

Poetry Series

**Mary Ryan**  
**- poems -**

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**Mary Ryan(april 7,1961)**

# 911 & 9/11

When its 911  
We promptly answer the call  
Always prepared  
To give our all  
Lives in danger  
Do not delay  
It's a call for help  
The number say  
And on 9/11 we felt the same  
The call went out  
The rescuers came  
So many heroes  
Answered the call  
Without hesitation  
They gave their all  
Now in remembrance  
Of that fateful day  
May it never happen again  
Is what we pray

09/05/08

Mary Ryan

# A Child's View Of God (A Pure And Simple Faith)

There is nothing so innocent as a child  
With eyes closed and head bowed in prayer  
With a pure and simple faith  
He gives thanks to the God who created him  
Not asking complicated questions  
But seeing God in the wonders that abound each day  
Knowing Jesus loves him  
And that's enough for now  
We all need to be like children  
In our hearts  
Finding Joy and wonder  
In the flowers and the sun of God's creation  
Trusting and believing in Jesus  
With a pure and simple faith  
Jesus came as a child  
With all His innocence and wonder of life  
As He grew He still had  
The innocence and wonder of God's creation  
He loved us and died for us  
So that we could believe in Him  
With a pure and simple faith

Mary Ryan

# A Church Home

My life was shattered, I was broken and in pain  
So much I'd lost I thought there was nothing to gain  
My past lay behind me, my future unknown  
And a place I was seeking, a church to call 'Home'  
So lonely and uncertain a stranger I came  
You made me feel welcome although you didn't know my name  
God's love was shown in so many ways  
Friends I've found to brighten my days  
Now a choice I have made, this church I call 'Home'  
And as long as I'm here, I'll never be alone  
My desire is to serve Him, faithful and true  
And make others welcome by showing His love too

(For the people at First Baptist Church in Clinton, MO)

Mary Ryan

# A Girl With Blue Green Hair

One Sunday morning I hurried on my way  
And I arrived at my church ready to worship and pray  
Then I saw a girl with blue-green hair  
She walked away, not welcome there  
I could see the tears falling down her face  
I realized that I didn't want to be in such a place  
I looked at myself in my dress so neat  
And then at the girl in her jeans and dusty bare feet  
"Don't be sad because you were turned away  
We'll find us a church where we both can stay"  
With a smile on my face, I took her hand  
And we both walked away from my church so grand  
Soon a small wooden building I chanced to see  
A young man smiled and greeted both her and me  
The doors I saw were thrown open wide  
"There's a place for you both just right inside"  
So many different people all worshipping the Lord  
And the truth being preached straight from His Word  
A place was found for us side by side  
Welcomed by His love that we often hide  
Let all church doors be thrown open wide  
And all who approach be welcomed inside  
Whether it be a woman with a refined air  
Or a barefoot girl with blue-green hair

Mary Ryan

# A Poet Paints Pictures With Words

You give me some paper and a new ink pen  
And I'll just let the words start to begin  
But if it's a picture from me you desire  
To say it would be perfect would make me a liar  
All of my lines just can't seem to be straight  
And as for staying in the lines, I'm really not great  
Everything seems to go ever which way  
But ask me to write and I'll know exactly what to say  
The words I just sit and let them come  
As easily as painting is to someone  
A picture I can create with words few or much  
And into someone's life they often touch

Mary Ryan

# A Soldier's Prayer

As the sun sets in a faraway land  
A young soldier sits, a picture in his hand  
His thoughts on his wife and child-a young family  
And he prays every night that again he'll see  
'Lord, I miss them so much is all I can say  
And I want so much to go home one day  
My wife doesn't tell me but I know she cries many tears  
And I want to be there to calm my child's fears  
But, Lord, don't get me wrong as to why I'm in this place  
Even though death I have to face  
I'm here for those killed on that September day  
That our faith and our freedom will not be taken away  
I'll serve my land gladly although it may mean my life  
For this is the soldier's highest sacrifice  
Now keep my family safe as they face a new day  
It's in Your precious name I humbly pray'  
He carefully puts away the picture and lays down for the night  
Longing for the day when no wars left to fight

(05/30/05)

Mary Ryan



# A Special Friend

Words of encouragement you gave to me  
You touched my life and set me free  
You saw the pain of loneliness I had  
Even when I said "Fine", you could tell I was sad  
A fragile egg I appeared to be  
The cracks in my shell I let you see  
You became my friend when I needed you so  
Even far apart, my friend I know  
We're together in the Spirit, joined by prayer  
No matter how far we travel, in our thoughts we're there  
A precious gift from God is you  
Faithful to God and a friend so true  
Seldom seen but ever in each heart  
Together in Heaven, we never will part

