

# REQUIESCANT IN PACE



**Dunblane Primary One**

**March 13, 1996**

## PREFACE

As the horrific events in Dunblane unfolded on March 13, 1996, details were flashed around the world on various media. None of these carried the news with the speed and range of the Internet, which electronically links millions of computer users around the globe.

The messages here were posted on CompuServe, the world's largest online information service. They arrived in the sections of CompuServe used for discussion of Scotland and of Policing. The writers were united in their grief, and in their attempts to convey to the people of Dunblane the fact that their tragedy was being shared worldwide.

The messages were collated and stored by Jim McNulty, a Scottish police officer and computer hobbyist, who administers the Scotland and Police sections, a job known as sysop. He promised the forum members that their messages would be delivered to the people of Dunblane, as a tribute to Mrs Mayor and her class. He also announced that the messages would be placed in the electronic library so that people could download them into their own computers for reading.

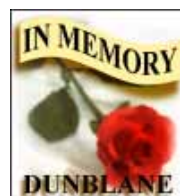
As he updated people on the progress of this plan, he was contacted by another CompuServe sysop, Rik Bean, a graphic designer, who offered to create a "Book of Remembrance" from the raw messages, as a practical way of expressing his own, and the world's, grief.

The book is also available for people throughout the world as a graphic file, with millions of people having access to these messages and the ability to print the book for themselves.

In preparing the 100,000 words of sorrow that constitute this book, our own emotions and tears have often overcome us. Any errors are ours, the emotions belong to the world.

It is hoped that this book, and the sentiments it conveys, will show that there is light amidst the darkness of violence and chaos which appears all too often in the world. As Gwenne Mayor leads her class to their place at the side of the Lord, those left behind should know that they will never be alone in their grief.

Jim McNulty  
jimmcnulty@cis.compuserve.com




Rik Bean  
rikbean@dial.pipex.com  
or rikbean@cis.compuserve.com

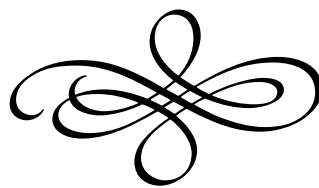
THOSE WHO GO  
THROUGH THE  
DESOLATE VALLEY  
WILL FIND IT  
A PLACE OF SPRINGS,  
FOR THE EARLY RAINS  
HAVE COVERED IT  
WITH POOLS OF WATER.

Ps 84:5, RCP

# IN MEMORIAM

od's was the first of  
all our hearts to break...

Rev Colin McIntosh



# IN MEMORIAM



he children who died were

**VICTORIA CLYDESDALE (5)**

**EMMA CROZIER (5)**

**MELISSA CURRIE (5)**

**CHARLOTTE DUNN (5)**

**MHAIRI McBEATH (5)**

**ABIGAIL McLENNAN (5)**

**EMILY MORTON (5)**

**SOPHIE NORTH (5)**

**JOANNA ROSS (5)**

**HANNAH SCOTT (5)**

**MEGAN TURNER (5)**

**KEVIN HASSEL (5)**

**ROSS IRVINE (5)**

**DAVID KERR (5)**

**JOHN PETRIE (5)**

**BRETT McKINNON (6)**

and their teacher,

**Mrs GWENNE MAYOR**



*Such fragile flowers,  
such little lives;  
so rudely picked,  
so soon asleep.*

*With those who mourn we breathe our sighs,  
and with each grieving soul we weep.*

*We ask not why they had to die,  
or question that it had to be;  
with broken hearts we can but cry,  
Oh why! Oh why! was it not me?*

*The cruel act had no success.  
It could not work; it was a lie.  
Enshrined on every one of us,  
their memory will never die.*

*Nigel Johnstone*

**M**arie and I went to Dunblane yesterday, March 16, drawn there, along with thousands of others, in an effort to express support for that small community, to demonstrate the great sharing of their sorrow which is all too apparent from the messages here on Compuserve. I suppose, in a way, we went on behalf of all of you who have sent messages from around the world.

Dunblane is as low as a place can get. Like a wounded animal, it lies still, warily eying the throngs of people who walk through the town, silently, in keeping with the atmosphere. All roads through the town were jammed with vehicles, the occupants of many unable to find a parking space near the town centre, and forced to walk back from up to a mile away.

The scene at Dunblane Primary School is a shocking experience. The footpath approaching the main gate is stacked with flowers. Almost everyone who walks to the school lays down more. I watched a child carry a large teddy bear to the front gate, where she offered it to one of the policemen on duty there. He lifted her up, allowing her to place it on top of the railings. As he returned her to the ground, I saw the tears run down his cheeks. As he busied himself at the flowers to regain his composure, she gave him an awkward hug before running back to her parents. The desolation on his face was obvious to all, and he went inside the school gates to shed his tears in private. He need not have bothered, as most onlookers, including myself, were sharing his tears by then.

We visited the Cathedral, and as we shared tea with some residents in the adjacent hall, we met Sandy Hogg, an Elder of the Cathedral. We got talking about the incident, and I saw in him the quiet determination which is the hallmark of the Scots. I have no doubt that he, and people like him, will help Dunblane recover from this horror.

As we walked round the Cathedral, I saw many people shudder as they read the messages on the flowers which fill the aisles of the church. At the foot of the altar, lies a single red rose for each of the victims, their name on the attached card.

Today, March 17, was the service in the Cathedral, which was conducted by the Minister, Reverend Colin McIntosh. In his sermon, he answered many questions which have been posed in the messages here, but none struck me more forcibly than this one:

He mentioned that many people have questioned 'Where was God when the killing was going on? How could He allow this to happen?' He said that God was in the gymnasium when the killing happened, that He does not engineer the actions of each of us, that His finger was not on the trigger. He places us here on earth on the basis of trust, and when that trust was betrayed in the gymnasium, He was there, and God's was the first of *all* our hearts to break.

In closing he said that in time, Dunblane will be remembered not for the tragedy which happened there, but for how the people of Dunblane met that tragedy. I think he is right, but for the moment, I have to say that there is nowhere on this earth today which so closely resembles the valley of the shadow of death.

I mentioned the CompuServe messages to several people, and promised that they would be delivered for reading when all the present activity has passed. They will also be available for all time as a library file here in the forum, proof of how this medium brought so many people together in those few minutes of unspeakable horror which was Dunblane Primary School on Wednesday morning.

Jim McNulty  
UKFORUM,  
CompuServe

From Jim's report stemmed the following message. It was the genesis of this project:

*Jim, that truly was a wonderful piece of witnessing on your part - thank you, it moved me to tears.*

*I have already offered to help in dealing with the messages, but I will repeat it to you, in the light of what you say about a permanent memorial in the libraries here. If I can help in some way - eg a PDF "Book of Condolence" - please let me know. It would be nice to be doing something, instead of standing and watching...*

*Rik Bean*



**It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act.**

His Holiness, Tenzin Gyatso, Fourteenth Dalai Lama, 1992



omhla rium

A tha thu an drasd  
Nam sheasam a' coimhead  
Gach cnoc is gach traigh  
Is an siol a dh'fhag thu  
ann a' fas

t present

All you were is with me  
My eyes closed,  
my memory confident  
Standing here watching  
Each hill and shoreline  
With the seed you left  
Still growing

Runrig & An Urbhal as Airde  
written by Calum & Rory MacDonald  
© 1988, Chrysalis Music Ltd

**From the people of the world...**



**In Memoriam**

From: Bob Massey, *CompuServe President and CEO*

As the father of three daughters, I can only begin to imagine the great and tragic loss you now bear. Please accept my heartfelt condolences and offer of help. Messages from around the world have been pouring into the UK Forum on CompuServe. They will be shared with you on a regular basis. Please know that our members and associates join you in mourning for your children and their teacher. We pray you find peace and strength to endure this time of great suffering.

*Bob Massey*

I like many people around the world have been touched by this tragedy. I cannot find words to express how I feel, even though I do not know anyone involved. I would gladly give up my place on earth if it would bring those kiddies back.

*Nicholas Abbott*

My name is Leslie Rowland. I am 16 years old and live in Louisville, Kentucky, USA. When I heard of the tragedy inflicted upon Dunblane, I became physically sick. Such a waste. It is incomprehensible. My sister is 7 years old, only a few years older than those killed. I can't imagine what I would do if I was told my loving, adorable sister had been murdered. My heart and prayers go out to you all...Remember, He never gives us anything we cannot handle. There was nothing said about understanding such tragedies of this. Even though I do not know you, I love you all. Be strong and know the world mourns with you.

*Yearning for Peace and Love Throughout The World*  
*Leslie Anne Rowland*

That I could be there and help, I would. That I could hold your hand and help, I would. That I could have...I would

*chuck renaud*

*From a letter written by my grandmother in 1939...  
addressee unknown.*

*Dear One,*

*It hurts so terribly, doesn't it? Accept the pain if you can. Say, "Yes, because I have loved and now lost, I must cry for a while. I must hold this ache of loneliness within myself and say, this is the price I pay for having loved. I will accept this price and pay it in gratitude for the love I was blessed to know, for I would not have wanted to be without that love. I will pay this price, God, and I thank You for the wonderful years we shared."*

*I think He must have cried on the day that His son hung dead on the cross, don't you think so? Don't you think that because He, too, is familiar with tears, dear friend, He is especially close to you right now? I weep with you, and my love surrounds you. Please write and let me know your plans, and if there is anything at all I can do to help.*

*Julie Whitwell*



Words are meaningless and utterly insufficient. I, a grown man of 43, cried when I heard the news. Not because I have a 4 and 5 year old of my own, but the sheer horror of what I read. May you all be spared any further sorrow in your lives, you have had more than anyone deserves in a lifetime.

*Leslie Moss*

Dear Families,

I am a Grade 11 student in Calgary, Alberta Canada. I am terribly, terribly sorry over what happened, words can not describe my sympathy. I know how you must feel and I just want you to know that although not everyone will write to you, everyone is very sorry for what has happened. I hope that you will receive this letter and realize that we are all behind you 100%. I know this will not make your loved ones come back but hopefully it will warm your insides just enough so that you can smile for half a second. This would bring me and my family great joy. We love you all.

*Sincerely,  
Cory Phillips*

To The People of Dunblane, I know by me saying I'm sorry is not going to make up for the agony and pain you're going through. If it happened here I wouldn't know what to do. I don't know anyone who lives in Scotland, but I feel real bad for all the parents whose children are now gone. I'm very sorry and if there was anything I could do I would have tried to do it.

*Sincerely  
Liz Heinsohn. Age 16  
Poughkeepsie, New York, USA*

Our family is shocked and saddened by what has happened to your precious children. Our thoughts and sincerest prayers are with you on this tragic day. May God bless you and may we all hug each other a little more tightly today.

*With condolences, love, and prayers,  
Claire Natola, Tony Natola, and our entire family Boston, USA*

I do not know what anyone can say to help ease the suffering of the families and friends of those caught up in this nightmare event, if I knew I would say it but as it is all I can say is they have my condolences and I'm sure those of the rest of the members of the Ukforum.

*Terry*

It was very sad that the children were killed. They will be very happy in heaven. My whole class is very sad.

*Love  
Colleen Richardson  
Mrs. Hurley's First Grade Class  
Cohasset, MA*

I would like to offer my sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to all families involved in today's tragic event. My thoughts are with you all,

*John.*

To all in Dunblane on this darkest of days, Deepest Sympathy,

*Mark Deakin, Preston, Lancs.*

My heartfelt sympathies go to all the people of Dunblane and especially to the families of the children struck down by such a mad act in their tender youth.

I have memories of visiting the Dunblane Hydro when I was a child growing up in Fintry and know Dunblane to be a lovely and peaceful place.

Such horror is beyond words. I will hold you all in my thoughts.....

*Heather M. Lothion <formerly of Fintry - Now in So. California>*

Our hearts go out to you. Decent people everywhere are horrified by what has happened. Nothing can change what has happened but we pray that in the fullness of time that you will come to terms with your grief which is shared by us all.

*Charles Scott St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England*

People of Scots heritage throughout the world join in spirit with you to help you shoulder your sorrow. Over the past few days, I have read the poetry of Robert Burns seeking a passage that might, in language that falls easy on your ear, help lighten your anguish. Nothing seemed appropriate.

I decided instead to share a letter that was written during the great cataclysm of U.S. history, the American Civil War. I first heard this letter shortly after the death of a loved one, and it touched me deeply because it so eloquently expresses a belief in life after death. May the sentiments of the author bring you hope. A week before the battle of Manassas in July 1861, Major Sullivan Ballou of the 2nd Rhode Island Regiment wrote to his wife:

*“My Very Dear Sarah:*

*The indications are very strong that we will move in a few days - perhaps tomorrow. Lest I should not be able to write again, I feel impelled to write a few lines that may fall under your eye when I shall be no more...*

*Sarah, my love for you is deathless. It seems to bind me with mighty cables that nothing but Omnipotence could break; and yet my love of Country comes over me like a strong wind and bears me unresistably on, with all these chains, to the battle field.*

*The memories of the blissful moments I have spent with you come creeping over me, and I feel most gratified to God and to you that I have enjoyed them so long. And hard it is for me to give them up and burn to ashes the hopes of future years, when, God willing, we might still have lived and loved together, and seen our sons grow up to honorable manhood, around us. I have, I know, but few and small claims upon Divine Providence, but something whispers to me — perhaps it is the wafted prayer of my little Edgar, that I shall return to my loved ones unharmed. If I do not, my dear Sarah, never forget how much I love you, and when my last breath escapes me on the battle field, it will whisper your name.*

*Forgive my many faults, and the many pains I have caused you. How thoughtless and foolish I have often times been. How gladly would I wash out with my tears every little spot upon your happiness. But, O Sarah! if the dead can come back to this earth and flit unseen around those they loved, I shall always be near you - in the gladdest days and in the darkest nights.... always, always. And if there be a soft breeze upon your cheek, it shall be my breath; as the cool air fans your throbbing temple, it shall be my spirit passing by. Sarah, do not mourn me dead. Think that I am gone and wait for thee, for we shall meet again...”*

Sullivan Ballou was killed at the first battle of Bull Run.

*Scott D. Campbell*

As a Glaswegian myself and my wife Sheila a teacher, we feel particularly touched by what has happened, our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the teachers and children so sadly affected by this horrendous event, may God give them strength to carry them through this trying time.

*Joe & Sheila Hunter, St Albans , Herts*

I know words mean little at a time like this but I'd like to add my families sincerest condolences. We all feel deeply for you and you're in our prayers.

*Gary, Darlene & Cassandra MacKenzie B.C., Canada  
(formerly Aberdeen, Scotland)*

Sometimes things happen for which nobody can even begin to come up with a convincing explanation. They are just mysteries.

Nobody can really come up with any words to adequately convey their feelings about what has happened. Sometimes there is not much people can say anyway. Dunblane seems the last place in the world where such things could happen and everyone is left speechless. My thoughts are with the people involved.

This is a shocking and heinous crime that has been perpetrated. God alone knows what is in the mind of the madman who has wreaked such carnage on the pure and innocent victims. My heart goes out to all those affected by this tragedy in the community of Dunblane. May you somehow find the strength to pull through this terrible ordeal, and rest assured that the hearts of the whole of the United Kingdom must surely be yours to help you with your grief. I believe that the Nation has truly been stunned by this tragedy.

*Penny Le Brocq London*

We send prayers and thoughts of deepest sympathy to the families of the school children who have gone ahead to be with the Lord. Such a senseless waste of human life.

*The Allen Family - Pacific Northwest of the USA  
Jody, Mark, Scottie Bree and Matt*

God bless the little children,

*Jim Glasgow*



Terrible news. Picked it up on Reuters this morning, but am still at work so don't know full details. But it's pretty incomprehensible, and everyone here is in complete shock. Our sympathies are with you all.

*Tony Spencer and the staff of Euroweek magazine*

To all in Dunblane Primary School and their families and friends,

I am so very very sorry to hear about what has happened. We are all thinking of you.

*Michael Ward [St James's Hospital, Leeds]*

We wish to express our heartfelt condolences on your tragic loss on this terrible day. May God grant you the strength to persevere.

*Don & Kathy Eckert Chesapeake, Virginia USA*

I can only echo the words of a Minister who is regularly present in the ROOTS Forum. >> If you are a person of faith please pray for those caring for the bereaved and for the parents who today have lost their beloved children. <<

Driving through central Scotland today as the appalling news broke, it was almost impossible to realise the scale of this monstrous crime and the aftermath on the bereaved families and the entire community of Dunblane.

The scale and immediacy of the reaction from the Queen, Prime Minister, Secretary of State and his "shadow" (both having local connections) was immediate evidence of the reaction of Scots and civilised people throughout the world.

Our family will remember those who died today in Dunblane, so long before their time, and also those who remain to grieve their lost ones in our prayers.

*Yours aye*

*Iain Kerr in Edinburgh;*

*Pip and Kirstie Kerr in Windsor; Cameron Kerr in Southampton*

The whole world community shares the grief and horror.

*Jeffrey Karasik  
Monticello, USA*

>> Our thoughts and prayers are with you. << from all at GtYarmouth deepest sympathy to all families of the young souls that passed on to day may god keep them young and happy in the heaven that they have gone to for all time from Paul and val

*Paul F Easter*

Please pass on my feelings of sorrow to all the people affected by the tragedy. Words are insufficient to express the grief felt by everyone that I have spoken to in the last 12 hours. Nothing can explain or excuse such an appalling loss of young life.

Peace and love to you all

*Tony: On behalf of the Hamson children Amy (11), Jodie (8), Sharlee (6), Jacob (5), Danielle (4), Alexandra (4), Kelsey (4), Liam (3), Eilsha (1), Nicholas (1)*

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to all those involved in this most tragic event, which has left me with a deep sense of revulsion and shame that anyone could inflict this horror on such young children.

*Larry Chambers, Redditch, Worcs*


Although working in the South of England , I got the awful news of this dreadful tragedy late morning from a Dutch colleague tuned to the BBC World Service .Everybody, everywhere is shocked and stunned: we only wish we were somehow able to offer more immediate help and support. I have just seen the beautiful little faces, and their lovely teacher, in the class photograph on the news.

Deepest sympathies to the families , the school staff and pupils and everybody else affected by this awful event....

*Angus (formerly of Stirling Uni )*

I add my deepest sympathy to all those children, families & others involved. May this sort of tragedy never happen again - anywhere. I have a 5 year old daughter. She is in a class of 15. They could all be gone tonight.

*Kelwyn in the English Lake District.*

 know that your school starts back  
tomorrow. i know that this will be a  
very hard time for you and i would like to  
let you know that me and my primary 6  
class in kelvindale glasgow are thinking of  
all of you at this time

paul  
aged, 10

To the families of Dunblane: At 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time (10:00 pm your time), people in the US started to hear about the horrible tragedy in your town. What is most horrifying to me, and I think many others here, is that such a thoroughly American crime should invade such a peaceful refuge as Dunblane. What in the name of God?!?!? How does a grown adult decide to slaughter innocent 5 and 6-year olds?!?!?

I know that my words can bring little comfort, and less understanding. Nothing can restore your heartbreaking loss. Only know that there are people throughout the world whose hearts and prayers are with you.

*Yours Truly*  
*Matthew Craver, Hartford, CT USA*

I am deeply saddened and shocked at the loss of 17 lives, 16 of them so young, in yesterday's madness. Death is almost always tragic, but this incident truly merits the description horrific. Although I have stood on the brink of destructive madness myself, I cannot comprehend a situation where I could murder such innocents. My thoughts, and tears, are with the people of Dunblane.

*Rik Bean*  
*Milton Keynes, UK*

Thanks for that Rik, I too would endorse your feelings of shock, horror, anger at such a mindless and incomprehensible act of savagery.

My feelings go out to the people of Scotland and particularly to those living in Dunblane itself. Your loss is felt by each and every one of us

*Carol Steele*  
*Torquay, South Devon*

I just heard about it on a news broadcast. My god, 5- and 6-year-old kids! What a tragedy. We are somewhat hardened to this stateside, but in Scotland?!?

The verse you quoted is both beautiful, and appropriate (An Ubhal As Airde - Runrig). Thanks.

*Julie Whitwell, Littleton, USA*

For once, John Major has it right - it is almost beyond belief.

*Mark Alger, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA*

An unbelievable tragedy ... a nightmare come true for parents and grandparents everywhere.

*My sympathy ...  
Ian Wright Etobicoke, Canada*

As a Scot, born and raised in Ayr, now living in Texas I am in a state of shock over this incident. I guess I have to waken up and realize that there is madness everywhere in the world, even in my little safe country.

I send my love and prayers to everyone in the village of Dunblane because this act will touch them all.

*Margaret Cook San Antonio, Texas*

With true regards for your feelings and all our sympathy to the families of the children, both those who are gone and those still with us

*Neil Xenos and Family Houston in Lower, Slower DE.*

As a human being, this event touched my heart. As a former resident of Dunblane the event made me feel personally involved. As a former resident of the Doune Road and pupil of the Primary, the personal tragedy of an event so close to home in such a peaceful town leaves me lost for words to express my grief. My thoughts are with you always.

*Craig Cockburn. (currently living in Edinburgh)*

Our deepest condolences to everyone in Dunblane. Our youngest went to sleep to-night praying for the children, their teacher and the poor deranged man that killed them.

*John & Elizabeth, Paul and Andrew Robertson.*

So very sorry for you all

*Jim in London*

To the children, families, teachers & the whole community of Dunblane.

Our thoughts are with you. As a former infant teacher I am haunted by the thought of this horror committed against the “babies” of the school. Be strong for each other,

*Catriona, Ross-Shire.*

I cannot express my sadness at hearing the tragic news, the sincerest condolences of myself and my family go out to you at this time.

*Philip Alexander and family in Ruislip Middlesex*

I'm a Scotsman, living in Boston and I would like to express my deepest sympathy to all the families who have lost their loved ones in this terrible tragedy. My thoughts are with you may your bonnie wee souls rest peacefully.

*David Brown Boston ,MA*

As an American who was very touched by the solidarity, kindness and sympathy of the Scottish people at the time of the Lockerbie tragedy...I send you my deepest sympathy. I will always remember the news stories from Lockerbie of local people picking up the personal belongings and clothing of the dead...washing them and neatly storing them so that arriving family members would be able to have something from their lost ones.

I am so sorry that something this horrific has happened to a country of such kind souls. I hope you feel the same sense of comfort as I did knowing that at this time of national tragedy there are people far away who share your horror and sadness. My prayers are with the living and dead tonight.

*Joan Nelson Atlanta, Georgia*

To all these young and lovely angels who are so close to my home: you'll be forever remembered by all of us..... please don't cry..... we all love you.

*sean (from Bannockburn, Stirlingshire)*

I never thought something this awful would ever happen in Scotland. My brief stay there was so peaceful, and the people so friendly and kind. To those in Dunblane who suffer tonight: I wish I had the words to soothe your grief. I wish I had the strength to give you. Please do not let this tragedy define the rest of your lives. Live the remainder of your days the best you can. I have every confidence you'll see your children again.

*You're in my prayers and my thoughts.  
Ted Olson Centerville, Utah USA*

To the citizens of Dunblane: I cannot begin to imagine your pain, but my thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Jenny, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to the people of Scotland and Dumblane, in particular. Our prayers are with you.

*Bob and Katie Liddell Ballston Spa, NY, USA*

Dearest People of Dunblane: Even though our country has seen outrageous expressions of violence on an almost daily basis- we have not become numbed to the sufferings of others. We regard this shocking display of violence with the same deeply felt grief as we did when word came of the Oklahoma City tragedy. Our hearts are with the people of Scotland as they attempt to comprehend this terrible crime. God Bless each and every one of you,

*Tammy and Michael de Leeuw, Walnut Creek, California USA*

To the people of Dunblane: I can't even begin to express my sorrow at what has happened to all of you. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers

*Harriet Goldis, Dispatcher  
Redmond Police Department, Washington USA*

My condolences to the children and parents and teachers in Dunblane. I wish you strength and courage in this time of sadness.

*Alan Reynolds The Netherlands*

As I know is the view of us all this tragedy is beyond comprehension. As a father of two children at primary school, my thoughts go out to the families of all in Dunblane. I'm not a religious man, but my prayers are with you all.

*Liam Mycroft New Mills, Derbyshire*

I am so sad at the terrible news in Dunblane. Our hearts go out to all who have suffered and lost their dear ones. We have a disabled teenager, 13, who is quite a prayer warrior. She will be praying for all the families. Once you are on Marie's prayer list you never get off. She still prays every day for the families of the Challenger accident that happened when she was 3. Needless to say, her prayers are long at night, but very heartfelt. We will be thinking of you in the days and months ahead.

*Sincerely, The Hopkins Family  
U.S.A. Kansas*

I first heard about this terrible occurrence on Compuserve when someone asked me where Dunblane was because they were worried about some friends of theirs..I thought maybe someone was playing a very cruel hoax on me until someone else told me about it. Where better to express my sorrow than here?

To the people of Dunblane - it doesn't make it any easier for you to know that we are all horrified by the events of 13th March 1996. I am lost for words trying to express my regret to you, for as much as I try to imagine how you must, it just doesn't seem real - but I know for you that is so very real. I can only offer my heartfelt sympathies to you all and express the hope that your community will one day be able to overcome the trauma and horror of those few terrible minutes.

You are in every person's thoughts.

*Kate Abbatt, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire*

Deepest condolences to all suffering the losses.

*Barbara, New Orleans, US*



Please know that the world is aching for your loss. Our sympathies are with you. Stay close and strong and may God give you the extra measure of comfort you need.

*Rebekah Berry  
Pacific Northwest, USA*

My deepest sympathies to all concerned.

*Bill Mitchell  
Milnathort, Kinross-shire*

To: Students, teachers and townspeople of Dunblane:

You have our sympathy and condolences. Our prayers are for you and those you have lost. Horrible actions such as you have endured are not forgettable. There is no understanding why, only forgiving. Cherish your loving memories, keep your chins up, your smiles broad and love those still with you.

*Joyce & Charles Day  
Lambertville, Michigan, USA*

Please give my condolences to the families of Dunblane. I'm a teacher and work with children 5 and 6 years old. I can't imagine the horror and pain the town is going through. My prayers are with them all.

*Susan Sadler*

We send our love and prayers at this terrible time.

*Jim and Helen in florida*

My deepest sympathies to you all at Dunblane tonight— What a disaster. I am writing this from Vancouver on behalf of The United Scottish Cultural Societies and myself.

*Mike Paul*

If I may add my condolences to this sad thread.

As a member of an education authority (Manchester), it is every Parent's, teacher's and Councillor's nightmare come true. A truly hideous event that is worse for being so utterly meaningless and pointless.

Yesterday, just as the news was breaking, the Manchester Education Committee met. All politics were set aside at the start of the meeting as all stood in silent respect for the dead, the injured and their families. Our sympathies go out to all those involved. Words fail me.

*Jackie*

As you can expect, the people of Phila., PA in the USA mourn your country's loss and it just shows that not everything bad in the news happens in the USA when it comes to guns. Bad people can get access to weapons no matter how good the laws are in other countries.

Our prayers are with your kids and their families

*Ted*

Jim, I heard the news as I was driving to collect my daughter from school yesterday afternoon. As the husband of a teacher as well as a parent it makes me go cold to imagine the feelings of those in Dunblane. Please pass on our condolences.

*Regards, Kelvin, Diane & Melanie.  
Gillingham, Kent.*

To all pupils and teachers of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends: Having just heard, via the BBC World Service, of this morning's horrific events, I would like to offer my condolences and express my deep sympathy.

Our thoughts are with you all...

*Rory Beaton & family Hamburg, Germany (previously of Dundee)*

From the time that I heard the news, I thought of calling to find out what I might be able to do for you, or for the families that have faced and will face the darkest days of their lives. The fleeting time that any of us have on this planet is so very precious. To have the candle of life extinguished, before the flame has had a chance of burning bright is beyond all comprehension. To look at God and ask why is all we can do. To get the answer in our souls is all too difficult. The fabric of so many lives have been ever changed. To say I am sorry is all so hollow, but it is all I can offer. I can not empathize, as I have not been able to understand why such an event is allowed to occur, I can only sympathize. I will go to my church and pray, trying to understand and ask God to help those who have lost their most precious gifts, their children.

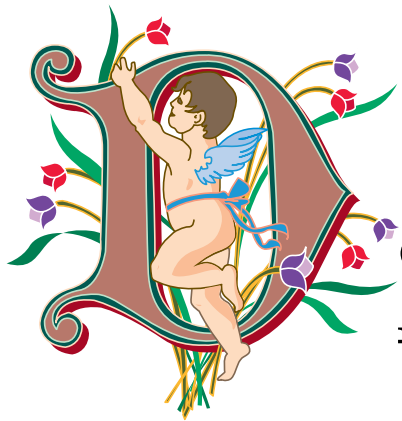
As an American, I view what has happened in Scotland with disgust. I really feel that this country, in all of its greatness has changed the world as we know it. We are proponents of violence, it is clear in our life styles, it is clear in our entertainment, it is clear how it has finally crossed international borders. The gun has become the answer, the time of being able to sit down, talk of how to solve a problem has become as historical as the wood burning stove. I sincerely hope that we as Americans look at what we have imported and realize that if we have been responsible for the "Old West" philosophy, we have an international obligation to try and do everything we can to stop it. The words all seem so hollow, but they are just thoughts in this time of tragedy.

Please, know that the world is praying that to those of you have lost the loves of your lives. We are here with a desire to offer any assistance that may be needed.

*Buck Buchanan Hollywood, CA*

Throughout yesterday and today, whenever I hear or see another news bulletin, my heart becomes heavy and my eyes fill with tears once more. Driving through west Hull this morning to collect my 8-month-old grandson, I saw small children on their way to school and the eyes overflowed again. My wife, Wendy, still teaching, tells me the staff at the local comprehensive have been very quiet today...

*Our deepest sympathy.  
John Arrowsmith (who taught mostly 13-to-18 year olds)  
Brough, North Humberside.*



Death is not  
extinguishing  
the light, but  
putting out the lamp  
because dawn has come.

As a parent of 2 little girls myself I had to hold back the tears tonight on seeing this shocking news. Words fail me but my thoughts are with the families tonight.....

*Ian Hunter. Wakefield, West Yorkshire.*

To all at Dunblane School and their families, our thoughts are with you at this time.

*Steve, Jane and Rhys Hawdon (Hong Kong)*

Words of any meaning come hard on such an occasion as this. As a father of three primary school age daughters my thoughts are of deep sympathy and horror, I and millions of others share in your grief.

*Bob and Alison Back Exeter*

Our sympathy and condolences to the families of all those involved in the incident, and to the pupils and teachers of Dunblane School and the people of Dunblane.

God bless them all

*Francis Merrick-Jenkins and Kate Trump  
(Primary School Teacher), Newbury, England  
and the Jenkins Family - Port Talbot, Wales*

Our thoughts are with you and your families. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

*Saint Andrew's Society of CT, USA, Phone (203) 438-0639*

To the staff and children of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends, and to all in Dunblane.

Words cannot express the sorrow and horror that we feel on this terrible day. The hearts of the people of Scotland, and of peoples all over the world are with you all. God be with you in your hour of need.

*Jackie Saunders (Port Glasgow)*

To the teachers and pupils of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends and the people of Dunblane.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and we pray that God grants you the strength and courage to survive this appalling tragedy. For those who sleep with the angels tonight, may they rest in peace.

*The Carroll family in Hong Kong  
John & Denise, John (4), Julia (3) and Gabriel (1).*

We are all shocked and deeply saddened by the tragic events at your school this morning. Although mere words can never express these feelings, our thoughts are with you.

Deepest sympathies,

*Sharon Watson, for the GMB trade union  
Communications Department, London.*

We share the grief and horror of the tragedy in Dunblane.

Deepest sympathy to the families of the victims, all the staff and students, and the whole community of Dunblane. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

*Nancy Lefebure Teacher, St. Margaret's School  
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada*

Our deepest sympathies go to all of the families who have been touched by this tragic incident.

The loss of any life is a shock, but to lose so many young lives in such a small region makes it even more sorrowful. We are thinking of you.

*The employees of Canongate Technology  
Edinburgh.*

Heartfelt sympath to all the families of Dunblane

*The Staff at HCS Global  
Greenock*

From miles away in Guangzhou, China, we're glued to CNN watching your torment. How can such a safe, warm place become the site of such tragedy.

May God be with all the families of the children, the teacher and, yes, the family of the deranged gunman. Sleep tight, little ones. There but for the grace of God go we all..

*Mark and Diana, Katie (9) and Holly (6) Hardaker  
Hong Kong*

From California I want to send my best wishes and condolences for the awful thing that happened at your school and for the loss of your sweet children.

Nothing can console you, I know. It is terrible what a madman can do. In the States with guns everywhere, these things happen all too often, but I can hardly believe it in Scotland.

*Wayne*

Scotland, where my children were born and which will always be the home of my heart, provided a me with an abiding sense of peaceful community and true hospitality in the three years we lived among you. May that peace and consolation sustain you now.

With love, prayers and respect,

*Deborah, Fiona and Cailtin McMahon  
Maine, USA. (formerly of Auchenblae)*

Our deepest sympathies are with all of you in Dunblane and our prayers will be lifted up on your behalf.

*David Holford Rod & Joanna Jamison  
Tom & Kathy Jensen Lee & Tammy Wilson  
Indianapolis, Indiana USA*

My heartfelt sympathies to the families of the victims and to the children and staff of the school.

*Jackie Adam , A mother and former infant teacher.  
Brighton.*

Our family is shocked and saddened by what has happened to your precious children. Our thoughts and sincerest prayers are with you on this tragic day. May God bless you and may we all hug each other a little more tightly today.

*With condolences, love, and prayers,  
Claire Natola, Tony Natola, and our entire family Boston, USA*

I would like to offer my sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to all families involved in today's tragic event. My thoughts are with you all,

*John.*

To all in Dunblane on this darkest of days, Deepest Sympathy,

*Mark Deakin, Preston, Lancs.*

I know words mean little at a time like this but I'd like to add my families sincerest condolences. We all feel deeply for you and you're in our prayers.

*Gary, Darlene & Cassandra MacKenzie  
B.C., Canada (formerly Aberdeen, Scotland)*

We wish to express our heartfelt condolences on your tragic loss on this terrible day. May G-d grant you the strength to persevere.

*Don & Kathy Eckert Chesapeake, Virginia USA*

From all at GtYarmouth deepest sympathy to all families of the young souls that passed on to day may god keep them young and happy in the heaven that they have gone to for all time from,

*Paul and Val Easter*

Our deepest condolences to everyone in Dunblane. Our youngest went to sleep to-night praying for the children, their teacher and the poor deranged man that killed them.

*John & Elizabeth, Paul and Andrew Robertson.*



To the families of Dunblane: At 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time (10:00 pm your time), people in the US started to hear about the horrible tragedy in your town. What is most horrifying to me, and I think many others here, is that such a thoroughly American crime should invade such a peaceful refuge as Dunblane. What in the name of God?!?!? How does a grown adult decide to slaughter innocent 5 and 6-year olds?!?!?

I know that my words can bring little comfort, and less understanding. Nothing can restore your heartbreaking loss. Only know that there are people throughout the world whose hearts and prayers are with you.

*Yours Truly  
Matthew Craver  
Hartford, CT USA*

So very sorry for you all

*Jim Miller London*

I cannot express my sadness at hearing the tragic news, the sincerest condolences of myself and my family go out to you at this time.

*Philip Alexander and family in Ruislip Middlesex*

As I know is the view of us all this tragedy is beyond comprehension. As a father of two children at primary school, my thoughts go out to the families of all in Dunblane. I'm not a religious man, but my prayers are with you all.

*Liam Mycroft New Mills, Derbyshire*

We grieve with you and mourn the loss of your children as though they were our own. With respect and love,

*Maria Seyrig and Janet Beck*

Please give my condolences to the families of Dunblane. I'm a teacher and work with children 5 and 6 years old. I can't imagine the horror and pain the town is going through. My prayers are with them all.

*Susan Sadler*

As an American who was very touched by the solidarity, kindness and sympathy of the Scottish people at the time of the Lockerbie tragedy...I send you my deepest sympathy. I will always remember the news stories from Lockerbie of local people picking up the personal belongings and clothing of the dead...washing them and neatly storing them so that arriving family members would be able to have something from their lost ones.

I am so sorry that something this horrific has happened to a country of such kind souls. I hope you feel the same sense of comfort as I did knowing that at this time of national tragedy there are people far away who share your horror and sadness. My prayers are with the living and dead tonight.

*Joan Nelson  
Atlanta, Georgia*

Words cannot express the Nation's and the World's shock and distress at the news of what has happened in Dunblane. Every civilised man, woman and child on the face of the planet is horrified at the possibility such a thing could happen.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Go Bless you and keep you.....

*Kevin & Anne Scott & Family - London.*

To all in Dunblane, and all the families involved, our prayers are with you always, our deepest sympathy, our thoughts are with you on this sad day,

*from Tracey Baker & Friends  
<Blackburn in uk>*

To the families and community of Dunblane: As the parents of 3 primary school children, we were sickened to hear of the tragedy yesterday. We can't begin to understand your pain, but our thoughts are with you, anyway.

*Rob & Linda Naylor  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent*

God be with the little children of Dunblane. Words can never replace or return 'our' children of the World. Let's only hope the ALL of our words can at least relieve some of the pain these families must be feeling. My heart goes out to each and every one of the precious little souls.

I feel even more shocked that it could happen here. I have lived in nearby Callander for a time, and feel it even more because of this.

God bless, and sleep tight.

*Donald & Belinda Eastwood Rachel and Ross.  
Wimbledon, London, UK.*

To the Dunblane Families, Although we're many miles away, our thoughts and prayers are with all of you in Dunblane tonight. May God Bless you and give you the strength to carry on. With deepest sympathy,

*Penelope Neri & Family  
Mililani, Hawaii (formerly of Ipswich, England)*

This terrible tragedy has been felt in every corner of the country. I wish to offer my deepest sympathy to all those who have had their precious children taken from them. I am a new father so I realise the how much love and hard work there must have been behind each of these innocent children.

God Bless

*Andrew Clarkson  
Cleethorpes.*

I cannot find the words to adequately express the sorrow I feel for you during these horrific times. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*God bless you.  
Paula Payne  
Somerville, New Jersey, USA*

Our thoughts are with you in this time of deep grief and sorrow. We can not imagine what you are going through, but if the prayers of strangers can help, remember that you have them. God bless you and keep you.

*Joanne Doucette  
Toronto, Canada*

I am so incredibly saddened and horrified to see the tragedy that has struck all of you. I cannot begin to imagine what you must feel...but please know that so many of us in the United States are praying for you, and mourning with you. My heart hurts for you, and your children.

*Karen Mead  
Wingdale, NY, United States of America*

Words simply can not express the depth of my horror regarding this unspeakable event, nor the depth of my sympathy for all of you. The world stands with you. Along with so many others I offer my prayers, and only wish we could do more for you.

*Rona Shriner and family*

We would like to offer our deepest sympathy to the people of Dunblane and the students at Dunblane Primary School. The tragedy of this will be with us always. Our prayers are with you all.

*Jack, Frances and Alexander Carson  
Southaven, Mississippi USA*

To the families of the Dunblane Primary school; Please accept our heartfelt sympathies and condolences after what happened there. Living in a country where murder and shootings is common-place , this still does not ease the sense off horror we have over this atrocity. Please be strong and know that people all over the planet are grieving with you.

*Steven and Heather Wiley  
Colorado USA*

Your suffering is felt in my heart, I just wish I could take your pain away by turning back the clock so this horror never happened.

*With heart felt sympathy.  
Daniel Robson*

# Safely Home



I am home in heaven, dear ones  
oh so happy and so bright  
there is perfect joy and beauty  
in this everlasting light

All the pain and grief is over  
every restless yearning past  
I am now at peace forever  
safely home in heaven at last

Did you wonder I so calmly  
trod the valley of the shade  
Oh but Jesus' love illumined  
every dark and fearful glade

And He came Himself to meet me  
in that way so hard to tread  
and with Jesus' arm to lean on  
could I have one doubt or dread

So you must not grieve so sorely  
for I love you dearly still  
try to look beyond earth's shadows  
pray to trust our Father's will

There is work still waiting for you  
so you must not idly stand  
do it now while life remaineth  
you shall rest in Jesus' land

When that work is all completed  
He will gently call you home  
Oh the rapture of that meeting  
Oh the joy to see you come

*from Pat & Monica Ferguson, Coatbridge, Scotland*

No matter where we are in the world, please know that we are all thinking of you and sharing your deep sorrow for the little children of Dunblane.

*Iain Bisset (Colorado)*

I could not help but weep when the news first broke. I have lost a child myself in the past but I cannot comprehend the pain such tragedy has cast on your community. Our thoughts and love are with all those in Dunblane

*Sarah, Richard & Luke  
Hertfordshire, England.*

Our thoughts are with you at this time of tragedy, may you find the strength to carry on in the face of such a huge loss and to help each other through what lies ahead.

May flights of Angels guide the little ones to a safe and peaceful rest.

*The Ford Family  
Maidenhead*

As a father of two and a past visitor to Scotland, my thoughts and the thoughts of my family are with you at this time.

*Richard Koreto  
New York City*

To the parents and families of the children and teachers killed and wounded in Dunblane — The horror of what's happened to you is unimaginable and incomprehensible. The entire world offers prayers for you at this dark time.

*Scott and Amy Canute  
Kinsale, Ireland*

We live in a sick sick world, to all the mothers in Scotland, every mother in the world has heard your cry, and our cries echo with you.

*In sorrow  
Susan UK/US*

As a Scot (now living in London), I know Dunblane well, and have many happy memories of visits there. Like the rest of the world, I therefore found yesterday's events almost impossible to comprehend.

To the families and friends of all affected by this tragedy, my thoughts and prayers are with you. May God comfort you all during this trial. God bless.

My deepest respects and condolences to the families of those involved in the tragedy at Dunblane.

I am numbed by the enormity of what has occurred and can hardly bring myself to think about the loss of so many small lives, with all their potential unfulfilled and all their dreams ahead of them. As I looked upon my own two small children sleeping last evening, I was moved to tears.

The little children of Dunblane will never be forgotten and will live forever in the hearts of the people of Scotland.

*KDH*

Here's adding my prayers for the families and friends of all those injured and killed. . .my heart broke as I watched the news stories and saw the families. . .all I could do was hold my children and cry.

Please know that all of us here in Texas are thinking of you!

*Beth, Brian, Emily and Amanda (twins-11 months old)  
Morgan Dallas, Texas, USA*

To the teachers and pupils of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends and the people of Dunblane: There is nothing we can say to help you all in your grief which must be incredible, but I hope you find some small comfort in knowing that we cry for your children and loved ones and share your anger that this horrific mass murder has happened. Our thoughts, love and prayers will be with you now and in the time to come. I wish we could wrap our arms around you and give you a big hug.

Also love and prayers for a quick recovery to those children who were injured.

We're so very sorry...

*Jill (Day Care Provider), and Patrick DeWitt (a Teacher whose Great-Great-Grandparents came from Aberdeen), Joshua (10), Collin (4), and Ryan (2)  
Lansing, Michigan USA*

My delay in replying to your message is largely due to the fact that I am still trying to comprehend the totally appalling events visited upon those poor innocent children and their teacher yesterday morning.

I have tried, but simply cannot find adequate words to express the profound sense of loss that I feel for the families of those so brutally slain. My prayers and thoughts are with those trying to come to terms with such an unspeakably horrific loss.

May God comfort and support them in their time of greatest need, and give them the strength to cope now, and in the days, weeks, months and years to come..

*Matthew Reed  
Leicester, UK*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this dark hour. May God grant you peace and may he take the souls of the dead to be with him.

*Jim, Sally-Anne, Sarah, Beth & Christopher Lynch  
Brentwood in Essex*

God bless

*Jean & David Elgar  
Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland*

To the parents of those children now separated from them, please try to take comfort that your children are now sweet little angels in heaven at peace with the world, for they are now in God's care in heaven, and they would want you to be as much at peace with the world as you can, though incredibly difficult it may be, they wouldn't want you to suffer with the pain you now have.

To those children suffering in hospital, may God grant them (and you all) forgiveness, that they might make a speedy recovery in both mind and body. To those who or whose children escaped, try not to feel guilty, by living the life you have remaining, you are honouring those that died.

Does this prayer help... I only wish that the feeling in millions of hearts all over the world sharing your pain will help to make it more bearable. You are not alone....

*Peter, and on behalf of Maria  
London.*



I would like to express my sorrow and sympathy to the families of Dunblane.

*David McDuff  
(London, UK)*

Words are not enough to express my sorrow. My thoughts are with all who have been touched by this awful tragedy.

*Steve Nicholls  
(Beckenham, Kent)*

We were very upset and saddened by the recent tragic circumstances. We are parents ourselves and wanted to express our deepest sympathy to the families; the pupils, their relatives, and the teachers in this time of shock and sorrow.

Please accept our deepest condolences,

*William and Wendy Dreskin  
San Anselmo, CA, USA*

There are no words - only to stress that all parents and people around the world are thinking of the families and community of Dunblane at this terrible time. There must be time for grief - but also I hope that knowing that people everywhere are concerned may provide some comfort.

*Dan*

One more sincere and humble message of hope and sympathy to all involved in the dreadful act of 'Pure Evil' that occurred in Dunblane yesterday. God Bless

*Matt.*

Our deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers to everyone in Dunblane. God bless you and give you strength.

*Mark, Debbie, Marcy & Valerie Spellman  
Knoxville, Tennessee*

May those who live on be granted the strength to overcome this horror. With deepest sympathy.

I'm a 36 Glaswegian living in Boston U.S.A . After watching the news and talking to my mother in Glasgow i don't think i've ever felt so sad and Been brought to tears so many times with the thoughts of the poor children and families of Dunblane ,I know there is not much i can do but if there is any donations being made to help the families or the community i will gladly help out.

