at your chin)
the **rain** fall (both hands push down a few times, like rain falling)
soft upon your **fields** (left arm bent at elbow, right hand make circle above your head)
And **until** (with one index finger facing away, other index finger pointing forward, both index fingers parallel)
we **meet** (hands face each other, side by side with index fingers pointing to each other and touching),
Until (same as “and until”)
we **meet** (same as “we meet”)
again (left hand with palm upward, right hand with palm downward, right hand 3 fingers touch base of left hand at wrist).
May **God** (right hand “G” with fingers straight up, thumb bent, move from sky to forehead, with bent thumb touching forehead)
hold you (left hand hold up index finger, right hand surrounds left hand index finger)
in the **palm** (place right hand palm up, directly over left hand, palm up)
of his **hand** (separate hands and exaggerate palms facing up)
May **God** (“G” letter from chin to forehead)
bless you (both hands at chest level, downward and apart)
and **keep** you (two fingers of each hand point across over each other) – “K” letters
And may **God** (right hand “G” as above)
cause (Make two fists, one over the other and twist them in two different directions at once.)
his **face** (right hand index finger make circle around your face.)
to shine upon **you** (right hand index finger, turn palm upward, and point while moving hand from forehead to high in the sky)
and give you **peace** (left hand facing up, right hand facing down, placing right hand over left hand, and twist hands in opposite directions.)
and give you **peace**, (same as above)
and **give** (Move both hands up and forward, as if giving)
you (right hand facing up, point index finger and move from left to right)
peace (twist hands together and spread hands apart.)