Mary Ryan

# Abcs Of A Poem

Another poem I write you see  
Before the time runs out on me  
Cleverly I have my say  
Don't you just love word play?  
Every poem a different one  
For writing them is so much fun  
Getting posted is the trick  
Hoping Ij will let them stick  
It may be viewed or may be not  
Just that its there and not forgot  
Keeping up takes some time  
Loving every crazy rhyme  
Making sure the words I write  
Nonetheless will turn out right  
On and on this poem goes  
Playing with words as everyone knows  
Quick we pray please let it end  
Really I've gone round the bend  
Soon the end will be in sight  
There's just a few more lines to get it right  
Until then just patience be  
Very soon no more you'll see  
When next the poem I compose  
X-tra care to in it will shows  
Yes one more line will I write  
Ze end is now in your sight

Mary Ryan

# After

After winter there comes a spring  
And blooming flowers the rain does bring  
After death now comes the tears  
But they will fade with the passing years  
When love is gone, what can there be?  
A future bleak is all you see  
After a dark night now comes the sun  
It's like a victory, the battle won  
Sometimes 'after' seems so far away  
But often it's as close as the passing day  
All this you'll understand in time  
Even when there is no reason or rhyme

Mary Ryan

# America's Pride

America's pride is growing.  
America's pride is showing.  
Flags I see—it seems everywhere.  
But were they always there?  
Somehow, we didn't seem to care.  
On September 11, it all changed so fast.  
And the memories of that day will forever last.  
It seemed to be just another day.  
We'd all be up and be on our way.  
But then out of nowhere, death came from the sky,  
And we watched in horror as we saw people die.  
Suddenly America's pride became anew.  
Everywhere I look I see the red, white and blue.  
Now we're fighting a people we don't understand  
And sending our planes to a far distant land.  
America's pride is growing.  
America's pride is showing.

10/13/01

Mary Ryan

## Being As A Child

Parents brought their children to Christ one day  
But others didn't like it-wanted to send them away  
The Lord loved the children and had them stay  
He was firm with the disciples-and had His say  
'Children are welcome-the Kingdom is theirs  
To join Me in Heaven and be My heirs  
The Kingdom is yours but there is only one way  
Be like these children and you'll live there one day'  
The words He spoke are true yet today  
Even now there is only one way  
Being like a child and trusting His Word  
Claiming Him as friend, Savior and Lord  
So no matter your age when you come to Him  
Come with childlike faith and He'll accept you in

(6/2/96)

Mary Ryan

## Betsy's Poem

Have you heard the news?  
We've declared ourselves free  
And now such a task  
Is entrusted to me  
To make our new flag  
With needle and thread  
The colors that are chosen  
Blue, white and red  
So here I sit  
A seamstress by trade  
And this flag I sew  
The most important I've made  
My stitches must be tight  
Or it will ravel and fray  
And not fly so proud  
When it's unfurled each day  
Now back to my task  
The light's fading fast  
So much to do  
Before it's finished at last

Mary Ryan

# Crying

When you sit alone, no one sees your tears  
Your quiet weeping, no one hears  
The pain you bear—no one can know  
No one is close to see it show  
So you sit alone and try to pray  
Your loneliness and fear to be taken away  
“God, answer this prayer, ” is your earnest plea  
“Bring someone close, someone to see  
To know my pain and answer my call.”  
The tears on your face, they silently fall.  
But no one sees your tears  
And your quiet weeping no one hears

Mary Ryan

# Doors

The door is closed  
Don't look behind  
The past remains  
It is in your heart  
A door is opening—  
Look ahead  
Don't hesitate  
The door may close  
If you stand and wait  
With faith step through  
The open door  
And see what God  
Has planned for you

Mary Ryan



# Friends

Friends are God's gifts to the young and the old  
More precious than wealth, their value untold  
They're with us through laughter or tears  
Sometimes for a short time or perhaps many years  
Sometimes together or so far apart  
But wherever they are, they're safe in each heart  
They give more than gifts that can be bought or sold  
They give of themselves—worth so much more than gold  
Christian friends have something so rare  
Both in this life and next, their love we can share  
God's greatest gift to each and to all  
Is Jesus His Son and on Him you can call  
Though others forsake you, He'll always be here  
To help you along, your burdens to bear

Mary Ryan

# From Victim To Victor

The words of the crowd seemed to seal His fate  
Some would call Him victim of mans' cruel hate  
Along a dusty road, He made His way  
Knowing that He was to die that day  
But the world was wrong; not a victim was He  
He was a victor, come to make us free  
Out of the grave, He lives again  
Offering us a new life to begin  
From victim to victor, like Christ, we live again!  
No more to let the plans of Satan overcome and win!