God bless the wee bairns of Dunblane.

*David Brown*

To all of you, my thoughts, sympathy, and prayers are with you, and will be for a very long time. As a kindergarten teacher myself, knowing and loving the children I teach, the horror that has occurred in your town is incomprehensible.

May it be of some small comfort to you to know that there are kind, loving and decent people all over the world carrying you and your children in our hearts and sending our thoughts and prayers and love to you.

*Dianna Shull*  
USA

May those who live on be granted the strength to overcome this horror. With deepest sympathy.

Just to add my words of comfort and outrage. I am both a parent of small children and a primary school governor and my heart goes out to all concerned.

*David*

to the pupils, teachers and the community of Dunblane, my prayers go with you and my hope of peace and healing among you all

*Kim*  
*Edinburgh*

Not since Lockerbie have I cried openly on hearing a news bulletin. Our prayers are with all the folks in Dunblane at this time of deep sorrow.

The following verse of Holy Scripture came to me -

Matthew chapter 2 v 18 "In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation and weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted because they are not"

As of old in Bethlehem, so today in Dunblane - may the God of all comfort be with you all tonight.

*Philip Nelson  
Gorebridge, Midlothian, Scotland*

I and my family express our shock, outrage and deep sympathy with the bereaved of Dunblane. Our prayers are with you.

*Toby Carlson Tucson  
Arizona, USA*

A few weeks ago Revd Ken Walker was the cause of much rejoicing on the Genealogy forum. Today he has asked us to join him in trying to make sense of unimaginable evil.

Nothing could have more accurately reflected the feelings of the whole country today than the extraordinary scenes in the House of Commons. Front Bench politicians choking back tears (as I am now), stillness and solidarity. How helpless we all feel.

Here (I am not half a dozen miles from Hungerford) we have especial reason to share the grief of the people and parents of Dunblane. In 1987 I was on Jersey when news of that madness broke. I well remember the coldness that came over me when I could get no answers to my telephone calls home. Where were they? Had the children gone down to the town today? Why wasn't my wife at home? The feeling of helplessness was unbearable and the joy when someone finally answered was unbounded.

How can we call ourselves a civilised people when we can produce the likes of Michael Ryan and Thomas Hamilton??

Our thoughts and our prayers are with the people of Dunblane.

*John Dymond  
Aldbourne, Wiltshire, UK*

My heart is with the families of Dunblane. Rarely have I been so sickened to the very core of my soul. This atrocity is beyond comprehension.

*Andrew Crane  
Atlanta, GA USA*

Please accept my heartfelt sympathy in this hour of horror you are going through. I am writing this with tears in my eyes for I cannot fathom the depth of your sorrow at this moment. However, I do know what it means to lose a sweet, darling little person you all loved deeply.

*Madeleine Glover, M.A., M.S.  
The Village of Shorewood Hills Madison, Wisconsin USA*

The deepest sympathy and condolences to all of the people of Dunblane on this horrible loss. There are no words sufficient to express the loss, the grief or the sorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*J.F. Mitchell USA*

All our deepest sympathies, please consider this a big electronic hug from all of us.

*Ian, Angela, Alexandra and Oliver Leonard*

Words cannot express the horror and the shock of the news of this tragedy as it was relayed to us on the radio. We wept as we heard further details of all of the families and teachers reactions to this atrocious act.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with all of the people of Dunblane, but especially so for the families and teachers now struggling thro' their shock and grief.

*Phill and Moira Campbell  
Aberdeen, Scotland*

The thoughts and prayers of my family are with all of you in Dunblane in this time. Peace be with you and love from the Father in Heaven.

*Alan, Nancy, Andrew, and Ryan Held  
Danbury, CT USA*

May the love of Mary, Mother of Sorrows, pour out upon your broken hearts as the world mourns with you, dear brothers and sisters in Scotland. I am one mother in Brooklyn, New York, and today I wept as I gazed at the faces of your beautiful children. I will keep you — and them — in my prayers always.

My sincere condolences and sympathies to the families and the community of Dunblane, Scotland, the little quaint village who will no longer be remembered as the birth place of Sir Walter Scott... but now for the massacre of 16 innocent little children playing in their gym.

May God rest their souls and welcome them into his bosom. Few words can express our shock, grief and sorrow in a time like this. Your thoughts are in our prayers.

Peace, love and happiness.

*Stephen Feldman  
Toronto, Canada Born in Glasgow, Scotland... 1967*

To the families of the students, teachers and residents of Dunblane, we would like to express our deepest sympathy. You are all in our prayers. God Bless.

*Alan, Laura and Kayley McPhee  
Northlake IL, USA*

We simply want to let you know how shocked and saddened we were to hear of the tragedy that took place there. Having travelled through Dunblane many times while working in Pitlochry, the effect was even more profound.

As parents of two girls, we feel for all of the families who lost a child, and just want to say that you are in our prayers and our thoughts are with you at this sad time. Nothing can make up for the loss of a child, but what is especially hard is that these were such young, innocent children who's lives were cut short for no reason.

Allow us to send condolences from the people of London, Ontario, Canada.

Suffer the little children, to come unto me.....

*Janice and Oscar Naylor Kirsty (18) , and Rebecca (16)  
(formerly of Dumfries, Scotland)*

# Ways to be with Angels

- ❁ Send a letter to an angel: write it in gold invisible ink.
- ❁ Sing to angels: every time you sing, an angel smiles.
- ❁ Adopt an angel: find a picture or draw one of your favorite angel.
- ❁ Wear angel ornaments: angels love attention and want to be recognized!
- ❁ Dream of angels: fly with them.
- ❁ Build a tree house for an angel: it can be tiny, impractical, and made of leaves. The angels will love it.
- ❁ "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets her wings."
- ❁ Amaze an angel: start growing your own wings, and listen for the bells to ring!
- ❁ Invite an angel to dinner: prepare the lightest, freshest, most inspiring foods. Set the table for two, and wait for the candles to flicker.



*These words were written by five year-old children, following the death of a classmate.*

Thanks, Rory for allowing us to contribute and express our horror. People all over the world are united in their grief. Please pass on to the people of Dunblane.

I am an Ex pat. from Milton Keynes now living in Toronto, Canada. My family and I wish to send our prayer and thoughts. All Brit s. I have spoken to here today are in shock at what has happen we all send our condolences.

*Chris Tynan.*

I would like to send our condolences to the people of Dunblane also. My husband and I wept when we heard the news report, as I'm sure people all over the world did. What an absolute tragedy and a needless waste of precious young lives. I hope the hundreds of messages here and all the others that you receive can go some way to easing your pain.

*Pixton family  
Melbourne, Australia*

To the families, and friends of the innocents lost- I write this from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I would like to express my most sincere and deepest sympathies on your sudden loss of loved ones. Unfortunately, evil knows no boundaries in this world; I would like to go on and say that the people here in Oklahoma City, as well as the rest of the United States, share with you gentle people in your time of sadness. My heart and prayers go out to you all, and your fellow countrymen. The people of Oklahoma City are with you in prayer and support. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." (Matthew 11:29 KJV) Peace be with you all-

*John, Lynne, Danielle, Deborah and David Riedell  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA*

Words are utterly inadequate to express the feelings inspired by this awful crime, but they are all we have. Our hearts, our prayers and our sympathies all go out to the people of Dunblane in this terrible hour. God keep and strengthen you all.

*Paul Sheets, Andrea Sheets, Lavinia Sheets  
Portland, Oregon, USA*

My tears, deepest sympathy and prayerful thoughts are with you.

*Peter Hughes  
Durham, UK*

My family would like to express our sorrow and sympathy. We just wish we could turn the clock back and put everything right for everyone.

We give our love to the Teacher, Children, Families. We also give our love to the Head Master and everyone who had to deal with the victims of this evil shooting.

*From: Geoffery, Carole, Steve, Cheralyn, Ian, Kirsty  
and all our relatives and friends.*

May I offer my thoughts and prayers to all the Families at this time of great sadness.

*Jonathan Brent*

My condolences to the children and parents and teachers in Dunblane. I wish you strength and courage in this time of sadness.

*Alan Reynolds The Netherlands*

Sincere sympathies to all those involved with the school and community in Dunblane. The horror of this murder has touched people throughout the UK and the world.

*Kevin  
Northern Ireland*

I would like to offer my sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to all families involved in today's tragic event.

My thoughts are with you all,

*John.*

To all in Dunblane on this darkest of days, Deepest Sympathy,

*Mark Deakin  
Preston, Lancs.*



I know words mean little at a time like this but I'd like to add my families sincerest condolences. We all feel deeply for you and you're in our prayers.

*Gary, Darlene & Cassandra MacKenzie  
B.C., Canada (formerly Aberdeen, Scotland)*

Our sincere condolences to all the families of Dunblane: our thoughts and prayers are with you this sad day and in the difficult days that lie ahead.

*Stevan and Helen Lockhart.*

Please accept our sympathy and prayers.

*The Lind Family Pembroke Pines  
Florida, USA*

I'd just arrived in a Milan hotel when I heard about this. The TV was on in the lobby area and there was dozens of people, mainly Italians, following the news with incredulity and mounting distress. Many were in tears. This is a tragedy that has touched many people, and our hearts and thoughts are with all the families of those affected tonight.

May God help all of them,

*Brian, Lynne and Siobhan Harrison (aged 4 months)*

My thoughts and prayers are with all of the children and families of Dunblane, and particularly those who have suffered the loss of their children and friends.

I will ask my church, Grace Episcopal Church in East Concord, NH, USA, to keep you all in their prayers as well.

May God Bless and keep you all.

*The Foster Family — Susan, Bart, Nick & Sally  
Concord, NH, USA*

My heart goes out to you all. May your God be with you.

*Edward Vaughan  
(ex Edinburgh)*

On behalf of all my prosecutor colleagues in the San Diego District Attorney's Office, please convey our deepest condolences to everyone in the Dunblane community. our thoughts and prayers are with you all and we will continue to uphold you.

*Paul Greenwood  
San Diego, California.*

My heart goes out to all of you ! I have been a teacher of 5-6 year olds . All my love to you all, Parents, Staff and the Community of Dunblane !!!

To the children, families, teachers & the whole community of Dunblane. With only five children at our one teacher primary school the whole island community of Fair Isle mourns with you.

Our thoughts, and love, are with you.

On behalf of the Members of Covina Lodge #334, of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California, please accept our sympathy and support to you all in this hour of deep grief. No words we offer can dispel your sorrow. But please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. May God be with you all and fill you with courage, comfort and peace.

*Sincerely and Fraternaly  
Mark R. Sandstrom, Past Master  
Covina Lodge #334, Covina, California*

My deepest sympathy to the parents, children, teachers and community of Dunblane. I wish I could help with more than words. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you in the weeks, months and years to come.

*Celia Barker*

Thanks for generously giving the rest of us a rallying point and reminding us that however far away we may be from each other, we are villagers together.

*Hamilton McClymont, Torill Samuelson  
Alec McClymont, Laura McClymont  
Vancouver, BC*

The atrocity committed against sixteen innocent children and their teacher is so evil to be beyond the world of men. I believe this dreadful event has touched the hearts and souls of every decent human being in the world and created in everyone an unbearable sadness. I personally feel humbled by the immense grief which has been forced upon you.

The shock, the pain and the horror that millions of people throughout the world are feeling at the thought of your suffering will leave a trace in everybody's heart and I believe many people, myself included, will look at Life in a different way from now on. It is only in the deepest darkness that we can see the brightness of the light.

No man can explain, no man can understand. It is for all of us only time to cry and pray. In sorrow

*Renato, Enza, Vivien Forte  
Igne, Natura Renovatur Integra*

My cousins went to Dunblane Primary many years ago and perhaps some of their friends children are there now. It's impossible to find the words to convey any meaning to what happened yesterday.

As my young son Andrew lies peacefully asleep on the sofa beside me, my thoughts and sympathies are for the whole town and especially for the parents of the children who aren't with us any more.

*Caroline Baardsen, now living in Norway*

I cried with you. Time will heal your sorrow, and their memory will never fade.

*βrian*

Most of us don't know the pain you bear and hope we never will, but we imagine the horror and are stunned by it. Know that we care for you and pray for all of our children.

*Rory and Henry:*

My sincere condolences for your tragedy. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time. May God fill your hearts with compassion, love and forgiveness.

*K Courter*

As an English mother of children who loved their Scottish village primary school, my heart goes out to you all. Please accept our loving sympathy and prayers.

*Margaret, Philip, Ruth, Philip and Malcolm O'Brien.*

Our condolences to the community of Dunblane. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all

*Andrew & Rebecca Siegel  
New York, New York*

with all our hearts, love and deepest sympathy to the families and children of Dunblane, we are thinking of you and grieving with you over this terrible act of cruelty and the loss of such innocence. may God bless and keep everyone of you in his care, all our love,

*The Wilson family (Pauline, Alan, Alan,J, Paula and Christy)  
Lake charles,La, (originally Lancs.UK)*

I think it is a tribute to us all that we can all rally round on such a sad occasion for the people of Dunblane. God bless the little children, and their teacher.

*Donald & Belinda, Rachel & Ross Wimbledon, London*

To everyone: what can we do to reduce this terrible level of violence in our world? how can we, as individuals or together, take responsibility for turning back the tide of violence which terrifies all of us who could lose a loved one at any time.

My heart is broken by Dunblane, and I know I cannot reverse it. Are there any suggestions of what we can do to make the world a safer place - not just for the children of Scotland but for all children?

*George (from Islay)*

All we can say is that our hearts and prayers go out to you at this terrible time.

*Joseph DiCostanzo & Ann Shaw  
New York, NY, USA*

To all the members of the UK Forum, People of Scotland, and the Family and Friends of Dunblane,

On behalf of all the members of The Canada Forum, our staff and the management, we wish to express our sadness, disbelief, and sincere condolences to all the families of the children and their teacher that were killed as well as those that were injured in Dunblane.

With Canada's close ties to your nation, we feel deeply for you all and share your grief at this senseless act. We pray for you all to find some kind of peace and the strength to survive this terrible tragedy.

We can't feel your pain, but we can try to understand it and provide you with any support and understanding we can.

May you find some comfort in all our prayers and thoughts that go with you at this time.

*Sincerely,  
Scott Pattullo & Karen Munro  
The Canada Forum - Forum Managers*

The people of the world stand shoulder to shoulder with you during this most grievously horrific time. Words fail to convey the profound pain, anger and despair shared by every true human spirit on this planet. Our hearts and thoughts are with you all.

*Christopher Campbell Conway - Canada Lorna Campbell McKellar  
New Zealand*

To the parents of the children and the staff at Dunblane school: Our thoughts are with you on and our hearts sadden with yours at the great loss you have suffered. So young. So few years with us, but they will never be forgotten.

*God Bless Bill and Judie Redding  
Calif.*

Just joining in with my condolences, just couldn't believe it, we hear of this sort of thing in the States, but not even that magnitude, I just can't imagine what all must be going through.

*God Bless you All.  
Veronica M. Pearce*

My wife and I have in recent days been planning a trip to Scotland at the end of March to visit her brother and his family in Scotland. So naturally, when I heard Scotland mentioned on the news last night I paid attention. I cannot express the shock and grief I felt when I heard what the news story was. I called Ann into the TV to watch. There were tears in our eyes as we watched and listened to the reports of this unimaginable tragedy. We do not have children of our own, but we both have nieces and nephews (Ann has two in Scotland.), my niece is the age of the Dunblane children. I know we both thought of them all as we grieved for the children of Dunblane. Even so, we cannot begin to imagine the terrible loss and grief you are all suffering.

The recent story in People Magazine filled the hearts of the American people with sadness. This kind of senseless killing of innocent children is the most horrible atrocity since the Nazi's. Our hearts and prayers go to the people of Dunblane in hopes that they know their loss is felt by us all.

*Wendy Hodgden  
Kansas City, Missouri USA*

I just want you to know that I hope you would pass around that Me and My family sends our heartfelt sadness and condolences to those 16 Tots families and their teacher who was gunned down in Dunblane. I always figured that you were from Scotland (at least in the UK anyway). My Scots Ancestors: Hugh Drysdale and Duncan Bohannon – I've always been proud of that portion of my heritage. I feel like these victims are my kinfolk. When I heard what happened I was stunned, but what caused me to cry was seeing the Kindergarten class picture. My own daughter is in Kindergarten same age, she just turned 6. Boy did it hit home how fragile life is. First Oklahoma City and now this. Words seem so inadequate at such a time. I hope that the people of Dunblane can find some comfort in knowing that the thoughts of so many are with them at this sad time.

*Our sincerest sympathies  
Glynis Butterworth & Jacky Hardcastle  
Manchester.*

My husband and I want to send our deepest sympathy to all the parents who lost their little ones in that unspeakable disaster that befell Dunblane, and to the whole community. May God be with you.

*Paul & Margret Walbeck  
Cape Town, South Africa.*

My prayers and thoughts are with the bereaved families and those injured at this time. We don't know why.....support one another

*love and prayers  
margaret.*

Please add the name of my family and I to the list of the world community filled with great sorrow for this terrible loss. I had served in Vietnam during the Tet offensive, and then spent 25 years in explosive disposal. I have never seen such a tragic event as that horrible day in Scotland. I pray for the families and wish them my deep sympathy.

*Lloyd R Lantz*

Parents all over the world, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, siblings, grieve with you now as the world grieved with Oklahoma City in their tragedy. God has chosen some very special angels, and he must have needed them very badly to take them like this. Each of them is enveloped in God's loving embrace and awaits reunion with their family members.

As we pray for you and your families we also give thanks for our many blessings in the form of our little ones, so innocent and loving, which may be why God chooses them for his most precious angels.

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. Courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.”

*The Brown Family - 4 children, 7 1/2 grandchildren*

Most of my friends are primary school teachers or are training to be. I am always hearing tales of the things young children say and do, and the sense of joy and energy in their actions. It is a brief period of relative innocence and security.

I couldn't believe the news on Wednesday, and I don't think I will ever forget the shock and emptiness that I felt, and the sense of guilt that I live in a world where this could happen.

It never ceases to amaze me that it takes the presence and expression of evil to make the wider community stop and appreciate what they have, or what they have lost. Perhaps if the expressions of love and sympathy we are all now making were constantly in our minds, such things would not occur.

I can only guess at the thoughts of the residents of Dunblane, the survivors, the schoolfriends, the brothers and sisters, and the parents who said goodbye to their children just half an hour before. So many young lives, bright hopes and futures ended by such a selfish and callous act. And a devoted, much admired teacher, with a husband and two young daughters... gone.

The photograph of the schoolchildren in happier days has appeared in every newspaper. I will put a copy in my diary as a lifelong reminder to myself, and to any children I might have, of the murder of innocents.

At times like this, it is easy to curse God, or even doubt His existence. Even the most sceptical of us should stop, put our personal beliefs aside, and say a prayer for all involved. Whether we believe it will be heard, or even acted upon, it is the least and, sadly, probably the only thing we can do. It will give us some small comfort, and the knowledge that so many people are stopping and saying a prayer for them will, one day, mean something to the children, people and parents of Dunblane.

*Jonathan Baldwin, age 25  
Ripon, North Yorkshire, UK*



On behalf of myself, my family and my co-workers please accept our deepest condolences and sympathy for the tragedy that has happened in your town.

*J. Telford  
Mississauga, Ont. Canada  
Midwest United States — Missouri*

Along with all the other messages of condolence I extend my heartfelt sympathies to the families of both the dead and injured during the most difficult times of their lives. There is no understanding of such a senseless crime. Dunblane will always be remembered around the world. May God Bless you during these difficult days. I wept for you also.

*Much Love  
Anne Orr and Family  
Ottawa, Canada*

My sincere condolences.....to the families and friends of the victims....truly it is a sad day.....

*Love to all...  
Marianne G. Winter California, USA*

One of my kids is at the school. My wife and I stood outside the school for two and a half hours not knowing whether she was dead or alive. When we heard she was alright, we were euphoric, and then five seconds later horrified. Why the hell should we be happy? The place is traumatised, and I don't know how we will recover...friends have lost their little ones in an act of utter incomprehensibility. I will pass on the condolences..can't write anything else at the moment.

*Stuart Hepburn.*

As you state in your message, the relief you must have felt yet tinged with absolute pain for those who weren't so lucky. Our thoughts are with you all ... God bless the little children ...

*Donald & Belinda, Rachel and Ross  
Wimbledon, London (originally from St. Andrews.)*

## Poem of Dunblane

God keep these children up there by your side,  
Because there is no reason these children should have died,  
They were the innocent victims of a vile and evil man,  
Please watch them for their Parents, and keep them safe from harm,  
No more pain and sorrow for these little ones,  
They are up there safe in heaven wrapped in God's arm.  
I feel so helpless sitting here,  
As I read the papers, I shed a tear,  
I feel so sorry for the people of Dunblane,  
Who have so much grief and pain,  
16 children and 1 teacher were killed,  
How can so much blood be spilled?  
They should be safe when they go to school,  
But what can you do if there's a crazy fool?  
Schools should have security at the door,  
But we have nothing, this I deplore,  
We must all help every mum and dad,  
Who have lost their children, it is so sad,  
I cannot imagine how they feel,  
I feel so helpless, it is unreal.

For all will remember the Children of Dunblane,  
The love of God, now may they gain,  
My heart goes out to each and every child,



May now you find some peace in your lives.  
I shed a tear everytime I think of your suffering,  
Those angelic little faces full of laughter and life,  
Whd did this man man take all this away,  
They were just Children of our today,  
No sound of innocent laughter,  
No pattering feet,  
No more games to be played,  
No cards on Mothering Sunday.

Although nature took them away early,  
Their spirit will live forever in Dunblane School.  
Their happy voices and smiling faces,  
Will forever be with us,  
Thoses who knew these beautiful children,  
And those who never met them  
In our hearts they will be remembered,  
Forever happy spirits within the school grounds.  
For there were many happy moments,  
The last being the Christmas concert,  
Let our thoughts be with you,  
All in Dunblane here and now.  
Forever in our thoughts,  
And always will be,  
Especially for those with children,  
Young, teenage or grown up,  
With their own.

*Bye,*

ONKAR SACHDEV, 100717.752



You are the first person I think I've seen that is actually a parent of someone at the school, I can not begin to imagine how you must have felt while waiting and then the happiness of finding your daughter was OK only to be hit again by the realisation that others you know were not so lucky.

I do not know if in these circumstances messages such as people from around the world are any help and comfort, I do hope they are, it's little enough that the rest of us can do.

*Terry*

Please \*don't\* feel guilty that your child was one of the lucky ones. Rather, offer your support to the bereaved at this most terrible time.

Our prayers are with you

*Philip Sylvia & Paul  
Ruislip, Middlesex*

We have no connections with Dunblane. So why do we cry? Our thoughts, our prayers, are with you all.

*Adrian & Delyth Burch*

My heart is broken. Bless those tiny souls. Please know that the world grieves with you.

*Jini in Seattle, USA*

Our hearts go out to you and the entire families of Dunblane. We watched as did the world as you all went running to the school. Our tears mingled with yours, in sheer bewilderment as to why your little ones were singled out. Please take our prayers and thought and maybe they will give you some small strength in these dark days.

*Chris and Rosie (Dagenham, Essex)*

To the Dunblane Families - My deepest sympathy in the moment of your terrible pain. Hopefully the compassion of decent caring people all over the world will help ease your grief, even just a little.

*Roberta Rood Maryland, USA*

In a world full of tragedies, I can think of nothing that has touched me more than this. My deepest sympathies to all concerned.

*Robin Harbour*

To all at Dunblane Primary and their families, my sincere condolences and deepest sympathy.

*Jeremy Black - Belfast, N.I.*

To the families of Dunblane, Our thoughts and prays are with you at this time of loss and suffering.

*Kevin, Margaret, Catriona, Gabrielle & Michael*

My sincere condolences to the people of Dunblane. How anyone could kill innocent little children is beyond my comprehension. The thought of so many children dying is overwhelming.

*Sincerely, Lynda Mitchell  
Pennsylvania, USA*

There are no words to express the horror and overwhelming sadness we feel at this time. Our hearts and prayers are with you all. May the Lord grant you the strength and peace to pass through this dark valley.

*The Maxim Family  
Seattle, Washington, USA*

Words fail me.....

*Dash-uk*

I have waited for words - but they still fail me. I would like to come there, soon but not now, and maybe sit quietly in the Cathedral and pay my respects. I hope there will be some quiet place of remembrance there, away from the scene of the tragedy, where those of us so touched by these events may come, respectfully and unobtrusively, to express our grief which we share with you. I have never been so moved by anything.

*Robin Barclay*

We are shocked to hear about this horrible event. It is not much, but be sure our thoughts are with you, and we pray such a terrible thing will never take place again. Our deepest sympathies.....

*Jan, Tina & Julian van Berlo  
Holland*

To the people of Dunblane: The world is a cruel place, especially when it takes the lives of 16 people who were so young....who had so much to live for. My condolences to you all.

*Mark  
[PC World Online]*

It has now been 2 days since the tragic incident that has shocked not only those of us in Scotland, or even the UK but the whole world. At a time like this, my condolence and thoughts must go to all of you who have lost those who are the most precious. My thoughts are also with all those parents and relatives of the injured.

Another group who must also be remembered at a time such as this are all the residents of Dunblane who have to live with this tragedy on there front door. It will be many weeks if not months before you will all be able to start getting back to a normal life. For some this will never be possible.

Please remember that you will all have the support of friends throughout the world for years to come. I feel sure that members of this forum all wish that this thread had never been needed. I hope that in some small way we can help to reduce the pain of loss.

We should also remember all of the emergency services who have had to deal with the shock of what they have witnessed.

With all my deepest sympathy to you all in this time of sorrow,

*Gordon Ferguson  
Cowdenbeath FIFE*

We were very upset and saddened by the recent tragic circumstances. We are parents ourselves and wanted to express our deepest sympathy to the families; the pupils, their relatives, and the teachers in this time of shock and sorrow. Please accept our deepest condolences,

*William and Wendy Dreskin  
San Anselmo, CA, USA*

Please add my condolences to the families in Dunblane. I spent several nights there in 1991 and loved the entire town. I know this was the work of one very mad man, but I always loved this verse, which I read long ago, and is now on the tombstone of my mum, who died last year. Maybe the sentiments will bring some measure of peace to these families.

Take your revenge now, O Empire!  
Wreck bodies you could not chain,  
Rip hearts you could not buy  
But the souls—Oh you damn fools!  
The souls escape you and new bodies claim them.  
And, even, already their tramp is on the hills.

*All my best.  
Cindy Wood*

Condolences on this unspeakable horror,

*James, Louise, Samantha and Mikey in the US*

I would like to send my, deepest regret and sympathy to all those in Dunblane, may God be with them all, my heart aches for them all, I cannot express in words what I AM feeling for them all, only think on the lines of those, poor children, and parents, also the community, what if had been my child, when one sends your child to school, you expect it to be safe. With the growing of violence in the world, that has expanded into, small once quiet communities, it is horrifying. No- one is safe these days, every day some one has been murdered, and when it comes to the extent of all those beautiful innocent children, it breaks ones heart, I could only cry out to the Lord, my heart feels as if it is being torn out of my chest, my whole being is screaming out, for these poeple.

*So helpless.  
Teresa Clare Michel  
south wales.*

I am shocked and saddened by your loss. I offer my sincere condolences and deep sympathy.

*Dana  
USA*

With sincere and deepest sympathy, may the love and grace of God be with you all in Dunblane.

*Helen Scott  
aliquippa, pa usa*

Please know that your tragedy has touched the hearts of people all over the world. Our deepest and sincerest condolences from not only us, but the people of Las Vegas, too. I can't imagine what you must be going through, but you're in my prayers.

*Sincerely,  
Mary & Bob Aehlich  
Las Vegas, Nevada*

We would echo the thought that words are not sufficient...but we pray for God's comfort to be with the families, relatives, and friends of those precious innocents who lost their lives. We are shocked once again at the forms human cruelty can take. God bless you all in Dunblane.

*Charlie Read  
West Virginia, USA*

Words can in no way express the sadness we feel. Our hopes are with you.

*Adrian, Pamela & James Devine  
Edmonton, Alberta Canada*

As the parents of a 3 year old boy we cannot comprehend this tragedy, and words cannot be found. We are not religious, but please know that our thoughts prayers are with you.

*David, Julie & James Power  
Worcester, UK*

Our deepest sympathy to all in Dunblane.

*Barbara & Jim McKechnie in Hong Kong Karen  
and Andrew McKechnie at home in UK*



To all pupils and teachers of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends, may God's Peace be with you all.

*David, Debra, Maggie and Jamie Macdonald  
Kingsport, Tennessee, USA*

I send most sincere condolences and also an offer of assistance, if required.

I am an energy healer and work to help people who are physically and emotionally distressed. I live in the North East of England and would be happy to come to Dunblane to give healing to any of the children or their parents or family. There would be no charge.

*With warmest regards to all of you  
Lisa Davis*

Words cannot express the sorrow and sadness which we all feel. Our thoughts are very much with you at this time.

*Maureen Parr  
Teacher from London, England*

I was very shocked and saddened to hear of the tragedy that has befallen your town. I know that this is a very trying time for you all

*hte*

Grief must seem unbearable.

In my small way I share your grief, and I am sure that everyone on the planet who has heard of this tragedy shares your sorrow. I am sure that God is looking after all those who are now with Him.

All the best for the future.

*Blaise MacLean, Oshawa  
Ont. Canada (formerly of Baddeck, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia)*

We were shocked and watched the news with tears in our eyes. May God give you the strength to take you through this.

*Suren Vakil and family  
Cardiff*

On behalf of our oldest friends, Peter & Lucy Shephard, who lived in Bridge of Allan and worked for many years in Stirling, and ourselves as parents and grandparents, our deepest sympathy; our thoughts are with all in Dunblane.

*Peter & Jennie Jowers  
Honiton UK*

To all the people in Dunblane, especially those who suffered such a terrible loss, me and my wife (both teachers on a primary school ourselves) wish to express our deepest sympathy.

*Frank and Miranda Jacobs  
Capelle aan den IJssel, Holland*

I have been really distressed by your events. I can't imagine how much it affects you, especially the families and friends of those killed and injured. Words fail me. I pray you will have God's peace and comfort.

*Adrian*

Words cannot express the horror of this tragic event, it is so incomprehensible to accept we can only express to the families our sincere condolences and trust God will give them the fortitude to bear the loss. What has happened to our world?

*Derrick & Eve Pearce  
of Plymouth Devon*

Our deepest sympathy for all those parents of Dunblane. This is a terrible tragedy, we cried ... when we first heard about it. with our deepest sympathy may god bless all of you

*Danny Stocker (AUGS of Switzerland)  
Natividad Yopez, Switzerland*

At a time like this, words just don't come easily. My thoughts and prayers are with all the people of Dunblane.

*Carol Young*

Well said & thank you. Sometimes we get so caught up in our own little trivial problems that we overlook the fact that there are millions of people who would love to be in our position. Good luck to the ill fated & may peace be by your side. My prayers are with the families of all the children involved in this great tragedy.

On Friday, the local newspaper's (The Windsor Star) editorial cartoon showed a road leading to the gates of Heaven, with God standing at the end of that road, welcoming those children.

It seemed a fitting tribute.

*Christine Young Windsor  
Ontario CANADA*

I've put into prayer what is so difficult to put into words.

*With sincere sympathy  
Janette, Glasgow*

My sympathy and condolences to everyone in Dunblane, especially the families who have suffered so terribly in this shocking event, and the staff and pupils of Dunblane School.

*Ian O'Donnell*

When I first heard the news on the Wednesday I was numb, then on the Thursday morning I cried for the first time. I felt better afterwards and thought that that was it and it would go away. But it didn't, it goes on and on. I was born in Hamilton Scotland, and lived there till I was 18. My brother used to work in the Dunblane Hydro Hotel. I have a very feeble but heart-felt message for the people of Dunblane, thank you for passing it on.

You are all very much in our thoughts at this time. We all feel tremendous pain as we think of the events of last Wednesday, and so we can only begin to imagine what you are all going through. Words and paper can never show the extent of our empathy and feelings for you, and on this special day, our thoughts and feelings for the mothers of the innocents. Sincere and Heart-felt Best Wishes.

*Tony, Debbie, Alex (9) and Joe (6) Rocks  
Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, Ex Hamilton, Lanarkshire*

I am so sorry to hear of your tragedy. The news when it broke on TV made me weep. I know the pain of losing a child - my youngest son is dead - but I cannot comprehend the pain Dunblane must be feeling now after such a tragedy. Please express our sorrow to the people of Dunblane.

*Stephen, Dawn Helen & Claire Hazelgrave  
Leeds UK*

>>>A silent vigil will be held in Dunblane Cathedral tonight at 7 pm (UK). Perhaps all who read this could pause briefly then and reflect on the enormity of what has happened here<<<

I will do just that. please pass on that I send to all there my deepest sympathy, love and prayers for all. My heart truly ached like never before, but God can and will sustain them.

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make His grace shine upon  
And give you peace, And give you peace,  
And give you peace forever!

All my very best regards,

*Dave Panzera Albany, NY, USA*

Our thoughts and our prayers are with the people of Dunblane.  
2 Corinthians 1: 3-5

*In His love  
Linda Shafer  
Michigan*

From The Highland Freedom Tour - 16 English motorcyclists with one heart: we pledge you our sincere and sorrowful togetherness after one of the worst days in Scotland's history. Our hearts are in Dunblane.

*Vic Barnes*

Like everyone else, I was deeply distressed by the terrible events in Dunblane. I thought long and hard about whether it was appropriate or not to post a poem on this sad occasion. There will probably be some who think it isn't - in which case, I hope they will forgive me. It's a cliché but words are inadequate. I read all the messages and can only say that this is my own, individual response...not just for the children of Dunblane but of Bosnia, Northern Ireland, Oklahoma, Israel, Palestine, Africa and many other troubled places where children are so often the principal victims.

How in our hearts shall we ever repair  
The anguish, numbness and sense of despair  
To know that in our civilised midst  
Such hatred and evil can blindly exist?

Let us now weep for our children lost  
And the heartbreak of parents counting the cost  
Of one moment's madness, no reason, no rhyme  
May we all pray for healing in time?

Is there a God? many may ask  
Indeed, if there is, He's taken to task  
How could this happen? we angrily cry  
And proclaim our wrath to a deity on high

We weep as parents, as fathers and mothers  
We weep as siblings for sisters and brothers  
We weep for the children, a lost generation  
We weep for them all, the pride of the nation

We seek in our hearts the courage to find  
A reason for living, though fate is unkind  
We owe it to them, our children so dear  
To carry the fight 'gainst ignorance and fear

And in aeons to come, when we are long passed  
May there be peace and reason at last?  
Our hope is our children, our legacy pure  
The future is theirs, to create and endure

*Roy in Hertfordshire, UK*

You are to be praised for your efforts, although in saying that, who wouldn't do what you are doing. As a native of Scotland (St Andrews), I think I feel it harder, and it brings a lump to my throat when I hear it mentioned. I have been to Stirling, Dunblane and Callander on several occasions and they are a picture of local Scottish culture. May God bless every dear little one of them ... They will always be in my thoughts ...

*Donald & Belinda, Rachel (11) & Ross (4)*

Thank you for taking on a difficult task at a time when great sensitivity is required. The weight of response in this and every other medium indicate the numbers trying to help by sharing the grief of the bereaved in Dunblane and may help to alleviate some of the pain in due course.

>> A silent vigil will be held in Dunblane Cathedral tonight at 7 pm (UK). Perhaps all who read this could pause briefly then and reflect on the enormity of what has happened here <<

It may also be useful to tell others that the Prime Minister has suggested that a minute's silence be observed in church services on Sunday which rather cruelly happens to be Mothering Sunday (Mothers Day) in the UK.

*Yours aye,  
Iain - Weekends in Windsor; Workdays in Edinburgh*

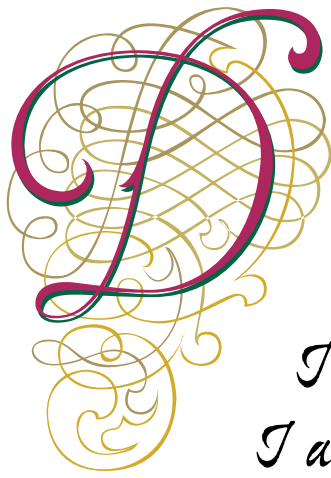
I have been reading all the messages with total amazement. I am a resident in Dunblane, have been for 11 years. I live close to the cathedral. Thank you for the messages....

I cannot believe the amount of messages sent from all over the world. It really has not sunk in yet just what has happened to my home town.

It has just been so awful, awful beyond all belief. I can't even face up to going to the school. The whole place just now has completely changed, there are media people on every corner it seems, even the BBC have set up camp in the carpark which my home overlooks. I just cannot see my town ever being the same, not for a very long time.

I keep asking is has this really happened here. Today we are having visits from the PM and other political leaders. The Queen will be here on Monday. I don't expect the press to leave until after the funerals of our friends and families.

*It's just so unreal.  
Justin*



*Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there. I do not sleep.*

*I am the thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glints on snow.*

*I am sunlight on ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn rain.*

*When you wake in morning hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am soft star that shines at night.*

*Do not stand at my grave and cry.  
I am not there. I did not die.*



Dear Justin

Thanks for taking the time to share your thoughts on the Forum. I don't think anybody can come to terms with the manner in which this man took 16 innocent little lives. I could not even pretend to understand the hurt and pain that the families must be going through. Those little children will always be on my mind. May God bless them and keep them ... He will treat them better than this horrible, wicked world could ever had done.

*Donald & Belinda, Rachel (11) & Ross (4)*

Dear Justin, I know you will probably be getting many messages offering sympathy and condolences, and this one too comes straight from the heart. The whole nation has been numbed by this tragedy, and I think everybody is in complete shock. We had a special Mass offered at my school today for the victims, families, and residents of your town. I personally would like to tell you that I join you in your grief, although so far away, and that my thoughts are with you all.

*With Sympathy  
Sarah McFarlane*

Justin, to me one of the most touching things was pictures of women looking frantic, some pushing baby carts, trotting or running toward the school terrified at what they might find. That sort of merges into my mind with the pictures of stacks and stacks of flowers along the wall. It is now about 1/2 hour after the memorial service started in Dunblane. I mentally joined in from 5000 miles away. In the US we have so many gunshot deaths, that it takes an exceptional case even to be mentioned in the press. In beautiful Scotland, I cannot even imagine this happening. My one great hope for you all is that the hordes of media will soon leave you alone so you can heal.

*Wayne*

I would like to send this poem to all the people of Dunblane.

[poem reproduced on previous page]

*Colin Baines*



Justin, My first knowledge of the tragedy was seeing the headlines in the Belfast Telegraph on Wednesday afternoon. My first thoughts were that it was some incident in Africa or somewhere else far away.

It was only when the later editions appeared that I realised that it had happened so close to home (Northern Ireland). The tragedy has been brought home to us here by the news that several of the children who survived had Grandparents in Northern Ireland.

We are all thinking of Dunblane

*David*

For days now, I have grieved for the loss of tiny children and their beautiful teacher in such a senseless manner. If only the tears of the world could make things right...

The images that I see on TV show that your town is a beautiful place, Justin, and its people brave and fine. My prayers and my heart are with you all.

*Maureen Temple  
Tulsa, Oklahoma*

Justin, Keep strong. A lot of people out here are thinking of you all. Most of us wish that the media circus could be toned down a bit so that your community can get on with greiving in it's own way. Hopefully, after the Queen's visit, you'll be left alone a bit more.

*Rob*

my deepest sympathy for all those parents of dunblane.. this was a terrible tragedy.. and when i first heard about it.. i cried... I wish them all the best... may god bless them

*Anna*

No words can express how we feel and our thoughts are with you at this awful time. Please accept our sincere condolences. May your God be with you.

*Peter and Chris*

I am not if this is the right place, but I would like to express my condolences for the terrible loss suffered by the families in Dunblane. My condolences go out to the people of Scotland whose lost part of their future with this tragedy.

I could not believe what I was hearing when the news reached Canada. Words cannot express my shock and outrage at such an evil deed, nor are they adequate to express my sadness.

To all the families and their friends in Dunblane: Please try to be strong and keep your faith in God. My thoughts are with you.

*Roy Keith  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

I cannot start to comprehend this tragedy. How can something like this happen in the country I am (was) so proud of? My deepest sympathies are with you all.

*Wendy Webster  
A Scot (originally St. Andrews) living in Germany*

My wife and I are sending a poem” to all Parents” of those, who are in mourning for their children. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers. The poem will hopefully comfort your hearts . May you be filled with the “peace that passes all understanding”.

*James and Kitty Ivey  
Azle, Texas*

We in America are very saddened by the tragedy in Dunblane Our hearts and prayers go out to the families and friends of the children, teachers, and parents who were touched by this tragedy.

*Deepest sympathies,  
Abby Esty  
San Diego, California*

To the families and friends of the victims, the staff and pupils of Dunblane School. Our hearts and minds are with you at this time. We will never forget your children.

*Alison, James, David Jimmy MacLean  
Bristol*

We send our condolences to the families of the young students in Dunblane. How could anyone do such a thing? Our prayers are with you as is so much of the world and we hope that will provide strength in the days to come.

*With heartfelt sorrow  
Michael & Frances Taylor  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*

When an act of no sense happens, we are all caught off-guard.

When an act of pure evil happens, we are all numbed.

We cannot understand why. We can only grieve that such loss has happened - and, dear God, to children.

I pray that the parents and families who have been affected by this madness will feel the peace of God, that after the grief, there may be some recovery.

*J Colin Moss*

I wish to add my sincerest condolences to anyone touched by this dreadful tragedy.

*Don Brazier  
Montreal Quebec.*

I do not have the words to express my utter horror and sorrow at the events on Wednesday.

My thoughts prayers and hopes are with you.

*Steve Nolan*

Words don't come at a time like this. We grieve and cry with you. Please find the strength to get through this period of unbearable sorrow.

Let the little angels rest in peace...

*Sophia, Jim, Maria and Andrew Dougherty  
Philadelphia*

We wish to offer our deepest sympathy. We know the whole world is with you in your mourning. Our thoughts and love are with you.

*Frances and Rosemary Cooper  
Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.*

I have waited for 3 days to write a note on this topic hoping I would be able to offer something profound to lessen the pain of those in Dunblane who lost their children. But I cannot. There are no words one can say or write that will match the overwhelming grief of parents.

And so I send my deepest sympathy and my prayers and offer the words of a children's hymn.

Gentle Jesus, meek and mild,  
Look upon a little child;  
Pity my simplicity,  
Suffer me to come to Thee.

Lamb of God, I look to Thee;  
Thou shalt my example be:  
Thou are gentle, meek, and mild;  
Thou wast once a little child.

Fain I would be as Thou art;  
Give me Thine obedient heart:  
Thou art pitiful and kind;  
Let me have Thy loving mind.

Loving Jesus, gentle Lamb,  
In Thy gracious hands I am;  
Make me, Saviour, what Thou art,  
Live Thyself within my heart.

*Jane Lamb  
Sumner County, Tennessee*

To all at Dunblane Primary and their families, my sincere condolences and deepest sympathy.

*John Allen  
London UK*

As a father of 2 young boys I share your pain. God bless and may your worst hours. You are in our hearts and our prayers.

“God’s garden has need of a little flower. It had grown for a time here below. But in tender love he took it above. In more favorable clime to grow.

Suffer little children to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of God.

St. Luke 8:16

*The Pasterski Family  
Iowa, USA*

Our deepest condolences to you all and especially to the relatives of those that died in that terrible tragedy— from The United Scottish Cultural Centre Members,- Vancouver BC. Canada.

*Mike Paul*

My wife and I are distressed at the recent massacre of the children of the class of Primary One in Dunblane. Words cannot express our sorrow but our thoughts and prayers are with you all. The one-minute silence on Mothering Sunday will be observed by all the members in our household.

*Sincere condolences  
Terence F. Coupe*

We in Australia have been devastated by the sadness in Dunblane. Please pass on my and all Australians’ condolences to the families and friends of those little innocent children. There is no doubt that the village will never be the same again. And there is no doubt that almost a generation of Scottish children has been lost forever - but not forgotten. I know that God is looking after them now.

*Michael Chivell  
Melbourne Australia*

What an awful thing to happen to all those Children and their teacher. My sincerest condolences to the Parents of the Children and the Family of their teacher.

*Glenn*

I wish to tell you that those of us in Oklahoma are praying for you, and feel terrible over what has happened. I lost a daughter three years ago, and understand the loss that the parents are suffering. It is a feeling that cannot be explained. Don't be ashamed to grieve over this tremendous loss, it is a terrible thing to go through.

*Bob Mc.*

my heart goes out to all the family and relatives of the little angels robbed of their futures...my thoughts are that the piece of dirt that did this should never be remembered nor his name go down in history as a mass murderer..by doing this we would be depriving him of maybe the one thing he was looking for..fame and a place in the history books..so that in 100s of years to come people will look through old books and say wow he was a sick person...,but alas human mentality is such that this will not happen ...in years to come people will say his name and say that he was the person that murdered children....but they won't remember the childrens or teachers names!...so a ban on any refernce to his name or ban of publishers printing it in history books would rob him of the one thing he prob wanted ...instead history should state the names of the children involved and the teachers and say these people were killed by a man who's name is unknown.....

god sleep the little children, hold their hands and keep them safe, show them peace and love and happiness and bless them for eternity.. watch over your angels and bide the time when famillys will be together again in peace and harmony...

*derek kurt haverkamp  
mansfield nottingham*

A light has gone out of all our lives, 17 lights in fact. Comprehension is impossible, we can only sympathise and express our very deepest condolences.

More words than this are useless in the face of such horror and tragedy, but know that this family, this nation, and this world share your grief.

*With heartfelt sympathy,  
The Smith Family of Teesside.*

Please accept our sincerest condolences in this time of sorrow.

