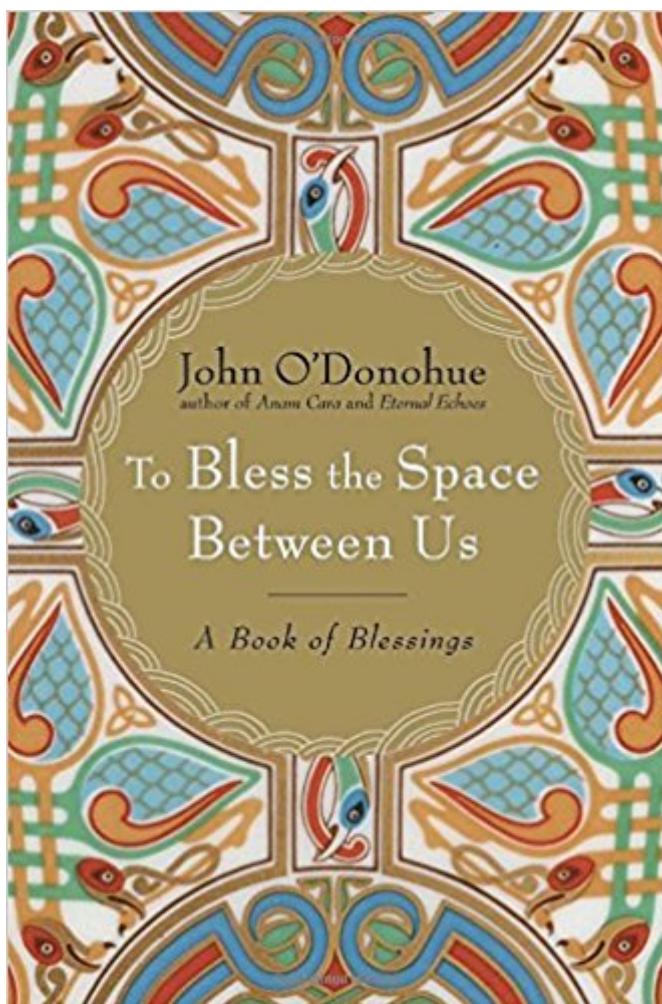


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# To Bless The Space Between Us: A Book Of Blessings



## Synopsis

From the author of the bestselling *Anam Cara* comes a beautiful collection of blessings to help readers through both the everyday and the extraordinary events of their lives. John O'Donohue, Irish teacher and poet, has been widely praised for his gift of drawing on Celtic spiritual traditions to create words of inspiration and wisdom for today. In *To Bless the Space Between Us*, his compelling blend of elegant, poetic language and spiritual insight offers readers comfort and encouragement on their journeys through life. O'Donohue looks at life's thresholds—getting married, having children, starting a new job—and offers invaluable guidelines for making the transition from a known, familiar world into a new, unmapped territory. Most profoundly, however, O'Donohue explains "blessing" as a way of life, as a lens through which the whole world is transformed. O'Donohue awakens readers to timeless truths and shows the power they have to answer contemporary dilemmas and ease us through periods of change.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

What does it mean to bless others and ourselves? In this collection of O'Donohue's poetic prayers, the author of *Beauty and Anam Cara* focuses on bringing God's blessings into the liminal spaces in our lives: times of transition, grieving, change or preparation for the unknown. Some of the blessings are for specific situations that are bread-and-butter staples of other prayer books, such as benedictions over births, weddings, new jobs or new homes. Others are unexpected and bravely dark, including a prayer for the loved ones left behind after a suicide, or for a parent after the death

of a child. O'Donohue is not afraid to tackle the fear and guilt that many harbor secretly, bringing shame and addiction out into the open even while celebrating new life and new love. His writing is sensitive and deep: As light departs to let the earth be one with night, Silence deepens in the mind, and thoughts grow slow; The basket of twilight brims over with colors, he says of evening Vespers. The book closes with the Irish priest's personal and often profound musings on the act of blessing, drawing on Celtic spirituality and the wisdom of poets and philosophers. (Feb. 19)

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Praise for John O'Donohue "John O'Donohue is a man of the soul. His scholarly meditation on the continuing relevance of Ireland's spiritual heritage has become a publishing phenomenon." | "A lively spiritual companion to all Celts or to those who are Celtic in their hearts." • Publishers Weekly (starred review) "Anam Cara is a radiant source of wisdom, a link between the human and the divine. This work is a blessed, rare gem." • Larry Dossey, M.D., author of Be Careful What You Pray For and Healing Words "This beautifully written book proves that tireless wisdom can bring an amazing understanding about ourselves and the world around us even today." • Dannion Brinkley author of Saved by the Light and At Peace in the LightEternal Echoes "O'Donohue has produced a treasury for readers of all faiths. A demanding, high-wire existentialist adventure that will inspire readers to re-evaluate their goals and ways of being in the world. O'Donohue ends each chapter with a lyrical blessing or prayer, and his book itself is a profound, healing prayer." • Publishers Weekly

What a wonderful practice...the read a blessing or two everyday for yourself and for others. I like how he categorizes the blessings for various themes or needs such as good health, grief and loss, etc.

I found out about this beautiful book from my yoga teacher, who read one of the blessings aloud to the class in honor of a teacher at the studio who is moving away. I was instantly hooked. This isn't a narrative - instead, this book is almost like Psalms. It features gorgeous blessings for changes, beginnings, new houses, new parents, you name it, it's got it. And when I say they're gorgeous, I mean they are gorgeous. Beautifully written and lyrical, these blessings are something you'll want to bestow on yourself and those you love. I sent a copy to a dear friend who lost her mother

unexpectedly, and she loved it.

This is the fifth copy I've bought of this book, which is not only a personal favorite, but a favorite gift for friends at times of celebration, sorrow, challenge, or transition in their lives. John O'Donohue's writing is luminous, inspiring and timeless. There is a blessing in this beautiful, small volume for almost any occasion, and it serves as a reminder of how many everyday moments deserve to be honored with reflection and "blessing."

I love John O'Donohue, and bought this book because I love Benedictus, and worried that his works were going out of print. I was disappointed to discover this is not a second book of blessings, but a retitled Benedictus. Would not have bought it knowing it was the same content. The content is beautiful, but I like the format and printing of Benedictus better.

This book is suffused with blessings --- just like the title. John O'Donohue's words, insights, images, and metaphors are truly divinely inspired. He has a deep understanding and empathy for the most ordinary human experiences and extraordinary human challenges as we go through this earthly incarnation. Anyone who reads this book is truly blessed! John truly extends his hands to those who need spiritual and emotional help with this book.

I am building a library and I know that any books from Robert Thurman are really great so I add it to my library.

An inspirational and beautifully written book. I have shared 10 copies to date with friends who have lost a loved one.- It touches readers on so many levels - poetic, mystical, and touches the core of our hearts and souls.

Read it once, read it twice or more and get more from it every time. Not a book to read through.  
Needs pondering.

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