Mary Ryan

# God's Love #1

The world so selfish and so evil  
That no redemption seemed in sight  
but God loved the world so much  
His only Son would pay the price  
The nails just wouldn't hold Him  
Had there been another way  
It was love that held Him there  
On that dark and hopeless day  
Three days later a woman still grieving  
A duty out of love she came to do  
An empty grave was there to greet her  
Yet she did not understand  
Then her living Lord, he spoke to her  
Changed her sadness into joy  
The good news-she couldn't hide it!  
She just had to go and share  
Though sinning comes so easy  
There always is a cost  
A time of pleasure is so brief  
If our eternity is lost  
So when your life seems hopeless  
And you feel you've lost your way  
Remember God who loves you  
And the price He had to pay  
The nails just wouldn't hold Him  
Had there been another way  
It was love that held Him there  
On that dark and hopeless day

3/31/96

Mary Ryan

## God's Love #2

God's love is like a candle bright  
In a world full of darkness—it could bring hope and light  
But God knew He couldn't keep it to Himself alone  
To the world His love must be made known  
He called to the people, "Come bring your lives  
Be lit with my love and be shining bright  
My love is enough for all to share  
It will never fade away and will always be there  
Your lights are now lit so others you must find  
Give them my love and light up their lives  
When you see your light fading—come to me again  
I'll relight your light—I promised I'd share"  
So with love as your light, into darkness you must go  
Freely lighting others lives you meet along each day  
God's love will never weaken and He'll never let it die  
No matter how many lives are lit—He always has more to share!

Mary Ryan

# Going In The Right Direction

When look at the world through eyes full of tears  
When you feel that you've wasted so many years  
When all of the plans and dreams have all fallen apart  
When all you feel is emptiness deep down in your heart  
Its time to stop wandering in your lost and aimless way  
Lift up your eyes toward Heaven and pray  
Your life has a destination-heading to the Lord  
Following the directions in His Holy Word  
Christ will never leave you; He's promised that He'll stay  
Just follow where He's leaving each and every day  
Don't look far to find Him-He's always in your heart  
And when you feel the bad times coming-just make another start

Mary Ryan

## How Can We Serve Him?

Oh, how can we serve Him in so many ways?  
Oh, how can we serve Him through the endless days?  
Some carry out that service in faraway places  
Seeing the many strange and different faces  
Some serve the Lord where they heard the call  
But still they're ready to give their all  
Whether it be in a land far away or right on the street we live  
We all have something from the Lord for us to give  
It's the love He showed in His saving grace  
For us to share with the whole human race  
It's His desire that none be lost  
No matter the price or how high the cost  
Although I'm not called to a land far away  
God still has something for me to say  
I'm not a bold speaker but I will do my part  
Praying these words will touch each heart

Mary Ryan

# How I Shine Your Light

One day Your call I heeded  
In the midst of my restless wandering life  
Your saving grace is what I needed  
To quiet my trouble and strife  
Then You gave my life a new way  
To use the gift that You gave  
Sometimes I don't know what to say  
To tell others Your love to save  
But words You bring to my mind  
And I take up a pen  
To tell others Your love to remind  
How Christ died for their sin  
A poem I can write  
Of words few or much  
It's how I shine Your light  
And in others the words can touch

Mary Ryan

# In The Light Of The Cross

No matter our pain  
No matter our loss  
Let us always see it  
In the light of the cross  
Sometimes it seems  
God's so far away  
But He's always as close  
As the prayers we say  
The cross is the ultimate expression  
Of God's faithful love  
Even when He seems so far  
Up in Heaven above  
But I know He is with me  
Each and everyday  
Always as close  
As the prayers I say  
So whatever may happen  
Be it big or be small  
May I always see in the light of the cross  
Where Christ gave His all  
May the troubles of my life  
Be small when I see  
MY Heavenly Father  
Reaching out to me