*Our thoughts are with you all  
Andy, Christine, Katy (6) & Alix (4)*

My deepest condolences on this senseless act. Nothing can be said that can comfort the survivors of this horrendous deed. The fact that this could happen in the U.K. makes it even more disheartening.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*An American*

Please accept my condolences on the tragedy that occurred in your town. A similar even happened in Brampton, Ontario, Canada, when I was going to school there. I know what you are going through and I am praying for your lost children and what comfort you can receive.

*Flo Taylor*

Love and Blessing to the families in Dunblane Scotland during this the most difficult time of their lives. The world mourns with you. You will always be remembered.

*Love From Anne Orr and Family  
Ottawa, Canada*

Words cannot, in any way, reverse what has happened. They can only help a little. I am so sorry for your losses, I cannot find my words at this time, but I am thinking of you all. God bless you all, including the 17 that lost their lives. Below is a verse, please forward it to the families of this tragedy.....

They have only slipped into the next room  
[Poem reproduced in full elsewhere]

*Our thoughts are with you always,  
Peter & Dennis Lovegrove  
Hanworth, Middlesex*

I Hope every one in Dunblane accepts my deepest regrets for the terrible events that happened.

God knows why this had to happen.

*Greg*

To the families of the little ones, You are in my thoughts and prayers, God bless you one and all.

*Love from, Bruce J. Haining  
Florence, Kentucky USA*

I just had to write to say how very , very sorry I am about your great loss. I can say no words that will have any great effect, but I hope that just to know that I and many others care may in some small way help.

I could not stop crying when I heard. I have two children and cannot imagine at all what pain you have to bear.

I send you all my love, my thoughts, my condolences and my sympathies. May God be with you as only He and time can help.

*Thinking of you.  
Grace Holmes  
from Bury, Lancashire.*

My heart goes out to you in your terrible tragedy and sorrow. Please know that the world has watched with horror and anguish as your most precious treasures have been taken from you. The world cries with you. May you find peace in your hearts.

*Dot Welch  
Madison, MS, USA*

What sort of a world is it when innocents are murdered simply by being children? My deepest sympathy for the families - may God bless them all.

*Lori Laurent  
Warfield, Berks.*



Our prayers and condolences to the families and relatives of Dunblane

*Jane and Sam Beatty*

I can only say that my heart goes out to those who have lost children in this tragedy, and to the family of the teacher. I and my family will continue to pray that God will strengthen and comfort you, and that He will bless those who have been injured with a full recovery.

*Eve Smyth*

To all pupils and teachers of Dunblane Primary School, their families and friends, I offer my condolences.

*Pierre Spenard, Maria,  
Bonaventure (Québec). Canada*

I heard of this tragedy on the CNN news here in the U.S. I and my family, like many others throughout the world are deeply saddened for all those who have been affected directly. I wish I could say that this is a shock to me, but things like this are becoming more of a reality every day it seems. Especially here in the U.S. We all try to sort out the "Why's" and as rational beings, always come up short. Unfortunately there are those who believe they have a reason for what they do. Many are religious, others are just plain insanity. The children that died are gone from us now, but only in the flesh, never the spirit. There god has them now and they, as well as he, now watch over us. How else can one look at this loss. I and my family offer our heart felt sympathy and prayers. Added together with the worlds, I know all effected will hear our unity and receive our strength.

*Jon C. Duphorn & Family  
Fargo, North Dakota, U.S.A.*

Deepest thoughts to those in Dunblane.

*Terry McCann*

Please pass on my sympathy to those in Dunblane. A young friend of mine died in tragic circumstances a few months ago, and it was the worst day of my life.

I can't even begin to imagine how these people must be feeling about their children.

*Steve.*

Thank you Jim, for sharing such a profound, personal experience with us all. They will always be loved, and always remembered. Our prayers are with their families in Dunblane.

*Tina, Reg and John Gemmell  
Richmond Hill, Ontario*

I did not manage to get to Dunblane today but at 9.25 a.m. I was at the roundabout at the top of the motorway. I was going on to Aberdeen. I went onto the Dunblane bypass and came to the first lay by - I was listening to classic FM and I waited for the minutes silence. Shortly after I arrived at that layby someone came in behind me, then someone behind him then two more cars behind and that then one in front. I looked in my mirror they were all praying - me too - I had tears streaming down my face - I dont know anyone in Dunblane affected by this tragedy but for a full minute all these cars sat in the layby and paid homage to you all. It was one of my most moving experiences. At 9.32 we all set off again - I felt much better although tears were still streaming by the time I got to Perth. A lump in my throat on the way back home ...well done all the other drivers who stopped and paid their respects which was most of us. It was an eerie and moving moment. But I wish for the world I had not had to do it....

*Graham Johnston*

It is difficult to find words that could begin to console the parents of the poor souls whose innocent lives were taken away on the 13th March.

The enormity of the tragedy has left an indelible memory in everyone's minds. My thoughts and those of my family are with you.

*Roger Geisler  
Leicester [UK]*

I've only just come across all the correspondence concerning this tragedy so I'm a little late joining in.

It's been a terrible time of tragedy. I'm a consultant in paediatric intensive care at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow. I took our medical team up to Stirling hospital at 11.30am on Wednesday and stayed there assisting the staff until 7pm, when the last child left theatre and was settled down in ITU. Stirling Hospital did an incredible job. I then took one back with me to Glasgow as they needed more specialist treatment. At least I could do something to help, albeit too late for the already dead. All the more poignant as it was my daughters sixth birthday and I missed her party. When I eventually got home I discovered that one of the dead had been my daughters best friend until her family moved house two years ago. I got the list from PA online.

I still cannot believe it happened. All the support from friends, colleagues and just about everyone else you can think of has been tremendous. The natural instinct of adults under normal circumstances is to protect the young, and their teacher gave her life trying. I pray I would have been that brave.

Please add my name to all those expressing their sympathy to all the victims of this tragedy

Thank you for organising this forum

*Crispin Best*

My family and I were in a state of shock and disbelief that anyone could be so cruel and commit an atrocity like this, these precious little children, may God be with them and my sincerest sympathy to their families we mourn with you.

*Sympathy from Ottawa, Canada  
The Duarte family.*

I wish to pass on my condolences to the families and community of Dunblane that has suffered so badly in the last week. As a resident in Northern Ireland the events have brought back many bad memories. But the whole of the UK, Ireland and the World will support the families and community in their grief. We must be there, otherwise Hamilton will have succeeded in his madness.

*Darryl Armitage (N Ireland).*

# *The Blood is Strong*

*From the lone shieling  
of the misty island  
Mountains divide us,  
and the waste of seas  
Yet still the blood is strong,  
the heart is highland  
And we, in dreams,  
behold the Hebrides*



From way across the Atlantic ocean, from a country that sees all to much violence against children, I would like to send my sympathies to all the families that suffered this tragic and irrational loss. My heart also goes out to all the inhabitants of this town. May it be some comfort to all of you that people around the world share in your grief.

*Michael P. Malden  
Sao Paulo, Brazil*

The madness of one silences the innocence of many young lives again. Please know that people the world over are praying for them.

*Bruce and Jan Atkin  
Grand Rapids, Michigan USA*

As an ex primary school teacher and a present pediatrician with a deep love for the Scottish land of my ancestors , there are few words to express the sadness that I feel when I think about the events that have occurred in Dunblane. I wish for the time when the families and friends of these children and their teachers can think about them with joy and happiness. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Karen, Jim and Jordan Rodgers  
Langley, British Columbia, Canada*

There is very little anyone can say in such terrible circumstances. We will never understand such an evil act. Never know why. My thoughts are with you all,

*Angie*

We grieve for you and for the loss of your little ones. Our prayers are with you and we hope that you know you are loved and supported the world over.  
May God bless you and give you comfort in your sorrow.

*Bruce and Lisa Snoddy  
Temecula, California USA*

Words cannot adequately convey the feeling of horror and sadness I felt while watching the news of this tragic event unfold from half a world away.

Likewise, words cannot express to you my feeling of sorrow or sympathy. Suffice to say my prayers are with you all at this time.

No words can justify these actions, no words can help remove the grief and the pain I know you are experiencing and nothing can be said or done to undo the evil.

16 years of combat photo-journalism has taught me that not even the innocence of children are sacred. Now, sadly, this evil has come to Dunblane. I am sorry you have had to experience this.

May the world take note and may there deaths have not been in vein. May the anger, sorrow and grief you are feeling, along with that the rest of the world is also feeling for you, become focused some day so that never again must the innocence of child-hood be shattered in this manner.

May what has occurred at Dunblane cause every parent to love their children and all children more, give them a special hug each day and result in the sanctity and innocence of child-hood being returned.

Deepest sympathy, love and sorrow.

So Mote it be

*John Le Fevre  
North Balwyn Vic. Australia 3104*

The sadness that our family feels for those in Durblane can never be expressed in words but the emotions that we feel when we look into the face of our children bridges the miles that divide us. We pray for all the families involved and hope that some comfort my be found from the knowledge that they are not alone, we ALL share in the pain brought by this terrible tragedy.

*With Love and Prayers  
The Hancock Family@ California*

To Dunblane from Seattle, Washington: we would like to send our most heartfelt sympathies. Find strength in the gifts that remain to you.

*Ruth, Mark, & Rose*

We in Scotland also mourn with you - for we have all been devastated. At the Family Eucharist yesterday morning at our wee kirk near Glasgow it was Mothering Sunday - normally a happy day with families of wee children. We wept openly as we recalled the names of each child and their teacher who died. Dear friends in Dunblane have a 4 yrs old son who is a pupil at the school. Mercifully he was saved. His mother is a Church of Scotland Minister and she is Chaplain at Stirling Royal Infirmary. Both Katy and her husband Bryan, a priest in the Scottish Episcopal Church, led a short service of reflection and dedication on TV yesterday in Scottish Churches House ( the ecumenical centre for Scotland, which is in Dunblane). We all sincerely hope that the media will now depart and allow the private funerals and mourning to take place. Yes, it is awesome and we shall continue to pray for those who have lost someone in Dunblane, that they may be comforted by God. For the children and their teacher whom we have lost - 'May they play together forever'

*Graham and Valerie Vahey Busby  
near Glasgow, Scotland*

We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the tragic families of Dunblane. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad occasion

*Dennis and Mary MacDonagh, Galway, Ireland.*

Dear Stuart, I cannot even imagine the horror you must have been going through. I know you must be feeling happy and sad but I can understand. As I write this to you I am crying all over my keyboard and thinking how lucky we are having a healthy 3 year old boy and counting our blessings which I am sure you are doing. Please accept our condolences and sympathy to you in Dunblane and let the parents of the teacher and children (now special angels in heaven) know that we think of you daily and hope that this nightmare will never be repeated. We will never forget you (heart)

*Pat, John and Timmy  
Ventura, California (formerly of Liverpool, England)*

There is no way to adequately express my own and my husbands sympathy to the families and friends of those attacked in Dunblane. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, always,

*Carole and Keith Allan*

It is with great sadness that I write to the people of Dunblane... Your grief and sorrow is unimaginable... the event incomprehensible... I can only offer... my sincere condolence... and to let you know that people all over the world... are thinking of you... grieving with you... It is my deepest wish that this tragedy will remain in the minds of every decent person... for as long as it takes for us to actively work to create a world where innocent children... play... and learn and grow... without fear... without harm... without horror...

If I had a wish it would be that this horrific act of senseless violence had not occurred... if I could not have that wish then I would wish that it would never happen again... It is all one can offer..

*Judy Bell  
Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada*

As I heard the news on March 13, all I could do was listen in horror and cry as I thought of my own 5 year old at school that morning...

There are no words that can convey the outrage and horror that my husband and I continue to feel regarding this terrible tragedy. Our prayers are with all of you.

*Laurie and Eric Smith  
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada*

May the children and their teacher rest in peace. For those who have to live with this enormous pain...I wish you all the best and strength for the future.

*Ralph Jussen  
Amsterdam, the Netherlands*

My deepest sympathy to all the families involved in this saddest of events.

*Darryl Romm*



Everytime I read something about Dunblane and the victims, my heart just sank. I grieve with everyone, EVERYONE!!!

*Laura  
from California*

My wife and I extend our condolences to all who suffered from this incredible outrage. My colleagues here in the states have also asked me to express their sadness at the event and want to let the families know that they are in our prayers. We in America tend to take mindless acts of savagery in our stride because they are so common here. But this has left even us in pain. May God be with you.

*Al Richardson*

Words cannot express my deep sorrow at the tragic loss of these children and their teacher. We will all hug our loved ones a little closer, a little longer because of this. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*Melissa Bonner  
Houston, Texas USA*

To the families in Dunblane...I send my deepest sympathies to you all. As a parent of two school-age daughters I can't put into words the sorrow I feel at your devastating loss...My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*Sincerely  
Kay Bellhouse  
(Colorado, USA, originally from Yorkshire)*

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies and heart felt sadness, to all the families that have had a tragic loss of their loved ones, And also to all the community of Dunblane We all feel so Absolutely helpless. We as a Family Can only give you our thoughts and condolences, and we hope that this shows that you are not alone. The whole Kingdom Is Grieving With You

*From Peter, Denise, Paul, Steven, Tanya*

I think it somewhat fitting that my first attempt to contact the world through this wonderful technology be a missive of heartfelt warmth for those who must carry on in the face of this unimaginable horror. I find it striking that all of this wonderful technology at my fingertips could not have deterred this lunatic in the least. My fingertips are better served to try to help wipe away the tears from all of your eyes if that were possible. I pretend not to understand, but to console. I cannot do but hold your lovely town in prayerful wishes. The Lord has certainly lifted those who did not survive to His right hand with His Son. Please allow me to share a minute portion of your grief even though I have no affiliation with your situation, other than being a brother in Christ.

*My sincere condolences and blessings.  
Mike Stockram*

My heartfelt condolences to all involved in this horrible, horrible thing. I pray that you will find the peace and comfort that you seek at this time. Much love to everyone.

*David B. Boone, Jr  
Dunbar descendant*

I would like to say being a mother of a 5 yr old girl I am very sorry to hear what has happened to you all.

*Margie, Norman and Amy Forbush*

My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. I wish I could take the pain away from you, please stay strong.

*Deepest thoughts, Teri D. Frantz  
Phoenix, Arizona*

Words fail me. Our sincerest condolences. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Colin and Meri Griffiths  
Vancouver, Canada*

My heartfelt sympathies to you and yours in this time of greatest tragedy.  
There truly is no greater loss.

*My thoughts are with you,  
Sincerely, Barabra Schwartz  
Los Angeles, CA, USA*

We send our deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers to you. It is impossible to truly know the pain and loss you are suffering. We do however, grieve for you and with you and are horrified at this senseless, evil act of violence.

*The Hardy Family  
York, Pennsylvania*

No words can express the anguish of your tragedy. Please know that you have friends all over who share your grief and tears. Prayers were said yesterday at Berwyn Presbyterian Church in College Park, Maryland, USA for you and the souls of the children and their teacher.

God bless you and give you memories of love and good times. There are 17 new angels in Heaven!

*Fondly,  
Carolee Wende*

To the Dunblane Community, Our hearts bleed with yours and our thoughts are with you. We wish you peace.

*Shocked.  
Jim and Wend  
Oxford.*

The prayers of my family and my spiritual family of 5,000 are extended to the families of the innocent victims. While we believe the victims are resting now in God's Kingdom, we pray he showers his grace and comfort to the families of the children.

*Bill Besterman President, Executive Lay Board Of Directors,  
St. Paul's Retreat Center Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA*

To the people of Dunblane—None of us who have not suffered what you have suffered can know the depth of your pain as a result of the loss of so many of your youngest and most innocent citizens. But as an American of Scottish ancestry, I am deeply saddened that such a terrible crime and tragedy could have occurred in the land of my ancestors. We have all come to think of Scotland as a land of brave and honest and law abiding people, in some magic way immune from the evil and hatred that seems to prevalent in the world. And now that image is dulled by a senseless and awful event. Know that the hopes and prayers of the world are with you as you try to come to grips with the magnitude of this tragedy.

*Raymond P McIntosh  
Williamstown, West Virginia USA*

I cannot imagine the emptiness that the city of Dunblane is feeling right now. All I can feel is the fact that if this were my grandchild, I would have to feel that this would never end for me. The coward that did this horrible thing refused to let the families have any closure because he committed suicide before the parents and grandparents of these beautiful children could do it for him. Know that my husband and I send our hearts to all of you and know that some day you will see your little ones again up in heaven. They are in a place now that there is no pain. I also believe that they are far, far away from the man that hurt not only them but their loved ones also. Remember that they are looking down on you now and will always be on your right shoulder looking out for you. Find peace, I don't know how, but try to find peace.

I want to express my deep and grievous feelings to the people and families of Dunblane. A Scotland-fan from germany

*Ralf*

No words can express the feelings.

*Martin (NL)*

Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time - I pray that clarity and understanding will somehow emerge for you and that you will find peace of mind and heart. Please remember that you are not alone in your pain and that you are loved and cared about.

*Catherine Schultz*

Both my Wife and I would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to the families. Words are meaningless and far more literate people than I have tried to sum up the feelings of normal people and failed.

*Peace be with you all  
ian edwards*

The entire world mourns with you. There are no words of comfort for such a senseless act, but be assured that everyone of us are sharing your sorrow

*Joan and Christopher Kell,  
New York*

My condolences to you for your devastating loss. Remember that you are not alone.

*Thomas J. Lovelock  
Smithtown, NY, USA*

To the families in Dunblane, you have been in my thoughts and prayers constantly. Having four children of my own I can't help to think how I would feel. I hope that god helps you through this awful time. Take care.

*Mike Pagel.*

Sympathies from a descendant of Scots from Netherairneefoul, near Stirling:

My heart goes out to the families who lost their children in the horrible slaying. I broke down and cried when I heard the news. Your grief must be unimaginable, that's why I'm praying for you every day. Please know that people all over the world can feel your pain and you are not alone.

*Charles E MeachamSterling.*

Our hearts go out to you in your loss of these dear dear children and their teacher. We shall never let the world forget their tragedy. We can only send you our sympathy and prayerful thoughts from San Francisco Bay, California.

*Dorie & Paul Harting, Gretchen Hermes*

We are comforted by the knowledge that our Lord knows of the suffering of parents at the slaughter of innocents. Such a slaughter occurred in Bethlehem just after Christ was born, as Herod in his insanity tried to eliminate the King of Kings.

We are comforted by the words of our Lord, who said to let the little children come close to him when his disciples tried to keep them away. Significantly, he said, “for there are many such in my Father’s kingdom and Their faces do always behold the glory that is my father.” This is the clearest statement of the honor and privilege that children of the new covenant have in Heaven. To better understand this, consider Moses, who led the Israel people out of Egypt. But because of his sins, he was not allowed to see the Face of God, but only the trailing light as God passed by.

And for the faithful teacher, who died shielding her students, “Greater love hath no one than this, that they lay down their life for a friend.” and “For as ye have done unto the least of these my brethern, you have done so unto me.”

Vengeance belongs to God. Too bad the madman who committed these acts didn’t realize that Christ, who will judge us all, predicted the worst punishment for those who would harm these little ones (“Better a mill stone be hung about his neck and he be drowned in the depths of the seas” ....) .

*Brent A Reppert*

Although our ancestors emigrated from Scotland to America more than 150 years ago, our family has always been proud of its Scottish heritage. Please accept our profound sympathy and deep condolences for the horror that was visited upon your children, your families, and your community. All of you are in our prayers.

*The Henry Campbell Family Tacoma, WA  
The Scott D. Campbell Family Seattle, WA  
The Dean D. Campbell Family Seattle, WA  
The Bruce H. Campbell Family San Diego, CA*

Although late on the draw, my sincere sympathy and prayers go to you all. Scotland has been on my heart this entire year. It is on many people's hearts, but most of all on god's heart. I believe, as many do, that god shall redeem all of this, and that you all will see his mercy extended to each family, the Dunblane community, and to your entire great nation.

*In Jesus' name,*

*Lea Nocas  
Tyler, Texas*

I am writing from the United States to express my sorrow at the senseless tragedy that happened in your town. I am Scottish-American and have been to Glasgow and Edinburgh. It is such a lovely and peaceful place and the Scots are so gentle. I feel such a loss from the deaths of these little children and of their teacher who so valiantly tried to protect them. It is equally frustrating that the monster that did this off-ed himself too, although it insures he'll never do it again, nor will you have to pay taxes to jail him. I hope this letter gets circulated among all the families who are trying so hard to rebuild their lives. From what i am reading some were unfortunate enough to lose their only child or both their children in that tragedy. My prayers are with you that each day will get better. Sincerely,

*Nadine Miller  
New York*

My 3 year old son, my husband and I send our great love and condolences to the families of Dunblane. A friend once told me that to have a child is to see "your heart walking away from you." It's true while they are alive, and to have them taken so young . . . well, then I guess your heart is in heaven. God bless and best wishes.

*The Sedivy Family*

My condolences to the families destroyed by the madman. As a father of a second grade boy, I can fully sympathize with all of you. It's so sad that anger is taken out on such young children.

*Louie Yan  
San Jose, California*

Please accept my deepest sympathies. I am shocked and amazed, as I know you are, that a fellow human being could commit such an act. My prayers, as well as my congregations, are with you in this time. There are no words that can really alleviate your grief, I know because recently I lost someone very near to me. My only solace is that she is in a far more wonderful place than I can imagine. Again, please know the world is here for your support.

*Nancy Martin*

To the extent anyone can help the families in Dunblane, I would love to know how. I have been unable to finish the NY Times articles on the tragedy; it is too painful to begin to imagine the shock and horror. I have learned through hard experience that we are here only a short time — but in Dunblane, the time was too short.

The families of those who lost children and the townspeople who did not will bear the pain and the scars. I cannot tell if this moves me towards religion or away from it. But in an age where we can reach through cyberspace to say how badly we feel for all of those people, let me express profound grief and sympathy.

It is a story that has touched the world. I had never heard of Dunblane; now I can never forget it. I am sorry for all of you.

*Alex Berger  
New York City.*

I'm usually a strong person, but found myself with wet eyes upon hearing of the terrible tragedy in Dunblane. My wife and I live in the New York area and have 3 young children. I couldn't wait to arrive home from work and give them all a hug.

Rest assured that all of our prayers are with you and the other families devastated by this senseless outburst. I only wish there was more we could do.

*Phil, Louise, Michelle(11 yrs), Brian(8 yrs), and little Kelly(5 yrs) Peterson*

May I add my own deepest condolences to the families and community of Dunblane for their devastating loss. May they find peace.

*regards,  
Peter Haines*





cannot find words to  
express how I feel,  
even though I do not know anyone  
involved.

I would *gladly* give up my place  
on earth if it would bring those  
kiddies back.

Nicholas Abbott

I don't think anyone can dispute the joy and innocence that a child brings into the world. The same goes for the fact that no one can dispute the pain we all feel when these joyous children are taken from us. My deepest sympathies are with the families that have gone through this horror. God watches over the little Angels. With love and sorrow,

*Teri Petrillo  
Brampton Ont. Canada*

To all who suffered..... Our prayers are with you always.

*Nan and Tom Adamson.  
Manchester, NH, USA*

Let me add one more small voice of sympathy from across the Atlantic. The father of a 2 year old, I cried when I heard the news of your loss. Next month is the anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing, where many babies lost their lives. I pray that this cruel world can learn to spare the children even if it must tear itself apart in other ways.

My family is thinking of you and hoping that you can find the strength to move on while cherishing the memories of your little ones. They are in our hearts, and we will remember them as well.

*God Bless,  
Keven, Cathy, and Kyle McCuller  
Gainesville, Florida, USA*

Our thoughts are with you.

*The Thom Family Sugar Land, Texas, USA*

Our deepest sympathies. Our thoughts are with you as are our prayers.

*The McKessock Family  
New Jersey, USA*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Richard Gentry  
Atlanta, GA*

I wish to add the condolences of my wife and I to all of the residents and particularly the families of the teacher and children slain. We grieve with you as do any families who care about their children and loved ones. May God be your portion during this time and the days ahead.

*Ben and Carol Harrison  
Fairborn Ohio USA*

Our sincerest condolences to the families of the children murdered and injured and of the teacher at the school in Dunblane. Even here in Puerto Rico the story was front page news for many days. On this island, where crime is high and guns are plentiful, we still can not help but stop and send our love and hopes and sense of common sadness to those suffering in Dunblane.

*Nancy L. Zingrone & Carlos S. Alvarado  
(graduate students at the University of Edinburgh  
conducting research in Puerto Rico)*

To all the families who have lost loved ones, my thoughts and prayers are with you each and every day.

*Mandy Freedman  
(previously of Glasgow)*

We share in your grief and heartache this day. It is, unfortunately, not a new experience for some of us. And words cannot begin to describe your feelings. But to the extent that it provides some comfort, please rest assured that many, many, many worldwide have you in their prayers. May God bring such comfort in the days ahead for Scotland, the ancestral home of so many of us.

*Michael Duncan  
Oklahoma City*

My prayers go with you all...

*Geert Delahaye*

May we extend to all the families of the children who perished in the senseless shooting in Dunblane our most fervent prayers. I, Diana Shertenlieb, my husband, Gary, and our five children extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of all the beautiful children who were lost in this senseless episode.

They will not be forgotten by this Atlanta, Georgia, family. Peace be with all of you.

*Diana Shertenlieb*

My greatest fear, which I share with mothers everywhere, is the loss of a child. I pray and cry for you every night. My God help you and ease your pain.

*Merilee Smith  
Anchorage, Alaska*

Our hearts are bleeding with yours. There are no words that can bring your children back to you nor are there words that can allow you to feel no pain. We are parents like yourselves. And only parents know of the fear we have for our children. Yours is a tragedy which no one should have to bear. Please accept our condolences. May God help everyone of you.

*John, Anna, Deanna & Christina Salvatore  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

Dear Dunblane,

As I write to you from Oklahoma I know how shocked, and numb you must be. Half-way around the world, and yet our communities have suffered pain and death by the same types of people. I am so sorry that this condition exists. Please know that many prayers are being said in hopes that you, too, will survive, live, and love despite the horrible thing that has happened. It is easy to let the pain and bitterness take over, but I have faith that you will not let that happen.

*God Bless,  
Jo*

My prayers and thoughts are with you as you struggle through this difficult time.

*Sheila Gemensky  
West Virginia, USA*

I wish to express my condolences at your tragic loss. While I have no words to take away your pain, perhaps you can find some comfort in this poem....

Do not stand by my grave and weep.

[poem reproduced in full elsewhere]

May the beautiful memories you hold dear give you strength in these difficult hours.

*With deepest sympathy  
Diane Ransburg  
Indianapolis, Indiana (USA)*

please accept my family's deepest sympathy for the loss of your love ones. my family has been terribly saddened by this tragic and senseless loss of innocent children, and their lovely teacher. i pray each night for the deceased and their families. may god grant the innocent children eternal rest, and give strength to their families, as well as to the family of the deceased teacher. you will be in my prayers.

*Gary D Wilson*

Heartfelt condolences to all concerned.

*Ph. Thibault and family  
Montreal Canada*

The shock of this evil has been felt throughout the World. We hope and pray that you will find peace. My children and I send our prayers.

*Laura Flanagan and sons,  
Scarborough, Ontario, Canada.*

The news of your tragedy is a great sadness. Have strength, and know that millions around the world have you in their thoughts.

*Peter Goodman*

Our sincerest sympathy. It is impossible to feel as you do, we can only imagine the terrible emptiness. Our prayers and hopes for healing for you all.

*Walter (Wally) and Janice Wilkins  
Cobbtown, GA, USA 30420*

To the grieving families in Dunblane and to the families of those still in hospital The First United Methodist Church Family of Round Rock, Texas in USA extends its prayers that God my comfort you in your grief and help those attempting to heal from this tragedy. We do not understand why such things happen but we do know the Lord is always nearby as solace. God be with you all.

With much love and sending my special prayer to you

*Richard W Berkley  
Round Rock, Texas*

I add my expression of sympathy with tears in my eyes. As the Dad of Jesse and Robb I cannot begin to imagine how one deals with your loss.

The little ones are now safe with the Lord, may He give you strength and comfort.

*Kane Scott  
Surrey, B.C. , Canada*

My family and I would like to offer our most heartfelt condolences to the families of the children in Dunblane. It is inconceivable that a human being would do such a thing. Our prayers are with you. We are (formerly) from Scotland County, North Carolina, USA.

*Karen C Summers*

To the Families Who Suffered in Dunblane and Those Who Dealt With the Tragedy

Please accept the thoughts, prayers and soulful wishes for strength in your horrid grief. As the father of two young children with a third soon to be born, I cannot begin to imagine your suffering. (I say that as one who sadly has seen combat far more in my life than I ever cared to see.)

My wife, my children and I have you all in our prayers. More than that I know not what to say. Except may God Bless you all and cherish the souls of those little ones who now rest peacefully with Him.

*Richard Mackenzie  
Silver Spring, Maryland USA*

To the families and individuals that have been touched by the horrific tragedy in Dunblane, our thoughts and sympathy are with you during this very difficult to understand time. Your loss is felt around the world.

*John Gaiennie  
Baton Rouge, La. USA*

As a bereaved parent and a descendent of an old Dumfrieshire family, I want the bereaved parents of Dunblane to know how my thoughts have been with them during these last few days. Like the rest of the world I'll keep praying for you. May God be with you all.

*Jean Jardine Miller.*

Our hearts are with you all. We send our prayers for strength and peace at this tragic time.

*David & Barbara Ordway & family  
Eagle River, Alaska*

I'm not sure if this message will end up in the right place, but perhaps you can help.

Especially as a teacher here in the U.S., I would like to add my voice to those offering whatever comfort and support the families and friends throughout Scotland may find in our thoughts and prayers.

This past summer I had the opportunity to do some teacher training in the UK and had several educators from Scotland in my seminar so I feel personally touched by this horrible event, moreso, perhaps than had I not had this experience.

Please pass along my condolences. Let the people in Dunblane and throughout the UK know that they are truly in our hearts.

*Much love, Jane Bluestein, Ph.D.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico*

Our hearts here in mid-American go out to you. You are being remembered in our churches and synagogues. I know that God is with you in tragic time of loss

*John Kock*

There is no way as mere human's we can comprehend the horror of this tragedy. However, I do believe that each of those precious children was escorted in the arms of a loving angel to a life far better than the one we know. This can only a little bit ease the sorrow that you must be feeling.

Our prayers and thoughts are with you. May the Lord bless and protect you. Try as hard as it will be not to let hate overwhelm you. Then indeed the "devil" you did this act will have won.

*With greatest sympathy and love,  
Christa, John, Erin (9) and Patrick (4) of Scottish ancestors  
Fort Worth, TX, USA*

As a parent who drops off my kids at school every morning, my heart goes out to you. I cant imagine anything so terrible. My prayers are with you all. The people of the U.S.A are really touched by your tradgedy. God bless!!

*Robert Packman*

I know that I cannot feel the pain of the families and residents of Dunblane, but I can share your sorrow. I know that those children are in heaven and through their sweet innocence they will make the world a better place for us all. I offer my sincerest condolences to all. I have included a Celtic Blessing that I have in a book compiled by Caitlin Matthews. It is a very old Blessing Of The Guardian Angel. They are with the angels, I hope that it provides some comfort.

### **C**eltic Blessing of the Guardian Angel

O being of Brightness, Friend of Light, From the Blessed Realms  
of Grace, Gently encircle me, sweetly enchanting me, Guard-  
ing my soul-shrine from harm this day and night.

Keep me from anquish, Keep me from danger, Encircle my voy-  
age over the seas. A light will you lend me, To keep and defend  
me, O Beautiful Being, O Guardian this night.

Be a guiding star above me, Illuminate each rock and tide, Guide  
my ship across the waters, To the waveless harbourside.

*My Heartfelt Sympathies,  
Kalena Liete  
NJ/USA*



Our personal prayers go to the grieving people of Dunblane

*Rod & Karen Harrison*

This is from Glynis Ritch , living in USA, - My family and I are apalled at the horror that has happened to your town, and to the families in it. As an ex-pat, our hearts are aching for the losses you have suffered. Please know that the world is praying for you , and that the strength of millions of prayers will bring peace to your shattered lives. God be with you all , in this time of trouble. Evil will not win in the end.

*With love from S.Carolina.*

My prayers are with you and I pray that God will give you the strength to continue on.

*Mary E Callan*

America grieves along with the citizens of Dunblane. Guns have taken their toll in our country, too, but not with the savagery at Dunblane. I wish there were a way for all of us to join hands and rid ourselves of guns once and for all time. Is it possible? Yes! We can do it if we try.

*John McPhail*

My wife Karen and our children David and Christina send our prayers and condolences to the people in Scotland who have been affected by this terrible tragedy. It doesn't matter that we are thousands of miles away from your community, we all have been saddened by this act of thoughtless violence. May God help you bear up under this horrible situation.

*Dave Barclay*

Our hearts are with you and our prayers. I look into the face of my daughter and daily thank the Lord for keeping her safe. I wish that I could wipe away the look of fear in her eyes as she hears the horrible details of this tragedy - a lesson in life that I wish we all need not learn.

*Barbara J. Veno*

My prayers and thoughts are with the survivors. I pray that the All mighty God will give them strength to go on and to provide them assurance that they will indeed, see there little one again. I pray that they will have trust to know that there little one's are okay, that they are in the best of hands possible, where they will never be sick, never hurt, have no sorrow or pain. They are walking in the light, looking down upon the earth and wishing that the sorrow would end. I pray this in Jesus' holy name, AMEN

*Wednesday Adams*

Though I am one person, very far away, I offer prayers. Your innocents are in the arms of God, the safest place possible. My prayers are for you. No amount of words can help you understand how something this tragic can occur. My prayers are for your healing as you continue on with your lives. Take care of each other.

*Gina Ewing*

I pray that the families of Dunblane can find some sanity, some refuge in the remorse the world feels for their loss.

*Mike McLoughlin*

Deepest sympathy and constant prayers for you always.

*Sripriya Natarajan*

Our sincere sympathies to the people of Dunblane in the loss of their dear ones in the senseless killing last week. May God bless you and your children and their teacher, and may he give you comfort in your terrible loss.

*Helen and Nicodemus*

I just wish to add my condolences and support as a parent to all those parents who are suffering so as a result of this unfortunate event.

*Nick de Domenico  
Vancouver BC Canada*

There are no words. There are barely even thoughts that can express this profound grief. Those whom I have seldom seen cry, those whom I have never seen cry, wept that Wednesday. I hope, if there is some higher place where light and strength prevail, it turns all its attentions to you.

*LRB*

Our hearts and prayers go out to those bereaved families in Dunblane Scotland. God be with you

*Al Carty*

I don't know what to say, there isn't anything that can be said at a time like this. Why do such things happen? We will never know. From Marathon, New York to Dunblane Scotland, our hearts go out to you.

*Kristine Brown*

My heart goes out to all in Dunblane.. needless to say I was appalled at the atrocity which took place last week.. a friend in Germany said he saw a picture of the class, and that the children were so beautiful, so precious... I myself have 3 young sons, and god forbid this should ever happen here... I know it can happen anywhere, as tragedy seems to know no bounds...

To all in Dunblane, peace be with you.. God is with you, and so am I...

*Your friend, Tracy*

My thoughts and prayers are with the families, friends and neighbors of the children who were killed and injured in this terrible tragedy. May God give you comfort in your agony, and may Jesus help you in your burden.

*Robert R. Broering*

To the Families,  
Deepest sympathy from those of us in New Mexico, USA. Our prayers are with you during this darkest of time.

*Barry Digman*

God Bless. Peace be with you in this time of loss.

*Tony Godfrey*

I remain deeply saddened by Dunblane's loss. My thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of those who were taken away too soon.

I am so sorry.

*Valerie Beyers  
Columbia, Maryland USA*

To all who suffered... Our prayers are with you always.

*Nan and Tom Adamson  
Manchester, NH, USA*

So sad, so sorry.

*James Thomson*

My deepest sympathy to all of the families who must look to the future without their child who did not deserve to leave this world so soon.

I saw on television that you do not want to be remembered for this awful slaughter but for the dignity by which you have borne your loss. What an example for the world you are setting, what a memorial to the children.

*With great respect,  
Caroline Neely Kamiyama  
Everett, Washington, USA*

Speaking for a number of American journalists in California, our hearts and prayers go out to you and your loved ones during this terrible time. We are of one world and what injures you injures us. While we cannot know what it feels to be torn away from our children and friends, we do know from our experiences that you are not alone in your grief. Thoughtful regards,

*Maria Elena Raymond  
National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences  
San Francisco Chapter*

Many years ago, I spent some memorable time around Stirling in Scotland and have never forgotten the hospitality of the Scottish people and the quiet beauty of the Scottish landscape. In particular, I remember an ancient lichen-covered cemetery in Stirling. It is therefore with considerable shock that I heard of the tragedy of Dunblane. As a mother of young children myself, I cannot imagine the anguish that you and your community must be experiencing, for the unthinkable has happened to you. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Remember, after the news media is gone, that there are decent human beings all over the world thinking about you. We, too, wondered what happened and what can be done so that such unspeakable horrors do not occur again to other children.

*Cynthia Solem  
Santa Cruz, CA*

To all the families who lost loved ones in the tragedy, My heartfelt condolences go out to you all.

*With peace and love,  
Wendy Luck and Family  
Denver, Colorado, USA*

Please know that our hearts go out to all of the families affected by this tragedy. It does little to ease your pain but know in the thoughts of people all around the world.

*From the Henderson families in Kitchener, Ontario Canada*

I would like to express my deep sympathy and sadness for all of you. Scotland is a peaceful place and things like this should not happen there. I'm sure your children and their teacher are - as they once were - in good, loving hands now.

*Ken McIntosh  
Cumberland, RI, USA*

# Lament for Alan, my son

## A Piobaireachd

*Duncan Johnstone*

### Urlar



I first heard this tune, long before the events of March 13. On the first playing, it invaded my soul - I heard a Scots father cry out in anguish at the death of a beloved child, unable to do anything but stand and watch. I *felt* Duncan's grief.

When I heard the dreadful news of events at Dunblane, the tune sprang unbidden to my mind. I believe that Duncan expressed every Scottish parent's grief in his tune, a piobaireachd ready to take its place alongside MacCrimmon's "Lament for the Children".

It was with some nervousness, therefore, that I approached him for permission to quote the tune. I was right to be nervous, his pain was still palpable, re-kindled by the killings at Dunblane. Despite his own sadness, he immediately agreed to my request - like everyone else, he wanted to do something for the bereaved and the community.

I am very grateful to him for his generosity of spirit.

*RB*



My most deepfelt sympathies go to all the families touched by the massacre. Your strength may ebb at times, and when it does, search out assistance. None of us will ever be able to understand this crazy man's actions. We can only hope it never happens again.

*Suzanne Frank  
New York, USA*

To the folks of Dunblane Your shock grief is being felt, and deepest sympathy expressed, by everyone over here. Our hearts go out to you all.

*Roy & Ann Forrester  
USA (Formally Monifieth, Angus)*

I wish to send my heartfelt condolences to all the Dunblane families. I have four children with the third one in kindergarten now, and I was choked up and teary-eyed reading about the tragedy. All good people all over the world are praying for you. My God bless you and comfort you.

*Thomas Duncan  
Fairbanks, Alaska, U.S.A.*

We mourn so deeply for your losses...may God carry you through these dark days and may His tears begin to wash away your sorrow. We love you and pray for you unceasingly.

*Manfred, Lynn and Ryan Gerhart  
Atlanta, Georgia USA*

To all the families and friends of the little children who so senselessly were taken from you, my deepest sympathy. I, too, have a child in Kindergarten and can not even start to fathom how I would feel in your place. When something like this happens it tears at the soul of the entire world. Please try to hold together and Love the children that are still with us. God will watch over those who are now with him until we can join them.

*ernest k. howard*

I came here to write my message of sympathy to the residents of Dunblane. I read your poem and cried. I have a daughter that will be 5 in May. You touched my heart with your words, and brought tears to my eyes.

*Sincerely,*

My wife Louise joins me in sending you all our most sincere sympathy. We are as thunderstruck and disturbed as any of you Dunblaners who are not directly related to the poor victims must be. To those who are related we can only offer you our hope that you will allow time to do its healing...

*Hugo Langshur  
Montreal*

**T**he night will never stay  
The night will still go by  
Though with a million stars

You pin it to the sky

Though you bind it with the blowing wind and buckle it with the moon.

The night will slip away Like a sorrow or a tune.

So sorry..I visited the Dunblane area in '94 and feel the tragedy as if it were my own.

*Rene Martin*

I am sending this message from across the Atlantic in Hudson, Quebec Canada. I have been very greatly shaken by the tragic events that have occurred in your small town. Words really fail me at this time but please accept my sincere & deepest sympathies for all those who have suffered this past week in your town. Every time I have seen news articles on my TV this past week about the events in Dunblane have had tears come to my eyes. So innocent they were and so little. So tragic that one teacher had to suffer as well, we must not forget her as well. The words of one in your Town put it so well but oh so sadly, "It was a day that God overslept" Only HE knows why these things occur. God Bless you all from here in Canada.

*Love, Rod Hodgson.*



Dear Parents: My wife and I, after hearing of your terrible loss, desperately wanted to find some way to say or do something to ease your pain. We know that this is not much and our words from across the ocean can never heal the sadness in your lives, but we still wanted you to know that we care. We have a kindergarten aged child ourselves and we live in a small town like yourselves, and when we heard the news on the radio we were stunned. I don't really know what else to say here...it is awkward, but suffice it to say that we are thinking of you all and that we share your rage at the utter pointlessness of this loss. For myself, I have only one prayer...that there is a God who is not only angered by this, but who is also playing with and loving your children even as we speak. God Bless.

*Neil and Suzanne Crone  
Sunderland, Ont. Canada*

How terribly saddened our family is at this horrible deed. Our prayers our with all the families in Dunblane in the hope that time and God will ease your pain. God be with you.

*Mark, Robin, Chloe and Michael Corwin  
Los Angeles, California, USA*

I am deeply saddened by your recent tragedy. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I am at a loss for words, but my heart is with you.

*With deepest sympathy,  
Andrew Freeman*

Just wanted to let you know there are others out there who stand with you during this most difficult time.

*Most Respectively Yours,  
Russell & Chien-Huei Wetherington  
Carol Stream, Illinois USA*

My heart goes out to the families who lost their children in the horrible slaying. I broke down and cried when I heard the news. Your grief must be unimaginable, that's why I'm praying for you every day. Please know that people all over the world can feel your pain and you are not alone.

*Charles E Meacham*

There is little my family can do in the physical sense, but we can. will and do pray for you. We have no magic words to make anything better, but rest assured if we did we would gladly give them up in our own safekeeping and pass them to you. May God give you strength and courage.

*David, Vicki, Jacob, Justin, and Sean Hogan  
Leeds, Alabama USA*

To the families of the victims, You have my deepest sympathy and my prays. I know that this is a really hard time for all of you. One which words most likely can't describe. I was shocked beyond belief when I heard about the tragedy on the news here in Chicago, U.S. after returning from school myself. These events have awakend many bad memories for residents here too since a few years ago a person named Laura Dan did the same thing here. So from all of Chicago you have our sympathy and will be in all our prays for the days to come. Take care and stay strong no matter how hard it may be.

*Andrew Smolenski  
Chicago, Illinois, USA*

Here in Oklahoma City, we have a poignant sense of shared experience with the people of Dunblane. The inestimable personal loss for the familes of the children and their teacher is nearly beyond our ken, but the community sense of shock and lost security is something that is achingly familiar to us all. But as surely as we were stunned by the bombing and the deaths of 168 people—including 19 babies and toddlers—we were also touched by the love and concern of people throughout the world. Neither the most sympathetic messages nor mountains of teddy bears can change the horror that has already occurred, but it at least helps to show your children that the world is still an essentially good place, and love and goodness will ultimately prevail over evil. Our prayers are with you all as you cope with this tragedy.

*Melanie L. Boaz*

May God bless you and keep you in your hour of sorry.

*The Montgomery Family  
Woodbridge, VA*

I can not even imagine the incredible sorrow that has filled your hearts.....I have two daughters of my own and the thought of losing one of them is inconceivable..

please know there are people all over the world who grieve for you and with you... who can not fathom why this could happen... let alone how... they are God's special angels now... I know that's little comfort... but know that they are in a better place than we are.

May God's Peace Be With You...

*Sherry Hester  
A Mother in USA*

To all those who have lost loved ones in Dunblane through this tragedy, our hearts go out to you. You are in our hearts and prayers. We have 2 small children of our own, one a first grader, so this really hit home. I can imagine the horror and loss you are feeling today. May God comfort you as only He can as you start over without your dear ones.

*Sincerely,  
The MacKenzies - Martin, Eunice, David & Katherine*

There are no words to ease your pain & sorrow at this time. Just be aware that the world sends its wishes for you to heal from the profound depths of your grief. These precious lives were taken from you so suddenly—yet, they were “Born To Heaven” just as quickly & are wrapped in the arms of a loving God for all time. God IS good !! It is man who is flawed & the man who did this act will have to face his Creator . You were blessed to have these little spirits grace your lives for a while & your lives will be forever changed because of the joy that they brought to you. Do not lose sight of the love & happiness that they showed to you in their short years on Earth. This will comfort you in the years to come. Think of the things they gave to you & try not to dwell on the things you will miss—that will only add to your pain. Love is Eternal !! I believe that we will be united with those that we have loved & lost in Heaven when we arrive there. God Bless you always.

*The Streeper Family in Texas*

As a new, first-time parent, I can't even begin to imagine the horror that Dunblane has experienced because of one, psychotic monster. I cry at every newspaper story I read about your tragedy. Of course, I realize that my tears are little consolation for the enormous and irreplaceable losses you have suffered, but I hope you take some comfort in the knowledge that the world feels at least some of your pain. If my son were so senselessly slain—indeed, if he died for any reason at all at such a young age—I know I would feel my life had ended as well. But, of course, it wouldn't, and neither will yours. Eventually you will find a way to go on, and even to be happy again. And I hope that you will try to remember your children as happy and innocent, laughing and playing. That's the way they were, and that's the way they will always be. My very sincere condolences to you all. .

*Beth Weinhouse*

As a father of five children I feel for your loss. No words can hope to bring you peace in this terrible moment of pain. My love and prayers are with you. May God give you the strength to endure. Just know that your little ones are still playing together — in love and peace.

*Wayne S Hamburger*

My sympathy during such a sad time. Those who have written before me have said it so well, I really don't have much to add. Such a thing really touches everyone, no matter where you're from or who you are. Do the best you can, and have faith.

*Kent Poots*

I know there's nothing I can say to help the pain, but I want you all to know that my prayers and thoughts are with you through this terrible tragedy. Just keep loving each other and you will get through this.

*Becky Ramage-Tuttle*

God Bless and be with you in this time of grief.

*Brian K Jacobi*



It seems rather insignificant that our small family should offer you our sympathy, when the whole world feels as though it shares your loss. But, we all felt really strongly about this, so we figured perhaps we could bring even a moment of peace to someone's heart at this time.

When the Oklahoma City bombing occurred here, our entire Nation mourned, just as your nation now mourns for your loved ones. But in honor of the lost, something wonderful seemed to happen. People that had been estranged from each other, strangers who would never have ventured to speak to each other, all came together, briefly, for a show of solidarity against the evil tormented acts of misguided people. Why people do these awful things will probably always be a mystery. I certainly don't have any answers. But just as our nation now questions the philosophies of those who considered the Oklahoma City bombing as just retribution for an act by our government, so will all people question the philosophies of those who allow these terrible things to go unnoticed and unpunished. I don't know if I believe in an "eye for an eye". If my children were killed, perhaps I would believe in it. But neither do I believe that deranged persons should be spared just punishment for their actions, merely because they are "confused" or "upset" or "had a bad life". Their lives were what they made them, and they denied others life. There is no justification for that, except for those of us who remain to work harder to make sure that it cannot happen again. Since the bad people WON'T stop it, it is left to us to prevent it.

We aren't anyone important, or special. We are just one family. But, if there is any way that we can help you, or if there is any way that we can join you to stop this sort of madness, we will always be just an email away. We have prayed for the sure reception of your families in Heaven, and we have prayed for the Lord to ease the pain in your hearts. We will continue to pray for those things in the name of your children. For what it is worth, I sincerely hope that it helps, even for one second.

*Sandra P. Tuttle and Family*

Prayers and deepest sympathy from kentucky, usa. Those Of us who have children not much older are broken hearted and frightened more of the dangers that are faced each day. Our praise is that we know they are in gods hands. God be with you.

*Dan and Cindy Briggs  
Edgewood, Kentucky*

Across the miles we share in the grief of what has befallen your families. We reach out to hold and comfort you in our mind's eye and pray to a Higher Power to guide and support you all through this unbearable time. We can only hope that you will feel a slight bit of comfort knowing that your little ones are at perfect peace with God. My tears fall for you. If there is anything myself or family could possibly do for any of you just write to us here at Compuserve. May you be strong. May your healing begin with each new day. Our love, comfort, and condolences.

*Alison Bouchard and Family  
Connecticut, U.S.A.*

My heart, thoughts and prayers go out to all these families and friends of the children, we in the U.S. are all praying that God give comfort and love to all of them. This is such a horrible tragedy, so much love is sent to all of Scotland! We are so very far away and yet we feel so very much at this time and forever, we will not forget the children.

*Know that we care! Love and Prayers  
Lori Pike and Family*

As a resident of Oklahoma, please know that we all here know what it is like to be touched so closely and deeply by a tragedy. Our hearts go out to you. We mourn your loss of dear, sweet little ones and we mourn your loss of innocence. God Bless You.

*Jane Noble  
Tulsa, Oklahoma*

We were greatly saddened to hear the dreadful news of this monstrous event. We all pray for the survivors and greatly feel for the parents. Our love and prayers go out to each and every one of you. We look forward to a time when we can all live in peace, a time when death will be no more. We look ahead to the time when we can welcome those young boys back into gods kingdom. Remember the boys, never let their memory fade.

*Lightowler family  
Sydney Australia*

My wife Karen and I want to extend our condolences on your loss. You are in our prayers here in Columbus, OH, USA and also in those of our church, Faith Lutheran.

*Roger Southward*

I also sent a postal letter from my family about your recent tragedy, but thought I'd do this to. Everyone I know in America is very saddened by this tragic event. How anyone could intentional murder innocent children and their teacher is beyond me. The man was truly sick. I have a boy (4) and girl (2), myself. Losing one terrifies me. To lose them the way you did is truly terrible. My family and country expresses its deepest sympathies.

*Randy Everette, Valinya (from Thailand), Benjamin (4), and Alicia (2)  
Norfolk, Virginia, USA*

Today marked the 1st year anniversary of the death of a very dear loved one...I went with his widow to Mass in his honor, and the Sister prayed for the repose of the little ones in Dunblane, as I'm sure she has done in Mass many times, but I was very touched, and I too offer a prayer for the families to find strength and comfort in the love of all of us the world over.

*Robin Freeman  
California, USA*

A message to the families, friends, and citizens of Dunblane:

My prayers are with you all each day as you walk this long and terrible road. It was an incomprehensible act; one only born from a madman's mind.

Please look to the Lord our God for strength and mercy. May His love be with you now and forever. Your tragedy is our tragedy. We lift up our hearts to you.

*Patti*

I cried when I heard the news on the radio here in America. The fact that all of the children were taken together.

Despite the problems of one man, I was struck by the thought of all of those classmates playing together in Heaven. That's when I cry.

God Bless and Heal You, Scotland.

*Jerry Goodin*



I want to express my condolence to those families of which relatives were lost.

*Yours, daniel donaldson  
Cumbernauld, Scotland, UK*

I can't begin to feel your pain, and will never understand the senseless tragedy you all have experienced. Please know that I and my family grieve with, and for you in your hours of pain. I have never been to Scotland, but I feel as if a part of my heart will always remain with you.

*God bless and keep you all.  
Cate, Robert, Ann, Bill, & Charles Orlando, FL USA*

i dont no how to say this but my heart is be with you all. i dont can find the words to express my fillings about this traggedy but i know GOD is with you all.

*from the netherlands with love  
gert-jan en karin-ruth breems Karin-Ruth Breems*

Please send our heart felt sorrow to the families of all the children who died. Regards, May God be with you all at this time.

*Darlene Gilmore- Shapiro, Vivian Gilmore, Kevin Gilmore,  
and David Gilmore.*

Having been born and brought up in Scotland, and having visited Dunblane itself on many occasions I was deeply shocked and disturbed by the terrible events that happened there. All I can say is that I hope that through the terrible darkness, a little light may begin to shine, to lead the way towards healing the wounds. May God grant you peace and comfort in this time, and please know that you do not grieve alone. The thoughts of so many people are with you.

*Ann McMeekin  
East Kilbride, Scotland*

I'm relatively new to Compuserve, but I saw a message saying that you were collecting messages for onforwarding to the Dunblane authorities. I hope I'm addressing this to the right person.

On behalf on the Upper Hutt District of the Scout Association of New Zealand I would like to say how horrified we were to hear of this tragedy and that our thoughts and prayers go to the survivors and the families of those killed.

We were moved to tears in many cases at the poignant scene shown on the BBC News with the young child coming out to see Her Majesty and trying to understand what the fuss was all about.

Children have the right to grow up and see the future. To have the future snatched from them in this manner is the worst sin of all.

*Tony Lucie-Smith  
District Commissioner, Upper Hutt District  
Scout Association of New Zealand*

My family went through the LA earthquake, but it doesn't even come close to the agony felt by parents who have had their lives torn apart by someone with a gun and no sense of decency.

*John Devine  
Los Angeles, USA*

Dear Friends. My prayers have been with you ever since the horror started. Today the school opened again. Today is the FIRST day of the rest of Lives. GOD Bless.

*Peter O'Grady (Luton, UK)*

I feel what happen to the kids was terrible and I feel very sorry for the families and friends of the victums. When my family heard the news we were all shocked. Condolences to families and friends of the victums hoping a quick recovery from this terrible event from this household in Canada.

*Leonard Wan*

I remember some years ago when Atlanta, Georgia in the U.S. was the location of the tragic deaths of 28 children at the hands of a deranged mass murderer. It was hard to imagine then how anything could be worse. It is hard to imagine now how such things could ever happen anywhere.

A friend of mine penned a beautiful song (with a little help from me) that we recorded and dedicated to the citizens of Atlanta. It was called "We Care" and was meant (in the best way we knew how) to convey the empathy and sympathy of our community of Wichita, Kansas with the horror of Atlanta's suffering.

Unfortunately, this forum doesn't allow me to forward the song as a performance, but I thought you should at least have the words. Please know that we ache for your suffering.

[The song is reproduced overleaf]

May our love and prayers from afar be a comfort to you in your time of grief

*Robert Simon*

Hi Rob , this is Glynis from S. Carolina, it is a beautiful song that you sent to those suffering in Dunblane. The outpouring of love and compassion from all over the world just on this compuserve system alone, proves that humanity is not lost. We just lose our way sometimes, and need reminding that our selfless love for our fellow man is the key to defeating evil.

*Peace, G*

This horrible massacre is testimony to the evils that still exist in the world. How innocent, unsuspecting children were taken into it is beyond belief.

My deepest, sincerest condolences to the people of Dunblane in the wake of this tragedy. The world grieves together with you.

*Sincerely  
Marcella Cheung.*

Words can never be enough, but just know that the whole world is mourning with you.

*xxxx  
Jane,  
Hong Kong*

# We Care! — A Message to Dunblane

*A Song with . . .*

Words and Music by - Anthony Welch

Arranged by - Anthony Welch & Robert Simon

## *Verse 1*

In times like these, we need each other  
To walk hand in hand - brother to brother.

## *Bridge 1*

So when crises come and you think you're all alone,  
You must not despair or believe all hope is gone.  
This is our message to you... our message to you!

## *Chorus*

We Care! We Care!  
And we're praying for you!  
We Care! We Care!  
You need to know we care!

## *Verse 2*

Sometimes it seems that there's no answer  
To the problems that make us suffer.

## *Bridge 2*

But God knows our needs and His love will conquer wrong.  
He will hear your prayer so you'll never be alone.  
This is our message to you... message to you!

## *Chorus*

We Care! We Care!  
And we're praying for you!  
We Care! We Care!  
You need to know we care!  
You need to know we care!  
We Care!



Our tears and prayers are with you. I've new determination through your loss. Peace and love don't happen naturally. There's an effort that has to be made to promote it. In our community we'll be working toward: fewer guns / less communal anonymity-ignorance of troubled people / healing & support for those touched by violence.

*Michael T Bee*

...17 new angels in heaven, and one pathetic excuse for a man in hell. There are no words that I can use to express the sadness and outrage I feel at this latest example of the decline of humanity.

Post hoc, ergo propter hoc. (After this, therefore because of this) Damn.

*Perry Hunter*

My wife and I extend our deepest sympathies to the citizens of Dunblane. There seems so little that can be said at a time like this.

*With Our Love to All  
Daniel & Mary Nign  
Pasadena, California USA*

There are many of us here in the Central Oklahoma area who can relate deeply to your tragedy, and to your loss. Last year at this time, our Federal Building was Bombed in Oklahoma City, and over 40 children lost their lives at that time. We know what that pain is, and the senseless tragedy of some demented soul. Remember the children for the joy they brought into your lives, and just know they are safe now, and happy forever.

*Charles E. "Chuck" Davis  
Shawnee, Oklahoma*

We are in San Diego, California, USA and send this message to the Dunblane Primary School, the children and parents:

Please know our hearts break with yours and we send our love and condolences to all. God keep and rest the souls of your beloved children. Our tears travel across the ocean and join with yours.

*Linda C. Dosch*

There are no words to express what we all must be feeling, you especially. I would like to give each and every one of you a long distance warm hug. You and the children are in my thoughts and my prayers. God bless you and the children who were taken way too soon.

*Theresa Corrigan Dayton, Ohio, USA*

Modern technology lends its wings to the ancient feelings of grief and mourning. Through this message we want all involved in the Dunblane tragedy to know that our thoughts are with them as I write this message. May the God in heaven lend you His strength and courage as you search a new way ahead.

*Ronald Balk  
Amersfoort, the Netherlands*

From New Zeaaland where we to had a smaller shooting I just offer our thoughts at this time

*James S Rennie*

We would also like to extend our deepest sympathies and heart felt sadness, to all the families of Dunblane that have been affected by this tragic and senseless massacre. Our condolences are with you all.

*Barb, Dave, Tanya and Robert*

We of the United States of America want to let you know how very angry, frustrated and sad for all of you, your loved ones and your friends!!

We can only imagine the pain for which you are all going through!!

We send our love and admiration for each and every one of you for not only how brave and wonderful you are, but how caring you all have been to each other through this whole tragic shooting.

*All of Our Love, Prayers and Condolences  
Sylvia J. Thorngren  
Anchorage, Alaska USA*

I send my deepest sympathy to the families, friends, and all in the community who have been touched by this loss. My prayers are with you.

*Scott Crom  
Wisconsin, USA*

By now you know the whole world is grieving with you for the loss of your loved ones. I wish to add my prayers for your strength and comfort at this difficult time.

God will take care of your precious children and their teacher and, in time, He will heal your broken hearts.

*Sincerely,  
Robin Patterson  
Santa Fe Springs, CA, USA (formerly London, England)*

My heart goes out to you. Nothing I write here will erase the heartache you feel. You continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

*John R. Wendelin  
Buffalo, New York USA*

Dear Families of Dunblane: My wife and I were shocked and saddened by the events in Dunblane. We have prayed for you in our church. We will continue to pray that God will sustain you in this terrible loss. We know that you will never get over this loss. But at the same time we know that God will enable you to cope. Love and prayers

*Larry and Deanie Ogle.*

Please know that my thoughts and my family's thoughts are with you. I know that you must be hurting beyond belief. This unfathomable tragedy makes me weep, and I am saddened and angered by what happened. I hope that you will be able to deal with this grief - please know that there are millions of people who are mourning and thinking of you.

*Gerry Hall  
Boston, MA USA*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of need. You're in our hearts always. Words cannot express our sympathy. This is just a little reminder to let you know, the world is pulling together to support the families and people of Dunblane. God bless you all.

*Kristine Laird & Angela Gaul  
Oregon U.S.A*

May God, Who knows the pain of a Son's death, wrap His arms of comfort around you all.

*Alan Johnson Galloway  
Ohio United States of America*

My deepest sympathies and prayers are with you all. This tragedy has touched the entire world. I will remember the little ones always. I am praying for the ones who are wounded to make a speedy recovery.

*With love,  
from Christine Coll  
Vancouver, Canada*

I know that words cannot possibly sum what you are going through, we just wanted you to know that our thoughts are with you at this time.

The whole world is still in shock at this terrible tragedy and outraged that it happened. We would like to offer our condolences at your sad loss

*Jodie, Stacey, Alan & Lindy  
Bristol, UK*

There are no words to describe our feelings except to say our hearts go out to all of you.

*D M Reilly*

To all the families of Dunblane: God bless you and strengthen you in this terrible time of tragedy. Words can't express the horror so many of us feel on hearing of what has happened in your town. All we can do is pray that your faith and the love and support of those around you can support you and see you through this. Deepest sympathies to you all.

*Sheila Gregory*



Deepest condolences to you and yours. We live in an imperfect world with the promise of heaven beyond. Your babies are safe in the loving arms of the God who gave us the freedom to choose the path for our lives. We look forward to the time when "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them." God bless you.

*John & Ellie Williams, Megan, Mitchell, and Benjamin  
San Antonio, Texas, USA*

I read your message to the people of Dunblane. I thought it was simply beautiful & very touching. My wife & I are both Scots living in New York City. We are like the rest of the world totally stunned. It is however very reassuring to see such an outpouring of love from all corners of the world. We both send our utmost respect to all of you at your forum.

*love & best wishes  
Robert & Carol McGowan.*

When I read of this tragedy, all I could think of was that it could have been Morgan (5) and Jaime (4), my sister and brother. My prayers go out to the families and friends of those poor children and their teacher. I will never understand how something like this could happen.

*Colleen Clarke Leduc  
AB Canada*

My Deepest sympathies go to all the families of this dreadful tragedy. My sincerest thoughts are with you in your hour of grief. Sincerely an expatriot of Cork Ireland living in New York City USA

*Timothy O'Connor*

Words cannot express what the world felt like last Wednesday when the news came out. It's hard to believe even when you see live coverage of the tragedy. Alas, those 16 children and their teacher.

I'm sure Scotland will find back its normal and peaceful routine of love, compassion and happiness. God bless you all people of Dunblane and Scotland.

*Paula Portelli*

I can not find the words to express my sadness. The love & prayers of my wife & myself are with you all. God bless.

*Robert & Carol Anne McGowan  
New York City.*

I will be keeping the children and their families in Dunblane in my meditations. This is a horrible event for them to have to face, and my sympathy goes out to all involved.

*Kevin Francis Murphy*

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Dunblane on this saddest of all days.

*Peter & Selina Fitzgerald  
Anchorage, Alaska*

I continue to find it difficult to understand how any person, no matter how depraved, could gun down little innocent ones. My heart and prayers go out to the families of the slain and wounded. May God grant them eventual healing. This tragedy has touched all the world and saddened the entire human family.

*Lee Murray  
Olympia, Washington, USA*

Our heartfelt prayers & support go to all of our fellow Scots. God bless the Children & their teacher.

*Love  
Robert & Carol McGowan*

My most sincere sympathies to all the families of Dunblane. I sincerely feel your loss.

*Al  
Akron Ohio*

My family and I just want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the community of Dunblane. Our hearts particularly go out to the parents, grandparents and siblings of the slain children and to the family of their teacher. No one should have to endure such pain. Our world should not be one of such cruelty. Wishing for peace and safety for all the children of the world.

*Beth Danielson*

Our deepest sympathy to the families. We are praying for you and think of you so much. I know what it is like to lose a child. Even though it was 23 yrs ago I still feel your pain. God Bless

*Kathleen A. Beeman*

Please accept our most sincere condolences. Our prayers are with you all.

*The Jeffrey, Watson, and Letnik families  
Mike Letnik Forked River, NJ Usa*

To all the families in Dunblane, those who have been bereaved and those whose children have been involved I wish you strength hope and support in your efforts to rebuild your lives. Dunblane seems like a strong, wonderful community and I am sure you will give each other support after these terrible events. The world will never forget those beautiful children and we all wish you every strength and support in the months to come. As the mother of a five year old almost exactly the same age as those involved I wish you all the love and support you need.

*Philippa Killner  
Salisbury, Wiltshire.*

Having just heard, via the BBC World Service, of this morning's horrific events, I would like to offer my condolences and express my deep sympathy.

Our thoughts are with you all...

*Isidre Nosas & family  
Terrassa, Spain*

All of our thoughts and prayers are with you now and everyday. Such friendly faces and so much they had to look forward in the future. Please accept my most respectful condolences as we pray and ask our God to give you all of you strenght in this moment of sorrow.

*German Gutierrez*

Our thoughts are with all the families who have lost their loved ones. I have children and cannot imagine the grief they must feel. You are all in our hearts and prayers. May God bless you all.

*Elizabeth Ortiz & Family  
New York City*

To the parents and families of the children and teachers killed and wounded in Dunblane:

The horror of what's happened to you is unimaginable and incomprehensible. The entire world offers prayers for you at this dark time.

*John Spear*

As a mother and a human, I was horrified when hearing of the tragedy in Dunblane. The families and the villages loss of lives is almost too shattering to comprehend. That our society can nuture this type of behavior should make everyone reevaluate their role in live, and what they are doing to make changes so that this earth is a safe place to dwell for all children. The tragedey in Dunblance will hopefully echo throughout the world. Ehoes reminding professionals that sick people do carry out sick acts of violence. Ehoes calling for better gun control laws. Ehoes shouting the names of the children and their families, reminding us all that we are not safe until we all make an effort to change the elements in society which foster the violence and bloodshed.

There is no meaning in the loss of innocent lives. I can find few words of condolence for the families who are grieving now. But I hope that our thoughts and prayers which come from out hearts, are felt in your hearts- now in your darkness hour- and always.

With love, hope and prayers. Shalom

*Cand. psycyh. Wendy Sue Cohn  
Copenhagen, Denmark*

# Footprints



One night a man had a dream. He dreamed that he was walking along a beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene had flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times of his life.

This really troubled him & he questioned the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most, you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Just a quick note to let you know that the whole world shares in your grief at this time. I am in the States, but I frequently visit Israel, and I am close to some of those who have lost family members in the horrible terrorist acts there. At least there, one knows in the back of the mind that there is always a risk. It is hard for me to imagine the enormity of the tragedy when there is no reason to even think of any risk, as was the case in Dunblane. Please know that people all over the world are thinking of you and praying for you.

*Judah Mogilensky*

I agree with you John. As my father having been born in Edinburgh, I am so grieved at the tragic hideous crime that has taken place. Children are our future. The good in all of us. The ones who are pure in heart. The only joy at all is that someday their parents will see them again in heaven. I am so very sorry for what happened to those children, and those families. I wish I could be there to personally help you all out.

*Your American Friend  
JoAnna*

My heart weeps for you. Please know you are in our thoughts.

*Leslie Strange  
Tampa, Florida*

To the families in Dunblane, I have watched on the news as have so many of us in this country (USA) and I am so sorry for what has happened to you ... I wish I had the right words to comfort you in your grief and loss, but words are so inadequate. Know that we are thinking of you and that people really do care.

*Susan G. Feltman  
USA*

Our heartfelt condolences and prayers are with you in this tragic time. We cannot fathom the pain you are feeling now, but we hope that you will all find the strength to pull you through this.

*Sue Krauss & Family  
California, U.S.A.*

To The Families of Dunblane, My family and I wish to offer you our profound sympathies for the tragedy you have suffered. It is beyond the bounds of the civilized mind to try and understand why someone would do such a terrible thing. I have three children and two grandchildren and can't imagine the pain I would feel if this happened to them. Our hearts go out to you and you are in our prayers. These little ones are in Gods' hands now and that should be our comfort. Take care and God go with you.

*Sincerely*  
*Phil, Nancy, Jesse, and Anita Hughes*  
*Bellaire, Ohio USA*

My heart goes out to you for the horrendous tragedy that occurred there. And especially to the parents and other relatives of the children: there is no greater pain that what you are going through. I have young children and cannot bear even the thought of losing them. I pray for the victims and the families that they reunite in heaven.

Keep your chins up, the world is with you in mourning.

*Love*  
*Gary McKay and family*

To any and all of you visited by this horrendous evil: I can not tell you how I would feel had this befallen me. I have a little girl of 5 years old who is my life. I can not suggest that things will get better for you. I pray that they will. I can tell you that my life has been surprised by completely unexpected joy and goodness long after I thought it could be. I pray that yours will be also. I also pray that you will find strength to endure this darkest night. And I promise you that there are many good people in this world that would help if they were wise enough to know what in this world could provide you comfort. Perhaps the greatest enemy of evil is the love it engenders from strangers. I hope you can feel some of this love. I wish I could hold you in my arms. I believe that God holds your children in infinite love and he will hold us all together soon.

*Jim Webb*

Having worked with pre-school and kindergarten children, I know what a joy they are, as are all children. This incident has been a horrible tragedy, but hopefully something positive can come from it. At least it has brought people together, and maybe together, we can do something to carry on the memory of the teacher and children who were involved. I know that I, as a preschool teacher, will now make even more of an effort to appreciate, protect, and nurture the children with whom I work.

I offer my condolences and my deepest sympathy.

*Kellie M. Whelan  
Atlanta, Georgia USA*

My heart and my prayers go all to all of those who lost their lives and loved ones. This world can be a cold and evil place. The deepest cut is the one inflicted by that misguided coward.

*Charles D'Atri*

My wife and family would like to extend our deepest condolences in the tragic loss of your children. As parents of a kindergartner and preschooler our hearts ache for you as we consider the magnitude of your loss. We cannot express in words our deepest sympathies but we pray for you and lift you up that our heavenly Father will give you comfort and grace in this time. May God restore peace to your hearts and heal your community in the days to come.

*Sincerely, Steve & Kassie Guy  
San Jose, California USA*

I can't begin to know the pain that this tragedy must have brought into your life and I certainly can't take it away, though I wish I could. However, I hope that it helps to know that, half way around the world, I too cried when I learned of this catastrophe. Since we all belong to the family of man, my life was diminished by the senseless loss of innocent lives. My child went to school the next day a little less secure than he did the day before the tragedy. I continue to pray for all affected by this awful event. If there is anything else I can do, please let me know.

*Richard J. McCorry  
Rochester, New York*



Hello from people that care in Saskatchewan, Canada:

We are very far from you but the images and words we see on television and in our newspapers make distances small. I have listened to people comment on the tragedy in ways that I would expect if it had happened in our own community. When I think about it, I must consider that the way in which we have almost instant access to what has happened in the world is a good thing, for it is as important to us as a people to not only care about our neighbour down the street, but to also care about are neighbours that may be around the world.

With that in mind I would like to convey the sadness that everyone here feels for your loss. Words will simply not convey the level of horror that the average person has felt on hearing the news of the tragedy that has fallen on your community. One can only hope that your town can somehow recover from this terrible act.

*Yours truly  
Scott Hilderman and Friends*

Dear Fellow Scots, My heart and prayers go out to you from our family here in America, I have a 7 year old daughter and the news of the event made us very sad and sick. May God give you comfort in this time of need. Be Strong.

*With deepest thoughts and prayers,  
Jeffrey Patterson and Family*

By this time, much has been said, and very little that is original or of profound comfort remains that can be said. But know that the thoughts and prayers of this small outland remnant of Clan Keith here in the mountains of Arizona are with you, and we grieve as you grieve.

It is not for us to presume to give advice at this hour, but we are confident that ideas of retribution and revenge are not an option for our brothers and sisters of Dunblane. Instead, it seems most appropriate to put our trust and faith in the Author of all comfort, He who sustains all who trust in Him — even in the darkest of hours.

*Much love and blessings,  
John Addison Mohler  
Tombstone, Arizona*

We at Holy Trinity Church, Vancouver are praying for you and your tragic loss. There will be an appeal for sending support to help.

We will remember!

*Sincerely,  
Chris Hornibrook Rector's Warden*

Although words are so inadequate, we share in your pain and loss. Our hearts and thought are with you.

*Dawn Rosen  
Toronto Canada*

Those of us in the US who trace our ancestors back to Scotland are with you in spirit. May you have the healing power of God's mercy.

*Ray Rice  
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, USA*

My condolences to the people of Scotland and of Dunblane in particular, during this time of grief. I love Scotland and am an active bagpiper in the Midwest. I have been to Scotland twice and will be returning this August. My prayers go to all of the Dunblane families affected by this tragedy.

*Sincerely  
Anne Brown*

To all of you, esp. the parents of the children lost, What can I say? As a parent I know there can be no greater grief than the loss of a child. Just trying to write you is bringing tears. No one can ever truly know the agony you are going through. I just had to write and let you know that you and your children will be in my thoughts for many days to come. Words fail me.

*Molly Cook*

Again I am saddened by the loss of innocent life. Not too long ago it was our turn (Oklahoma City) here in the states. My thoughts & prayers are with the families of the victims—God bless you, and heal you of your sorrow!

*Denise Holmes  
Plain City, Ohio U.S.A.*

What can anyone ever say to comfort the families, relatives, friends and residents of Dunblane. The only thing I can think to say is that I am so sorry. Sorry for your tragic loss and sorry for the moral condition of this world. The amorality of this generation is the root cause for the escalating acts of insanity and evil which are being perpetrated against humanity. The evil that exists among opens a door to greater acts of evil. It is unrestrained, it is spiritual and it is gaining power. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord! This was a quote from Joshua, the great man of God who was the recipient of the mantle of Moses. We all need to come back to God! The One True God. Our secular humamistic approace to life has been orchestrated by Satan himself. Let's all surrender to the will and plan of God! Certainly that would be better than sitting on our hands and doing nothing. Let's stop saying, "What can I do?" Lets join together, world-wide and pray for a revival in the hearts of mankind. Let's listen to the words of Jesus of Nazareth who said of Himself, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, No one comes to the Father except through me." Durblane, I am praying for you along with miriads of others around the world. May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding be yours.

*A "servant for Christ"*  
*Cindy McCarthy*  
*New Jersey USA*

My deepest sympathy goes out to all of you who have lost a beloved child in this horrible tragedy. My daughters, Tawny and Devyn (11 and 6), also send their warm love and sympathy. We are making it a daily ritual of keeping all of you in our prayers, and trying to find ways to make the world a safer place for our young ones. Your children will always be in our thoughts, moving us to send love and support in any way we can to all of you in mourning.

*All My Love*  
*Lori Alita*

My heart aches for you - be brave.

*Maureen Adams*  
*formerly of Edinburgh, Scotland*

Dear parents, dear community of Dunblane,

I am so sorry. I do not know what to say. You are in our minds, and in our prayers.

Although there are no explanations, and never will be, please keep your faith in our God. He will always be with you. You are still in His hands.

*Simon van Wijlen  
The Netherlands*

We all share this sad time with you. God bless you

*Simon Kerendian  
Los Angeles, CA*

I wish to offer the condolences and sympathy of my family to yours. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

*The Ariola Family  
USA*

Our love goes out to you at this very difficult time in your families and town. God bless you and the sweet little angels that were taken from this earth so early...

*Love and condolences,  
Dan and Sharon Hatch Family  
United States—Washington*

Words are really not enough to make up for the pain you must be feeling. If it helps even the tiniest of bit, my prayers and thoughts are with you.

*Lynn Y. Beaudoin  
Elk Grove, California, USA*

As a parent, my heart goes out to those have lost a loved one. May you find peace in knowing that Jesus said "Suffer the little children to come unto me". For they are with their Lord.

*Debbie*

On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to convey my heartfelt sadness and sober condolences to the bereaved families of Dunblane. Our thoughts and prayers have been and will be with you daily.

Our 5 year old son, Iain, was born in Edinburgh while we were living there as postgraduate students and we have all visited Dunblane, a wonderful cathedral town. Iain is a first-grader at Manzanita Bilingual School, a Spanish immersion primary school in Sebastopol, California. We will, someday, tell of this tragic event with great sadness in our hearts and that he too prayed for these children along with us even though he did not understand.

We still maintain an account at the Royal Bank of Scotland and we have directed the bank to transfer funds from that account to the fund for bereaving Dunblane families in our son's name.

*God bless you all in Dunblane.  
Daniel Fisher Shari Fisher Iain Fisher (5)*

*Grandparents:  
Bill Fisher Viola Fisher  
Thomas Powell Dolores Powell*

Just wanted to add my support. I can only imagine the sorrow you are going through. Last week's events upset me deeply.

With sympathy and Prayers,

*Margaret Tatro  
Baltimore, MD USA*

My deepest, deepest condolences to every mother and father who has lost their little one. There are no eloquent words to express my heartfelt sorrow for each mother, each father, all the family members and the community as a whole.

*Sincerely,  
Rebecca Alvis Bottoms  
Omaha, Nebraska USA*

I'm from Seal Beach California and I want you to know that we are very saddened by your loss and we pray for your healing and peace.

*Rosa A Simon*

I dont know if I am writing this for the families or for myself or both. I have a young child in kind. and I could not even comprehend the thought of something as horrid as this happening to her. It seems now when I drop her off at school, I look at her and her classmates and study them as if it may be the last time. It just sickens me to think of what these families are going through. I cant even get through typing this without having to fight back tears. What is it with these insane killers that makes them feel killing innocent children and a teacher would change anything for them and then the chicken bastard doesnt even have the guts to stay alive and give others the satisfaction of tearing him apart limb from limb. I normally dont agree with capitol punishment but in a case such as this, I really wonder if I should change my vote. All my thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased and of the children and teachers still suffering who have to live with this every day. God be with all of you.

*Terri Coppens*

my condolences join the many others who have sorrowed as the news reached our ears of the ferrible loss of young lives in your quiet town. i cannot imagine the vast void that you must sense in your soul. i know one who does however: "for we have not an high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities... " (the Bible, hebrews 4:15a) it is Jesus Christ!!! "casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (the Bible, I peter 5:7) i also stand prepared to lend a helping hand.

*Leslie D. Drake*

The tragedy you are enduring sends waves of grief around the globe. We mourn with you. We stand in prayer with you.

*Scott A. Burnett*

To the people of Dunblane: Our hearts and prayers are with you. Let our sympathy help carry some of your burden and be comforted in the knowledge that your sweet children are free of the deep disappointment and shame we must feel in our race.

*David Hawthorne*

“There is a Reaper, whose name is Death,  
And with his sickle keen,  
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,  
And the flowers that grow between.”

*Longfellow*

We are all diminished by your loss, and must join you in your sorrow. For all we have is our shared humanity.

*Penny & Martin O'Brien  
Toronto, Canada*

Our hearts and prayers to the families and people of Dunblane . May God help you through this unspeakable horror and grief.

*Frank, Gaye, Jeff, and Tim  
San Antonio, Texas*

My thoughts go out to all of you in this time of loss. I recently lost my Mother to a most unexpected heart ailment. Her loss has been the most painful experience of my life but there will be a light which shall bring comfort....it may take years, it may take months but you will find comfort.

God is too good to be unkind... He is too smart to be wrong. It is at times, like these, when you cannot follow his hand, That you must learn to trust his heart.

*Michael Harper  
Dallas, Texas U.S.A.*

While all of us struggle to understand why such a terrible event could take place in a “civilized” world, I would like to share with you what my Mother has always told me:

“There is nothing so painful as the loss of a child. The only comfort is to know that because they are innocent, we know that Jesus has taken them to heaven with him and will help us bear the loss. We wait all our lives to see Him and they are there at his feet now.”

Please pray with us for understanding.

*Susan E Benson*

Perhaps they are not the stars, but rather openings in Heaven where the love of our lost ones pours through and shines down upon us to let us know they are happy. (Inspired by an Eskimo Legend) A look at the stars, the touch of a hand...you are wished whatever comforts you. You are wished what brings peace to your hearts.

*Sharon & Geoff Knight*

Please accept my whole families condolences for your terrible suffering, I am married and have two children and any person who was not sickened by this terrible terrible tragedy would have no heart. Hopefully hearing from people all over the world will eventually be a very small part of your healing process. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity. From Canada we are very very sorry!!!!

*Trish Curran*

Please accept our sympathy for the terrible tragedy that has struck your community. We in the United States are terribly shocked and saddened at what has happened. We want all in Dunblane to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We are thinking of you.

*John and Jean Pearston  
Phoenix, Arizona*

To the families and freinds of those killed, My heart goes out to the families and freinds of those killed as well as the survivors of this evil occurrence. As I saw the news reports I noticed the shock that seemed to have fallen on most faces. I can't imagine the kind of pain you must be feeling as the shock wears off. I can only tell you that the world is reaching out with prayers for you. I hope you can keep that in mind and that it will give you some comfort.

*Ellen*

There are many of us here at Visiting Nurse Service of New York whose thoughts are with all of the people of Dunblane. We pray for the children, and the ones who loved them.

*Claudia McGeary*



Please pass my message to the families and town of Dunblane. I am so sorry to hear of such a tragedy in their beautiful town. Any time small ones are taken from us, it is so heart breaking.

I have two children, and would die if something ever happened to them. My thoughts are with everyone, the horror will never be forgotten, but the memories will always bring love and smiles to the heart.

*Respectfully,  
tsb*

I can only imagine the pain you must endure. My prayers and those of the World are with you.

*Curtis C. Lane*

My wife, 2 daughters and I wish the citizens of Dunblane peace and hope that it will come sooner than any of them expect.

*Rick D. Berry*

I still don't know what to say, almost a week after. I'm so very, very sorry. I wish I could do more.

*Todd Andrews*

I am deeply sorry for the losses that the Dunblane families have had to suffer. I pray for each of the children and their families and that there will be no more senseless terrorist acts of this kind ever again.

*Again I am very sorry for your losses  
Rachael E. Bond*

I am so very sorry I have 4 kids of my own 2 the ages of the children I am so sorry I pray for you . God bless you

*Stacey*

I too lost a friend to a kid with a gun. Why? Is all you can ask. Normal people do not need guns. Too much potential to misuse them like in Dunblane.

*linda*

I cry with you for your children. May God give you comfort, may your memories bring you peace, and may the love of family and friends worldwide sustain you in your grief. You are all in my prayers.

*Drucilla Brookshire*

Our sincere condolences on your loss. We pray for you often and ask God to help you a lot. It is difficult to know what to say as our heart goes out to you all.

*David Keyser*

As I read your report the tears came again. I am not a particularly emotional person and can hide my feelings very well...or could until now. I cried my heart out for your town on Friday and thought I had got it out of my system, but I wonder if I will ever get over it - or if I should. When I think of what happened I still have that feeling of 'it cannot be true'. How it must be for the families and those close by I cannot start to understand, but even from this distance it is extremely painful. You are all in my thoughts and prayers

*Adrian  
Leeds*

Please convey our deepest sympathy to the families of all the children who were hurt and killed. We lift each in prayer that God shall provide the strength to cope with this overwhelming sadness. There is no answer to the question "why." We shall never know why. But there is a strength in knowing that love does conquer all...even the deepest of sorrows. We are with you and yours.

*Ken & Jo Middleton*

Please know that we feel your pain and that you are in our prayers. My husband lost his daughter last month so with certainty, I tell you, we understand your loss. May God give you the strength to face tomorrow and allow the sun to shine in your hearts once again.

*The Robert Shepherd family*

As the wife and mother of EMTs here, I can appreciate the scope of your tragedy. My prayers are with all of you in your grief.

*Michelle N. McCrillis  
East Brookfield, MA, USA*

I would like to express my deepest regards to the families and friends of the children and teacher of the terrible tragedy in Dunblane, Scotland.

Please, let them know that they are in my heart and prayers always. I know it's hard, but they have gone to a better place and are in the arms of the lord.

*Tara K. Willsher*

I was deeply shocked and saddened by this horrible tragedy. Living in the U. S. we here about this sort of thing often, but I never would have expected it in Scotland. I lived in Glasgow for a year and a half while I was married. My daughter was born there. I looked at her and thought "that could have been my child ." My prayers and thoughts are with the families in Dunblane. I can not imagine how one would recover from such a tragedy. God Bless all of you!!

*Jeri A. Wade*

Please express my heartfelt sorrow and grief for the children and their families. I find it hard to even read newspaper stories about this terrible tragedy. As the dad of a 3 year old I don't know how I'd go on if anything should happen to Sam. This kind of horror rocks our faith to its foundations. I can think of nothing to say of comfort or solace except that millions of people around the world think of you and your children every day. Our hearts, prayers and spirits are reaching out to you, touching you, holding you as best we can and praying for you and your children. We cannot give back what you have all lost, we can only hold you and your love for your children in our hearts...and we do. The world really is holding you.

*With love,  
Dore Penn*

My heart goes out to those families that will have to bear the scars of this travesty. May they find some peace and comfort in knowing that so many people send their prayers and love. Do not ask God why this happened, but ask Him to help you make it thru each day. The tears the families shed, we shed too. The grief they feel, we feel also. This is a time when we must all be strong. Tonight I will light a candle for the children of Scotland and the families. Tonight I will hug my children a bit tighter as I tuck them in. Tonight I will think of Scotland and Oklahoma and wonder when this will all end.

*Peggy Lyons  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

My prayers and condolences to all the families in this most terrible of times. The memories of all those young lives will be with us forever.

*Charles W Brown*

Your sorrow has found us in every corner of the world. It is hard to believe that you must live with the horrors we only experienced on the nightly news, as even second hand, these events have brought sadness to us all.

Strength and healing are wished to you, from all of us.

*The Bells of Vancouver*

My thoughts and heartfelt prayers are with the people of Dunblaine. I wish there was something I could do to help.

*Kay DeBell  
Sunnyvale, California*

We're new to electronic message sending, but we wanted to send our sympathy to you and tell you how very sad we are for your loss.

*Sincerely  
Alice, Peter, and Pete  
Massachusetts, USA*

I grieve for the small souls that met their untimely end at the hands of a complete madman. May the power that takes account of all things ensure that the soul of the perpetrator is banished to hell for all time. To the families I wish fortitude and hope. To the town I wish peace and tranquility soon. To all who seek to make their goulish trade from focusing upon the misery, I wish enlightenment. To the conscience of all who believe that they allowed this monstrosity to occur, I wish the wisdom to know what do next time, and the vision to understand that they are only human. Forgiveness and understanding (with the one major exception) is my hope for us all.

*Mike Briercliff*

I am sending this message from Paris, to join all who are trying to give some support to the victim's families. The world is evolving so fast, and the morals are changing so much that we find ourselves enjoined to accept and conceive, under the name of modernism, erroneous behaviour, which are the real cause of violence in our time. The world was very much shocked by the catastrophe of Dunblane, but as things are going, in few years, such a catastrophe will be considered as "news in brief" ... And on contrary, the "author" will be considered as a victim, who could not satisfy his "thirsty" whatever it is... My only confort, is to know that one day, I will leave this dirty and rotten world.

*El Yafi Nabila*

GOD BLESS, from Colorado. I will be the a Cub Scouts tour leader tomorrow, in Denver, Colorado. I will pickup up about 10 Scouts and drive them about 35 miles from our Heatherwood school in Boulder to downtown Denver. I manage CompuServe's field service group servicing the Rocky Mountains, from Montana to Utah, New Mexico to South Dakota. I will have my Scouts send a message to you and would like you to forward "our" message accordingly. Until tomorrow..

*Mike McCarty (USA)*

Please add my condolences to the families and the community for their loss. My prayers are with you all.

*Nancy L. Duffy*

My Husband and I wish to convey our deepest sympathy to all the parents who lost little ones and to the whole community of Dunblane who suffers so greatly after the horrible disaster that befell you. May God be with you all.

*Paul and Margret Walbeck  
Cape Town, South Africa.*

Our hearts and sympathy go out to all of you. Hopefully some good, will come from this awful tragedy. let is not become like it is here in US. Gun control important issue FIGHT for it. Let these children not die in vain.

*Michael Sabatino and Family  
Yonkers NY*

Dear Families of the Dunblane children, You are surrounded with love from all over the world. This is a world problem and we share it with you. Our hearts are aching with you. What could be the meaning of this? Love from Canada

*Anjali L. Thomas*

Our hearts are broken by the killing of 17 innocent children and their teacher. We will pray that God will grant all those families peace and healing. We wish we could be there to put our arms around those that cry.

*In Christ,  
Dave and Linda Clark*

Please allow me to extend my heartfelt sympathies to the families of the children and the teacher killed in your village by the act of a madman. Also to the whole community which is obviously touched by the tragedy. Words fail me at the sorrow you must have to endure.

I feel so much for you all - and particularly for the surviving children who were in that gym. What a terrible burden to carry through their lives.

Please note that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. God bless you all.

*Chris Skelton  
an Englishman living in Canada*

Please understand that your pain is felt everywhere in the world. It is particularly felt in this home. My wife, 2-year old son, and myself send you every hope and prayer. I want to reach out, but am limited by these wires. Please accept these words in my absence. Your beautiful children are as my own, and I weep as I write this note.

I commend you on your ability to absorb this tragedy and keep a stiff upper-lip, I doubt I have such strength. I just wanted you to know that my family greives as well, and as a fellow father, human, and Scot, I extend my hand to you and yours. If I can do anything for you, please let me know (I do mean this, as does my wife: Christine and son: Peter).

*Your freind;  
F. Cullin Clelland*

My family mourns the loss of all the children and their teacher. I wish words of sympathy could help but I know they don't do much in a tragedy such as this. Just know that everyone sympathizes with all of you and are thinking of you.

*The Page family*

I wanted to forward a prayer that we offered in our church of St James United Church in Simcoe, Ontario, Canada to the people of Dunblane....

This prayer for the people section of our service is dedicated to the massacre of Children and a teacher at Dunblane in Scotland, which happened on Tuesday. A horror, that personally I have had a very hard time dealing with and so wanted to try and lead us in healing prayer. In writing and sharing, I am reminded of other massacres - this weekend is the anniversary of the Mi Lei Massacre in Vietnam. There is the Montreal Massacre and sadly many others. They all become more poignant when you face the pain of the most recent act of gratuitous violence.

[Prayer reproduced overleaf]

*Sarah Kennedy*

To all the families who lost children in the tragedy, and to everyone in Dunblane, my deepest sympathy. My prayers are with you all.

*The Rev. Joan Butler Ford  
San Francisco*

## A Prayer for Dunblane



God, we need your help. More than ever we need to feel secure and safe in your love so that we can face the horrors of Dunblane.

We can't understand what happened in Dunblane, the horror, the vulnerability, the anger, the pain, the anguish. WHY?

We can't deal with it - we feel the numbness move in like a local anaesthetic, masking the pain making it bearable. The anaesthetic makes us drowsy - the horror of Dunblane becomes another news headline - the focus on the number of bodies now 13 - 14 - to 16. We can't deal with it any other way - can't think about it - too much pain. We cut off the sensation - more numbness.





pening up to this hurting,  
helpless core - what does that  
do? Are we helped? We don't know; what  
we do know is that denying it, walking  
away, doesn't help either. We get by, but  
our senses are more numb, another little  
piece of our social conscious is lost.

Help us, God, to reach into that core of  
pain inside ourselves - help us push the  
anaesthetic aside. Let us not try and  
understand what happened. Let us share  
in the anguish of the Dunblane  
community. Allow ourselves to feel  
some of their pain... (silence)

God, help us now to offer up  
these feelings of confusion,  
anger, pain and vulnerability to You. We  
can't explain them - but it happened,  
it happens and its part of our world.