10/11/08

Mary Ryan



# Invisible

You arrive in a hurry  
Your heart heavy with pain  
And you wonder if anyone notices  
On your face each tear stain  
You sit and you listen  
To the worship song  
Knowing you'll cry  
If you sing along  
The service now over  
You slip quietly away  
No one seems to notice  
Not a word do they say  
Sometimes you feel invisible  
And no one can see  
How lonely you are  
And you don't want to be  
Just a few words from another  
Could brighten your day  
Even if 'Hello'  
Is all that they say  
But God sees the tears  
You try so hard to hide  
And He knows you're hurting  
Deep down inside  
It hurts God so much  
To see you in pain  
And He longs to touch and to heal  
Making you whole once again  
For you're not invisible  
When it comes to the Lord  
He's given that assurance  
In His Holy Word  
Even if no one notices  
When you sit in your pew  
Remember God always sees  
And that's a promise so true

06/25/06

Mary Ryan

# Invitation Time

The preaching is completed  
The song's nearly sung  
The invitation's been given  
Now, why don't you come?  
It won't last forever  
The time's almost gone  
All around the world, it's always the same  
The preaching is completed  
The song's nearly sung  
The invitation's been given  
It won't last long  
The time is almost gone  
In Heaven christ is waiting  
The time of His returning very soon  
When the preaching is completed  
The songs are all sung  
The invitation is over  
The end is come

Mary Ryan

# Jesus, Take My Hand

Take my hand  
It's gonna be a brighter day  
Take my hand  
And I'll follow all the way  
Take my hand  
Because You touch me when I pray

When I was a child I played in the sun  
These were the days I thought were fun  
Now that I'm grown I look through different eyes  
And tearfully I watch as each dream dies

Now everything has suddenly changed today  
Christ my Savior has come my way  
Now I feel pretty high  
As the sunshiny days go by

And, Jesus, I know that the reason is You  
You've changed my gray days to gentle blue  
Your love forever will I treasure  
To me it's limitless-unable to measure

My love for You will ever last  
It'll survive sunshine and stormy blast  
To the end of time will You take my hand?  
When we finally meet in that happy land

Take my hand  
It's gonna be a brighter day  
Take my hand  
And I'll follow all the way  
Take my hand  
Because You touch me when I pray

(The very first actual poem I wrote)

Mary Ryan

# Kitten

Kitten playing  
With ball of yaarn  
Stolen from my basket  
Darn!  
Purple yarn  
Strewn across the floor  
And now she wants  
To get some more  
A ball of pink  
Catches her eye  
Hooked by claws  
It's on the fly  
Kitten grabbed  
In arms held tight  
No more playing  
With my yarn tonight  
Kitten cuddles  
By my side  
Glad to be  
Safe and warm inside

Mary Ryan

# Let Me Know Your Will

Let me know Your will, Lord  
To know it intimately  
Seeking through Your Word  
So I can clearly see  
That this task  
Which bid me heed its call  
"Is it from You? " I need not ask  
Or someone else at all?  
For I know it's Your own plan  
Not what I desire but You  
And I understand  
It's what I must do  
So let me know Your will, Lord  
And know You intimately  
Always being in Your Word  
And I will clearly see

Mary Edna Ryan  
12/03/08

Mary Ryan

# Loneliness

Being by myself day after day  
Games made for two but only one to play  
Crying in the night so no one will see  
And wondering is it them or is it just me?  
Being in a group but still feeling alone  
And asking myself "Do I really belong? "  
Afraid to let people know how I feel  
And asking myself, "Am I even real? "  
Thoughts run crazy and I feel really down  
But with nowhere to go I just walk around town  
Because of shyness and insecurity I don't say a word  
But inside myself I want to be heard  
Wanting to change but I don't know how  
And wishing there was a way to end it all now  
So I go my way, just playing a game  
And because no one realizes, it's all the same  
Words on paper, it's easy to write:  
'Maybe it'll be different, maybe tonight'

Mary Ryan

# Lonely/Alone

Sometimes there is a day  
When I want to lock the door, tell the world 'Go away.'  
Sometimes I want to be alone  
To be by myself, not even answer the phone  
And there also comes a day  
When it seems I have so much to say  
Those are the times I don't want to be alone  
I want to hear a knock on the door or a voice on the phone  
But it seems when these days come to be  
Nobody ever wants to talk to me  
All the calls I make no one is home  
Or talking to someone when I dial the phone  
So alone in my room I try not to cry  
Knowing the day will soon pass by  
A loner I am not by choice or plan  
And someday I do just the best I can  
Tomorrow I look to with a grateful heart  
And think of it as a brand new start