*Help us, God, to deal with this pain. Show us how each one of us has to grow from the exposure to this pain.*

*Help heal those in Dunblane,  
Help heal us, help us love again.*

*We have shared the pain, we have offered up our emotions. Let us now take some time to love - to project our love to the people of that community in their time of desperate need... (silence)*

*God, we trust that by opening up to the depth of our emotions You will help heal us, we will regain our trust in You and find a place of safety with You. You will help us recover some integrity and live with compassion.*

*Amen*

*Sarah Kennedy*

I have lost a child, my heart is heavy for you. My sympathy to all.

*Jeannette A. Davis*

To the families and friends of the tragedy, Shirley and I add our condolences for your loss. The photo in our paper, showing the happy faces of those eager young people brought tears to our eyes and hearts.

*Norm and Shirley Smith  
Tucson, AZ USA*

I send my condolences to the many families and friends touched by this terrible incident. A situation like this cannot really be explained and peoples from all over the world mourn with you. My wife and I were able to visit your beautiful country this last summer and have many fond memories. As a Christian, who believes in the healing power of prayer, I will continue to pray for you during these next few weeks as you continue to grieve and struggle to recover. God's grace is sufficient for us all and I ask for his presence and guidance in this time of extreme need. May God bless you all.

*David Marten  
Santa Barbara, CA USA*

I can only imagine the pain you must endure. My prayers and those of the World are with you.

*Curtis C. Lane*

I just wanted to pass on my thoughts regarding the terrible events in Dunblane. As a parent of three children (12, 6, 3), I can not help but think of these events with sorrow in my heart and tears in my eyes. I can only imaging the feelings of those parents and others directly related to the children and teacher of Dunblane. I want to let those folks know that I think of them every day and hope and pray for a brighter future for you all.

*Randy Kauftheil  
Raleigh, NC, USA*

My wife, 2 daughters and I wish the citizens of Dunblane peace and hope that it will come sooner than any of them expect.

*Rick D. Berry*

I would like to send my deepest sympathies to the families whose children died in this tragic incident.

*Your faithfully  
Mike Mulder*

My heart and soul is with you and I wanted to pass along the following thoughts in the sincerest hopes, that they may be of some comfort you.

Please be assured that there are many things in this world far greater still than those that meet the eyes, echo through the ears and hold firm to the touch. There are many, many things that are not harmed by hatred nor destroyed by a madman's bullets. Do not forget that those smiles really never will fade and those loving, innocent spirits can never be lost. These children shall walk by your sides for the rest of your lives and be there to meet you in time. If you close your eyes, you will see them. Quiet your minds and you will hear them. Hold out your hands in the soft breeze and you shall feel them. They are your children forever. They are probably right now even more concerned for your welfare than you for theirs.

My prayers are with you all. God Bless.

*Rob Travalino  
Hartsdale, NY USA*

I was very sorry for the tragedy facing the families of Dunblane in light of the recent violence against the school children and their teacher. My heart goes out to you all. Rest assured that God's loving light and His Angels were present to meet and guide the children and their teacher to our "True Home". My prayers are with you.

*Rosely Piraino*

This terrible deed is the saddest I have ever come across, and I just wanted to pass on my wishes for a peaceful future. I have a five year old daughter in P1 in Belmont primary school in Belfast and she has had a few extra hugs and kisses since this happened. I can imagine how I and my wife would feel if we where to loose her so suddenly. Although we are not a church attending family my wife and I knelt beside the bed that night and prayed for the children and families who had been distressed. We both hope that in some way it may have helped. We will of course be making a contribution to the appeal fund through my daughters school.

May they rest in peace.

*Frank Sandford*

I cannot comfort you in any way. There are no words that could possibly make any difference on your lives and no amount of money to bring anyone back. I have children of my own exactly the same age and God forbid anything should happen like you have had to cope with, I wonder if I would even want to cope. All I can say is try and be strong for each other.

No one will ever forget this terrible happening and all those beautiful little faces. I just hope that one day you will all be able to smile again.

*Jayne Lungley  
Essex*

Please know that my heart goes out to you at this time. I am praying for God to strengthen you and comfort you as you go through this terrible loss. There are no words to tell you how much it hurts to read of your loss. Having lost a son at the age of 12 my husband and I join you in grieving. Please accept our love and caring prayers.

*Bud & Marie Sanderbrink  
White City, Oregon U. S. A.*

Our deepest sympathies go out to all of the families of the innocent victims in this terrible tragedy. You are in our prayers!

*Christopher, Kelly & Emily Cotton  
Columbus, Ohio - USA*

A message from St. Nicolas Boys U10 Football Club, Higham Lane Leisure Association, Ambleside Way , Nuneaton, Warks.

Our own parents and young players were deeply shocked to hear of your terrible tragedy, we would like to offer our deepest condolences and more importantly our prayers to the relatives of all the families who have suffered so much as a result of the actions of one disturbed individual.

Thinking and praying for you always

*God Bless  
St. Nicolas Boys Club*

I can only offer my deepest sympathies to you, I wish I could do more. I pray that God upholds you and gives you his peace at this time.

*Andrea Hearn*

My deepest sympathy to all of you. While the countless words of sympathy and shared sorrow being extended to all of you from around the world cannot begin to ease your pain and suffering, please accept if you can my deepest and most sincere sorrow at your loss, and I share in your tears for the children and their teacher.

May God grant you the strength to endure this tragedy; and may He let our voices resonate around the world in such strength and intensity to forever end these senseless acts of violence, especially, most especially against the innocent children.

My thoughts and prayers are extended to you all.

*Sincerely,  
Dianna Shull  
USA*

Words, flowers, gifts...they all seem so futile in the face of such suffering. Who could ever fathom the depths of an abandoned and malignant heart?

All we can offer are prayers and compassion and the promise of hope..." and a light shineth in the darkness and the darkness comprehended it not."

Peace and gentlest regards,

*Kathleen and Robby Robinson  
Yuma, Arizona, USA*

We all share in your sadness.

Reach out - we are here with open arms. Weep openly - we will weep with you. Pray loudly - we will pray with you. Heal - we will be here to help you.

May God be with each and every one and guide you through this very difficult time and remember we are all here for you too.

*Our deepest sympathies  
from Christine, Steve, Kevin, Jason, Dusty Price  
Vancouver Canada.*

Our thoughts are with you

*The Baxter family Telford*

People throughout the world share your grief, but particularly those of us whose parents came from small towns in Scotland like yours. Our hearts are with you in this terrible time.

*Neil Fraser  
Atlanta, Georgia*

To all of you in Dunblane, I and my wife send our deepest thoughts of love and support to you all in this time of need. Nothing can be said except we send our love in this time of tragedy. Take care

*Love  
Randy and Orlinda Buchanan  
Chandler Arizona, U.S.A*

Our most sincere and heartfelt sympathies to you in the wake of this horrific tragedy. I and my family weep with you and share your sorrows. May God save the lives of the injured and keep the his new angels safe in heaven. Please know that we care and will remember the precious ones that have passed on forever in our hearts.

*Sincerely,  
Paddy, Les, Chris and Cassy Kauhane  
Maple Ridge, BC, Canada*

Words are useless, and cannot express how I feel. I cannot comprehend this loss.

*My thoughts are with you all, God Bless you all  
Vincent O'Hanlon*

As parents of two pre-school aged children, we were shocked to read the terrible news of what has happened to you. We are praying for you and hope that somehow the outpouring of love you are receiving through this forum will in some measure give you strength and encouragement. May God minister to you all in unexpected ways as you deal with this unthinkable tragedy.

*Mike & Linda Strahan  
Anchorage, Alaska USA*

I pray that God will bring you peace after your immeasurable loss. God bless you all in Dunblane. My thoughts are with you.

*Mary G. Tigani  
Centreville, Maryland USA*

I know that no words of mine can ease your pain at this senseless, violent act that has turned your lives upside down, but please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. I can't imagine how you must feel, but you should know this man has already begun to get what he deserves, and your children are singing and laughing in heaven where you can meet them again! God bless you all, and please don't forget those who survived, for they need your love, help, and support just as much as the families who have paid the ultimate price. The class picture we have all seen over here is too beautiful for words, and this event has touched my heart like no other in my lifetime. Good luck in the hard days ahead, best wishes.....

*Alan Brown  
New Jersey, USA*

Trying to understand why — With greatest sympathy

*Richard , Sue , Zoe & Simon Strode*



My wife, myself and our children are thinking of you and sincerely extend our deepest sympathies for your loss. Your loved ones will never be forgotten. We live in Lincoln and every family where we live feels for you and are thinking of you.

*Sincerely  
Simon McCaffrey*

Our hearts go out to you as each night we watch the news in Canada and are reminded of the innocent lives lost in a small Scottish town. Don't try to figure out why because there is no answer. Time will never erase but we hope will give you strength. Our tears we shed with you and our support we give to you.

*Ursula and Kevin Rodrigues  
Ajax, Ontario, Canada*

My deepest sympathies to the families of Dunblane. While I have not visited Dunblane, my Grandparents lived in Auchterarder where I spent a summer holiday.

*Richard Drake*

Our hearts go out to you in your pain. Our prayers are with you and with the angelic souls of your precious children.

*Geraldine Von Ahn  
Gresham, Oregon USA*

Rest in Peace now, little ones.

*Lynn, Andy, Naomi and Liam Waters*

The world is not always beautiful, yet I seek beauty everywhere. To the beautiful 16 children....

*Kate Troy*

The darkness has indeed eclipsed the light. All of us must now add our strength to yours as you walk through this chasm. May God be with you all.

*Linda Reid (a Scot by ancestry) in the USA.*

Please accept our condolences for your tragedy and particularly so to the families who suffered a loss. We have prayed for you every day, asking God to speed your healing and to help you keep your faith. We are grieving for, and with, you.

*Bill, Nancy, Devon, and Ethan Pratt  
Millbury, MA USA*

I heard the news of this terrible tragedy while driving to work - I wept as I drove. Please know that here in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, on this past Sunday morning in a little church of 100 people, the general prayer offered by a member of the congregation was for the parents in Dunblane who suffered this unthinkable loss: for strength, for guidance and to know that people everywhere care deeply about your loss. God is with you, especially at this time. I hope you can draw the strength you need from God, and from knowing that a great many people sincerely share the hurt with you.

*Ric Corless*

My deepest heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of Dunblane. Words can not express how sad I am over this tragedy. I lived in Glasgow for a year and a half and know the kindness of the Scottish soul. That this unspeakable tragedy could happen there shocks me beyond words. My prayers are with you all. God Bless.

*Jeri Wade  
Leander, TX*

As a father of two small children, one in kindergarten, and as a husband and brother of primary school teachers, my condolence goes out to you all.

The world will not forget this. Who has forgotten the Stockton massacre here in California.

*Louis Gomez  
Los Angeles, California, USA*

My heart and prayers are with you. It is an unfair world when something so precious as a child can be taken in such a cruel manner.

Peace be with you.

*Melanie, Frank & Alex  
Boston, USA*

We here in the US mourn the lost of those<sup>4</sup> beautiful children. I hope and pray that this terrible act is never permitted to happen again. God bless all of you ...

*Scott, Evelyn, Margaret and Elizabeth Ford]  
in the US*

I was deeply and especially pained to hear about this madness causing innocent bloodshed. I only recently discovered that part of my family was from Scotland. I am praying for peace, strength, and comfort for these families and also for the family of the very ill-minded guilty man, who must be overwhelmed with grief for the whole situation.

*With love and my warmest condolences,  
Kim Paynter*

To the families of those involved and the community of Dunblane. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.

*From a sad Panton family in Texas*

I would like to offer my sincerest sympathies to the families who suffered such terrible loss in Dunblane.

*Thomas Kerr  
Melbourne, FL USA*

We are sending our collective strength and love for you all to draw on to help you through this tragic time. Our sympathy.

*The Lawson/Sukara Family  
Mike, Marcy, & Damien Lawson - George & Dan Sukara*

Please accept my sympathy and sadness for you.

*Sandy Smolinsky  
Chicago, USA*

My wife Janice and I would also like to extend our deepest condolences to all of the families in Dunblane. Our love to all to must endure the cosequences of this tragedy! God bless you and keep you. Our prayers are with you.

*Thomas Kubicko*

We, too, would like to offer my condolences. WeI cannot begin to fathom how those families can endure such a horrific thing! Our hearts ache for the families of the victims, as well as the people of Dunblane. You all areour my prayers!

*Anissa, Justin, and Colton Anderson*

I wish to send my prayers and condolences to all of you in this confusing and mournful time. I can not even start to understand how things like this happen or what causes people to attack the weak and innocent. But I want you to know we share the outrage and the pain of your suffering. God bless you all in this time of mourning, and may you find the strength to carry on. Peace be with you.

*Lawrence Searl  
United States.*

We have a very special memory of Dunblane.. 10 years ago we where there on our Honeymoon... We are shocked and deeply sadden for all of the families and friends of all the dear ones that where taken so quickley from you.. Our PRAYERS come from our heart ....praying that the memories of those dear ones will help you continue in your way... May God be a comfort and healer to you all... Until we can visit your sweet town again... GOD BLESS!

*The Cardoza Family.. Bob , Marion., Bobby. & Jimmy  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.. USA*

From Arlington, Texas, USA. The city that has experienced only 1/16th the grief and pain with the loss of our Amber Hagerman who was kidnapped and murdered here recently. Our hearts go out to the families and community of Dunblane. For now we do not know the "why". We can only resolve to go forward together to make our world a better and safer place. God bless you all!

*Gregory L. Sellers*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!

*Carolanne, Alan and Ruth Graham  
California, USA*

I would ljust like to add my deepest condolences to the families of the victims. Our schools flew our flags at half-mast as our thoughts and hearts went out to you all.

Deepest sympathy

*Denise Cohen and Family  
Maui, Hawaii*

There are no words....but our thoughts are with you.

*The Denholm family  
Brunei Borneo*

My thoughts and prayers are with you. God bless you all in your hour of grief.

*Sue McCoy  
California*

I have no words to say. My family were all schocked and horrified. Please accept these inadequate expressions of grief.

*Adrian,Alina, Ruth and Nathaniel Edmonds*

I would like to extend prayers to everyone, especially the family, afflicted by this tragedy. God will watch over your loved ones as God will also watch over you who are grieving. I have a group of friends here from Glasgow who were extremely devastated and share your sorrows. They also send their prayers.

In closing, I would also like to pray for anyone so disturbed that they feel they must resort to hurting others - please ask for help.

God be with all of you!

*Sincerely  
Ramona Plascensia and The Walker Family  
(Bridget, Josephine, Marion, and Walter)  
Long Beach and Cypress, California.*

Sincere condolences. May God be with you.

*from Timothy S. Hill of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA.*

Our thoughts are with all of you who suffered such a tragic loss,

*Jeff, Sue and Emily Burton  
Kent, UK*

Our deepest sympathy to all in Dunblane

*Hugh & Veronica Curran  
Lingfield*

All of us are remembering the families of that have suffered the terrible loss.

*Elliott Family*

From the Andrews family in Miami, Florida, I wish to send our condolences to all the families in Dunblane, and to let them know that our prayers are with them.

*Susan Andrews*

To everyone affected by the tragedy of Dunblane.

We have wept for you and for the poor lost children many times since that tragic Wednesday.

Our prayers go to every soul who is suffering, and if there can be any hope in your darkness, let it be said that the entire world is crying with you; you are not alone. Be strong.

*With love from Andy, Donna, Adam and Sophie Rigby  
Haslemere UK*

Deepest sympathy and may God's Peace and Love be with you all.

*Peter Ming Wong,  
(the Chinese Community in Lancaster, UK)*

Please add our sympathy and thoughts to all families and persons affected in Dunblane.

*All at Q2Q*

I wish to add my heartfelt sympathy to those families who lost their children. I deeply regret that there are people out there who do these horrible things to the innocent. I am a practicing Marriage and Family therapist, so I also know the effect this has on those people involved, left behind to carry on. Please forward this message to the surviving family members and other students.

*Theresa Morgan*

My condolences and sympathy to all those in Dunblane. Please be assured that you are in the thoughts and prayers of many, many people here in Toms River.

*Mike Parker  
Toms River, NJ USA*

I was at St. Andrews. I used to teach in Perth. I now live in New York and my 5 year old goes to school in Manhattan. I cannot tell you how my heart goes out to all the mothers.....and fathers and brothers and sisters and gran-nies and grandpas and uncles and aunts. I'm so so sorry.

*Clare Bishop and family.*

I feel terrible sorry myself. I am 14 and am worried for my own safety now.

*Edward Toman*

Words seem so empty at this time for all that have lost a loved one, but that is all we have to give from this distance.

It is hard to take comfort to know DunBlane now has 16 angels overseeing them and the world. I pray they will watch over us all and never allow this to happen again.

I am a mother of two young children and I have no idea how I would get thru the day without them.

May God give you all strength to go forward. And take some comfort the world is also mourning the loss of your young loved one and teacher.

*Marisa Pollett  
Everett, Washington USA*

Our very deepest sympathy to you all. Let it be known that evil is the exception and that good is the rule and may you find comfort in knowing there are many of us out here whose hearts go out to you. Be strong. Love to you.

*Vivienne G. Strickler*

The words have not yet been invented to describe the pain and anguish I feel for you at this time. I'm sure that I speak for the whole world when I say our hearts and thoughts are with you and if there is anything we can do then please do not hesitate to ask.

Nothing has ever touched me in the way this has but I hope you will find the strength to carry on.

*Sean McAusland  
Basingstoke, Hants. England.*





## A poem to Dunblane

How in our hearts shall we ever repair  
The anguish, the numbness and sense of despair.  
To know that in our civilised midst  
Such hatred and evil can blindly exist?

Let us now weep for our children lost  
And the heartbreak of parents counting the cost  
Of one moment's madness, no reason, no rhyme  
May we all pray for healing in time?

Is there a God? many may ask  
Indeed, if there is, He's taken to task  
How could this happen? we angrily cry  
And proclaim our wrath to a deity on high  
We weep as parents, as fathers and mothers  
We weep as siblings for sisters and brothers  
We weep for the children, a lost generation  
We weep for them all, the pride of the nation

We seek in our hearts the courage to find  
A reason for living, though fate is unkind  
We owe it to them, our children so dear  
To carry the fight 'gainst ignorance and fear

And in aeons to come, when we are long passed  
May there be peace and reason at last?  
Our hope is our children, our legacy pure  
The future is theirs, to create and endure

*Roy Stockdill, in Hertfordshire, UK*

I, like so many, find it hard to put into words what we felt when heard the news of your tragic loss. I live in Los Angeles, California, an area wracked by senseless acts of violence, it seems each Sunday in church we are praying for families and victims of these brutal acts. Please know, however, that on Sunday in churches around the world held you in their hearts and prayers. It has made many of us cherish each day and put trivial things where they belong.

*Amy Baker  
Thousand Oaks, California*

To all the families & friends of those involved, all at Drydens would like to express their deepest sympathy and sorrow.

*Adam Henderson*

To all the families who have suffered the loss their precious children, and to friends and townspeople as well. May God heal your terrible hurt. May he wipe away the tears from your eyes and grant you peace in the knowledge that your babies are safe now in the palm of his gracious hand. And may he bear you up to face tomorrow. We are so sorry.

*With love and deepest sympathy,  
The Greens Deborah, David, Will, Amy and Meredith  
Gardner, Kansas USA*

I though I was now of an age that I couldn't cry. My family, my staff at work and I want you pray that God will look after you all, as he looks after the children, and that He will give you the fortitude to get through the many difficult days ahead.

*Tony Reeve*

I wanted to pass on my condolences to the families of the tradegy in Scotland. Words cannot express the sadness it brings when children are the victims of a senseless tragedy such as this.

*Our thoughts are with you,  
Gay Cronley  
Ohio, USA*

Our hearts go out to all associated with this tragedy.

I also have children and lost my wife suddenly just under two years ago. The sudden loss of any life before time is difficult to comprehend but remember that God is always with you and carrying you the difficult times.

We are praying for you all.

*Kind Regards,  
Robert, Christopher & Martin Taylor*

As a father of two and as a Scot originally from Falkirk, I cried. I find it hard to stop. Our family reaches out to you all, god bless.

*Michael Notman*

Please know that our prayers and hearts are with you at this time of your grief and sorrow. Such utter senseless shedding of innocent blood has shocked all of us here in the United States. Our congregation, during the "prayers to the people" commended your community to God and to His mercy...May God hold you in the palm of His hand in the days ahead...

*Bill Davis St. Stephen's Church  
McKeesport, Pennsylvania United States of America*

Dear Kevin, My family and I are praying for you and your son as you cope with this tragedy.

*Blessings,  
the Donalds of Grand Bay, AL*

It is hard to find the words to express the sadness and anguish I feel for everyone in Dunblane. Please feel comfort that the world shares your pain, and somehow, knowing that we care with you, perhaps this can lessen your load.

*Shirley Cook  
Philadelphia USA*

I wanted to express my deepest sorrow for the people of Dunblane I have 4 children of my own - I can't imagine the pain. I pray for you.

*love, Stacey Miller*

Kevin, I just read your note after having returned from the memorial service for the children - I wept again. I have no children and typically have little interest, but this tragedy made me feel real pain for the parents of Dunblane. I live in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, where in some schools the students carry weapons. Here in the US, the mindlessness of guns has become epidemic as evidenced by the violence which exudes from our "entertainment". I occasionally wonder if we might not simply vaporize some day, in the midst of gang warfare, senseless street crime and the like.

I am very glad to know your son was in "television" that morning. I sincerely hope he lives to be 90, and that with the grace of God, he will allow this unbelievable, hideous crime to fade from his memory, and that you will be able to do the same (not to discard a fight for gun banishment, but the pain that comes from being helpless in such a mindless loss as occurred last Wednesday). God be with you and especially with your friends who lost a child to the hateful act of this maniac.

*Sincerely,  
Ric Corless*

I know that millions of Americans share with me in the wish that God may grant all of the families touched by this tragedy, mercy, peace and his comfort. We think of you fondly, as we are all parents, and know that you will be in the care of the Creator, who loves you all

*Richard G Weimer*

God love those children! So innocent and deprived of so much that was yet to come. Our hearts and ears are with all the parents of Dunblane who so unfairly are left with only the memory of the smiling faces of their children.

*Tony, Angela & Nicole Rossi  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

Our prayers are constantly with you at this time in which noone else can possibly imagine the grief and loss you must feel. May God be with you and guard you and your families in the knowledge that the little lost ones are with Him now, free from pain or fear. We will continue to lift you to the Lord. May God Bless.

*Dottie Browning*

While few can imagine the extent of your personal pain and suffering at this time, be assured many in mid-America are remembering you and praying that God will sustain you throughout these difficult days. You are not alone during this tragic time.

*W. Keith Luse*

It is with horror that I read about the tragedy of your children and teacher. Although words cannot begin to express feelings, please know that I am truly sad that such a travesty could occur and only hope that time can diminish some of the pain that you are feeling. There are supportive hugs coming to you from across the ocean.

*Sincerely,  
Rosi M. Urbine  
Franklin, TN*

Jim, as I read your report the tears came again. I am not a particularly emotional person and can hide my feelings very well...or could until now. I cried my heart out for your town on Friday and thought I had got it out of my system, but I wonder if I will ever get over it - or if I should. When I think of what happened I still have that feeling of 'it cannot be true'. How it must be for the families and those close by I cannot start to understand, but even from this distance it is extremely painful.

*You are all in my thoughts and prayers  
Adrian  
Leeds*

My husband and I are terribly sorry to hear of what has happened in your town, We here in Canada are absolutely in shock to what has happened to you.

I hope that God had a reason for this, but what it would be, I don't know. God bless and Godspeed.

*patricia kurdyla*

Our deepest sympathy to the little angels of Dunblane safe in the arms of Jesus. Rest in peace little ones, God bless you all

*shane lambourne*

I have rarely been so moved by a news story. I can't read anything about this tragedy without crying. My heart goes out to all the people of Dunblane. I can't even imagine how horrible this must be for them. I wish we all didn't feel so helpless.

*Extend my condolences from Cincinnati, OH.  
Laura Hobbs*

What has taken place is nothing short of pure horror and tragedy and my heart is weeping for the senseless act of violence which took so many beautiful gifts from their families. It is a time, I'm sure, where it seems little hope is found. I want to assure you, though, that each child is laughing and playing in heaven and their memories and spirits will always be a wonderful part of you!

God bless you and may He send you peace and healing. All are in my prayers as we all try to understand why this happened.

Peace!

*Steve Ellair*

I'd like to add my condolences to those of the many CServe patrons. My wife and I were shocked at the appalling news. We said to each other, surely not in Scotland. Maybe the US or other nations, but Scotland? In such a beautiful country with good people, it is more of a sorrowful event. It is a shame that, as in the US, people's "rights" to arm themselves so often lead to this horror.

Our best to the town of Dunblane and its inhabitants. Though this event will not fade soon, hopefully we can all learn from it to prevent this from happening again.

*Al and Roseann Mauroni*

I do pray that we as members of humanity will experience some world healing as a result of this terrible tragedy. We can ask why a million times and will never understand the reason someone would do such an awful thing to young children and a teacher. May God make his mercy to fall upon all the families in an abundant way.

*Newt Watson  
Rochester, New York*

Words cannot express what that town must be going through. I tear up every time I see an article in the paper about those lost children (and teacher). I pray the parents and other loved ones of the victims will find peace.

*Kate Beckstrand*

As a parent, a teacher, a Scott, and one who has experienced the loss of a beloved, I grieve with you for the loss of your children. May God wrap his loving arms around you and hug you close as you grieve. Please know that the whole world cries with you. Pain as great as yours must be shared and I'm glad you have others to share it with. The ache will not soon go away, nor will the blessed memory of your wonderful offspring's contributions to life. Perhaps God will grant that the one memory will ease the other.

*Daniel L. Scott*

Our prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. There are no words that can relieve the pain that you feel. Almost a year ago Oklahoma experienced a great tragedy. We received so much wonderful support from people all over the world. I hope for you the same. It is truly a blessing that people this world over can reach out their hands and hearts to each other.

Your children and their teacher are now able to reach out and touch the face of God. I hope this thought can console your hearts. They are in good company. My nephew went to be with Him this past December.

*Your friends in Oklahoma  
The Cochrans*

I would just like to say that I couldn't possibly imagine the pain that the families of the victims must be going through right now. I am 13 years old, and I have a five year old brother. I couldn't ever imagine the pain I would feel if he were taken away from us. I feel such deep sympathy for all those who have to endure this. I really am sorry.

*Lauren Johnson*

I would like to offer my condolences to Scotland for this awful tragedy that has struck Dunblane. My heart feels heavy at this time as I have traveled significantly in the U.K. and have fallen in love with the people. My ancestry even dates back to Scotland. Please accept our heartfelt sadness in this time.

*Kyle Cochran*

Strength to you of Dunblane for the horror that was visited upon you struck deep in the hearts of all parents, myself included. I look at my little girl (2yrs.) and have to come to terms with the fact that this could have happened here just as there. I shed a tear for you because, indeed, there before the grace of God go we all. My family will keep you and yours in our prayers during these dark hours.

*Kenneth R. Powell*

Hello. I, along with many of my classmates, were appalled and heart broken by the horrific happening in Dunblane, Scotland. Being so far removed, its hard to know what it's really like, but my heart went out to those poor families. My name is Stacey Carlough, and I am a member of the Christian Social Action Club (CSAC) at my high school in New Jersey. I suggested to the moderator of the club that we should do something to show our support to those suffering from the terrible massacre in Dunblane, scotland. If anyone can give me an address of somewhere where we can send letters and cards of condolence and support, it would be greatly appreciated. The sooner the better! Leave a message here, or email me at 76101,521. Thanks again!

*stacey.*

It is difficult to offer words that can express what my family and the families of my friends here in Fairfield, Iowa, USA want you to know. We cannot reduce the grief, confusion and anger you are feeling. All we can do is offer our love and spiritual support to you. We have prayed for your children and their teacher. While I do not belong to a specific faith and do not attend church, I know there is a higher power. God has accepted your children into his light and they are living in his love and all our love. We wish you peace and our hearts are with you during these difficult times.

*Carl Churchill*



The Lord said suffer the little children to come unto me. The children and their teacher are in a far better place than the world that spawns such tragedy. Our Prayers are with you.

*Janet and Peter Hurn Fonthill  
Ontario, Canada*

As a parent and grandparent the horror of what has occurred is like a knife thrust deep into my heart. The media coverage of your terrible loss is like a double sided sword. One shows the world just how sick some of it's inhabitants are the other keeps the pain fresh in the minds of those who need to, but can't be separated from it. God bless you all. My prayers and the prayers my family are with you all.

*Stephen F. Dasaro and Family*

My husband and I want to send the people in Dublane our prayers and condolences. Can someone give us a snail mail address for a contirbution to the survivors and the grieving families? My bank is not in the 21st century. Thank you.

*Patricia Havel*

In the midst of your anguish over the loss of children, it is difficult to think about healing. When you ready to begin this process, I recommend you read and share a book titled "The Worst Loss: How Families Heal From The Death Of A Child". The book was written by Barbara D. Rosof, and published in 1994 in the United States by Henry Holt & Co.

There is also an organization in the United States that is committed to helping the parents of murdered children: Parents of Murdered Children, 100 East 8th Street, Room B-41, Cincinnati, Ohio. Phone: 00 1 513-721-5683 FAX: 00 1 513-345-4489

As an American of Scottish ancestry, I wish there a concrete way for me to help each family who has lost a child. Although I am not there in body, I am present in spirit, and I hope this information in this short E-mail will help you in the lengthy process of healing.

*Scott D. Campbell*

We join all the other people from around the world in extending our sympathy to you. You are in our thoughts each day.

*Barbara Jenkins and Eli Kwartler*

I would like to express my sincere wishes to the families of the recent tragedy in Dunblane. My heart felt sympathies are with you. I know words cannot express what you are possibly feeling, but I hope this token of expression will help.

There is really no way to understand the “whys” of something of this nature. I find that I, am at a loss for words.

Please accept my sympathies and my best wishes.

*Jerry J. Tubbs*

My family and I send our thoughts and prayers to you all. As I have three children of my own, I watch in horror what you are going through. The innocent is with God and God is with you.

*The Greer Family  
Lutz, Florida USA*

To Those Who Grieve in Dunblane: The hearts of parents everywhere grieve with you. We hope that across the distance of ocean and land, you can feel our emotions and our prayerful support. Blessings.

*Mu Donald*

Me and my wife would just like to say how sorry we are about your loses and that our prayers are with you in your time of sorrow.

*Marc and Julia Schub*

I am currently living in Honolulu, and we, the 13 year olds at Holy Trinity School, would like to address our condolences by way of this message. We pray for you every morning.

*Andrew Malek*

We share your sorrow and pray for you.

*Loving Kindness  
Patrick Granleese,  
Toronto Canada*

I want to send my utmost condolences to the dear people of Dunblane, it was so horrifying to hear the news over here. We have prayed for all of you in our Sunday School, Mom's groups, at home with our family, etc. Only the peace of God will get you all through this, what the devil plans for evil, God can turn it around for His good. As impossible as that may sound to each and everyone of you, He will. I could never imagine....please accept our thoughts and prayers.....

*Katherine Seible  
Erie, Pa. U.S.A.*

Please know that you are not suffering alone. The whole world suffers with you and grieves for the loss of such innocent souls. Our sympathies and prayers go out to all the families invovled. My you never know such pain again.

*Sincerely,  
Jennifer Bernstein and family  
White Plains, NY USA*

From my family and church:

We share your grief at this tragic loss and pray that the Peace of the Lord will give you courage and strenght. May you find peace and healing in the knowledge that your loved ones are truely angels with the Lord. May this tragedy remind us all how precious our families are and guide us closer as a community.

*Thomas J. Koecher*

I am so very sorry about what happened.

*Carol Walker*

On Behalf of the People of Roseville Minnesota USA, the Members of the Roseville Rotary Club of Rotary International and the Members of the Body of Christ at North Heights Lutheran Church we want to add our love , comfort , support and prayers at this time of personal loss and grief . Our hearts have been deeply touched by these events and realize the insufficiency of words to express our care. May grace and mercy be multiplied to you all and may you be supported by the strength which comes from the one who also suffered innocently even Christ Jesus Our Lord.

*Most Sincerely,  
Rev. Robert W. Burmeister  
Roseville Minnesota U.S.A.*

My deepest sympathy goes out to the families of those who were killed at the school. I had watched the this tradgity on CNN one morning. And I felt sad to see that someone would hurt little kids just because something did not go right for him. My co-workers all have sympathy for the families of those little ones., since they too have little kids of there own.

*Debbie Bommersbach  
Vancouver, WA.*

After two wonderful visits to Scotland in the last two years (Inverness, Edinburgh, Linlithgow, Stirling, and others) tracing my ancestors, I've come to love you. How horrible that now I cry with you. (from) a friend in Arizona.

*Jeff Place*

There are no words to ease the grief and pain you are feeling. I know what anguish I would feel if my children had been taken from me in such a violent way. Please know that my thoughts and sympathies are with you daily.. I feel so powerless to deal with the violence and randomness that prevails in our societies.

*Sincerely,  
Jaci Wilkins*

No words can express the deepest sympathy my children and family wish to all of the citizens, family victims, and other survivors of this evil tragedy. Words will never be able to explain the reasons as well. We can only persevere, move on and enjoy the very precious memories of the truly innocent little angels. Children are the most wonderful gift of God!

*John M Loblan*

My heart breaks for every one of the children affected by this tragedy. The families, the friends and all who were touched by their lives.

We can never know God's great plan for us and why things like this are allowed to happen. If anything, we, all of us from everywhere in the world, have been deeply touched by this. For me and those I know, it has made us stop and think how quickly life can be snatched from us. That each and every hug and kiss goodbye to our children could be our last. If the love we share in our families is shown more now because of this tragedy, then perhaps those little angels are finishing the great plan in heaven

I pray for you all. God's blessings

*Kathy Stephens  
St. Louis, Missouri USA*

Our prayers are with you in Dublanc. Find comfort in knowing that your loved ones are in a better place. In Heaven with our Father, they are in better hands than they ever could have been in this world, we pray you find comfort in this even though your loss is so great. Our condolences, prayers, and tears, God Bless from, Virginia, USA.

*The Pietzcker's*

The words necessary to adequately describe one's feelings in such a terrible time as this are just not readily available. I have been touched by your tragedy and wept at your anguish and pain.

May God in his mercy and tenderness take those you loved and nurtured to his bosom and dry their tears forever. May He also grant peace and comfort to all who suffer from the pain of this terrible loss.

Our family wishes to express its heartfelt sympathy and let you know that each of you is in our prayers. May God bless and keep you.

*George D. Norton*

To all the families, friends, and teachers of the Dunblane School victims. I am the father of 3 daughters. At this very great distance from you I felt as though my heart had been ripped out just by reading the terrible news. I can not imagine the pain you must feel. I can only offer my condolences, my prayers, and my support. If anyone feels the need to talk please e-mail me and I will respond. I don't know what else to do. Please accept the most heart-felt sympathy from my entire family.

*From Richard Vance  
Huntsville, Alabama;USA*

My heart goes out to those families that will have to bear the scars of this travesty. May they find some peace and comfort in knowing that so many people send their prayers and love. Do not ask God why this happened, but ask Him to help you make it thru each day. The tears the families shed, we shed too. The grief they feel, we feel also. This is a time when we must all be strong. Tonight I will light a candle for the children of Scotland and the families. Tonight I will hug my children a bit tighter as I tuck them in. Tonight I will think of Scotland and Oklahoma and wonder when this will all end.

*Peggy Lyons*

Please can you pass this on for me. It is for all the parents especially little Victoria's mother:

Lord, please accept these special people to thy most gracious care,  
And I humbly thank you for the time we had to share  
Bless them each time a silent prayer is cried  
and therein, rest in peace, forever at your side

My deepest sympathy to all the families, and to those little angels who will be always remembered and never forgotten.

*Tamara Cruickshanks  
London*

# “The Heart of Dunblane”

by Gus Giudici - March 14, 1996

Twas a morning like any, a lovely day  
The children were fed, and sent on their way  
Packed off to school, how could anyone say  
It was a day they'd never forget, in Dunblane  
At the base of the highlands, Dunblane's settled there  
Her people so trusting, with never a care  
Till a man with a hatred, buried deep in his soul  
Turned the warmth in their hearts, forever to cold

## *Chorus:*

But ohhh, how their eyes shined in the sun  
Ohhh, how their hearts wanted to run  
No one could ever conceive  
How could anyone ever believe  
They'd be gone, oh so young

The wee ones were playing, in the school gym that day  
Their teachers about them, all smiles and gay  
Till the devil himself walked in, with hate in his eyes  
When the killing was done, sixteen of them died  
The mothers came running, in search of their young  
Some of them weeping, some of them numb  
They pleaded to heaven, for their babies take care  
The School Master said, sweet mothers, they're already there

## *Chorus*

Who knows what devil, beset him that day  
What evil drove him, to make him that way  
We'll never to know, and he's never to pay  
For he took his own life, that day in Dunblane  
Sweet Mellisa Currie, five tender years old  
She and her classmates, they're never alone  
Their teacher Gwen Mayor, is there by their sides  
To watch over and guide them, for love, never dies

## *Chorus*

Dear mothers and fathers, of the town of Dunblane  
We can't know the horror, we can't know your pain  
But we'll stand here beside you, as you walk down the lane  
On the day they bury the heart, of Dunblane



From one mother with love

I am a new mother and could not imagine life without Joshua. The tragic deaths of those poor children has made me realise just how special children are and I can not image how you all must be feeling now.

The tears I have shed are only a drop in the ocean of those you all must be crying every day and no words of sympathy can make up for your loss.

I just want you all to know that my thoughts are with you every time I look at Joshua and know that I am very lucky to have him with me. I hope that the sadness you are feeling now eases as time passes.

My love and deepest sympathy to you all.

*God bless  
Sharon Whitehead*

As the parents of two pre-school age children, my husband and I send our heartfelt condolences to the people of Dunblane — particularly those who have lost God's greatest gift. Our thoughts are with you from Olathe, Kansas, USA.

*P Mosher*

Dear God, we all cry with you and pray for you. Our thoughts and love are with you for ever.

*Love and Prayers from all the teachers, parents and children of  
Our Lady & St. Joseph R.C. Primary School. Hackney, London.*

There aren't adequate words or actions to express the pain we share with all of you in your horrible losses.

Please know that our hearts, minds and spirits cry out with yours. We pray that God gives you his peace and strength to endure.

We wish we could do something. Please accept our love and know that neither you or your children are not alone.

*Gary Stiles and Family*



My family wishes you comfort and strength in the face of this tragedy. Although we cannot imagine your grief, please know that we grieve with you as parents of innocent children. You are in our prayers and thoughts.

*Most Sincerely;  
Jim and MaryJo Thompson  
West Chester, Pennsylvania USA*

Hi Jim, I would like to say thanks to Compuserve for this opportunity to send a message to those in Dunblane after the horrible thing that happened this past week. I can't think of much to write but I am sorry for all the families who have lost people close to them. I was very shocked to hear about this, a man who just snapped - decided to kill 5 & 6 year old kids and a teacher, Basically I would just like to say that my thoughts and many of the people at Currie High School in Edinburgh are with them, especially right now!

I'm sorry I can't write much, but I am thinking about them and hopefully this will never happen again.

*Your sincerely  
Mark Fettes & Currie High School*

To the broken-hearted in Dunblane:

“For the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14). Your babies are safe in the arms of Jesus. Try to find comfort in Him as well. Our hearts are broken with yours. Know that you are in our prayers.

*From Gary Martyn and the staff of Every Home for Christ  
Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA*

Please let it be known that the Meaney family in Bellevue, Washington, USA send our condolences to the fine people of Dunblane who have lost their children, friends, and neighbors in the tragedy. But God is still sovereign and He is our comfort.

We will be praying for the families and friends of the dear children and their teacher.

*Cordially,  
Michael Meaney*

I along with my wife Sian, from N. Wales, would like to send our deepest condolences to the family members of the children murdered and to the community members so affected by this senseless act of cowardice and inhumanity. The pictures on our TV screen were gripping and haunting and will never be forgotten. This needless loss of innocent life has changed the world and our you are closely in our hearts as you deal with this incredible loss. Our strength remains with you...

*Alan and Sian Christie  
Denver, Colorado, USA*

Our prayers are with the people of Dunblane and especially the families who have suffered such a terrible loss.

We have been thinking of you. We have wept for your children. We have shared our shock and prayed for you at Church and work.

My babies went to Primary school in Dunblane in 1975 and 1976 when they were respectively 6 and 10 years old. When I heard the news I recalled my baby girl going to school and my heart was broken, thinking of your loss.

May God bless you and be with you.

*John Dick and Family  
Pearl River, New York.*

After hearing what had happened I was very upset. Our high school has started a collection for you all. We think that u are all very brave and strong, and our wishes are with you always.

*Dawn  
East Kilbride, Glasgow*

I send my deepest sympathy to all those who are involved in this terrible insident. My heart is with you all! It should never had happened

*With regards  
GemmaRybicki*

I wish you all the strength and courage possible to help you. You are not alone in your dark hours the thoughts and feelings of millions of people (especially those with children) are with you. My very deepest sympathy and condolences.

*Sincerely*  
*Enrico Alvares*

I visited Dunblane once and liked it ..... now I can't think of anything to say which adequately expresses the outrage and grief I feel.

My heart goes out to the parents; all the people of the city. Also the surviving children - how can such little ones understand? I hope the counsellors will strive to help the children know that /they/ didn't do anything wrong. I can remember feeling, at that age, that if something bad happened I must have been naughty in some way ..... the children must not be allowed to carry this burden!

All I can offer is my sympathy, and that of my family. And our prayers.

*Geraldine Charles*

I want you to know that now that the media attention is starting to wain and you are starting to be left in peace, that there are some of us still thinking about you and praying for you. I have two children of my own, but I still can't imagine what you are going through. All I know is, that what has happened feels like it's happened to my own family.

We share your grief - you are not alone. God bless you.

*Linda Hosfield*

Condolences from Texas. We were all shocked by the events in your town and hugged our children tighter that night. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Jeff Latimer*  
*Austin, Texas*

Lots of love to all the families in Dunblane, especially those affected by this tragedy.

*Gill Davies*

Last Wednesday, I could not believe what I was hearing over the radio. Today, one week later it still seems like some awful dream. Our deepest sympathies, thoughts and love go out to you all in Dunblane, and in particular to the families of those who died.

*Mike, Gill, Sam & Lucy Bidgood  
Oldmeldrum, Grampian*

Please know that my heart goes out to you at this time. I am praying for God to strengthen you and comfort you as you go through this terrible loss. There are no words to tell you how much it hurts to read of your loss. Having lost a son at the age of 12 my husband and I join you in grieving. Please accept our love and caring prayers.

*Bud & Marie Sanderbrink  
White City, Oregon U. S. A.*

Ed and I, want to let you know we are so very sorry for what happened to your precious children. Our thoughts and prayers are with you now and will be in the days ahead. We wish we could comfort you more but please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Mary Ellen Epting*

I would like to add my condolences and prayers to all the others who have expressed the loss we all feel for the families in Dunblane. May it help them to know that they are not alone. This is a worldwide loss.

*Patricia A. Thoms*

I have a 10 month old son. I do not know how to express the sadness I feel or my sympathy for all families in Dunblane.

I believe that what happened will help nurture a resolve among all of us to examine how we have created such a world where this could happen, and finally start to take our world back.

Yet nothing can assuage your unimaginable loss and I cry for you.

*Philip Murphy  
Seattle*

To all who live in Dunblane, Scotland, our thoughts and prayers are with you. We grieve with you, and are as shocked and disillusioned as you are. We would like to help you in anyway we can.

Our email address is 104031,2232@compuserve.com. If you want to talk, or anything, let us know.

*Sincerely  
Gordon and Cathleen Grahams*

I share the pain of the rest of the world at this tragedy. Please add my message of grief and condolences to the people of Dunblane to the thousands of others you are undoubtedly receiving.

*Derek J West*

It is with great sadness that I respond to the tragedy that involves you and confronts us all.

My heart and prayers are with you in your lose. Words are totally inadequate for an event of such horrendous wickedness, and needlessness.

May God grant you faith and grace to go on.

*Very truly yours,  
Dean Hutchins*

My heart aches for you all, parents, siblings, relatives and friends. My prayers and thoughts have been with you and will continue to be with you. May God give you all the strength to find meaning in your days and peace in your nights.

*God bless you all  
Amy Kuhlers*

My Grandfather George Strathdee, was a janitor at Dunblane Primary School for many years. As a child I remember spending many happy days in the janitors house next to the school. I was saddened to see the house again on television under such sad sad circumstances. The thoughts of my wife and young family go out to my "friends" in Dunblane.

*Neil Dougall*

I hope this message can in some small way express my horror and sorrow for the tragic events that have happend in the town of Dunblane. My heart felt condolences go out to all the people of Dunblane.

*Angels ever more.  
Lee Dolby*

The only comfort anyone of us can possibly give, is to say that our love is with you.

*Penny Bateman  
London, Ont. Canada*

Our deepest sympathies to all the families and teachers involved. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We cry with you and grieve with you.

*Peter Geilern*

Our prayers are continually offered for the newest angels in Heaven. We pray with you for God's comfort,

*Teri Frank and family  
Orlando, Florida*

I can only offer my deepest sympathies to you, I wish I could do more. I pray that God upholds you and gives you his peace at this time.

*Andrea Hern*

I have no words to say. My family were all schocked and horrified. Please accept these inadequate expressions of grief.

*Adrian,Alina, Ruth and Nathaniel Edmonds*

My own daughter just turned a year and a half... I could't even start to imagine life without her. I also could't possibly imagine what families are feeling at this moment. Things like this really tear your heart out. I hope all the families get all the help needed. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

*Dawn McGeHee  
Austin, Texas, USA*

How truly sad I am at the events that have befallen you. It numbed me when I first heard about it. I didn't Cry until I saw the class picture of all those beautiful babies (They are always your baby no matter how old they get) and their intelligent and attractive teacher. I could tell she really cared about her pupils just from the picture. And those 5 year olds any one of them could have passed for a classmate of my daughter Kanani in her Kindergarten class at Le Jardin Academy here in Kailua, Hawaii. It really hit home when you have one the same age and how, if you lost them, how crushed you would be the mere thought of it just breaks my heart.