Mary Ryan



# Look To The Cross

When they saw Christ's death upon the cross  
Many counted it a tragic loss  
But for the believers they counted it gain  
Never to fear eternity ever again  
Now as the Easter season quickly draws near  
Do I look to the cross with joy or with fear?  
Knowing that I have rejected the Lord  
Or is He my savior and I'm following His word?  
For many people it's jewelry and nothing more  
Something pretty that's often wore.  
Believers in Christ often wear the cross too  
They wear it as a symbol of God's love so true  
As believers in Christ we must see past the cross  
Knowing Christ's death was not a tragic loss  
The cross like the toomb now stands empty and forlorn  
They're here to remind us in Christ we're reborn  
In this Easter season when we look to the cross  
Let us count it a joy and never a loss

03/28/04

Mary Ryan

# Love

Love is a treasure we keep locked away  
It's okay to cherish but must not be put on display  
Love is the intimacy between a husband and wife  
Two people that are bound together for life  
It's the tie between friends young and old  
Something more precious than riches untold  
Love keeps families together through good times and bad  
They can be happy or they can be sad  
Love comes in many ways to share  
But the love we have can never compare  
To the love God gives each one of us all  
When we kneel at the alter and on Him we call  
Seeking His love and confessing our sin  
Willing to let a new life begin

Mary Ryan

# Math

Addition subtraction  
Multiply and divide  
Those problems just make me  
Want to run and hide  
Fractions, decimals  
And geometry too  
So much about Math  
That I never knew  
Lines they go this way  
Lines they go that  
Sometimes they curve  
And sometimes lie flat  
Pythagorean Theorem  
Now try saying that fast  
But once you master it  
It can be a blast  
Pi is used  
With things that are round  
Pi can measure pie  
That I have found  
Numbers I see  
Even when I close my eyes  
But Math really is fun  
Now that's a surprise

04/11/09

Mary Ryan

# My Desire

To know Christ is my only desire  
To feel the touch of His nail-scarred  
As I kneel in prayer seeking Him  
To hear his voice speaking  
Love and encouragement to me  
As I meditate on His word  
The love that I cannot equal  
To give up His life for someone like me  
My life is nothing if I don't do His will  
All I have done will fade away  
What I do for Him means everything  
To hear his approving words  
To know Him more and more

Mary Ryan

# My Gift

What have You given me?  
I used to wonder  
Was I to sing?  
I wanted it so  
You had a gift for me  
It's not what I wanted  
I looked in the wrong places  
And wasted my time  
I just didn't recognize  
The gift I was given  
Now that I do  
I thank You for it  
And give it back to You

10/22/05

Mary Ryan

# My Journey

My life in Christ has started, my journey's just begun  
My old life is ended, my wandering is all done  
There are so many things I'll do for Him, to show Him that I care  
My life, my time, my money—with others I will share  
I'll talk to others of His love each and everyday  
And for the lost ones I will earnestly pray  
It seems that all I've promised just doesn't all get done  
Others can do so much better so must I be the one?  
I know today is Sunday but it shouldn't matter much  
To miss church and instead attend a party brunch  
My friends are lost so I'll tell them of salvation free  
Or maybe not in case they laugh at me  
The years they pass so quickly, where do they all go?  
I realize for God I have not much to show  
I pledge to God—I'll devote to Him each and everyday  
"My time and talents—Yours to use in any way"  
Now my time on Earth is ending, my race is nearly run  
I realize my journey's just begun  
So in my shame I stand and weep  
For my time, the wasted ways I'd keep  
No trophies for Christ do I lay down  
No jewels I've earned for my own crown  
I feel so unworthy to be called your own  
AS I kneel in sadness before the throne  
"I'm sorry, Lord, for being not the one you hoped I'd be  
If in my blindness I could only see  
The things I've done, the lies I've told  
And changed my ways before I'm old"  
But it's too late to change it all  
For now in Heaven I stand in Your great hall

(The second poem I wrote)

Mary Ryan

# My Life Is A Poem

My life is a poem composed by the Lord  
With inspiration given in His Holy Word  
A new line to the poem He adds each day  
According to all I think do and say  
The poem is read in Heaven above  
And I must do all in faithfulness and love  
So God won't be ashamed of the words He must write  
And I cause pain to those in my sight  
Now night time has come so I take to my rest  
Knowing in my heart that I've done my best  
God lays down His pen and looks up to say  
"Such a beautiful line I have written today."

Mary Ryan

# My Light

What is my light?  
Am I shining bright?  
Or barely glowing?  
It varies from day to day  
One day i'm a beacon  
The next my light is barely shown  
So many things I let dim my light  
Cut off Christ's power  
Not doing His will  
I let feelings and thoughts  
Control my life  
I need to let Christ  
Be in control  
Being the power  
That keeps me shining bright

10/25/95

Mary Ryan



# My Mother Is Only A Memory

My mother is only a memory  
Someone only in pictures I see  
She was never there to hold my hand  
Or teach me the ABCs  
Yet I know she must have loved me  
Or she wouldn't have given me birth  
But sometimes I wonder why she went away  
And left me alone on this Earth  
But there's coming a day when I'll know  
I'll bid goodbye to all my dear loved ones  
And onward to Heaven I'll go  
She'll be waiting by Heaven's gate  
For years she's waited to greet me  
And the smile on her face  
Is one of the first things I'll see  
Then her hand in mine  
We'll stroll along side by side  
No longer will we ever be parted  
For now in Heaven we'll reside

Mary Ryan

# Numb3rs

Numb3rs is a really  
Cool show  
I love to watch it'  
Don't you know  
Math is used  
In a clever way  
Sometimes used  
To save the day  
Crimes committed  
Now what to do?  
Math is used  
To solve the crime  
It's quite amazing  
When used each time  
The FBI will get their man  
When Charlie's there  
To do what he can  
I may not know  
What he tries to explain  
And figuring it out  
Gives my head a pain

Mary Ryan

# Ode To A Favorite Show

Tuesday nights on my TV  
There is a show that's really 'must see'  
'The Mentalist' is the title of this quirky tale  
And isn't he such a handsome male?  
Simon Baker plays the role with flair  
Don't you just love his curly hair?  
His character is Patrick Jane  
Now that's somebody who's definitely not plain  
We watch to see what he has in store  
And he always leaves us wanting more  
The rest of the cast make up the show  
Because without them well I don't know  
Every character we know by name  
And if one were missing it wouldn't be the same

Mary Ryan

# Only One Road

Only one road to get to the Lord  
It's clearly spelled out in His Holy Word  
Jesus is the only way  
Even though some have something else to say  
Some claim Heaven is within our reach  
When we follow what others start to preach  
Live a good life, your reward you'll gain  
But I know you must be born again  
With Jesus as your Savior, Redeemer and Friend  
You'll enter into a relationship that will never end  
It doesn't matter how perfect you lived each day  
Or said all the prayers you're required to say  
Just claim Jesus as your Savior and Lord  
Like it's clearly spelled out in His Holy Word  
The pathway to Heaven you'll travel each day  
With your goal in sight, He's the only way

Mary Ryan

## Praying Out Loud

Don't ask me to pray, I don't know how  
If you want something good, call on someone else now!  
I stumble around, the words I can't find  
They can't reach my tongue but they're all in my mind  
If you could read thoughts, they'd be perfectly clear  
But since you can't read my mind—my words you'll have to hear!  
God reads my mind and knows what I say  
If you still want me to—I'll go ahead and pray

Mary Ryan

# Reaching Out

When you see me sitting alone—sit by me  
When you see me walking alone—walk with me  
When you see me standing alone—stand with me  
When you see me crying alone—be there for me  
When I need to talk—just listen to me

Sometimes I need a friend and so many times I'm so unsure about making the first move. So when you see me in need—respond to me.  
Maybe then:

When I see someone sitting alone—I'll sit by them  
When I see someone walking alone—I'll walk with them.  
When I see someone standing alone—I'll stand with them  
When I see someone crying alone—I'll be there for them  
When someone needs to talk—I'll listen to them

Mary Ryan

# Salvation Came

See a tiny Babe in His mother's arms  
Tenderly she protects Him from all harms  
Salvation clothed in fragile skin  
Who could know that over Satan He'd win?  
A man who walked throughout the land  
Proclaiming God's Kingdom in a way we'd understand  
Salvation hangs on a cross alone  
His life for our sins now to atone  
Not only in that time and place  
Did Jesus die for the human race  
Salvation came for all you see  
Not just then, but for you and me

Mary Ryan

# See The Manger

See the manger,  
Where the baby lay  
Born to us,  
On Christmas Day  
See the cross,  
Where hangs the man  
Now to die,  
To fulfill God's plan  
The cross and the manger,  
They both tell the story  
Why Christ came to us,  
From Heaven's glory  
When we worship the Babe,  
In the manger lay  
Let us not forget the cross,  
Where He'll die one day