I've always been proud of my Scots Heritage, my two ancestors Duncan Bohannon and Hugh Drysdale are from there. I feel so much like I've lost a family member.

A special message for Amie Adams. You hang in there little girl, I don't think God needs you just yet. I've no doubt you have two parents and some grandparents who love you very much. I don't know your denomination (I'm LDS myself—Mormon) but I hope that an Elder or Priest from your Church has had the opportunity to give you the laying on of hands for a blessing. Always worked for me.

May God Bless you all through these Trying times

*Tim, Debrina, Kanani and Keikiole Haller  
Kailua Hawaii USA*

Sincere condolences - May God be with you.

*Timothy S. Hill  
Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA.*

My family and I would like to share our sympathy and bewilderment with you. We love our child as you love yours; we cannot fully comprehend your loss but we can imagine some of the desolation you must be feeling.

I have prayed for you and the children whose friends have been taken so hideously. All God's and mankind's strength to you. Please survive the pain and anger and the inevitable, but undeserved, feelings of guilt that will pass through you. Our children are also everyone's children; we share in your grief.

*Hugh James Waters and family  
London, England*

To all the grieving people of Dunblane, and especially to the children and parents of the Dunblane Primary School, please accept prayers and wishes that life should at least become bearable in a while. I nearly lost my beloved son when he was seven and I shall never forget the pain and incomprehension. We grieve with you. You are not alone.

*Jasmine & Alexis  
West London*

From the Andrews family in Miami, Florida, I wish to send our condolences to all the families in Dunblane, and to let them know that our prayers are with them.

*Susan Andrews*

To the Families of Dunblane from a small neighborhood in Sheboygan, Wisconsin USA.

We would like to send our condolences to the people of Dunblane. Our small community of neighbors seems very much like your own. We are all saddened by the tragedy and we hope that somehow you and your families will find the strength to endure it. Our prayers are with you.

*Todd Gutschow  
Sheboygan, WI USA*

To all parents and grandparents of the little innocent children in Dunblane:

Please accept my deepest condolences and prayers for the awful loss you have sustained in your town. I am the very proud grandmother of a beautiful 5 yr. old grandson and just cannot imagine life without this precious gift from God.

I cried and prayed when I first saw the news of your loss on my TV. All I could think of is how I would feel if this was my grandson. Now every time I look at him, I see you all and wish that all the crazy people in the world who would hurt our little innocent children would be put out of their misery before they were allowed to inflict their horrible damage on the world.

My prayers are with you everyday as you go through the grief process and I wish I was there to hold you and console you.

*With deepest sympathy,  
Lynn Pickard  
a grandmother*



I wish to express my deepest sorrow at the loss of your loved ones. I was horrified to hear what had happened and I wish for you to know that my thoughts and prayers are with each of you. May God comfort you as only He can.

*Debbie Merz  
Columbus, Ohio USA*

Our thoughts are of you; our prayers are for you. May you continue to be given strength and love.

*Paul Smith*

What a terribly significant and personal thing to have affected your lives, something that cannot be imagined, only experienced. It deeply saddens me to know of your losses and that so many have had their lives changed irrevocably. It takes time, sometimes more than we think but the children are in a place now where they can never again be hurt by misguided ideas or people. God bless you all.

*Brad Hansen  
Rancho Mirage, CA USA*

My wife and myself are lost for appropriate words to say. It's awful, for all affected, and touched by this tragedy, and for civilised peoples the world over. Our sympathy and prayers are for you at this time.

*Rob & Annette Collins  
Colwyn Bay North Wales*

This horror is too terrible for words.

The television pictures said enough..... My thoughts are with the families and the children who had to witness this terrible tragedy. Here in Holland we were shocked and we still are.... Our prayers are with you, be strong!

*Arno van Peperstraten  
Rotterdam (the Netherlands) and his schoolfriends.*

I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to the people of Dunblane, both those who lost their dear ones, and those of the community who “just” went through a terrible shock. Living in Israel and having just suffered our own version of senseless violence, I’m afraid I missed the news from Scotland. But I felt I had to leave a message, letting you know that we think of you. As we unfortunately know very well, words are simply insufficient to describe the feelings of anger, shock, sadness and compassion that go through our minds after an event like this. I wish for you to be able to continue living, despite the terrible loss.

*Ariel Hershler and family  
Efrat, Israel*

Our deepest sympathies to you on your tragic, senseless loss.

*Love and Prayers,  
Frank and Marie Garon  
Perth Amboy, NJ USA*

My wife and I just can't get over the news of this awful tragedy in Dunblane. My wife teaches P.1. and would be in the gym at the same time. Everytime she looks at her class she is reminded of your dear little ones. May you get the grace and strength you need to cope at this time.


*God Bless, from Sam, Alison and baby Naomi Magowan*

I want you to know that all our thoughts and prayers are with you all...I live in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (the site of the bombing in America) and I honestly do not know what is going so terribly wrong with people in this world.

I have been to Scotland and truly think that the Scottish are some of the most friendly, giving people in the world. I hope that you can sense the feeling of support that is with you throughout the world.

All my thoughts and prayers...

*Dawn Williams*

“’ll lend you a child, A child of mine” he said,  
For you to love the while he lives, And mourn for when he’s dead.  
It may be six or seven years or twenty two or three,  
But will you, till I call him back, Take care of him for me?

He will bring his charms to gladden you, and should his stay be brief,  
You’ll have his lovely memory, as solace for your grief.  
I cannot promise that he’ll stay, for all from earth return,  
But there are lessons taught down there, I want my child to learn.

I’ve looked the wide world over, in my search for teachers true,  
And from the throngs that crowd life’s lane I have selected you.  
Now will you give him all your love, nor think the labour vain,  
Nor hate me when I come, to call him back again?”

I fancied that I heard them say, “Dear Lord, Thy will be done,  
For all the joy the child shall bring, the risk of grief we’ll run.  
We’ll shelter him with tenderness, we’ll love him while we may,  
And for the happiness we’ve known, forever grateful stay.  
But should the angels call him, much sooner than we’ve planned,  
We’ll brave the bitter grief that comes, and try to understand.”



We would just like to say how devastated we were to hear of the horror of Dunblane. Words are not sufficient.

We are from Scotland, and in fact are moving back to the area from the South in a couple of weeks. Everybody has been touched by this tragedy.

Our love, prayers and sympathy go to everyone in Dunblane.

*Steve and Jacqui Gresswell*

I know how tragic this massacre was but you have a lot of support from our family and we will offer our prayers and thoughts to God. And the best thing to do now is stop looking at the past and look at the future as it will be more clear.

*Frances Kemball+Family*

Words can not express the shock, disbelief and sadness I felt (and still feel) about the totally senseless loss of life resulting from the Dunblane massacres. Those who survived will spend their lives wondering 'why not me'. They will always feel the horror and the guilt and the pain. God bless everyone associated in whatever way with Dunblane.

May the victims rest in peace. May the survivors receive privacy and support when needed in the days, months and years to come.

*We will never forget.  
Ruth Bishop*

Our deepest sympathy to the Dunblane Families. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

*Doug and Barb Morrison  
Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin USA*

Something died in us all the day your tragedy happened. Words are insufficient to express my feelings, perhaps my tears will suffice.

*Ken Lane*

Our thoughts are with you.

*Matt & Jo  
Oxfordshire, UK.*

Straight from the Heart

“I’ll lend you for a while, a child of Mine,” He said, “For you to love while he lives, and mourn for when he’s dead. It may be six or seven years, or 22 or three, But will you, till I call him back, take care of him for Me? Hell bring his charms to gladden you, and should his life be brief, You’ll have his lovely memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise he will stay, since all to dust return, But there are lessons taught on earth I want this child to learn. I’ve looked the wide world over in My search for teachers true, And from the throngs that crowd life’s lanes, I have chosen you. Now, will you give him all your love, nor think the labour vain, Nor question when I come to call to take him back again?”

I fancied that I heard them say, “Dear Lord, Thy will be done; For all the joy this child shall bring, the risk of grief well run. We’ll shelter him with tenderness, we’ll love him while we may, And for the happiness we’ve known, ever grateful stay. But if his life on earth should end much sooner than we’d planned, We’ll brave the bitter grief that comes and trust Thy Loving Hand.”

As a father I know... still I could NEVER know... the deep grief you feel... I’ll love my own a little more, for you that cannot anymore.

*My prayers  
Donald Leask*

On behalf of the Community Bible Chapel, Atlanta, GA (USA), we would like to express our sympathy to the pupils and teachers of Dublane Primary School, their families, and friends. This tragedy has touched our hearts here in the USA. We have been and are praying that God will fill the void in your heart today. We will continue to pray for you.

*Until He comes or calls,  
Clifford S. Ice, Pastor*

To the community of Dunblane, words are not enough, may the gardens of heaven ring out with songs and games, 16 angels and their teacher will be nurtured there. Know that we are all standing with you.

I am a primary teacher at Sighthill primary school, Edinburgh. Many children in our school have expressed their sadness and their wish to be able to do something to help. As a school we have sent and continue to send our love and sorrow.

*Carrie Lucas  
p5 primary teacher.*

My deepest sympathies go out to you. I am the mother of a kindergartener, and I just feel that it could just as well have been my son. My hearts go out to all of the loved ones, and just want you to feel that, even though so far away, our love for our children is the same, and our hearts are hurting for you.

*Mary Scott*

You are not alone in the wake of these sad events. All the inhabitants of these islands share your grief at the loss of your innocents and stand with you in your dark days.

*Peter Turner*

The thousands of miles between us does not soften the pain and grief we feel over your most terrible loss.

*Harold Meritt*

So many horrible things happen each day throughout the world that many of us have become numb and indifferent. As a father of 3 children under the age of 6, what happened in Dunblane pierced the indifference and effected me as nothing has before. Please know that I weep with you and pray for your comfort.

*With Love,  
Chris Beckstrand  
Salt Lake City, Utah, USA*

Upon returning from taking my own child to school, the radio gave the horrible news of the shooting. I wept for you.

I host a religious TV program. The day of the shooting I asked the viewers to join me in prayer for each of you. Our love and prayers continue to you from Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

*Sincerely,  
Gregory and Sherry Holt*

I want to convey the heartfelt grief that my wife and I are still feeling for all the people of Dunblane and especially the families of the victims. Words fail us; we can only say we wish you well and are contributing to the fund for aid to the families as a token of our sympathy.

*M. Kabay & D. Black  
Kirkland, QC*

To everyone in Dunblane, but especially those who lost loved ones, I just wanted to say that I am thinking of you constantly, and am sending every hope and prayer to you that you will be able to get through this terrible ordeal, and that in time, the pain will lessen Much love and sympathy

*Annie Saw  
England*

My family and I would like to express our sincere condolence's to all the family's affected by this devastation.

*Raphael J Magnus, Pamela, Jason, Simone, & Lianna*

I wish to express my deepest sorrow and angwish for this atrocioity. All my sypathy goes out to the Families of the Children involved.

*from Declan Toman*

I would like to share two of my poems with you. The first is about the Justice system in the USA and my frustration with it. The second is about our Tragedy that occurred in Oklahoma, where several children and adults were also Needlessly lost because of someone's act of Violence.

My Prayers and Thoughts are with all these violent acts have affected.

*All My Love,*

## JUSTICE

My heart is full of grief and pain for all who've lost their lives. But mostly for the ones left here, in pain and wondering why. Why does "Justice" let the ones who cause this pain go free. It seems the ones who pay their debts are victims, you and me.

We live our lives in prisons, constructed out of fear. Fear brought on by lawless acts of those who do not care. The laughter of those lawless crooks echo in our streets. Because if they are caught they know our system can beat.

They'll be back in only days to again their terror reign. without remorse for killing kids, and causing so much pain. The ones who win this game it seems are lawyers and their kind. Our laws don't work, we are not free, we're running out of time.

*Written by: Debera Anne Neil 1995*

## OKLAHOMA

The souls we've lost just recently will forever be on my mind. Those bright and innocent children, lost before their time. And those who caused this tragedy say Government is to blame. But who gave them authority to kill and hurt and maim.

What makes them think this act of theirs will change the powers that be. It will only breed more violence, then no one will be free. We already fear to walk the streets either night or day. For some fanatic may just snap and take our lives away.

To all of you who feel you have the right to take a life. Try to think of how you'd feel to loose your kids or wife. How can you live with what you've done - I just can't comprehend. How you believe this act extreme could justify an end.

And what about those lives just lost, those kids who'll never grow. They might have changed the world one day - but this we'll never know. And who will heal the pain that's felt by families torn apart. YES, there is a need to change - BEGINNING IN THE HEART!

*Written by: Debera Anne Neil 1995*



We just want to let you know that you have been in our thoughts and prayers during the last few days.

Even in this early time your response to this tragedy has been an inspiration to us. We were awed to see TV reports of thousands flocking to a nighttime vigil in the church. Seeing your faith has given us hope.

We won't forget you.

*Steve and Marian Judd, and babies Daniel and Matthew*

Nothing will replace your loss, but please know there are millions of people throughout the world who mourn your loss, and are saying a prayer for you each day.

*Larry Beck Tigard  
Oregon, United States*

With the horrible loss of these beautiful children and the suffering of the families, we must learn from this senseless deed. We must all commit ourselves to carry the torch for peace so that these children will not have died in vain!

*God bless the families  
Daniel King*

To all the community of Dunblane and the families of the poor children cut down in such tragic manner I forward my heart felt sadness and prayers over their loss. This more than anything demands that a community like Dunblane need not grieve alone, as their loss is also ours.

As my grandfather used to write on seasonal cards to us, 'Lang Mae Yer Lum Reek'

*Regards  
William Dunn*

I really do not think that there is anything that I can say to make things better, but just to let you know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

*Ben Phillips*

Our hearts are heavy as we think of you and what you must be going through. We hope that one day you can take comfort in knowing that your little ones are in heaven with Jesus. Our thoughts and prayers are with your whole village and especially those directly affected by this tragedy.

*With Christian Love and Concern  
Norm and Linda Smith and Family  
Chicago Illinois USA*

My heart goes out to all families in this recent tragedy. This is another sad chapter in human history. We say we are the smartest animals on earth. I say, if we are so smart, why cannot we all live with and understand one another.

*Jeffrey Saper*

I live in California. I have 3 children, their ages are 17, 7 and almost 4. Everytime I think of the horrible tragedy the people in Dunblane, Scotland have experienced and are living with, I begin to cry. I simply cannot imagine how anyone, no matter how mentally ill, could harm a child - much less a room full of them. Children are our gift from God, they're our future; our dreams and hopes all rolled into a wonderful, innocent little person. These children have a right to be safe and to grow up and learn and experience life. I believe in capitol punishment, and in the case of anyone who intentionally harms a child, I believe our means of capitol punishment are too humane!

My prayers and sympathy go to the families and friends of everyone in the town of Dunblane. A tragedy of this magnitude reaches far beyond that one classroom. To those in that classroom - God be with you and protect you.

*Lori Pichotta*

We live in a small, virtually crime-free rural town and could so deeply identify with the shock and pain of the senseless violence visited upon your community. How one of nature's creatures could be so cruel and cowardly to wreak his horror upon little children will be a mystery forever. Please know that many tears have been shed in Sunol, California for your lost angels, their courageous teacher and all of you. With love and sympathy, the James family.

*Bree K. James*

There is not very much to say, but a lot to pray for. Please forward this poem which was sent to me by a friend after my miscarriage of my first baby,

#### LITTLE ANGELS

When God calls little children to dwell with him above, We mortals some-time question the wisdom of His love. For no heartache compares with the death of one small child Who does so much to make our world seem wonderful & mild. Perhaps God tires of calling the aged to his fold, So He picks a rosebud before it can grow old. God knows how much we need them, and so He takes but few To make the land of Heaven more beautiful to view. Believing this is difficult still somehow we must try, The saddest word mankind knows will always be "Goodbye." So when a little child departs, we who are left behind Must realize God loves children, Angels are hard to find.

The author's name was not given to me. Let's remember the children not by how they died, but by how much joy they brought while they lived.

*Clara A Bartlett*

Our hearts are breaking with you, may you eventually find peace of mind and rest for the spirit.

*Nick, Anna, Dominic, Emma, Verity, Adam and unborn Bump*

We want to send a slightly different message to the people of Dunblane, if we may. They know by now that the whole world grieves with them, but they should also know how PROUD we are of them for maintaining their Dignity through not only unimaginable horror, but intrusive media coverage as well. There has been no public wailing or whining or placing of blame - only strength and humanity. (That poor Headmaster should get a medal for maintaining his composure while trying to explain to the world the awfulness of what he saw!)

One word turns up over and over, describing the Scottish people in history, literature and song - "Staunch". The ancestors of the people of Dunblane - and all Scotland - would approve of how they have faced their tragedy with backs straight and a determination to pull together and see each other through this! They have given the world much to admire!

*Rick and Marie Russell*

I would just like to extend my deepest sympathies to all of the families of the children and the teacher, who are and will no doubt carry on enduring, suffering this enormous and tragic loss. I know Dumblane as a whole is in a state of shock and disbelief as is the rest of Britain. I have two children of my own, and therefore cannot and dare not try to contemplate the thoughts and feelings that you all must share. My HEART and my THOUGHTS go out to you everyday, We Will Remember...

*Yours sincerely  
Mark Young  
Iver Bucks*

Upon returning from taking my own child to school, the radio gave the horrible news of the shooting. I wept for you. I host a religious TV program. The day of the shooting I asked the viewers to join me in prayer for each of you. Our love and prayers continue to you from Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

*Sincerely  
Gregory and Sherry Holt*

I am a Police Officer from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, I am stationed at Cullompton, Nr Exeter Devon. I have been a police officer for 25 years and prior to that I was in the Royal Air Force for 5 yrs.

It is unfortunate that my occupation brings me into contact with many things that the general public do not see, it is almost unbearable to see the death of another human being, to see the death of a child is sometimes very difficult even for hardened police officers. I am also a member of the British Association for Counselling, so I try to understand individual people's feelings in tragic circumstances.

I find it very hard to understand what has happened in Dunblane, I have on many occasions shed a few tears while watching the national news or even reading newspapers. Please forward my deepest sympathies to all the people that have lost a loved one, also to all the persons that have been involved directly or indirectly in this awful tragedy.

There are not enough words that can express all our true feelings of deep loss. I wish all those concerned my deep regards. May the future bring some comfort to those that need it.

*Michael Thompson*

A message to all touched by this tragedy.

Look to your families and to God to help you through this time of heart-break. Anger, pain and despair are to be expected in your hearts and minds. With the love and caring of others around you, and of God who is around us all, may peace touch you. Your beloved are now at peace, rest assured, protected by His infinite power and wisdom.

There are no words I can utter that would accurately convey my anguish at your losses. I can only imagine how I would feel if my little girl, also aged five, was lost to me. That probably doesn't even come close to your feelings.

*God bless you all.  
Mohammed Shaffi*

There is nothing any of us can say or do to relieve, in even the smallest way, the pain and loss that must be felt by the friends and families of those small children and devoted teacher that were killed and wounded in the senseless act of savagery. To paraphrase our late president, Abraham Lincoln when speaking of the losses at Gettysburg during our Civil War, the world will little note nor long remember what we say or do, but it can never forget the lives of those who died.

We all wept at the news, the sight of the frantic families searching for their precious little ones, and the photos of those dead and wounded victims as the roll of dead was called at the funerals and memorials. In our home, we hugged our 6 year old daughter and 2 year old son a little harder that day and are reminded what a special and fragile gift from God they are.

You are all in our thoughts and in our prayers. There can never be any since made of this tragedy. Maybe you can take comfort in the belief that God called his little angels home and they are in wonderful place waiting for you. I cannot imagine how else you find the strength to cope.

*Mike and Carol Sheehan and little Meghan and Brian  
Fort Worth, Texas*

My sincere condolences to you and your neighbors in this terrible time you are having. My family and I cry with you and hold you near in our hearts.

*Barb in Minnesota*

I feel a great sadness for the families of the small innocent children and the school teacher in Dunblane. Mere words cannot express my feelings, but I felt the need to let those in Dunblane know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.

I too, am a mother, and I cannot imagine the pain that the parents of those children must be feeling. I am truly sorry for your loss.

In deepest and most sincere sympathy

*Debbie Todd  
Columbus, Ohio*

Please pass this message on to the families in Dunblane who have suffered such a tragic loss. I too have three children one of whom is ten years old. My deepest sympathies are with you all at this tragic time. I pray that nothing like this will ever happen again.

*Angela Elliott  
Penarth South Wales.*

We think of you constantly here in New York City. This is an unspeakable tragedy, and you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Harriet Moulton*

A poem about Dumblane:

As I read the papers, I shed a tear, I thought I heard innocent voices in my ear, I feel so sorry for the people of Dumbalane, Why have so much grief and pain, 16 childrean and 1 teacher were killed, How could so much blood be spilled? Aren't schools meant to be safe, Just like going to a rave, We must all help every mum and dad, Who have lost their children, it is so sad, God please keep these children up there by your side, Because there is no reason these children should have died, They were the innocent victims of a vile and evil man, Please watch them for their Parents, and keep them safe from harm, No more pain and sorrow for these little one's They are up there wrapped in God's arm.

*Onkar Sachdev, 16 years  
Southall, West London*

# In the Heavenly Meadow



To Heaven's Meadows, bright with flowers and sunshine,  
The little children go,  
When they have had enough of life's sad dreaming,  
And leave the earth below.

But as they had not time to learn their lessons  
Before they went away,  
There is a school, where all the angel children  
Must work four hours a day.

With golden pencils upon silver tablets,  
They copy fairy tales,  
And learn to keep their halos bright and shining,  
And sing, and play their scales.

And twice a week they glide with merry laughter  
All down the Milky Way,  
And homeward in the evening wander softly  
Upon a sunset ray.

But Sunday is the day they love and long for;  
Then all the children go  
And play from morn till night within a meadow  
Where flowers in thousands grow.

The meadow is not green, but blue and golden,  
The flowers like dewdrops bright;  
When it is night, they burn and glow and glisten...  
Men call them stars of light.

*Kate E. Bunce*

Please add this poem to the book.....with condolences from my family:

*Tom, Karen, Tommy, Meghan, Brianne, Connor, and Michael Griffin  
in New Jersey, USA*

To all the people of Dunbane, my wife and I would like to send our condolences to all the families affected by this tragedy and we offer our prayers to the poor little innocent children and teacher. May their souls rest in peace and may the Lord accept them as they were on earth. We were deeply affected here in Pointe Claire, Quebec and remember all of you. We sincerely hope that the population of Dunbane will recover as quickly as possible from this terrible tragedy. Good luck to all from Canada where we also have tragedies.

*Joan and Pierre Lecomte*

Dear Folks,

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the victims, families of victims and the people of Dunblane. God bless you all and give you strength in this time of tragedy.

*Sincerely, Christopher, Silvia, Robin and Elizabeth Kraidich*

This poem was given to my mother-in-law when her daughter died. I have passed it along to several others who have lost children. I hope it might bring a little comfort to the families of Dunblane, as well as others who have suffered the loss of a child.

“I’ll lend you, for a little time, a child of mine,”

[full poem quoted elsewhere]

*evie volpa  
California*

We cannot take away the suffering of the families and people of Dunblane. But we can say thank you for the outpouring of love and concern that the tragedy has produced. Suffering such as this is frightening in its implications. But it must not be wasted. It stands as a symbol of how the human spirit can come together, to console and heal. And in the fragmented society of Britain, perhaps DUNBLANE is a symbol of our deep human unity, our need for one another, and a sign of what is good about human beings always transcending the negative violence of greed and loss of integrity. If those children’s death can bring so many of us back to a realisation of our common humanity, then their suffering and the loss of their families, will not have been wasted.

*Nicholas Postlethwaite*



Please may I add my condolences to all the people involved. I am at a complete loss as to understand how such a terrible thing could happen. As a father of a 5 year old and married to a teacher this event has made us realise how precious our lives are.

*Sincerely,  
Ian K. Pegg*

Saw the message on UK Forum and this is just to let you know that there is a collection going on amongst my colleagues at the Clinical Sciences Centre, Hammersmith Hospital, London for the families involved. Please send our deepest sympathy.

*Regards  
Susan Aldridge*

Send my sorrow to those who lost loved ones in the Dunblane tragedy. I live in the US and hear about awful things like that nearly every day. It's too bad that such a thing has occurred in your country. I am the mother of 4 children, one of which is kindergarten age. I live cautiously day to day because I know my family is not immune to such things. I pray for our safety regularly. My heart and my prayers go out to you. May the LORD of heaven and earth sustain you.

*Sally Cribbs*

I am an American elementary teacher of fourth graders who wish to extend our deepest sympathies and sorrow to the families of Dublaine. We hope you find comfort in knowing the world is mourning with you. We are keeping you in our daily prayers. We only hope that our world will learn to understand the need for our governments to protect our most precious resources, our children. May your faith bring each of you through this tragedy.

*Leo Applebaum*

Our sympathy and prayers to all the families involved in this tragedy.

*Fernando Zaro and family  
Barcelona (Spain)*

Why, why, why?? A needless waste of 16 little stars and their mentor. Grown men moved to tears. The world stops and looks on in horror, disbelief and dismay

I hope that this truly was the saddest day of my life.

*Steve Mallon*

As a mother of four young kids I was shattered when the news of the tragedy broke. I don't think I will ever take my kids for granted again. As the days have passed I have felt a desire to help these people in some practical way. I live in Scotland, about a hour away from Dunblane and know the place well. I just want to say that if there is some practical way that I can help, I would only be too happy to do it.

It has taken me a long time to write this message, I have found it very difficult to find the right words and I pray that God will now bless all the people in Dunblane affected by this senseless tragedy that caused the death of 17 innocent lives and the wounding both physically and mentally to so many. God bless them all, they will be forever in our hearts

*Jayne Strang  
Larkhall Scotland*

As a Governor of 2 primary School's in Otley, West Yorks, I can emphasise readily with the people of Dunblane, as a town we are of a similar size to Dunblane and my heart goes out not only to the bereaved but to the Staff and Governors who have the monumental task long after the attentions of the World have moved on to yet another tragedy of re-building the feeling of love and security that is an essential element of any Primary School. God be with you.

*Eddie Foy*

To the families and loved ones left behind in Dunblane, my thoughts and prayers are with you in your grief. Please know your sadness and pain are shared by many others you do not know, who wish they could help but know that no words can undo the unthinkable. Your little ones and their teacher will live on in your hearts and their memories will warm all they touched, in life and death.

*Kathy Blumenstock  
Washington, DC*

May God bless and provide you comfort in this time of deep sorrow. Our prayers and love goes out to you.

*Curtis and Tina Archuleta*

It is the prayer of good people all over the world that God will bring you peace in the midst of the terrible event you suffered last week. May you also be comforted in the fact that there are far, far more decent people who care about you, and who want to help, than there are evil, twisted minds who would be behind such a hideous shooting.

God has never left you. May you be strengthened by His love and promises.

*Sincerely,  
Bill Harter*

My thoughts and condolences are with the families that lost children and loved ones in the terrible incident that occurred.

*Kary Updegraff*

We have visited Dunblane often and love it dearly. We have prayed that God will give you comfort and faith to face the future. Our thoughts are and will be with you for as long as we both live.

*Deepest sympathies  
Fred & Liz Dinning*

It is impossible to imagine what you are going through, but my family and I would like to extend our deepest, heartfelt sympathies to you.

*The Jovanovic Family  
London*

My wife and I have 3 school-age children, and cannot possibly imagine the pain that the people of Dunblane are going through. We would like to add our sympathy for the families of the children killed. They are in our prayers.

*Jeff and Kris Cassens, Ashleigh, Alex and Clayton  
Omaha, Nebraska USA*

Please accept our prayer and words of comfort. We mourn with you.

*The McCusker Family, Bement, IL, USA*

I pray that we will all learn from this senseless and tragic event. It has taken a full week for me to overcome the numb feeling of horror that I felt when I heard the news, and today I unashamedly cried for the children of Dunblane. Surely our society has now descended as far as it can go, and that things can only get better. We are united in our feelings of helplessness and outrage. So let us decide, now, that things cannot go on like this. Let us take action, now. I have never been a deeply religious person until now, but it has become as clear as daylight to me that we must make the conscious decision to fight the dark forces of evil that have manifested themselves so tragically. If we cannot make the world a better place after this, then surely there is no hope at all. These children cannot and must not have died in vain. They were pure and innocent. They, and their teacher, are in God's care now. It is up to all of us to remember them and to ensure that their existence in this world, although brief, made us look at ourselves and embark on the road to a better place.

“Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.  
Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.  
Give me, amidst the confusion of my day,  
the calmness of the everlasting hills.”

*author unknown*

*Paul, Karen, Victoria and Matthew Gleave  
Harefield Middlesex, England*

Words seem so inadequate, as I look at pictures of my own children when they were young:

“They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them nor the years defile,  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,  
We shall remember them.”

Our thoughts are with you.

*Tony Buckley,  
Near Stratford-on-Avon*

I cannot think of anything more terrible that has happened in my lifetime in terms of senseless killing. The thoughts of myself and family are with those affected by this terrible tragedy.

*Trevor, Wendy, James, Ben and Joshua Rowell*

God bless you, 'Golden Children'

*Jessica, Berkshire*

One cannot imagine the depth of your grief. This shrieks to heaven for justice. Sincerest condolences. I cry with you.

*Leslie and Mary Katherine Rabbitt  
Pacific Palisades, California USA*

I just want to say how terribly sorry I am for what has happened to you and your community. Words fall very short at a time like this, but you just have to say something. Hearing of this tragedy puts much of daily routine into perspective.

Enough of these useless thoughts....we all feel for you....a small piece of your pain

*Alan Dolgoff Edina  
Minnesota*

Just another tearful note in a hopeless attempt to express the depth of sorrow felt for you all, by all. May they play forever in Heaven.

*Aiden Wrenn*

I would appreciate the opportunity to add my name to that list. We had a recent case of 3 neighbourhood children dying in a murder-suicide, adding on to those two other cases which followed the slaying at Aramoana (trans. = gateway to the sea) just out of Dunedin. Roy's poem echoes the thoughts that were voiced over here; memories which were revived after the Wisconsin bombing are renewed with our thoughts now turning to Scotland and the tragic losses at Dunblane.

*Fiona Lundy*

# Golden Children



To all those golden children  
More precious than gems,  
May you not have known pain ...

For here in this house  
I gaze at my sunny girl  
she smiles but  
I am heavy with sadness.

Look back on your children  
As the purest of joys,  
Don't tie yourselves to the Evil that will linger,  
Or cling to guilt because

For all the pain, for all the death and all the sorrow,  
These babies carry on as the Light of your Lives,  
and bringing them into this world,  
made this earth a better place.

Do not fall away from us,  
Mothers in your sorrow  
Don't do it alone.  
Borrow the World's  
Heart for a while  
Until yours begins to heal.

*The Reis Family- Andrea, Shannon, Amanda – 8 months old  
Dallas, Texas, USA*

As a father of two sons near to the primary one age I can imagine that, at this moment, the sun will have gone from your lives. The future will seem empty and useless without your babies but life will eventually return to some semblance of normality and you can rest assured that all of us who are parents will always remember you and the children so terribly torn from you. The whole world mourns your loss. God bless you and keep you all and may he help us to find something positive from this awful tragedy.

*Ralph S Walker*

Dear families, I want to assure you of my daily prayers in these difficult moments. I go to the mass every day and pray God to give you support. God bless you.

*Jean-Charles Lavall*

To all the families who lost love ones in the massacre: everything is going to be fine. Believe in God and you will endure. Your loved ones have gone to a better place.

*Deirdre Thomas*

Dear friends in Dunblane, Your grief has touched us in the small town of Independence, Kansas, USA. We live in a lovely town in the middle of the United States. We have a ten year old daughter and the thought of losing her is unbearable. My family's prayers and thoughts are with you. Your terrible nightmare has been felt by so many people across the continents. We recently moved from Los Angeles to escape the crime, but it's quite clear that you are never far from its grasp. Your children's faces (in Newsweek Magazine) will forever live on as the innocents of our time. God Bless You all.

*Patti McCormick  
Hoite and Aubree Caston*

There really isn't much that can be said that hasn't already been said or thought, however, my wife and I send our sincere prayers and thoughts to all families affected by the Dunblane Massacre.

*Andrew & Angela Rankine  
Skipton, North Yorkshire*

I am writing to add my voice to the many others in support of the township of Dunblane, especially to the bereaved families and their friends, and to the children of the school involved.

*Charles Moran.*

To all the victims and their families: I want to start out by saying that I am a 14-year-old girl from the U.S. When I heard about that senseless tragedy on t.v. I felt such a hurt. It reminded me so of the Oklohoma City bombing. I can remember watching the memorial service on television and crying my eyes out watching the parents with pictures of their small children. Know this though, no one dies in vain. We will all be reminded of the senseless violence in this world. Maybe, just maybe it will help one person to realize that violence isn't the answer. I, myself always thought of Scotland a peaceful little place, not like the war zone that the U.S. has turned into. Just going to school I have to go through tight security measures. It made me realize how important those measures are and that the U.S. is not the only place being affected by violence - it's a world problem. My heart goes out to all of you! I only wish there was more I could do.

*Beth Osborne  
New York, U.S.A.*

My thoughts and deepest regrets go to all the families of those children and teachers killed or injured in this terrible disaster. May you find peace and may all the children be happy in heaven.

*Paul Garden  
Edinburgh*

My deepest condolences to the people of Dunblane, Scotland — most especially to the families of those who were killed. I can't watch, hear or read reports about the tragedy without weeping. The evil of that man is unspeakable. I hope the strength of all of us out here can help support you to get you through this dark time.

*Alexa Charles*



I am writing to give my sincerest condolences to all the families and friends of those involved in the Dunblane tragedy. It was a terrible event and all our sympathies go out to them.

*James*

What can I say. We are all thinking about you and hope that some day you will be able to come to terms with your loss. Let us hope that this tragedy will serve as a warning to us all about the kind of society that we seem to be creating for future generations.

*Colin Henderson*

Even though we are far apart we hope our caring can cross the miles that separate us and fill a special corner of your heart with peace. Please understand that we of the Oklahoma City area sympathize and keep you close in thought and heart. May the precious memories of these beautiful children and their wonderful teacher bless your lives forever.

*Hank and Pat Henderson  
Del City, Oklahoma*

Our heart-felt sympathies to all the families in Dunblane. Mere words cannot express the grief they must feel, and the sympathy we feel for them. As parents ourselves of three children, two of the ages so brutally murdered, our prayers and love go out to the families.

*Chris & Ros Wilson*

May you receive some comfort knowing that you are in the thoughts and prayers of so many. These 17 angels are in heaven before their time. If only a bit of God's love and peace that they are experiencing now, reaches your hearts, it will keep you until you are with them again.

*Rosemarie Sember  
Pennsylvania U.S.A.*

There is not much I can say; tragedies of this kind are beyond the scope of words. The only thing I can say is that I feel with you, and so do my friends. No one, I think, can understand what has happened, and why. Perhaps we should try and see it this way: The ones who have been taken away from us are still there, just out of the reach of the senses of most of us. As horrible as it must have been, for all the victims death is now behind, and they are on the other side watching us. I am sure it has gone on for them, and I think they will want us to carry on as well, until life eventually takes us, too, to the other side. There is much we can and should still do on our side of the line, and perhaps the knowledge that the ones taken away are not truly lost but are waiting on the other side can give some courage and some strength back to those who are mourning their great loss. Time may never completely heal the wound, but it does take the edge off the pain; and remember, “never” in this context “only” means the time that separates us from the moment when we, too, cross to the other side of the line. A long time, but not forever. You have my utter sympathy, and I do hope you will find the strength to carry on with the tasks that are still waiting for you here.

*Daniel Thyssen  
Horgen (Zurich), Switzerland*

None of us can begin to imagine your loss. Our tears have been with and for you. We will not forget the sufferings of the surviving teachers.

*Carole, Ian, James and Julia Turner (UK)*

My heart is broken for you, yet I am unable to comprehend either the enormity of this tragedy or the depths of your loss. However, I serve a risen Saviour who does know ... and who cares for you.

At the loss of his son, King David of Judah, believing the fullness of God's promise, said “... I shall go to him ...” 2 Samuel 12:23 David was able to face his grief and sorrow with a peace in his heart that only a faithful God can give.

Jesus still saves, delivers and heals.

*God bless you,  
Mark Prescott  
Antioch, California*

Sometimes terrible things happen to good people. There is no sense, no reason, they just happen. Our thoughts are with you.

*James Baldassari*

Please accept my deepest sympathy and condolences to all the family's who lost a loved one in this tragedy. I wish you very much strength in the time to come.

*Sincerely,  
Henk Jonkers,  
Venlo- Netherlands*

To the families of those lovely, innocent children of Dunblane and the family of their brave teacher, may I offer our deepest sympathy. As a refugee (and a parent) from Cyprus who lost his home and everything that our family has ever worked for, our tragedy pales into insignificance in comparison to yours. May God bless you all and give you the strength to carry on with your lives.

*Alexis Hadjisoteriou & family  
Cyprus*

Please communicate my families heartfelt condolences to the families, friends and neighbors of the children and teacher in dunblane. They have been in my families prayers and daily in the thoughts of my professional colleagues in toronto, ont. Canada. The beauty of your children and your loss has been shared. One heart.

*Stephen, Debbie, Emily & Justin Gillis.*

To all the families of this who lost someone &/or had someone hurt in this disaster: All our prayers are with you all. May you draw comfort in knowing that those who died are now with our lord and our lord will help heal all those that were hurt. Please know that all of us here in the United States are with you all in spirit and that even though we may not have lost anyone we do feel your hurt & hope that god comforts you all.

*Margaret Bernstein  
White Plains, NY USA*

As I read and see about the tragedy you have suffered I can only imagine what this must be like for you. I hope that you can get a small sense of comfort knowing that people around the world are concerned . You are in my prayers.

*Lynne Kelly  
A Northern Calif. resident*

May the love and grace of God surround you during these days of pain and sorrow. We remember all of you in our prayers.

*The Rev. John M. Richardson, Pastor  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Winder, Georgia USA*

I should like to express my admiration for the headmaster of the school in Dunblane. He has carried out his painful duties with dignity and his press interviews have been conducted superbly, even though he must have been both physically and mentally drained at times.

*Bernie Donders*

As a Scot living in England and an ex resident of Dunblane my family wish to send our heart felt condolence to the families of the children and their teacher so tragically lost. Words and action will never replace their horrific loss.

Let us hope that we will ensure that such madmen can never again have access to the type of weapons use and we never have to see such suffering in this country again.

*Douglas Martin  
Redditch UK*

To all the surviving victims of Dunblane. I will not say that my sympathy is with you because I cannot begin to understand the magnitude of the horror you must be feeling. However, I shall never forget this incident, and it's the first time I have cried uncontrollably at the news since the Hyde Park Bombing. Although the pain will never leave you, the good memories will soon outweigh the bad. If there is a God, may he bless and keep you all.

*Gina Lambert*

Our thoughts and hearts are with you all. If only this we could do more to ease the suffering and pain that every parent must feel for the families and relatives and the host of people that this tragedy has touched. God bless you all.

*James Ford*

May you receive some comfort knowing that you are in the thoughts and prayers of so many. These 17 angels are in heaven before their time. If only a bit of God's love and peace that they are experiencing now, reaches your hearts, it will keep you until you are with them again.

*Rosemarie Sember  
Pennsylvania U.S.A.*

To all family and friends of those in Dunblane, I wish to express my most heart-felt, sincere condolences at your loss. There is no excuse for such violence. The children and their family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers often. I wish that in time, through faith, you all will be able to heal yourselves. It's one day at a time, and the children are in Heaven, always with you forever more—in your hearts.

*Joanne Riedel  
Halifax, Nova Scotia Canada*

Our prayers and our thoughts are with you during this woeful time in all our lives. To lose gifts so precious as children is to lose part of all our lives.

*Warren and Gigi Norwood  
Weatherford, Texas, U.*

“God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.”

Reaching out to you with Love and Friendship from Japan.

*The Jacobus Family*

I hope I am sending this to the right party. This message is from the McClure family of Springfield, Arkansas USA. Roy Scott, Tammie and Jonathan. Roy Scott is of Scottish decent in case you wonder about the name. This is to all the families of the children and the teacher at Dunblane. It is always a horrible loss when a child dies and even more so with 16 and their teacher. We would like to send our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the families and friends of these people affected by this horrible thing. I know what it is like to loose a loved one and to almost loose a child so I can definately imagine how you all feel. I am so terribly sorry that such a thing had to happen to innocent children. We will pray for you nightly, alot of people in America have great sympathy for you after our disater last year in Oklahoma where we lost many innocent children as well. You are in our prayers.

*Roy Scott, Tammie, and Jonathan McClure*

May the Lord give you the strength to overcome this tragedy. I have posted a picture of the class in my locker at school, and pray for them and their families every time I see it. My brother is a kindergardner also, and I can not imagine what I would do if something like that happened to him. Please forgive my inadequate words and know that I long to comfort you, but do not know how. I can only give one piece of advice: seek solace among the other families, they alone know the pain.

*Beth Hollenback  
Seattle, Washington, USA*

The McFry family would like to send our heart-felt sympathy to all those parents, brothers, sisters and friends of the innocent victims of the Dunblane tragedy. Such senseless killing is so hard to accept, but especially when it involves innocent little children.

Such a loss can never be replaced, but please know that people around the world mourn your loss and especially millions of people here in America, and in Georgia, because our roots are there.

Words can never express the way we feel, but we are thinking of you in this terrible time.

*Gerald McFry  
Rome, Georgia, USA*

Sympathies from America!

We all grieve for your losses. It weighs heavy on our minds. I am a Registered Nurse, at our staff meeting this week, the whole staff of 100 people bowed their heads in silent prayer for all the families that were affected by this tragedy. I live and work in NY city, and as rough and tough as we are here, our hearts are big and we just want you to know that We care too.

*Francine Salvo RN  
New York, Manhattan*

As someone with some experience of the devastation these families will feel I would just like to say that in the early days following such tragic events, shock and the support of family and friends result in a sort of dreamlike state removed from reality. As this support and attention inevitably diminishes the true reality of their loss will dawn. I would simply ask those closest to the families to continue to support, to talk about the children for years to come, not be put off by provoking tears, they are a great healer and to always remember that although the children died they are forever living in the hearts and minds of their parents and it is a great help to sometimes be able to talk about them. I of course add my deepest sympathy and condolences to those so vividly expressed by the world community.

*Andy Coleman*

What can I say that hasn't already been said. I love my young son more than anything, and the thought of losing him fills me with dread and grief. How can anyone adequately describe what you must be feeling after this completely senseless tragedy. Please know that our love and thoughts are with you.

*Nick Baskett  
London*

No words can change what has happened, no words can heal the great pain, but we wish the people who grieve and suffer to know they are in our thoughts and prayers. Rev. Simon Evans and the people of st. Thomas' Church Telford Park, London.

*Yours sincerely,  
Simon A. Evans*

I read with horror of this evil visited upon you, and wept for the children. My heart reaches out to you. I yearn to bring you comfort in your time of grief. May God give you peace and healing of these horrible wounds. I pray the children's deaths might wake the world to act against violence, that these deaths might not be in vain.

God be with you all.

*Mike Geary  
Houston, Texas*

I would like to add my message to the families in Dunblane. My thoughts and deepest sympathies are with the families and loved ones of all the little victims, and the teacher's. There is no answer to the question "Why did this happen". My prayers and thoughts are with you all.

*Donna Curran*

I can't help crying and feeling so sad at the awful loss you've experienced. We have three young boys ourselves and just the thought of it is overwhelming.

We send you all our support and pray that you find strength and courage to help you through this ordeal. Grieve for those who are gone and let love be your guide.

With all our sympathy and prayers.

*Robert Harwood. Adina Boardman.*

To the people of Dunblane, Our deepest sympathy,

*John, Zara, Robert and Rebecca  
Cambridgeshire*

I heard the news of the children from Dunblane with a sense of disbelief, and thought of my own two young children in school and how utterly vulnerable they are to the same thing happening.

I cannot begin to adequately convey my sympathies or understanding to the families affected. Our thoughts are with you. I just wish and pray you all be given fortitude in the days and years ahead.

*J Salisbury  
Reigate, Surrey.*



When I first heard of the evil that visited your little town, it was with stunned disbelief. Later, when I read the eye witness accounts of the first people to arrive at the scene, I cried. My soul cries still.

There is no way I can truly understand the despair and emptiness you must now be feeling. My son Sean is two years old and I love him more than my words can describe. To lose him would be to lose a large part of me. Now when I look at Sean, I think of your children and hug him a little tighter, play with him a little longer, and tell him I love him a little more often. He too can be ripped from my life as your children were from yours.

It's ludicrous to say that some good might come of this nightmare, but this much I promise you: As long as my son or I live, your children will not be forgotten.

*James Morgan  
Hanover, PA, USA*

We were so saddened by the terrible events, that we have been unable to talk about it. As parents of young children we have felt, and shared some of the grief of the parents, and the whole community of Dunblane. We wish you well, we wish you relief from your suffering. God Bless you.

*Brian and Ana MacIver*

We were all sorry to hear of these tragic events, may your children live forever in your hearts.

*From all the management and staff  
Maxell Europe Ltd  
Rickmansworth, Herts.*

It is with deep sadness that we send our message of sorrow to the families and people of Dunblane. We send our love at this time of tragedy in your lives. This will take a long time to heal, but our hope is through these messages that you will take hope and allow yourselves the time to heal, at your own paces. With love and deepest sympathy from myself and my Scottish friend.

*Lynne and Lyndsay White  
Vancouver, BC Canada*

I don't know how to express my feelings, or the feelings of my family and friends. All our hearts go out to those who have suffered so much in Dunblane. My family lives in the area (Tillicoultry), and were in awe of the utter silence of the town during last Sunday's minute of silence.

With deepest sympathy

*Keith Hepburn & family  
also The staff, and students of The Chalfonts Community College, Bucks*

Deepest sympathies from everyone in Aberdare, South Wales. Our thoughts are with you.

*Wayne Holder*

I'm really sorry and don't really know what to say. I feel very helpless when I hear that something like this has happened and my heart goes out to all the families.

*Lucy Wraith, 15*

I would just like to send my heartfelt sympathies to the families of those poor children and their teacher. There is nothing I can say that will make it better, I know, but like everyone else in Britain, my thoughts and good wishes are with you.

*Yours sincerely  
Jacqueline Conway*

Our deepest sympathies go to the bereaved parents No matter how we talk this over, we still cannot understand why those innocent children had to be hurt. We share your sorrow!

*Karl and Angie  
Exeter, Devon.*

To all the children and teachers at Dunblane School, and their families. Anything we tried to say would be so inadequate. We keep you in our thoughts and in our prayers.

*Len, Margaret, Louise and Hannah Thompson*

Thanks for your excellent and moving report. As the father of a four year old girl I just cannot begin to understand or imagine why this terrible thing happened. For the first few days I just kept hoping that it was a nightmare that we would all wake up from. I would like to send all my sympathy and respect to all the families and the people that this terrible thing has affected. I would like to say something about the service shown on BBC1 on Sunday, although it upset me a lot I did take some comfort from the reverend's sermon about this tragedy not being the will of God. Although I am not religious I have prayed every night for the Children and the Families left behind.

*with deepest sympathy  
mike cunliffe, denise cunliffe and siobhan cunliffe  
manchester*

Words cannot express our sorrow and grief for the families which have suffered the terrible losses in Dunblane .

May the angels take care of those beautiful children. We cried with you ,our hearts ached with yours.We prayed for all of you.

The Nation will never forget ,We will never forget. May God give you strength at this terrible time. God bless you all.

*John and Karen Leake  
Nottinghamshire UK*

When I read in Time Magazine this week the tragedy and carnage that had taken place in Scotland I couldn't help the tears from falling, and I was unable to make sense of it, as I'm sure many are struggling with. My eyes gazed across the page at the innocent faces and I saw such life and hope in each precious one. My soul mourned for each precious life that was senselessly lost, and my heart prayed for each family represented, and each child and the loss and emptiness that their absence will now create. God bless you and keep you in this seemingly hopeless time. I have children of my own, and my heart aches to think of the loss and agony I would suffer if any one of them was taken in such a way... I pray for Dunblane... and for Scotland. May you find solace somehow and may God be near in His infinite comfort and Love in this tremendous time of sorrow...Words cannot convey properly the sentiment needed... God bless you, each one in your need.

*With deep sympathy  
Robin Smith  
Gresham, Oregon*

At this sad time, there are no words to express our deep feelings. We hope it will help you a little to know that we care and we are praying for God to comfort you in all the days ahead.

*Coy & Dorothy Salser  
Houston, Texas*

To all families of the Dunblane tragedy. I am an American from the state of North Dakota. I would just like to send my concern and condolences to the families of the those who have had their lives changed forever. In America this type of crime seems to happen all the time. It is sad and sick, but true. I have been lead to believe that this type of crime is very rare in Scotland, and I hope that you have all found away to cope with your lose. Sincerely.

*John Leppert*

To: All the families of the Dunblane tragedy: We are sitting in Denver's Compuserve field service office, sponsored by a Cub Scouts, Longs Peak Council, Pack 377, Den 7. Danny McCarty hopes this does not happen to anyone else..ever again! Mathew Inman says, I'm sorry that this happened! Vincent Ballantine, says, "Sorry that this happened, that your children were killed". Eli Moreland, says, "I'm so sorry that this happened" and "I wish you good luck after this tragedy". Adam Fadenrecht, "Why would somebody do this, because it is very stupid". Nick Angiono says, I am so sorry that this happens and I hope it never happens again". Kevin Ford says, "This should never had happened". Everett Adams says, "Kids should never have to face this". Danny repeats, "Whoever did this should have never done this" and "should have thought before he did this". GOD BLESS YOU AND OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU!

*Den 7 attends Heatherwood School, in Boulder, Colorado - 2nd grade.*

Could you please forward my condolences to the victims of Dunblane.

Not a day goes by that I don't think about it, and feel so terribly sorry for the children, teachers and parents of Dunblane. I am sure that the nation is mourning with them.

*Kind regards.  
Aimee Atkin*

As grandparents of four toddlers we cannot begin to imagine the pain and sorrow being experienced by everyone affected by this tragedy, words cannot console you at this time. All we can say is our prayers and thoughts are with you.

We are a middle aged couple from Newcastle living and working in Singapore, we have a spare room, when you come to terms and if you need to get away, come and stay with us.

*Stan & Vivienne Moderate  
Singapore*

Having seen the opportunity on Compuserve's UK forum to send a message of the community of Dunblane after the horrors of last week, I wanted to write and say on behalf of all the congregation of Harnham Free Church in Salisbury, that we are feel deeply for all those that have been so deeply affected by the tragedy. We have prayed often for you and held special times of prayer during our Mothering Sunday service last Sunday.

Nobody understands the "whys" of such a tragedy but we are convinced of the truth of the following Bible quotation and accompanying comment:

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, will comfort us in all our troubles. [2 Cor. 1:3]

"Many think that when God comforts us, our troubles should go away. But if that were always so, people would turn to God only out of a desire to be relieved of pain and not out of love for him. We must understand that being 'comforted' can also mean receiving strength, encouragement, and hope to deal with our troubles. The more we suffer, the more comfort God gives us. If you are feeling overwhelmed, allow God to comfort you. Remember that every trial you endure will help you comfort other people who are suffering similar troubles."

May that God draw near to each one at this time.

*Sincerely,  
Rev. Richard Nash  
Harnham Free Church, Salisbury*

We can only begin to try and comprehend the grief felt in Dunblane, our hearts go out for the families who have suffered.

There is an urgent need to examine how someone, so bereft of contact with our society, resorts to an act so unspeakable that it defies description.

*Glenn and Penny Johnson  
Derbyshire*

Just joined the forum this morning, and added my message to the Dunblane thread, but there are so many I wanted to send this one directly to you.

Please pass on the condolences of my family to the loved ones and families of the victims of this terrible tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all, and we only wish there was more that we could do for them. As parents of a school-age child, I can't begin to imagine their grief. As a fellow human, my heart breaks for them.

*Donna Curran and Family  
Natick, MA USA*

We can't express enough love and caring for you at this time. Just know that you are all thought of and cared for at this most difficult of times in your lives. It may be slightly comforting to always remember that some day you will be with your loved ones again, the most precious to you all. There was a reason for this horrendous of tragedies to happen. All of your beautiful children were sent for, by the Lord, to help in some way. They all had special gifts, as you all well know. The Lord WILL help you through this, please let him.. I don't know any of you but I have wept with you just the same. With love and prayers each day to you all...

*Garry D. Robbins*

Our hearts are broken by your loss, and we want you to know that you are not alone in your terrible grief. Words are pointless, I know, but when you lie awake in the early hours of the morning, know that we pray for you and will not forget.

*Christi, Payson and Nathaniel (aged 3 1/2) Todd.*

I'd like to pass on my prayers and condolences to the people of Dunblane and in particular to the families of the victims. God bless the children.

*Edward Rix*

To the children and families in Dunblane, Scotland : Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We feel so helpless in your time of grief. God strengthen us all.

*Greg E. Nelson*  
USA

We live in a small town outside of Houston, Texas USA but we continue to feel the pain of your tragedy. We have five children ranging from 15 years to 4 years and we cannot comprehend the sharp pain you must feel.

We will continue to pray for the bereaved families and even the entire community as you struggle to march on. May God give you the strength as well as the peace to pick up the pieces.

*Paul Wethersby*

The people of Dunblane are in the thoughts and prayers of my family as you go through this difficult time.

I lost a dear friend in a similar incident 21 years ago, and now have young children of the age of the ones you lost. I encourage you to talk with each other, to express what must be a devastating and enraging sense of loss. You have been knitted together by an awful event beyond your wildest dreams.

I hope you will be able to remember the many good times that were had with your children, and that their deaths will not become more significant than their lives.

A saying that I use to help me along is: "Happiness — you must search it out. Sadness — it walks in all by itself."

*Peace be with you.*  
*Fred B May*

We are thinking of you all

*Trevor & Clair Prior*

With deepest sympathy - I don't think anyone will ever be quite the same again! It seems to be human nature that it takes a tragedy such as this for people to reach out to each other to offer support and comfort. Dunblane, the world is reaching out to comfort you. Please accept our strength and support to face life again.

*Chris Toner and family  
Northampton UK*

I'd like to send my sincere condolences to the bereaved of Dunblane and to say how desperately saddened and shocked I am, along with the rest of the world. This is the most shocking and incomprehensible situation and I can only say that we are all with you in spirit and we admire your courage. Let us hope that you are able to mourn in peace and that only good can come from such a tragedy. I send you my thoughts.

*Peta Stuart-Hunt*

All at our company were horrified by the event that took place recently. We offer our condolences.

*Neville James Limited, Hants.*

On behalf of the Christadelphians in Lichfield, Staffordshire I send our deepest condolences. We have prayed for you and will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

*Phil Pearson*

Please accept our deepest sympathies and prayers From the people of Kings Heath, Birmingham, England.

*Ruth Healy*

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

*With deepest sympathy.  
Fiona-jane Hughes*



I feel compelled to express to you my deepest sympathy and regret for this tragedy. Although I can not claim to understand your feelings, the reality that this could happen to someone I love affects me deeply.

I grieve for the family and friends of the slain teacher as anyone would in the face of such a senseless act of violence. However, it is the innocence and trust that children innately possess that makes me feel that we as adults or as a society have betrayed them and which causes such deep sorrow and regret.

I will keep you in my prayers.

*Sincerely,  
Wade Johnson*

Words fail us. The town seems to have many good people. I hope you can draw strength from each other and the good wishes of many throughout the world.

*Joe 'n Carmel*

Just a quick note on behalf of all the CompuServers in Calgary, Alberta, Canada to say that we offer our condolences.

*Jason Montgomery*

To all the families; As a mother of 2 children, 1 who is a kindergartener, I extend you the deepest sympathy in this time of tragedy. I do not know your feelings, but having my 5 year old wander off twice, I can imagine how deep you must hurt, as I know that just the thought of this loss, I wanted my life to cease then.

Please remember this little lifes not for the tragedy they were the victims of, but for the beauty and joy that they gave to you. There is no justice in this, the only justice is that you remember each and every one of these hearts, forever.

*Kate Valentine and family  
Albany, New York USA*

To the Little Ones' Families and Their Teacher's Family,

Words are inadequate to express the emotion that we feel when we think of this tragedy. We can only hope that the knowledge that the world grieves with you will help to comfort you some.

*God be with you...  
Dianne, Don, London, and Trenton Oliver  
Boston, Massachusetts (U.S.A.)*

Although it may seem inconsequential right now, the entire world is saddened by your losses.

I just read a magazine article on your tragedy, and I cried as if my own children were involved. God bless you and your lost children.

*Michael Moese  
Illinois United States*

On behalf of the entire Kaufman family we send our individual and joint sympathies to each of your families at your tragic loss.

We too have suffered a loss of a Wife and Mother, and know your feelings of anger and feelings of loss. All we can say is that as time passes these feelings begin to meld into memories of the good times.

*With heartfelt sorrow we remain, Lovingly yours,  
Julian Kaufman (Father), Karen, Linda, Steven, my children  
and Golda Kaufman (My Mother)*

To the parents and families of the children and teachers killed and wounded in Dunblane:

The horror of what's happened to you is unimaginable and incomprehensible. The entire world offers prayers for you at this dark time.

*John & Paul*

To everyone of Dunblane, especially to the families; words seem so inadequate... We can only send our deepest sympathy.

*yours*  
*Andrew & Cathy*  
*Cambridge U.K.*

I am sending this message on behalf of myself and my friends, in Venezuela, South America. We offer our most sincere condolences to the people at Dunblane, Scotland for the tragedy they have been, and are going, through. Us, too, ask WHY?

*Daniel Mills*

I am a pediatric nurse here in Michigan and the mother of a 5 year old and 9 yr old. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. A day does not go by without thinking of you. I hope that you all find peace in the support of family and friends and knowing that people miles away are praying for you. Please be good to yourselves and seek help from professionals who can help you work through your grief. God Bless You.

*Deborah, Brandon and Mallory King*

We can't express enough love and caring for you at this time. Just know that you are all thought of and cared for at this most difficult time in your lives. It may be slightly comforting to always remember that some day you will be with your loved ones again, the most precious to you all. There was a reason for this horrendous of tragedies to happen. All of your children were sent for, by our Lord, to help in some way. They all had special gifts to give as you all well know. The Lord WILL help you through this, just let him. I don't know any of you but I have wept with you just the same. With love and prayers to you all...

*Garry & Lorraine Robbins*

In the wake of this tragedy, I would like to send my prayers to all of you. May God be with you, now and always.

*Michael Ford*

# Ode to the Angels of Dunblane

by Margaret E. Zarger — Winchester, Virginia, USA



*athedral bells are ringing in Scotland's Dunblane,  
Where evil came calling, sowing havoc and pain.  
From the lips of her people no words could convey,  
The depth of despair delivered that day.*

*In Class P1, Dunblane Primary School,  
Teacher, Gwenne Mayor, taught life's Golden Rule.  
To the gym they were gathered, perhaps there to play.  
When calamity struck on that sorrowful day.*

*Protecting her wee ones, she sacrificed all.....  
A crazed gunman's bullets caused her to fall.  
One by one rang the shots, so loud..... so clear.....  
One by one fell the children, so young..... so dear.....*

*Mhairi, David, Melissa, Brett, and Joanna  
Abigail, Emily, Sophie, Megan, and Hannah  
Victoria, Emma, John, Charlotte, Kevin and Ross.  
No Scottish town ever suffered such loss.*

*Sixteen in all on that horrible day,  
From the arms of their parents wrenched away.  
Lilies lie fading upon the sweet breasts  
Of the teacher and wee ones, laid to their rest.*



Carried to heaven on soft angels wings;  
Bathed now in the love God's kingdom brings.  
They are safe & they're happy, this all can agree.  
Their lessons now taught at the foot of His knee.

But what of the families and friends left behind?  
Those wounded, those mourning, what peace will they find?  
News circled the earth to lands far and wide.  
Everyone stunned..... Everyone cried.....

"I know of the hearts broken." said Pope John Paul  
As he prayed for God's help in comforting all.  
Princess Anne and the Queen called on the town,  
Offering hope and condolences to those gathered round.

But few could make sense asking: Why? Why? Why?  
'Tis the wee ones themselves answering Dunblane's sad cry:  
"The greatest of all God's gifts here on earth,  
A child is a treasure of unmeasurable worth.

Hold tight to your children - love them each day.  
Lest evil comes calling and wisps them away!"

I cannot begin to express the sadness that I feel after reading about this senseless act. I am a mother and I felt the pain in my heart as if one of yours was my own. Please accept my condolences and know that my family and I pray for you and your families who have suffered. The little angels are in a beautiful place and hopefully you will again be with them someday. God bless.

*Carol DeFilippo*

My name is David Cash from Austin, Texas, USA. My heart goes out to the community of Dunblane. I think of the evil and loss and I weep. I am very sorry for your loss and wish to extend my condolences to each of the families who lost their loved ones in this unspeakable tragedy. I will continue to remember you all in my prayers.

*DPC*

From families here to families of victims there, much sympathy and prayers. Our hearts are grieving with yours.

*Sincerely, families in Scottsdale, Arizona USA*

Words cannot express the grief my family and myself feel over the recent insanity in Scotland. Try to take solace in the knowledge that these innocents are now in a far, far better place.

*Sincerely,  
F.X. O'Brien & Family*

My prayers and condolences to all of you who lost children in this awful tragedy. My family and neighbors send their prayers. Words are simply not there to express how sad we are. Hugs and handshakes to all

*GJ Arko  
El Cerrito, California, USA*

Just another voice in New York saying our heart is with you in this hard time, and sending love.

*Harold Sinclair*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. God bless

*From the Smith family  
Maple Ridge  
Canada*

My dad James Kerr born in 1914 in the town of Ayre, has given to me a wee piece of the land I have never been to. It is with great sadness to hear of the loss of all the small ones. Our thoughts and love go to all the families who are going through this great loss.

*Our deepest respect  
The Kerr's-Donald, Beverly, Deborah and Dawn*

My heart has been with you for the past week. I have even dreamt of your tragedy. I cannot feel for you, or even imagine the pain, but please know that all of you are in my heart and soul and prayers.

*Stacy J. Grover*

Dear friends far away...

Nothing I can say will help, but i want you to know that my heart goes out to everyone of you. I see death routinely in my work (Paramedic). The tragedy that you have suffered touches me deeply. If I can help in your sorrow, let me know, again I am sorry a person had to do such harm to your town.

*With heavy heart,  
Bill Mason*

Your grief is more then anyone shoud have to bear. God bless you all. Our prayers are with you.

*Bob Tunstall  
Bonita Springs, Florida*

Our deepest sympathy to all the bereaved families in Dunblane.

*From all in Nazeing, Essex - our thoughts are with you all.*

Just a note of support to let you know that this tragedy has touched people all over the world. I've spent a lot of time in Scotland and have a strong connection to the place and the people. This terrible thing shouldn't have happened and especially shouldn't have happened in Scotland, of all places. My thoughts are with you. I intend to make a donation to your fund which I hope in some small way eases your pain.

*Best wishes and regards,  
Douglas Baumuel  
Beverly, Massachusetts USA*

To all of our Sisters and Brothers who have lost their loved ones, may we, Graham and Janet Hadlington of Grimsby, England send all the love and strength we can in your time of sorrow. You are in the hearts of parents all around the globe. May your God walk by your side.

*Graham and Janet Hadlington.*

I would like to say how sorry I was when I heard the news on the Television. I just want to express my deepest sympathy to you all and hope I will never have to experience what you have. I don't think the horrible truth of the tragedy has actually hit me yet, but I just wish say how sorry I am, and that my thoughts are with you.

*With Sympathy,  
Gareth*

How to start such a message?

My heart was broken on the morning we all heard, and as a past member, albeit as an outsider, of the community via seven years at QVS on the hill, I feel all the more for you all.

May God bless you all and give you the strength to get through this sad and terrible time. My thoughts and those of my family are with you all at this time and always

*Thanks for your time  
George Boyd (QVS 1973-80)*



I wish to convey my deepest sympathy for all those affected by the recent events at Dunblane. My heart goes out to the families, friends and all those directly able to offer their support following this most dreadful of crimes against humanity. Not being a Christian I am unable to offer any prayers, only the certainty that people none of you will ever meet or know have their thoughts and hearts with you. Your strength and courage at this time will demonstrate the power of the human spirit to overcome even the most evil of deeds, and will forever be remembered by those of us who will never begin to understand. I can only hope that the knowledge that so many people are thinking of you at this time brings some minute degree of comfort, even if we cannot personally or individually express our feelings.

*Yours  
Phil Tufnell*

Well, I do not know what to say about the tragic end of such young budding 16 children, I cannot express my sympathy and my devastated feelings for the same, as I lack the power of expression, but being father myself I know what it feels to be happening to you. Kindly convey my family's and mine deepest & heartiest sympathy & condolences to the families who have suffered beyond their reach, may almighty give them strength to face this tragic event that we feel is impossible for any living soul on this universe to bear it.

We really cannot even just bear thought of it. Our love and regards are with the children who are in arms of Almighty and with the family who wanted them more than anything in the world.

*Deepest Sympathy,  
Naresh & Bharti, Mithilesh & Avnish.*

I would like to send my condolences to all the families involved. Any person cannot have been touched by this awful event.

*William Platts*

To all the families,our thoughts are with you in this sad time . A saddend father.

*S Edwards*

May I express my sincere sympathy for your so tragic loss. We outside the families can only speculate the trauma you all must be suffering at this time. Please accept the words from this poem, as a symbol from my heart, which goes out to you all.

### THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE

The little souls so innocent, the children of Dunblane, They played in peace,  
Upon that dreadful day, Singing songs our children sing, So happy, sweet  
songs of joy, Skipping, Laughing, Running, as do all our Girls and Boys, For  
you are, THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE.

Your lives so beautiful, but Oh so short, and taken from your parents grasp,  
Their memories of your oh sweet smiles, will within them ever last, Sixteen  
wee souls, died on that day, For you are, THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE.

The tears from Brothers, Sisters, Fathers, Mothers, will forever stain this land,  
As if to reach upon the Clouds, for sixteen pairs of hands, Their love for you  
will never fade, nor will all their pain, For you are, THE CHILDREN OF  
DUNBLANE.

Hold hands, all sixteen children, on your journey to the Lord, We love you  
little angels, We will never forget your words, The sound of your distant  
voices, will echo in these lands, As the sounds of children playing, and the  
holding each others hands, A piper plays a lone lament, in the memory of  
your names, For you are, THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE.

Rest in peace oh little ones, In the grace of God, Your teacher, lies before  
you all, Take her hand, in peace and love, Fear not to face the Lord, and you  
will lose the pain, The winds of Dunblane, will forever, echo all your names,  
For you are, THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE.

Rest in peace, oh little ones, This world, will never be the same, In memory,  
of its little folk, THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE.

*Rest in peace  
from G.L.Patrick  
Worthing England*

I am writing on behalf of the 2nd Chelsfield Guide Company, in Greater London Kent. We were all shocked to hear about what happened, and we would all like to extend our deepest sympathes to the friends and family of the 16 children and thier teacher. We know nothing anyone can do or say will bring them back, but we hope that everyone will remeber the happy times. We will not forget this tragedy, and we hope that something posotive will come out of this. We held a minutes silence at our guide meeting, and tolled the church bell 17 times on sunday.

We did not know any of the victims, but we are sure that they were happy children and we hope that is how they will be remebered.

*2nd Chelsfield Guides.*

Of this sad world, the loveliest and the best have smiled, said goodbye and slipped away to rest. With our heartfelt sympathy - our thoughts are with you.

*Ray, Yvonne and Lindsay Ashmore  
Cornwall.*

I cannot say that I know how you feel because I don't think it is possible to know, unless you have been through something similar. I can only imagine the immense sadness you must feel right now and will feel for a long time to come. I just want to let you know that I'm thinking of you and your lost ones. You are not alone. The whole country is grieving with you. My message cannot ease the pain but maybe it can help in someway. I'm almost crying as I write this, everytime I think of this cruel massacre my eyes fill with tears and my mind with anger. I know how lucky I am, at 16 to have even had so much time than the poor children whose lives have barely begun. My heart goes out to you.

*Love  
Lizzi Shaw*

i know that your school starts back tommorow. i know that this will be a very hard time for you and i would like to let you know that me and my primary 6 class in kelvindale glasgow are thinking of all of you at this time

*paul  
aged, 10*

Toen we op school hoorden wat er gebeurd was, werden we heel stil. Niemand in de klas durfde eerst wat te zeggen. Eigenlijk moest ik bijna huilen. Daarna riepen de stoere jongens dat ze die man dood moesten schieten. maar dat kan al niet meer. met gym schrokken we heel erg toen de deur open ging, maar dat was alleen de juf maar die kwam kijken. We zijn op de dag van de begrafenis ook nog even stil geweest. Het lijkt me erg om dood te gaan, maar eigenlijk voel je dat niet. veel erger is het om niet dood te gaan en alleen achter te blijven. Ik en mijn zusje hebben vaak ruzie, maar wanneer zij dood zou gaan, dan zou ik ook gaan huilen. verder weet ik niet wat ik moet schrijven, ik hoop dat jullie het leuk vinden om dit te lezen

Teun van der Kroef

*(Translated:)*

When at school we heard what had happend, it became very silent. At first nobody dared to say anything. As a matter of fact I almost did cry. Then the most hefty boys shouted that they had to shoot the man. but that isn't possible any more. When we had gymnastics we were very alarmed when the door suddenly opend. But it was only our teacher who came to have a look. On the day of the funeral we have been silent for a while. It seems bad to me to die, but really than you don't feel anything. Much worse it is not to die and to remain, alone. I and my sister fight a lot, but when she would die, then I would cry. I don't know what more to write, i hope you like reading this

*Ten van der Kroef (NL, 10 years old)*

We cannot find words to express the anguish we feel at your dreadful loss. Instead, we send you all our love,

*Alastair and Betty Ross  
Aberdeenshire*

As a father of three young girls, I wish to add my condolences to all those families in Dunblane who have been hurt in this tragedy. Words cannot express the sorrow.

*Gavin Potter*

We would just like to add our expression of sympathy and dismay to those already shared. We live in a part of the US where such things have only recently begun to occur. We express our sympathy not only for the lost of your loved ones, but also for your loss of innocence and sense of peace.

*May God comfort you in this time of grief*  
*Ray & Shantelle Cox*  
*Orem, UT USA*

You are in the thoughts and prayers of so many people. Although this is just one message, it comes from not only my heart, but the hearts of my family and friends around the United States. We share your grief and shock and anger for the devastating, unspeakable loss of your beautiful little children. You are not alone in this time of suffering — know that our love and prayers are with you.

*Donna Becker*  
*Washington, DC, USA*

Deepest sympathy to all families from Market Harborough.

There are no words that can adequately express our feelings in relation to that mad and horrible day nor can we possibly begin to understand the grief and emotions shared by the people of Dunblane.

Our deepest sympathies and condolences go out to the people of Dunblane who have suffered a this dreadful tragedy .

*Lu Paluch, Francine Paluch, Sophie Paluch*  
*Rugby*

Please add my message to the families of the murdered victims in Dunblane.

My & my families hearts go out to you all over your tragic loss. I was born in England (many years ago!) but have lived in the USA for 30 years. However, I still love the UK, and this senseless act was so horrifying and terrible that we all feel so sad and sorry for you all. Please accept our sincere words of support and consolation, however inadequate. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Tony.*

There must be a fight now , by those people of Dunblane, with the World by their side, not to let evil triumph by allowing despair to take over their lives. God did not want this to hapen, nor will He desert those who are walking through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. He is with those victims, and also their grieving families- and together they must reject bitterness and despair , and know that the outpouring of love from the world is greater than the evil acts of one sick man.

*with love from Glynis  
S.Carolina, USA*

All in our family were deeply shocked by the tragedy in Dunblane. My wife and I have always been close to our schools, and have three daughters at various stages, from “middle” school (late primary in effect), through “6th Form” to University, and so the reality of what happened- highlighted by that class photo which got on so many front pages around the world- left us speechless, and very very sad for all involved. Nobody there (or, we hope, anywhere else) will ever forget, but our thoughts are with the bereaved in the hope that they can rebuild their lives. It’s doubly tragic when, as can happen, this sort of thing leads to other problems.

We would be grateful if our feelings could be passed on to the people of Dunblane. It is good to see the surviving kids apparently doing well. Let’s hope they mend emotionally too- youngsters can be very resilient.

*David & Lynda Montague  
Wedmore, Somerset, England.*

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the families and people of Dunblane .

*From the parents and staff at R.P.C. Nursery School, Riverdale, New York.*

Please let me express all the sympathy available to Dunblane Primary School. This is the worst event in Great Britain’s History I can remember and “we”, Barnt Green Village, Nr. Birmingham, express all the sympathy available at this time. I hope that everybody is recovering from this tragic event. I give all involved the peace and comfort they seek at this tragic time. Much love to everybody.

*Alistair Powell  
Barnt Green, Birmingham, England*

Dear Friends,

Every one in our community of Bilsthorpe sends their love to you. As you know we suffered our own tragedy some three years ago when some of our men lost their lives at the colliery disaster. We understand the pressure of the media and the pain of grief. We stand beside you and recognise that your suffering is beyond our experience but nevertheless we can imagine and do want you to know we care.

Our churches pray for you and on this Mothering Sunday each child returned a daffodil from the bunches they'd given their Mums and they placed them in a vase on the altar and at the end a huge vase of flowers was created and we pondered upon this as a sign of hope and an expression that we stand beside you. God bless you all.

*Love, Haydon Wilcox  
The Rector of Bilsthorpe  
Newark, Notts*

Something must be done to make sure this never never never happens again,  
It is the most terrible thing I have ever heard.

*Sincere condolences  
Trevor Young.*

On behalf of the Dunbar family in Fountain Hills, Arizona, we sent our deepest expression of sympathy in your greivous loss. We too have known incomprehensible sorrow and have had occasion to ask ourselves, "Will there ever a time when we can be happy again?" Be assured that there will be.

May Almighty God bless you and succor you in this time of sorrow.

*Edward, Jeanne, Cindy and Patrick Dunbar*

Words are never enough in such circumstances. I have two sons aged 4 & 7 and cannot begin to imagine how the families in Dunblane must feel. One can only hope the horror of this event is such that it can somehow produce something positive as a lasting memory to those young lifes cut off so short.

*My deepest condolences.  
Tim Pope*

I'm a singer in a choir in Aschaffenburg, Germany. On Sunday, 24th of March we'll have a concert, performing Mozart's "Requiem". During this concert I will dedicate my singing to all victims of the massacre of Dunblane, to their families and friends and to all who are crying for the dead children and their teacher.

With great respect to all, who try to live on after such a tragedy,

*Martin Hock*

My thoughts and feelings are with the parents and relatives of the bereaved families in Dunblane. God bless all the children.

*Azad Ayub  
London*

I would like to say I am very sorry to hear what happened to you all. I would like to express my deep sympathy and offer my condolences.

*Pierre-Oliver & Nadia Tulkens*

To all the families, We all grieve for the loss of such innocents. Stay strong, keep your faith and believe that they are with God now. Our thoughts are with you.

*Mr and Mrs H. Clavel  
Jackson Heights, Queens, New York*

My very deepest condolences to you for your profound loss. Please be strong and endure this depravity. Surely God will make a special place in his heart for each of you and your beautiful children. I know I have.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Yours very sincerely,  
Scott Betz*

Words are all I have to offer and sad thoughts are all I have.

*Richmond Cox*



I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest and most heartfelt sadness at the senseless killing of those poor children and the staff of the school. I heard the the news while I was preparing to sit my end of term exams at Uni and throughout the rest of the day my mind was on nothing else but the pure and unadulterated tragedy that had occurred. Why? That was the question on my mind and the rest of the students' minds at Heriot-Watt University Chemistry Department that day. Why? Every measure must be taken to look after the victims of this most horrific act and their families. Steps must also be taken to ensure such a base an act can never be committed again. No matter what freedoms must be sacrificed, no loss of liberty can ever compare to the loss of a five year old child's life.

*Again my deepest sympathy  
Simon*

I would just like to express my upmost grievances for the families of Dunblane, and feel that the families have shown an admirable brave face in their greatest hours of despair. I try to empathise with the families, and myself feel deeply hurt and gutted and yet I know that their pain is a hundred times that of anything I have ever felt. The evil that occurred is unforgivable and I give my sympathy to everyone in the community of Dunblane.

*Thomas Yeung*

I am the Secretary of the Anston Hillcrest PTA and on behalf of the Headmistress, Staff, pupils and parents and the PTA Committee I would like to send our condolences and express our sorrow at the tragedy that has befallen your Community. As parents we share your grief in some way and hope that in time you will be able to come to terms with the events that have unfolded before you. As a mark of respect for the children and teachers and parents who have and are still suffering our children are purchasing a Cherry tree which they will plant in our school grounds in their honour.

*J. Foster c/o Anston Hillcrest Junior and Infant School  
South Anston Sheffield England.*

To the bereaved families: Our hearts are with you. God bless

*Johannes W and Adela E. Odijk  
San Diego CA. USA*



**A** rose once grew where all could see,  
sheltered beside a garden wall,  
And, as the days passed swiftly by,  
it spread its branches, straight and tall...

**One day, a beam of light shone through  
a crevice that had opened wide ~  
The rose bent gently toward its warmth  
then passed beyond to the other side...**

**Now, you who deeply feel its loss,  
be comforted ~ the rose blooms there ~  
Its beauty even greater now,  
nurtured by God's own Loving care.**

I would like to send my heart felt sympathy in your loss I hope that you can find comfort in knowing that others care and are thinking of you

I'm 18 years old, I live in Edmonton Alberta, Canada. I just lost my mother in Febuary to violent crime as well, and when I heard about what happened at that school it terrified me and I had to send something to all the parents to let them know that they are in my thoughts...

*My Sincere Condolences  
Chris Armstrong  
Edmonton Alberta, Canada*

*a time will come when being strong doesn't involve tears*

My heart goes out to you during this terrible time in your life, god knows why it happened. Please remember that the whole world offers it's comfort and support in whatever way it can.

*God Bless you  
Wayne Smith  
London, England*

My wife and I are the parents of our first child, an eight-month-old daughter. We wept when we saw the stories of your senseless loss.

Please know that our hearts go out to you, our prayers go up for you, and our thoughts are with you.

*Yours sincerely,  
Bill, Jackie, and MattieJoyner*

We share the horror, although we cannot, and hopefully will not, ever experience it.

*Cheryl Pisterman  
Melbourne Australia*

Please pass mine and my families message of sympathy to all the parents and relatives of the children and teacher who died in such tragic circumstances. The world will always remember them and their innocence. As a family with nine young grandchildren under the age of 7 the horror will always be with us. We pray that the loss of these babies will not be in vain and the world will hopefully take a long hard look at itself and realise the most sacred thing this world has to offer is life especially that of children.

We are also praying that the other children that were injured and those that attend the school will, with love and kindness, be able to enjoy what is left of their childhood and not bear too many scars.

God Bless to you all. You will always be in our thoughts.

*Diane Standing and her family*

Please add our names to the list of people sending their expressions of sympathy to the families who lost children in Dunblane. We have a one year old daughter, and my thoughts went immediately to her when I heard the news. My sorrow for you all is such that I ache that I can't bring your children back for you. I have said many prayers on your behalf. While I know that you know it, let me say again that the world is with you in spirit.

*Mary Virginia and Peter Coffman*

I'm writing from San Francisco, California, to express my deep condolences to the Dunblane community. I have a great respect and a deep affection for Scotland and the Scottish people, and the news of the tragedy sustained in Dunblane makes me very sad. What does soothe me is knowing how strong and courageous the Scottish people are. All our best from San Francisco.

*Nick Plezbert*

The members of the English Club in Werdenberg, Switzerland send you their condolences, may God help you, your family and your community Switzerland

*Ricardo Hellemann*

I would like to send my condolences to all of the families and citizens of Dunblane. I am a college student and saddened at this scary event. I have been through your town and I want all of you to know that we are all thinking of you. Please do not think you are alone, we are all behind your recovery. Please do all you can to heal your town, stick together as you can't do your life alone. To all of the children of Dunblane think of the John Lennon song "Imagine" and you will understand

*All my love,  
Cheryl Price  
Edmonton, Alberta Canada*

My heart goes out to you all especially to those of you that have suffered the terrible loss of your children. Even as I write this letter tears fill my eye's and my heart. I am a lucky person, I have my son's and their children and I can only imagine how you must feel.

I also have my husband, to lose your wife and Mother in such a tragic way can only be horrendous.

I was in the midst of cleaning when I first heard the awful new's, a time that I will never forget and I am ashamed to say that I just couldn't watch, listen or read to subsequent new's reports for several days. I just did not want to hear anymore about it. Not because I did not care but because I did..so much.

My husband and I observed the minutes silence on Mothering Sunday, the very least that we could do. I don't know if it help's you but tears poured down our faces. We also watched the service in your church, and again we cried for your loss.

I wish so much that I could say something, anything that would help you at this time but I fear that is a gift I don't have. The whole world mourns with you and prays that, in time you will be able to look to the future .

*Bless you.*

Our hearts were grieved to hear and see on the news the tragedy that happened. I know that this is a great time of grief for you as well. Please know that our church here in Durham, NC USA are praying for you and we ask God to comfort you and show you His love even during such a difficult time. May He give you courage to face the days ahead.

*With Love in Christ,  
Ed Smither  
Raleigh-Durham, NC, USA*

I have just seen the Headmaster of Dunblane Primary being interviewed on the occasion of the re-opening of the school. Here is compassion, dignity, fortitude and resolution. How fortunate the people of Dunblane to have such a man.

*Bryan Wylie*

Please pass on our deepest sympathy to the bereaved families in Dunblane. My husband Tom and myself are from Stirling and spent many a happy time in Dunblane. Our neice and her husband live in Dunblane and Henry is the local policeman. Our daughters in Australia also wish them well.

Please send our best wishes to the families of the children who survived, they must be riddled with guilt as well as relief.

*Dianne Cowan*

Our thoughts and prayers go to all friends, relatives and people of Dunblane during this difficult time, which none of us can begin to comprehend.

*Ady Baseley*

There is nothing I can say or do to take away any of your pain. One day, you will be able to remember the joy your babies brought to you without being overwhelmed with the pain of losing them, although I know that your sorrow will never go away. But that day is very distant. All I can do is hope that it comforts you, in some small way, to know that others feel for you, share your grief from a distance, and weep for your children. I do, I have, and I will not forget.

To the family of the murdered teacher: my mother was killed senselessly too. I understand your bereavement and I know that the loss never entirely heals. I hope you have a lifetime of good memories to treasure. My heartfelt sympathy to you all.

*Penelope Robinson*

Please forward this message to the families of Dunblane. Thank you.

As a father of a six year old, I can imagine the grief and sadness that you now feel. Yet my grief is only imagined. Yours is real. My heart goes out to you. My family and I are praying for you, that you somehow will be comforted during this time.

*Mark Bullock*

To the People of Dunblane, My heartfelt sympathy and prayer are sent to you this day. God be with you now and into the future. You are not alone, the world watches with you. We love you.

*Valerie Marsh  
San Francisco, California*

We all admire you. I hope that you can take some comfort from how we feel. Your dignity is a great attribute. Please know that you are not crying alone.

*John Van der Vord*

Condolences from myself, my family and all that I have spoken to from north-west Colorado.

*Rod E Campbell*

Since the terrible news of your loss came to us, we have shed many tears for your children and for you. There are not any words in any language that can take away your pain; but words are all we have to offer and perhaps there are some that will help somehow to soften the hard edges. I found these words long ago and I offer them to you.

Do not stand at my grave and weep:  
[full poem quoted elsewhere]

*You are all in our hearts!  
Joy Prentice & Bob Mercaldi  
North Chelmsford, MA USA*

I too wish to extend my apologies and deepest cares to those families and individuals suffering as a result of the massacre. The horrors that have been committed are beyond words and I hope everyone can rely on each other for moral support and love.

*Adam Chisholm  
Toronto, Ontario*

I am sending these letters on behalf of students in my High School Global Studies class, Poughkeepsie, New York, USA.

I am a fifteen year old girl and a resident of the United States. I heard in my Social Studies class what happened over there in Dunblane. I know it has nothing to do with me, but i feel sympathy for everyone is has to do with. I do not know how you are feeling, but I know how I am feeling. The children that were murdered are not even mine and I feel like I lost little brothers and sisters who were not doing anything wrong. All they were doing was going to school. I hope this letter means something to you. I just want you to know I feel sympathy for you and I also support you all.

*Sincerely, Elizabeth Simpson (New York, USA).*

I am a seventeen year-old girl living in the U.S. and today I heard what happened in Dunblane. I would just like to say I am very sorry for what happened. I know I can't change what happened, but I would just like to let you know I care.

*Sincerely yours, Jennifer*

Here in Los Angeles we often see a bumper sticker which reads "Practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty." There are no words to express comfort or sympathy in a time like this, but please know that we will practice such acts - which make the world a little better - in the names of your beloved lost children.

*Barbara W. Gale*

Our deepest sympathies. Your families and children will always be in our minds and hearts.

*JBA  
Toronto, Ontario*

I would like to express my sympathy to the families in Dunblane. It's so hard to comprehend it all.

*My thoughts are with you.  
Jac, The Netherlands*



To the Survivors,

As a parent of a child your age, I know how difficult you can sometimes be. Despite all the tantrums and arguments, you are the focus of the most precious love.

Do not let these tragic events change the way you are. The country, and the World love you, and your friends that have not been so fortunate.

We grieve with you.

*Mark Jones*

The Carmichael family here in Miami, FL, USA, wishes to extend our hearts and our prayers to the people of Dunblane, and to all of Scotland for the tragic loss you have suffered. The sorrow you feel is shared by the entire world.

As our hearts look ever homeward, we also look to God to bring healing to a people and nation we love. May the peace of Jesus be with you always.

*Love and God Bless,  
Alex, Julie, Stewart, and Alasdair Carmichael  
Matthew 11:28/John 14:6*

The people of Helena, Montana USA, through our City Mayor and Commission, express our sympathy for your loss, and our prayers and support for your future as you look ahead. This tragedy strikes at the heart of all of us, for it knows no boundaries. Please accept our support

*W. J. Verwolf  
City Manager.*

No amount of messages, no amount of sympathy can take away the horror of what happened. Few can begin to appreciate the depth of sorrow the bereaved families are feeling.

I wept when I watched the news, I am weeping as I write this inadequate message. My heart is with you all

*God bless  
Peter Davies*

To all those who have suffered, and are suffering as a result of this tragedy:

I pray daily for all those whose lives have been shattered by tragedy, trauma or disaster—everywhere. God please have mercy on every poor and aching heart and soul, and yours especially.

*David Musicant*

You are living every parent's nightmare. Our deepest sympathy.

*Irene, Tatsuo and Rebekka Takamizu  
Baldwin, NY, USA*

I'm sitting here reading all those messages from good people all over the World. I can hardly see the words for the tears. I am a father and a Scotsman and I can only add my grief to that of all the rest . There is nothing to say . I know the pain of personal loss but nothing in my imagination could begin to describe what those tragic parents must be feeling now. God be with them now and for ever .

*William Templeton*

Would you please add my condolences, and those of all the teaching staff, ancillary staff and students at Denbigh School in Milton Keynes. We were shocked at what had happened, at the waste of such innocence and at the fact that it could have been anyone, in any school in the country. I can well understand why they ask ,why it should be them.

Please ad the name of my family and I to the list of the world community filed with great sorrow for this terrible loss. I had served in Vietnam during the Tet offensive, and then spent 25 years in explosive disposal. I had never seen such a tragic event as that horrible day in Scotland. I pray for the families and wish them my deep sympathy.

*Lloyd R Lantz*

My sincere condolences... to the families and friends of the victims... truly it is a sad day...

*Love to all...  
Marianne G. Winter California, USA*

The recent story in People Magazine filled the hearts of the American people with sadness. This kind of senseless killing of innocent children is the most horrible atrocity since the Nazi's. Our hearts and prayers go to the people of Dunblane in hopes that they know their loss is felt by us all.

*Wendy Hodgden  
Kansas City, Missouri USA*

The Scottish Society of the Virginia Highlands, of which I am Treasurer, has directed me to forward a cash donation to assist someone in need in Dunblane or to make a contribution to a memorial. I would appreciate it if you could furnish me the name and address of the Mayor or other official to whom the contribution should be directed.

The Society adds its heartfelt sympathy to all the people of Dunblane for their terrible loss and the tragedy that resulted from the actions of an unbalanced mind. Nothing can compensate for the loss of a wee one, but we extend to all there our prayers that God's grace will see all through this horrible loss, who could not weep over the terrible plight at that school? And, remember, the blood is strong!

*Cabell F Cobbs  
The Scottish Society of the Virginia Highlands, USA*



**In Memoriam**



They have only slipped into the next room.  
Whatever you were to each other, that you still are.  
Call them by their old familiar name,  
speak to them in the easy way which you always used.  
Put no difference in your tone,  
wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.  
Laugh, as you always laughed, at the little jokes you  
enjoyed together.

Let their name be ever in the household that it always was,  
let it be spoken without effect,  
without the trace of a shadow on it.  
Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was; there is unbroken continuity.  
Why should they be out of mind because they are out of sight?  
They are waiting for you, for an interval,  
somewhere very near, just round the corner.

All is well

od hath not promised  
Skies always blue,  
Flower-strewn pathways  
All our lives through;  
God hath not promised  
Sun without rain,  
Joy without sorrow,  
Peace without pain.

But God hath promised  
Strength for the day,  
Rest for the labor,  
Light for the way,  
Grace for the trials,  
Help from above,  
Unfailing sympathy  
Undying love.

*author unknown*



**From the emergency services of the world**



**In Memoriam**

As a Scot who knows Dunblane well, a primary school governor, a parent of 3 girls, and a Special Constable, I cried today when I heard. May God give you the strength to carry on. May this never happen again.

*Dougie Brown  
Special Constable 886, Lincolnshire Police.*

I feel guilty because I wasn't aware of your tragedy until late this afternoon, I have never been so shocked to learn of any event before.

Having become a Father only five months ago my heart is with you all tonight.

*Alan J Caulfield.  
Special Constable, Wiltshire Constabulary.*

As a parent of 2 little girls myself I had to hold back the tears tonight on seeing this shocking news. Words fail me but my thoughts are with the families tonight.....

*Ian Hunter.  
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.*

I saw something on this incident on the news. I would ask you to pass on my condolences to all those affected. This is the sort of tragedy that binds people together in the future. But, it will do little to alleviate the suffering of the relatives now.

*Constable 647 Nigel Wickenden,  
Lincolnshire Police.*

Please pass on my condolences to the families who have lost members as a result of this tragedy and also to those who have to counsel the survivors.

*Kevin Cleaver  
West Midlands Police*

This horrible incident has been broadcast numerous times on the news here since early Wednesday morning, so by now everyone in America must know about it. Please add my condolences to your messages to the people of Dunblane.

*John Harley  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department,  
USA*

Since waking up this morning and hearing of the horror from your community, my thoughts and prayers have been with you all. I only hope that in your grieving you sense the support of other parents all over the world.