Mary Ryan



# Seven Brave Souls

Seven brave souls into space did fly  
Never knowing that they were soon to die  
But they were doing what they loved best  
For each of them had passed the test  
To be one of the chosen few  
To escape this Earth as they upward flew  
It was on the return that tragedy came  
And the lives of all are never the same  
When we remember the seven and start to cry  
Remember what they were doing at their time to die

(For the crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia)

Mary Ryan

# Sitting In An Empty House

Sitting in an empty house  
Waiting for the phone to ring  
Sitting in an empty house  
Wanting someone to call about anything  
Sitting in an house  
Just a cat for company  
Sitting in an empty house  
Will someone please take time for me?  
Sitting in an empty house  
No one knows I'm so alone  
Sitting in an empty house  
The pain I feel remains unknown

04/29/06

Mary Ryan

## Six Months Past

September 11th is now six months past  
And the events of that day will forever last  
Sometimes it seems like a lifetime ago  
When our safe little world we ceased to know  
The flags are still flying, some weathered and worn  
I hear of them cast aside, tattered and torn  
But we are still fighting in that far distant land  
And the reason for war, we now understand  
How long it will last, we have no way of knowing  
The battles that are fought, the number keeps growing  
Yes, September 11th is now six months past  
And the events of that day will forever last

(03/11/02)

Mary Ryan

# Sunrise And Blue Skies

A sunrise seems to say  
'Hasn't God made such a beautiful day? '  
Although through clouds you cannot see  
The sunrise still will always be  
Cloudless skies in softest blue  
Makes the day seem so brand new  
Looking at it you can see so high  
Reach out your hand and touch the sky  
Now see the beauty in the sunrise  
bringing the promise of perfect blue skies

Mary Ryan

# Talents

Words in notebooks—now hidden away  
For one person's eyes, not on display  
A talent kept hidden  
For others to know, that is forbidden  
Words in notebooks—"Can I share with you?  
You share with others, they can enjoy too."  
A talent revealed for the world to see  
What talents have you got to share with me?  
God gives us talents to use for His glory  
When we keep to ourselves, others don't know His story

Mary Ryan

# The Biker's New Mission

Once he rode motorcycles  
Living only for pleasure  
Not knowing of heaven  
God's greatest treasure  
An instrment of Satan  
Chosen for his plan  
Who would ever believe  
God could change this man  
But God desires no one  
Should end up in hell  
So into this life  
He sent someone with the Good news to tell  
He still rides his motorcycle  
Sometimes for pleasure  
But he has a new mission  
Telling others of God's greatest treasure  
For to his fellow bikers  
He can speak about the Lord  
Showing them the way  
From God's Holy Word  
And someday he'll join others  
Upon Heaven's shore  
For the greatest of rallies  
That lasts forevermore

(08/27/08)

Mary Ryan

# The Cat Lies Dreaming

Kitten prances through the house  
Triumphantly killing catnip mouse  
The young cat moves with queenly grace  
A serene expression on her face  
Middle aged cat watches kittens play  
Recalling how she was that way  
Old cat now sleeping in the sun  
She takes her days one by one  
Dreaming once again a kitten be  
Wish dish of milk oh so yummy  
Remembering how she'd run and play  
With out a care and perhaps all day  
Hands to cuddle hands to feed  
Hands to meet her every need

11/01/08

Mary Ryan

# The Cross & The Manger

He came as a Babe  
In a manger of hay  
Born to us  
On Christmas Day  
But through the years  
He grew to a man  
Destined to die  
According to God's loving plan  
From the manger to the cross  
Seems a long long way  
When we think of the Babe  
Born on Christmas Day  
But the cross and the manger  
Are both part of the story  
So God can give us  
His grace and His Glory

(Christmas 2006)

Mary Ryan



# The Good Lord Watches Over Poets And Fools

The good Lord watches over poets and fools  
Not exactly one of life's little rules  
Now which one do I happen to be?  
Give me a minute and you shall see  
I know it's not cool  
To be called a fool  
Although I consider myself a poet  
There are many who don't know it  
You might consider me a foolish poet  
I know this poem is silly but I wrote it  
I'm having fun with this little rhyme  
Although some may say I'm wasting my time  
My poetic license seems to have expired  
Cause this isn't exactly what I desired  
But playing with words is such great fun  
And knowing they'll often touch someone