*Paul Greenwood,  
Deputy D.A.,  
San Diego, California.*

I only learnt of this tragedy when I sat down to watch 'News at Ten' this evening - wrapped up in my own world today ! I felt quite numb as I watched the story unfold, Hungerford was tragic but all those little children, how could anyone.....? Writing this to you now I still cannot believe it, but I know it is true. I just do not really know what to say other than please pass this to the parents and people of Dunblane - my wife and I are thinking of them.

I keep thinking of how I and my Officers would have coped if that had happened in one of my local schools - it makes me go cold.

*Dick Coleman,  
Inspector, Bedfordshire Police*

I left my five year old son at school today, taking it for granted that I would be collecting him later, I realised just how lucky I was when he ran into my arms this afternoon. Please pass on my condolences to the tragic parents who have lost their babies today.

*Jane Hilton  
Durham Constabulary*



I certainly send my condolences for the families and friends of those children and teacher who were killed by a madman. I find it so hard to believe such an act could occur but it seems to happen with increasing frequency.

Again I pray for the survivors and others that they can be consoled at this time.

*Charlie Dennis  
Florida, USA*

I was horrified to see news of this on CNN this morning. There's nothing that can make this "better" for the families or community, but I hope they can take a small bit of comfort in knowing that the rest of the world is grieving with them.

*Ann Zachman  
Monterey County Sheriff's Dept  
Monterey, California, USA*

Please pass on my condolences to those who have lost their children in this tragedy, and let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

We had a special prayer time for them tonight at the Wednesday night prayer service at our church, lead by our pastor. I know this is little comfort in such a heart-rending time, but I believe we are all with them in prayer, if not in person.

*Stay safe,  
Lt. Hugh H. Echols  
Savannah River Site, South Carolina  
United States of America*

Please pass on my condolences to the families of the victims of this terrible tragedy.

*Louise Anderson  
Research Analyst  
California Department of Justice  
USA*

There is no way to predict when a person will go off the deep end and commit such an horrendous act as at the Scottish school. We had a similar incident some years ago involving kids in a playground. Psychiatrists may be able to diagnose, but they cannot say for sure what a person might do in the future.

Our prayers are with the parents and friends of those youngsters and teacher who lost their lives.

*Bill Clede,  
Technical Editor  
LAW and ORDER, USA Police magazine*

There are no words to respond to this abomination, only tears and prayer.

*Lead Officer Robert G. Kegel  
Aberdeen Police Department  
Aberdeen WA, USA*

To all our brothers and sisters LEO's overseas at Scotland. As the tragedy at the kindergarten at Dunblane reaches us, it reminds us not only of our own frailty but of man's inhumanity to man.

We think of ourselves as tough cops pretty much hardened to anything-but there are things that pass understanding.. Mine, and ours, prayers are with you, the dead children, the surviving children and all their family. May God Bless You....

*Alberto Melis, Captain  
Delray Beach Police Department  
Florida, USA*

There is nothing anyone can say. But my wife and I were in tears as we watch the news. All that can be said is that the whole country mourns for these lost children.

*Stephen Lowe  
Vyse Street Police Station, West Midlands Police  
Maria Lowe  
University Hospital, Birmingham*

Our hearts go out to all those families affected by this senseless and evil act.

*Bob Owen, Metropolitan Police London  
Paula Owen, Chase Farm Hospital  
Paediatric Unit, London*

We all listened in horror as the news unfolded, most of us cried. This tragedy should never have happened. The whole of Torbay Police and the public are with you all.

*Simon. Special Constable, Devon & Cornwall Police.*

Please pass on the thoughts of all the men and women of the Burnaby Fire Department (Canada) to the families and friends of those involved in the Scottish school incident.

*Dave Kent  
Burnaby Fire Dept, Canada*

Words are useless at a time like this. I cannot describe the feeling I felt when I heard the newscast of the incident. I would not have recognized the sound of my own name for several minutes.

As well, please convey thoughts to the unfortunate emergency personnel who had to attend the incident, I cannot imagine how they must be feeling at this time. Please let them know they are in all of our thoughts.

We will pray for the victims and the victim's families.

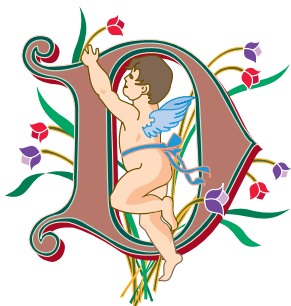
*Garrett Smith  
USA*

Please pass my and my wife's (a school teacher for 3 year olds) condolences to the families of all the children and the school teacher. We can't think of anything else to say ...

*Nico Van Bunderen, Police Officer  
Gemeentepolitie Beveren  
BELGIUM.*

To the residents of Dunblane:

We in Los Angeles are saddened beyond words to hear of your tragedy. Our prayers, thoughts and hearts are with you all. Allow me to quote from a favourite verse that has brought comfort to my own family:



Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there. I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am the soft star that shines at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry.  
I am not there, I did not die.

With Love and Prayers,

*Madeleine Kopp,  
Deputy Probation Officer  
Los Angeles County Probation, CA*

Please include my letter in your project. The horror of the incident brings my heart great pain and sorrow. I am praying for the survivors, the families and friends of the victims. From my family, and police family, to those of Scotland, our condolences and prayers are with you.

*Scott White,  
Portsmouth Police Dept,  
Virginia, United States of America*

Our deepest sympathy to the bereaved, in my second home - Scotland, my second home because my wife is from Aberdeen, Scotland. We have a 4 year old daughter and we are speechless ! No words can express our feelings, but our tears have mingled with your tears.

Be Strong,

*Josef Petroni  
Police Officer, Malta G.C.*

Could you pass on our condolences to the parents, family and friends of the school incident. Their loss is our loss. The children were our future and now the future has changed. The adults were our mentors and friends, I'm sure they will be greatly missed. This has been heard around the world. I guess the question "Why?" will never be answered.

God be with you.....always,

*Sgt. Randall R. Zimmerman  
Canton Police Department, Canton, Illinois*

The Mountlake Terrace Police Department in Mountlake Terrace Washington sends their condolences to the families and teachers. Our entire city of 20,000 was shocked at this senseless act.

*Deryl Yocom  
Crime Prevention Officer  
Mountlake Terrace Police Dept, Washington*

On behalf of myself and the City of Middletown, N.Y. police department, I wish to express my deepest condolences for this hideous and senseless act.

*P.O. Mark L. Schub  
City of Middletown,  
New York, U.S.A. Police Department*

On behalf of the Officers of the Correctional Officers Benevolent Association (Rockland County, New York) we wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to those families that have suffered such horrific losses. I write this message with tears in my eyes, as so many of us have little ones, and I for one can't fathom bearing the pain of losing a child of my own.

May I take a moment of the list folks' valuable time and space to add my deep, deep feelings of sorrow to those already so well expressed by others. It is an incredibly sad world today.

*Bob Bidwell  
Director, Physical Plant and Public Safety  
South Georgia College, Douglas, Georgia 31533*

Our hearts go out to the community. You are in our thoughts and prayers!

*Sgt. M. S. Clinard  
Information Systems Supervisor  
St. Peters Police Department, Missouri USA*

Please extend my deepest sympathies to the citizens of Dunblane for their loss. It is inconceivable that man can do this to children. My thoughts are with you during your time of grief.

*Det Sgt Francis Kinney  
King County Police  
Seattle, Washington, USA*

Yes, here in Nth Idaho we are talking about it. There are many people in our area who are heart-sick over it. The family and friends are NOT alone. God Bless

*Rodger MacDonald  
Director of Security  
Lewis Clark State College, Idaho, USA*

To all the families and friends of the Dunblane victims, I offer my sincerest condolences.

I will remember all of you and the children in my prayers. I hope you will someday be able to remember the happier times you had with your families.  
God Bless.

*Supervisor Christopher Hawk  
Parkland College, Department of Public Safety  
Champaign, Illinois*

I was highly shocked to read of this terrible tragedy as were the others in my office. It is beyond our ken to even begin to understand such action. Please let those families know that our prayers are with them. I know I will be giving my children, especially my kindergartner, an extra hug tonight. On behalf of my office-mates, Mary and Murdice, as well as myself.

*Cyndi  
Detective Cynthia Beery  
University of Kansas, Medical Center Police  
Kansas City, Kansas, USA*

To our friends from Scotland,

This is to let you know Jerusalem is also shedding tears for the senseless death of so many young and innocent in your country. We know well the pain and sorrow that engulf the families and the whole nation at such times and join you in your grief praying for a better world.

*Nir Alon  
ISRAEL POLICE - National Headquarters  
Intelligence / Technology Section, Sheikh Jarach, Jerusalem*

The Wilton Police Department would like to join with others in expressing sorrow at your great loss. No words will ever help ease the pain you must feel, no time can replace the joy you have lost.

We are very sorry this type of violence happens at all and it is even worse when innocent people get hurt.

Wilton Maine, USA is a small town half the size of yours. I go into our Schools and talk with children in Kindergarten through third grade and speak to them about being safe. I know the brightness of the children's spirit and the deepness of their love. It is a gift that should never be extinguished.

*Edward Leaby  
Wilton Police Department  
Maine, USA*

Please pass on my message of condolence and support to the people of Dunblane ... especially the families who have suffered the loss of their precious loved ones. This tragedy was the lead story on all the news stations here in Winnipeg, and the horror and sadness that I felt as I watched the reports of what had transpired was something that will stay with me a long time. I cannot begin to imagine the feelings of the families and friends ...

Please tell them that the thoughts and prayers of the members of my department, as well as those of the citizenry of Winnipeg, are with them

Take care ...

*Constable Craig Hobson  
Winnipeg Police Service, Manitoba, Canada*

Please pass on my message of sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims in the recent tragic shootings in Scotland. As a parent of 2 young children I can understand their grief.

*Cst. Dane Wilson  
Winnipeg Police Service, Manitoba, Canada*



## Celtic Blessing of the Guardian Angel



being of Brightness,  
Friend of Light,  
From the Blessed Realms of Grace,  
Gently encircle me,  
sweetly enchanting me,  
Guarding my soul-shrine  
from harm this day and night.

Keep me from anguish,  
Keep me from danger,  
Encircle my voyage over the seas.  
A light will you lend me,  
To keep and defend me,  
O Beautiful Being,  
O Guardian this night.

Be a guiding star above me,  
Illuminate each rock and tide,  
Guide my ship across the waters,  
To the waveless harbourside.

*Kalina Laite*

Words cannot express the deep sadness which has enveloped our hearts as we have listened intently to the unfolding horrors which have engulfed your community. It is with deep sorrow that we must send you our heartfelt sympathy for the most unspeakable horror which you have all been forced to live through. Most of our officers have small children, grandchildren or siblings, and none of us can begin to imagine the pain and anguish you are now feeling. We send to you our prayers and love, and wish only that there was some way to bridge the great distance between us, so that we might share in your sorrow, and be there by your side to comfort you. Know always that you are in our hearts and prayers, as you face the days to come and remember that the sun will once again shine on Dunblane.

Respectfully,

*Department of Veterans Affairs Police  
Brockton/West Roxbury, Massachusetts  
Chief Raymond W. Potvin; Asst. Chief Sandra Souza;  
Chief Intern Jon Heikka; Lt./Detective Paul Caianiello;  
Lt. Mark Chadwick; Lt. Bruce Trombley;  
Officers: Nancy Ingalls, Thomas Greenwood, Edward Arruda,  
Dana Taylor, Kevin Cormac, Paul Canario, Peter Ferreira,  
Dean Lawrence, Richard Dube, John Hunter,  
Peter Surowiec, Joseph Carchedi, Stephen Brennan;  
Police Secretary Kathrine Grey* Dear friends,

To the whole community of Dunblane,

The world recoils in shock and horror at the outrage which has struck at the heart of your peaceful city.

We must not forget the pain and anguish which you have all suffered and my heart goes out to you in deepest sympathy, at this, your darkest hour. Words cannot begin to describe the heartache I felt when I heard the news yesterday.

Please be aware that the whole world is with you in your mourning.

*Dave Goodhand  
Hampshire, UK*

Here's adding my prayers for the families and friends of all those injured and killed... my heart broke as I watched the news stories and saw the families. ... all I could do was hold my children and cry.

Please know that all of us here in Texas are thinking of you!

*Beth, Brian, Emily and Amanda (twins-11 months old) Morgan  
Dallas, Texas, USA*

My deepest condolences to all the people of Dunblane. I can't imagine the grief felt by your community, my prayers are with you in this dark hour.

*Sincerely,  
Ofc. Jim Neagle  
Bolingbrook Police Dept., Bolingbrook, Illinois*

My name is Paul Brookes and I am with the Victoria Police Department located in Victoria, British Columbia, CANADA. Everyone is shocked and saddened and we send our condolences at this time of great sorrow. They will be remembered.

*Paul Brookes  
Victoria Police, Canada*

My first reply was just after hearing about the massacre and seeing your message I then went into work and found everyone shocked by the happenings please pass the thoughts of all our members to the families of those killed and injured. Our hopes for a speedy and full recovery to those injured and our support to all the emergency services who had to deal with this nightmare. Even in all our troubles nothing as evil as this has occurred and pray that it will never happen anywhere again.

*Sgt R Coulter  
Royal Ulster Constabulary, Northern Ireland*

Please convey our sincere condolences to all those involved in this tragedy, words cannot convey all that we feel.

*Geoff and Marg Lakin  
Staffordshire Police.*

Please accept the condolences of the Bingham County Sheriff's Department at your loss. I am a D.A.R.E. Officer, and work daily with young children. On behalf of the Department, we are truly sorry to hear about the loss you have suffered.

*Deputy Rick Otterstrom  
Bingham County Sheriff's Department  
Blackfoot, Idaho U.S.A.*

I too would like to send my, and my departments, condolences to the families and survivors of the Dunblane massacre. This tragedy has shocked the world. I will say a prayer for those still in the hospital tonight and for the families of those that were murdered.

*Lt. Ed Roberts  
Center Police Department, Texas USA*

I would like to give my deepest Condolences to the community of Dunblane in the recent tragedy they have had. It is always sad to hear of tragedies like this one I give my support to those families and friends of those lives that were lost. To those friends in the school that had to see this kind of violence I sincerely hope that you can find a way to continue on.

Our hearts will always be with you, the town of Walsh will be praying for all of you.

*Dean George  
Walsh Police Department, Colorado, USA*

From the men and women of my police department, our hearts and prayers extend to the families and victims of Dunblane. There is a quote that reads " The biggest threat to our well-being is the absence of moral clarity and purpose."

This tragedy is just another example of this fact that seems to reach all four corners of our world. Please except our sorrowful regrets.

*Officer Karl H. Holzbach  
Richmond Police Department, Virginia, USA*

On behalf of the Beaverton Police Department I wish to express my heart felt condolences for the tragedy which has occurred. The victims and survivors are in our thoughts and prayers.

*David Gilbert  
Beaverton Police Department, Oregon USA*

I am a teacher and reserve member of the Vancouver (Canada) Police department. My family, colleagues and friends are shocked and sickened by the news from Dunblane. Please accept our deepest sympathy.

Our thoughts are with you and we pray that you are supplied with the strength to deal with your incredible loss and ineffable situation.

The men and women of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Investigations Division, San Diego, California share in your grief at the tragic loss of life. We pray for you, your families, and your friends.

*Patrick Comey  
Senior Special Agent , Organized Crime Drug Task Force*

I join with my husband, Lt. Dennis Scott / O.C.P.D. in condolences to the citizens of Dunblane, as they suffer their loss of 16 innocent children. Perhaps the teacher also died so that these precious little souls would not be alone on the final journey...

They will be remembered, always, in our heartfelt prayers.

*Lu Drayton Scott / Oklahoma City*

I would like you to pass on my feelings of deep condolence to the parents and children that were involved in this terrible and evil attack. My sincere prayers are with them and entire community.

May the parents and the children know the peace of God as they try to rebuild their lives.

*Tom Burns  
Victoria Police, "A" District Information/Intelligence Support Centre  
Victoria Police Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, AUSTRALIA, 3000*

I thought this would be a message I would never write. Following on the tragedy of Lockerbie and the senseless slaughter of innocent people it is impossible to comprehend that mindlessness and evil haunts us yet again with the loss of so many young lives. In fact it is worse than Lockerbie in that these victims are all children, denied the chance of life by a moron whom it appears his only motive was a twisted revenge on the families of those who rebuked him for some as yet not clearly identified malpractice involving the children of the village. I felt sick to the stomach as I heard the news with the rest of the nation, my feelings ranging from a mixture of utter disbelief, anger and frustration that he would not be able to be held accountable for his crimes. The scenes depicted in the initial news reports of distraught parents, many of them with other young children, rushing towards the school uncertain of what carnage they would find will remain with me for a long time. May I take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt sympathy to the families of all those affected by this incident. I know there is really nothing any of us can say or do which will ease the burden of those parents left to carry on in the aftermath. We each of us have our own way of dealing with personal tragedy, but it is sometimes helpful to know that the sense of grief and loss is shared by us all. Please convey my sympathy if possible to the families of Dunblane.

*Constable Hugh O'Hare  
Strathclyde Police, Hamilton*

Please convey my condolences and deepest sympathy, and those of the men and women of the Washington State Patrol, to the survivors of this horrible event. Words can't express our remorse..... The photographs of the mothers and family, with the flowers by the fence, could be next door, with the occurrence seeming much closer than the miles between us. Our prayers are with them.

*Sergeant Mark Arras  
Washington State Patrol, Seattle, WA 98188-2681*

# The Children of Dunblane

The little souls so innocent, the children of Dunblane,  
They played in peace, upon that dreadful day,  
Singing songs our children sing, so happy, sweet songs of joy,  
Skipping, laughing, running, as do all our Girls and Boys,  
For you are,  
*The Children of Dunblane.*

Your lives so beautiful, but oh so short, taken from your parents grasp,  
Their memories of your oh sweet smiles, will within them ever last,  
Sixteen wee souls, died that day,  
For you are,  
*The Children of Dunblane.*

The tears from brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, will forever stain this land,  
As if to reach upon the clouds, for sixteen pairs of hands,  
Their love for you will never fade, nor will all their pain,  
For you are,  
*The Children of Dunblane.*

Hold hands, all sixteen children, on your journey to the Lord,  
We love you little angels, we will never forget your words,  
The sound of your distant voices, will echo in these lands,  
As the sounds of children playing, and the holding each others hands,  
A piper plays a lone lament, in the memory of your names,  
For you are,  
*The Children of Dunblane.*



# The Children of Dunblane

Rest in peace, oh little ones,  
In the grace of God,  
Your Teacher, lies before you all,  
Take her hand, in peace and love,  
Fear not to face the Lord, and you will lose the pain,  
The winds of Dunblane, will forever, echo all your names,  
For you are,  
*The Children of Dunblane.*

Rest in peace, oh, little ones,  
This world, will never be the same,  
In memory of its little folk,  
THE CHILDREN OF DUNBLANE

Rest in peace

To the Families of the Children of Dunblane.

May I express my sincere sympathy, at your very sad loss. We can only speculate as to the trauma that you are all suffering. Please accept the words and thoughts of the attached poem, as a symbol from my heart. My thoughts are with you all.

*from G.L.Patrick*





Please send my heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims. Tragedies of this magnitude happen too often, even if it happens only once. My prayers are with them at this difficult time. May God take care of them.

*Robert D. Tippit  
USAF Security Police, Cheyenne Mt. AS, CO*

As a father of six and a grandfather of six, my heart goes out to the parents and the rest of the citizens of that small village. May God help those parents through these troubled times, and as a Catholic I will have a mass said for the children.

*Michael  
Retired NYPD(1981)*

It is with great sadness that I send a prayer and a message of condolences to the families and loved ones of the children and their teacher of Dunblane Primary School.

*Police Constable,  
Stuart Nelson Bdg# 111  
University of Texas Police Service, USA*

We too, are shocked and saddened by the senseless tragedy that has occurred. Our thoughts and prayers to each and everyone. I know it is small consolation, but this is what I have to give.

*Brian Jones  
Reserve Lieutenant, MDR/LNX  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department*

To all the parents, friends and family of the innocents:

Actually, I guess in my heart I am sending this to all of Scotland and truly the world. In 17 years of law enforcement, I haven't had to experience such a tragic incident. I cannot begin to know your sorrow. May our prayers and sorrow lessen your grief in such a small way.

The world is at your doorstep and walking the route with you. This may not be much help in your time of loss, but it is all that we can give you. Being the father of two daughters, I know the loss that I would feel.

Please accept our love and prayers.

*Ronald Willey  
Deputy Sheriff #190  
Kern County Sheriff Department, Bakersfield, California, USA*

Please pass on my deepest sympathy to the community in Dunblane. My thoughts are with them. I still feel too shocked to attempt to write any real words of comfort. I know that this tragedy has shocked not just the local area, but Britain and the outside world. If there is any way in which I can help, please ask.

*Special Constable C Crook  
Surrey Police, England.*

The Brussels police department wish to express their condolences to the families and loved ones of the children and their teacher of the Dunblane school in Scotland.

If any action is taken by the local police ( fund raising of something else) let us know please we would be pleased to help out

*Luc Moons  
Commissaire de Police adjoint  
Brussels police force  
Belgium, Europe*

Words cannot express the deep sadness which has enveloped our hearts as we have listened intently to the unfolding horrors which have engulfed your community. It is with deep sorrow that we must send you our heartfelt sympathy for the most unspeakable horror which you have all been forced to live through. Most of our officers have small children, grandchildren or siblings, and none of us can begin to imagine the pain and anguish you are now feeling. We send to you our prayers and love, and wish only that there was some way to bridge the great distance between us, so that we might share in your sorrow, and be there by your side to comfort you. Know always that you are in our hearts and prayers, as you face the days to come and remember that the sun will once again shine on Dunblane.

Respectfully,

*Department of Veterans Affairs Police  
Brockton/West Roxbury, Massachusetts*

As a parent of two young boys the same ages of the poor, unfortunate children killed in Dunblane and as a law enforcement officer of 14 years, my wife and I would like to send our condolences and prayers to the affected families in Dunblane, Scotland.

You can not imagine the horror we and the world shared with you when this tragic event occurred. No words can express the condolences we would like to send to you.

May God be with you in your time of sorrow.

*Bill & Lori Schenkelberg  
Frederick, Maryland - USA*

We would appreciate you passing along our message.

On behalf of the Durham Regional Police Service, in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, may I extend our deepest sympathies to your community. We grieve with you, and our thoughts and prayers are with you all in this most difficult of times. May the Lord watch over you, comfort you, and give you strength.

*Pat Robinson #1178  
Durham Regional Police Service  
Oshawa, Ontario Canada*

Please extend my, and my departments, deepest condolences to the families of the students and the teacher of this senseless tragedy. If there is going to be a fund raiser please let me know.

Thank you.

*Laurence Clark, Chief  
Protective Services  
University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, USA*

The members of The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, active and retired, wish to express their condolences to the families, loved ones of the children, the teacher and community of the Dunblane school in Scotland.

Our prayers are with you and we too feel the pain and frustration that you feel, in your time of grief and sorrow. God Bless All. I am confident that those struck down are resting in Peace in a much better world.

*Tunney Moriarty,  
Retired R.C.M. Police Member  
Waterloo, Ontario*

I'd like to pass along the deepest heart-felt sympathies, from my family as well as the Randolph Township Police Department, to the families of the little children who were killed in Dunblane, Scotland this week. I saw on the local network news a Strathclyde Police vehicle at the scene and realized that this must be close to you. A terrible tragedy, such as this, touches everyone.

*Sgt. Steve Caudell  
Randolph Twp. Police Dept.  
Montgomery County, Ohio USA*

Please pass on our sorrows and prayers for the families in Dunblane. As you all are in Scotland, we here are greatly saddened by this tragedy. We are collecting funds at the store this week end and holding a concert to raise monies. I got the info for the trust fund there this morning and hope to be able to respond this next week. If you can think of anything else we might be able to do please let me know immediately.

*Ken & Brandy Osborn  
California Highway Patrol  
Sacramento, California, USA*

I replied directly to you for the posting of my families deepest condolences to the Scottish families. For this Yank it hit a wee bit closer to home. My wife is from Scotland and has many school age family members. It could have been some of our family. This type of violence is common in our country and we sometimes become hardened by the expectation of such tragedy's. Please let these families know Fremont county in Wyoming is praying and thinking of them, in their time of sorrow.

*God Bless The Children  
Tom Schamber  
Lander, Wyoming, USA*

Our heartfelt condolences go out to you as you attempt to recover from the tragedy visited upon you. My family and brother Officers are deeply aware that the feelings of loss and sorrow we have here, half a world away cannot compare to the grief you must be feeling. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you carry on with the enormous task of rebuilding your lives.

*Sincerely,  
Sgt. Chuck Barth  
Pasadena, Texas PD*

My deepest sympathy to the families and to all of those involved in this tragedy. One of the most difficult crimes we deal with is a crime against a child. My tears and sadness for your loss.

*Joel Pierce  
LAPD Reserves  
Hollywood Division, Los Angeles*

Please extend my condolences and those of my department to the families of the victims. It is very difficult to understand the cruelty in the world today.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families. The views expressed in this message are mine and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of my employer.

*Mike Murphy  
Cape Breton Regional Police Service  
Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada*

I would like to express our sincere and heartfelt condolences to all the families and friends who have lost loved ones in the tragic incident at Dunblane Primary School. The people of Perth, Western Australia are grieving with you.

Wishing a speedy recovery to the youngsters who were injured.

*Neil "Rowdy" Macpherson  
Senior Constable 6032, Independent Patrol Group  
Western Australian Police Service, Western Australia*

From all of the members of the Paramus New Jersey Police Department, our prayers and condolences.

*Jim Sheehan  
Paramus PD  
New Jersey, USA*

Words fail me. Please pass on my deepest condolences to all those affected by this unspeakable incident.

*Dominic Shadbolt  
Special Constable Thames Valley Police (Oxford)*

As you are well aware we are no strangers to grief as this year our dear friend, Chris, died tragically in January and just as we thought we were coming to terms with this tragic and sudden loss, yhis massacre of all these innocent children occurs .

Both Mary and I send our heartfelt condolences not only to the bereaved parents but also to all of the school children.

May God bless them all.

*Mary Hackett, Inspector  
Andrew Hackett, Constable  
Strathclyde Police*

It's been termed the "slaughter of the innocents." It is beyond description. Requiescant in pace.

*Shoreline Community College CJ Program  
Seattle, WA*

Please convey our sincere condolences to all involved in this terrible tragedy. Let's hope it will never happen again and let's all try to make sure that it never does.

*De Kock  
Rijkswacht Brussel  
Belgium*

A family that I was close to lost their 5 year old a number of years ago. There are not enough words in all of the languages on this earth to cover the pain. What we are left with is an empty ache and a lot of questions to ask God.

Now is when we all have to have deep faith that God has some reason for this terrible thing to occur. We all must trust that these innocent children were actually angels serving God in the unknown line of events that have and will happen to us on this earth.

From the rest of us who have seen the parents and friends on the news, please carry our prayer that their deep suffering might be shortened. Please know that an entire world of people are standing beside you and weeping with you.

Those of us here at the Washington State Patrol, though far separated by miles, extend our arms to hold you and our shoulders for you to lay your heads. We pray that you never lose faith in the mysterious way of God and, as said above, that your time of pain be shortened. We also pray for your neighbours, for the people who live in your town, that they have the strength to support you, the grace to comfort you and their love to share with you.

*Doug Wyman  
Washington State Patrol  
U.S.A.*

When I heard the initial news report I was stunned that anyone could actually kill 5 and 6 year old children. After 25 years I thought I was immune to shock, but I learned I am not.

Please pass on the sincerest condolences and prayers for the officers of the Excelsior Springs, Missouri, USA Police Department to the community. There are no words.

*Lt. Bob Hanson  
Excelsior Springs, MO PD, USA*

As a parent and Crime Watch Coordinator the news of this nightmare situation was shockingly received here where our horror, sympathy and sorrow is shared here in Indiana USA with the parents and their relatives, friends and loved ones and countrymen of those dear children and our outstretched hands of compassion are extended in true spirit of comforting humanitarian compassion.

May God be with all.

*Erwin E. Davis*

Without a doubt, most Canadians viewed with horror the tragedy that struck your fellow citizens. To lose an adult is bad enough when it comes to murder, but children - that always seems to make these circumstances all the worse. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation had a special on the program titled, Slaughter of the Innocents. I could think of no better description of the wanton murder of so many children, the scarring of so many families, and from what I heard today, the continuing grief that may yet befall some families of the more critically wounded children.

Please pass along our most sincere regrets. Further words fail me.

*Paul Cook  
Vancouver Police, Canada*

To the children, families, and teachers of Dunblane,

Rest assured that the world shares in your tragedy and take comfort in the fact that the victims are now in a safer, happier, and saner world. They now sit with the lord and take comfort in this when the pain is unbearable.

*With Love,  
Sergeant Ed Brewster  
Ulster County Sheriff's Office  
Kingston, New York*

Thank you, Jim, for your vivid description of your visit to Dunblane, I am in tears whilst typing this. Please convey our deepest sympathy to the people of Dunblane, no words can adequately express our sorrow at the events.

*John Rynne, Metropolitan Police Inspector  
Brigid Pavry, Secretary*



First I want to offer my condolences to all that were touched by the Dunblane massacre. Unfortunately these events happen irregardless of the country, or situation and is a testament to man's abuse of their fellow man. My wife's family is from all sections of the UK, so it's quite sombering in our house as well. God speed,

*Isaac Blake, Reserve Sergeant  
Phoenix PD, Squaw Peak Precinct  
Phoenix Arizona, USA*

As a parent and police officer who thought he had seen or heard it all, I am shocked by what has happened. My thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Dunblane. Only our faith can help us survive this.

*Sgt. Byron Satterly  
Sterling Hgts Police Dept. Michigan, USA*

Please record the sadness felt by Ruth and I over the events at Dunblane Primary School. We are both Police Officers in Suffolk and feel helpless as to what we could do to help. Perhaps this, sincere, message may do just that.

*Doug & Ruth  
Pc 792 + Pc 489 Suffolk Police*

As the father of 6 and grandfather of 14, I can imagine the torment and agony the parents, grandparents, and loved ones must have regarding the senseless act of one distraught individual.

I'm sure we (The Law Enforcement Community Around the World) all share in their sorrow and think of them in our prayers.

I want to extend my sincere condolences to all the parents and families who are suffering this terrible loss. Our prayers are with you Dunblane!!!!

*Fraternally,  
Bob Zarger  
Major, U.S. Park Police (Retired)  
Headquarters, Washington, D.C. 20242*

Even though this week has been a busy one for me, I stopped when ever I could to read my mail. As I read about the tragedy in Dunblane I was horrified. I felt helpless; not so different than many Cops that see the aftermath of senseless slayings.

Tonight, as I read your message, I feel somewhat better. You see... I feel that I was there through you. I feel that you conveyed to those present the heartfelt grief we all share for those babies, and all those so deeply touched by this incident, whether they were directly involved or just people who want to reach out to someone and cry. Thank You— for representing me and sharing your feelings. Know that my heart is heavy, know that our brothers and sisters all feel the same way... our prayers go out to the “Innocents”.

*A.A. "Andy" Garrison, Jr.  
Northeast Georgia Police Academy  
Bogart, Georgia 30622*

My prayers go out to the children and teacher, and their families. The whole thing is so senseless, and I get sad whenever I think of it. May God give everyone in Dunblane the strength to persevere through this tragedy.

*Dan Fisher  
Palm Bay Police Dept  
Florida, USA*

Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts with us about your visit to Dunblane. I'm sure you know the victims, their families, and friends, and their fellow Scotsmen, have been in our prayers the last few days, and will be for some time to come.

*Tom Griffin  
Communications Supervisor  
Vallejo Police Dept, California, USA*

Thank you for the account of your visit and for the emotions it stirred in me. Please include a copy of the poem, I sent to you, in the condolence messages to the people of Dunblane. Thanks,

*Lee Barnett  
New York Police Dept, USA*

I am a Program Supervisor for the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, the law enforcement training academy for local police and sheriff departments throughout the State of Washington. This message is on our behalf.

Please pass along the prayers of the Police Academy staff and students. This event must serve as further resolve for all those who wear a badge to harden themselves for the unexpected yet inevitable horrors one must face in the line of duty. We cannot imagine the impact on those assigned to investigate this event.

Thank you for your exceptionally descriptive messages. Many hardened long- time "street cops" paused long and hard with tears in their eyes reading your observations. We all feel we are there with the people of Dunblane, incensed by the senselessness of the act. We pray that this event will pass into history and allow the families to get on with their lives as best they can. God bless you all.

*Ian Wallace,  
Seattle, Washington U.S.A.*

The men and women of the Greensboro Police Department cannot express how sorrowful and horrified they are over this tragedy. Our deepest condolences and regrets go out to you...our prayers are with you.

*Jason Padgett  
Police Officer II, Field Operations Bureau  
Greensboro Police Department, NC 27402*

As a Police Officer who has witnessed many acts of senseless violence on the streets of Northern Ireland I thought that I had seen it all until the recent events which occurred in Dunblane Scotland. As a father I can only imagine the pain and suffering that must be felt by the families of those killed and injured in the tragedy. I can only but offer my heartfelt sympathy and condolences to all those affected by the actions of a madman.

*Mike Harrison  
Toronto, Canada*

As a parent of four children and as a police officer that has seen too many senseless crimes, I am shocked by what has happened at Dunblane Primary School. There is nothing I can really say to take away the deep loss of the families and the community. Our whole department and specifically my family wish to express our sympathy and great sorrow over your loss. We have to look to a higher source for help in tragedies such as these, only our faith and time can help us to survive.

*Respectfully,  
Lt. Det. Clay Williams  
UNC Public Safety CID  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

I would like to add the horror and disbelief that I and I am sure my fellow officers in Hong Kong felt when we learned of this awful incident.

I am not a Christian but my heart and my thoughts are with the survivors if that at all can help. May the innocents now find peace.

*Ken Davey  
Superintendent, Royal Hong Kong Police*

Rob and I have been groping to find words to convey how desperately sorry we are for Dunblane, for Scotland, for Great Britain, and for those poor, poor parents. Rob said, after he'd read your message of the 17th, that he didn't want to talk about it because it would just make him cry.

The tragedy has affected everyone down at the department deeply. There just seems no end to human misery sometimes.

If there's anything, anything at all that we can do to help, now or months from now, please let us know. Words, flowers, gifts....it all seems so futile in the face of such suffering. Who could ever fathom the depths of an abandoned and malignant heart?

All we can offer are prayers and compassion...."and a light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not."

*Peace and gentlest regards,  
Robby & Kathleen Robinson  
Chief of Police  
Yuma Police Department  
Arizona, USA*

Please accept my deepest condolences, and those of my family, for the tremendous loss that Scotland has suffered this past week. The age of the victims, the location, and the abject cruelty of the crime makes it all the more unbelievable and heinous. I've wept and I have prayed, and I shall continue to do the same for the residents of Scotland who were affected, both directly and indirectly, by this inhuman catastrophe.

*Nancy L. Ford  
Partners Off Duty (a police spouse organization)  
Vancouver, Canada*

I am truly very sorry for tragedy that occurred last week. I am shocked and horrified. My deepest thoughts and prayers are with you all. Please be comforted to know that all those lost are in a much better place as they are now with God in Heaven. Please take care and may you find peace in your Belief.

*Yours Truly,  
Reserve Deputy Sheriff Mike Wong  
Orange County Sheriff's Department  
Orange County, CA, USA*

Death by violent means is always a tragedy. When it is perpetrated on children it is especially disturbing and senseless. I have been in law enforcement for 27 years and you never, ever get used to it. Our whole department shares in the grief of those families affected by this tragedy. Our prayers are with them.

*Major John C. Mills  
Louisville Division of Police  
Louisville, Kentucky USA*

Jim, not a day goes by since last Wednesday where I have looked in the papers and seen those small faces. Or reports on what happened. Each day I shed a tear and think about what lives they could have led. My sincere condolences to the families and friends of the deceased children and teacher. My prayers are with them all.

*Paul Phillips.  
Metropolitan Police UK.*

My fathers family is from Blantyre. I have travelled thru Scotland with him and my wife a few short years ago I don't remember Dunblane, but I feel deeply touched by this tragedy. I have two boys, Kieran Patrick, 5 and Nolan Reid, 3. They are basically the same age. I will pray for the souls of all and keep you in my thoughts, with my father who passed last year. May they all rest in peace.

*Lieutenant Jim Drylie  
West Orange Police, NJ USA*

Please forward the condolences of the faculty, staff, and students of the Criminal Justice Program at Glenville State College to the friends and family of the students at Dunblane Primary School.

*Timothy M. Dees, Instructor  
Criminal Justice Program  
Glenville State College, West Virginia  
United States of America*

I am deeply saddened by the news of the innocent children and teacher who were killed in Dunblane. The killing of the innocent is always a sorrowful moment for everyone. I read about this horrible incident over the news (via computer news) this morning and felt deep sorrow for those who were killed and for those who loved them. I can only imagine how the parents must feel and how the loved ones of the teacher who was killed must feel. Please send my deepest condolences to the family and friends of the children and the teacher who were killed. My heart goes out to the children who were injured, as well. I pray they have a speedy recovery.

*Sincerely,  
Officer Kenneth Roa  
Los Angeles Police Department  
Los Angeles, California, USA*

Please, please convey to whomever will listen in Dunblane that they do not suffer alone. The parents, family and friends of the children and the teacher who died are in my prayers this night. Please offer the heartfelt sympathy of the entire Orange County Sheriff's Office in Orlando, Florida. I will also pray for those injured today. There are no words to express the sadness I and my colleagues feel concerning this tragedy. No words will ease the pain, but the knowledge that faith in God can help, may do some good.

*Sgt. Gene Mallard  
Orange County Sheriff's office, Flight Operations Unit  
Orlando, Florida*

I was horrified and deeply saddened to learn of the shooting deaths of the children and their teacher. A school is a place for learning, getting along with each other and having fun. It should be a safe haven for children from the cruel realities of the outside world, at least for 5 and 6 year olds...

Please pass along my condolences and deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the victims, as well as best wishes for the children in the hospital.

*Paul Miyashiro  
Alameda County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Unit  
California, USA*

I can comprehend and somewhat understand most things in life but I can never fathom what would lead someone to harm a child. That someone who supposedly wanted to work with children could be so deranged as to murder innocent and trusting kindergarten age children sickens me at my core.

I grieve with the parents of the children killed and injured. I grieve for the loss of childhood both for those murdered and for those that survive. I can not pretend to understand what the parents and survivors must be enduring. I grieve also for the teachers who perished doing what they loved to do.

Please express my sympathy to all those involved and let them know that they do not suffer alone. As I look at my own children I can feel their pain all the more.

*Sgt. Craig W. Andersen  
Clarkstown Police Dept.  
New City, N.Y.*

Please let the people of Dunblane know they are in the hearts and prayers of the Plymouth Township Fire Police Unit. It is always a tragedy when innocent people are killed, but it is all the more so when they are children. I know what I would feel if something happened to my five year old. May those that were injured recover speedily and without too much permanent physical or psychological damage.

*Frederick S. Goethe  
Sergeant, Plymouth Township Fire Police Unit  
Plymouth Township, PA*

My deepest sympathy to all in the town, particularly those families who lost children and to the families of the teachers, all cut down by this madness. On NBC tonight, I saw the brave lad out selling papers at his stand after his sister had been murdered. We go on, and look after each other he said. Just amazing how the human spirit can be so strong. I pray for strength and comfort for all of them.

*Steve Casey  
Bandon Police Department  
Editor, Law Enforcement Quarterly*

Having a 5 year old girl in kindergarten, this story really hit home. I cannot begin to imagine the anguish and pain these parents are experiencing. I only hope they are somehow comforted with the knowledge that the rest of the world is mourning with them.

*Lisa Foley  
Police Officer  
Texas, USA*

Please pass my personal condolences and those of the men and women of the Honolulu Police Department to the families of the victims. This is one of the most shocking events I've ever encountered.

*Lieutenant Bob Naylor  
Honolulu Police Department  
East Honolulu District  
Honolulu, Hawaii*



Dear friends,

My heart cry's with the pain that you must be suffering. My own daughter turned three years old this very week and all I could think of is your loss. I know that if I was in your place, you would be as outraged for me as I am for you.

Words hardly seem enough to express my thoughts.... After wiping the tears from my eyes a verse in Gods Word come to my mind.

“Blessed are the pure in Heart, for they will see God”  
Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

Those who were lost at the hand of evil are surely in Gods presence today.  
My Prayers are with all of you....

*Chris Martinson*  
*Director of Security, Northwestern College*  
*St Paul Mn, SA*



**In Memoriam**

# Dunblane Appeal Funds

Gus Giudici is selling tapes of his song, "Heart of Dunblane" and donating profits to the Dunblane Help Fund, set up by the Bank of Scotland. The tapes cost \$5, plus \$2 for overseas postage, that is non-US addresses.

Heart of Dunblane  
P.O.Box 18050  
Phila. Pa. 19147  
U.S.A.

Please send your orders to the above address, including your own name and address.

The lyrics to the song are also featured on three WWW memorial pages:

<http://www.spectra.net/~bharris/dunblane.html>

<http://pipes.tico.com>

<http://www.smo.uhi.acuk/~craig/>

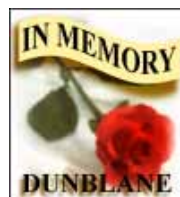
## The PTA & School Board Fund

The Parent Teachers Association and the School Board have opened a bank account for donations to be channelled into the development of the school. Donations to this can be sent to:

Dunblane Primary PTA School Board Fund,  
Bank of Scotland, 63 High Street,  
Dunblane FK15 0EJ Scotland.

*or*

PTA School Board Fund, Dunblane Primary School, Doune Road, Dunblane, Scotland.



# Dunblane Appeal Funds

## **Stirling District Council, Dunblane Fund**

Donations can be made over the counter at UK Banks, or by post to:  
PO Box 23, Dunblane FK15 0AW

## **The Stirling Observer Dunblane Help Fund - Donate Online**

The local newspaper in the Dunblane area, The Stirling Observer, has started a Dunblane Help Fund and you can contact them on the telephone at +44 (0)1786 446884.

This fund is reported to currently (20th March 1996) be worth £155,000.

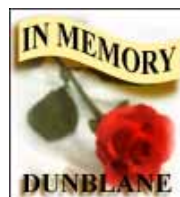
Scotweb at <http://www.scotweb.co.uk/tp/dunblane/>

has joined with The Stirling Observer to accept online donations by credit card using a secure donation form. If you don't have a secure browser you can also use the standard donation form.

*(The Stirling Observer is part of Scottish and Universal Newspapers.)*

## **St Andrew's Society of Detroit Dunblane Relief**

The St Andrew's Society of Detroit has setup a Dunblane relief fund and within 4 days had collected over \$10,500 (US), letters, cards and Teddy Bears. If you want to donate anything via them, then email Fred Wessells on [McFreditor@aol.com](mailto:McFreditor@aol.com)



## Thank you

Jim and I would like to place on record our grateful thanks to the following individuals and companies who have generously donated their time, products, creativity, support or materials to help us make this project possible (in alphabetical order):

Adobe Systems Incorporated, Seattle, USA — *Donation of fonts and software*

Duncan Johnstone, Shawlands, Glasgow — *Permission to use "Lament for Alan, my son"*

HCS Global, Greenock — *Donation of laser toner*

Heidi Waldmann, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA — *Psalms 84 artwork*

Hewlett Packard UK Ltd, Bracknell — *Loan of a colour laser printer*

G F Smith & Son, London & Hull, Ltd — *Donation of specialist paper*

John S. Burns & Sons, Printers, Glasgow — *Binding*

Liz Rich & Robert Harlow, West Penwith, Cornwall — *The Penlee Poppy*

Mark Monaghan, Highlander Web Magazine — *The Rose of Dunblane artwork*

Monotype Typography UK Ltd, Redhill — *Donation of fonts and textures*

Paper Direct, Northampton — *Donation of specialist paper*

Rosemary & Robert Harlow — *The Dunblane Teddy Bears artwork*

Runrig & Chrysalis Music — *Permission to quote from "An Ubhal as Airde"*

and especially to our wives, Marie and Sue, who put up with the hours of absence, typing and phone calls while we produced the book.

## Typographical notes

The illuminated capitals come from the fifteen variants in the Aridi set, by Adobe. Fonts used include Colmcille from Monotype, inspired by the Book of Kells, now in Trinity College, Dublin, Adobe Garamond, Ex Ponto and Sanvito. The book is printed on Lorenzo Vellum 100gsm, from G F Smith & Son Ltd.

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## Personal note

In creating this book, I was frequently overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit shown by the people from whom I sought help or guidance. They, too, were touched by this tragedy and wanted to try to do something, *anything*, to help the people of Dunblane.

If I listed everyone, it would create another book, but I must mention John Cornicello at Adobe, Neil Pack at G F Smith, Diana Winnett at Hewlett Packard, everyone at Added Dimension (who handled the loan), the Hewlett Packard engineers (who made sure the machine was as perfect as it could possibly be), Duncan Johnstone - who gladly shared his expression of his own grief with the people of Dunblane, and Mark Monaghan, who willingly supported this project whilst coping with his own (see below). I received help from many other sources, including The Army School of Piping in Edinburgh, The College of Piping in Glasgow, and the Thames Valley Police.

Without Jim McNulty's energy, squirreling of messages and various gopher activities on my behalf, I could not have completed this project.

Above all, I would like to thank my fellow sysops on the Compuserve Adobe forums for their encouragement and support – they are my extended family and gladly shared the pain with me.

We cannot, any of us, undo the tragic event that occurred. My only hope is that this book speaks to the people of Dunblane of our shared sorrow at their loss, and thus – in some small way – offers some comfort.

*Rik Bean  
April 1996*

## Electronic versions

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