Mary Ryan

# The Real Reason

I'm going to tell you something you might consider funny  
But Easter isn't all about the hip hoppity bunny  
NOr is at about candy and all those other sweets  
And the eggs in the basket and other fun treats  
Now listen close to what I have to say  
And you'll know why we celebrate this day  
Easter tells us how much God's love costs  
And how He wants to gather in the lost  
It was on the cross Christ died for our sin  
So those who believed now to heaven enter in  
Yes, God so loved the world that He gave His Son  
So victory over death could now be won  
On Easter morning Christ rose from the dead  
The story's not over, there's much more to be said  
yes, it's okay to enjoy the bunny, the candy and sweets  
The eggs in the basket and the other fun treats  
Just remember that Christ's resurrection is the real reason  
That we celebrate the Easter season

Mary Ryan

# The Scars And Stripes

The stars and stripes  
Reflect my freedom  
In this land  
I live each day

But the scars and stripes  
Have bought my freedom  
Christ's death  
The only way

As people live and die  
For freedom  
In the USA  
And lands so far away

But for me  
Eternal freedom  
Is a price  
Only One could pay

To the stars and stripes  
I pledge allegiance  
In the land  
That I reside

But I owe my all  
to the scars and stripes  
For one day  
In heaven I'll reside

07/06/08

Mary Ryan

# There Is A New Meaning

Christmas has a new meaning  
When we realize the reason  
Why we are celebrating  
This holiday season  
Now Santa and reindeer  
They find a new place  
As we bow before God  
And the manger embrace  
Where lies the sweet Holy Child  
God's precious Son  
His love gift to all  
Each and everyone  
A gift of Salvation  
Born on this day  
But dying on the cross  
And providing the Way  
For eternity with Him  
Upon Heaven's shore  
Reunited with loved ones  
Together forevermore  
Yes, Santa and his reindeer  
Can still play a part  
For we all know  
Deep down in our heart  
The child in the manger  
Is the one true reason  
We joyfully celebrate  
The Christmas season

11/30/08

Mary Ryan

# What Can I Do?

Saved by Your grace  
Saved eternally  
Your love gift freely given  
For my life on Earth and in Heaven  
How can I repay You for the things You've done?  
Nothing can equal the price that You paid  
All I can do is serve and worship You  
Love You and claim You as Lord  
Follow the guidance in Your Holy Word  
Let others know what You have for them too  
Let them know of the grace given by You

(10/12/95)

Mary Ryan

# What I Leave Behind

No one ahead to carry on my name  
But I leave a legacy just the same  
The gift God gave I choose to share  
And opportunities come from everywhere  
It's the words I write down each day  
My legacy in my own special way  
Poems of witness and gifts of love  
Each one inspired by God above  
Should He ever take my gift away  
I know my words are here to stay  
A word now written you can never erase  
Somewhere there will exist some faint trace  
When my life someday shall end  
Poems I've left to each one my friend  
And now I'll stand before Him and He'll say  
'So many you've blessed in your own special way'

Mary Ryan

# What Will He Say To You?

When your life is over  
Your earthly time is through  
In Heaven when you stand before the Lord  
What will He say to you?

Will he say, "Well done, my child.  
You finished every task.  
You did just what I wanted,  
And I didn't have to ask."

Or will He just be silent?  
Disappointed by your life  
You claimed Him as your savior  
But you never gave your love

Now as you go along each day  
Remember what He wants from you.  
To show His love to others  
And show your love to Him

And then you'll hear him say, "Well done, my child.  
You finished every task.  
You did just what I wanted,  
And I didn't have to ask."

Mary Ryan

# Wondering

Sometimes I have to wonder  
When what I desire is not to be  
Lord, I know that I can do it  
Just You wait and see  
But God know what He's doing  
And calls us accordingly  
"My child, I have another plan for you  
Just pause and wait on Me  
All I ask  
Is just obey me and you'll see  
What I have in store for you  
Will reveal to all my glory  
I know it's not  
What you wish it'd be  
But you're one  
I chose especially  
And when this assignment's done  
There may just be more  
For you know not  
What I have in store

Mary Edna Ryan  
12/03/08

Mary Ryan



## Words Without Meaning

Words without meaning the Bible is to the lost  
They read the words without understanding the cost  
They read of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross  
Not understanding why it seemed such a loss  
We all are called to give meaning to each word  
So all may know and call on the Lord  
When the task seems like it never will end  
Remember so many are waiting for a new life to begin  
God has promised to be with us when we're doing His will  
He's with us now and forever still

Mary Ryan

# Worship #1

Here on Earth  
Beautiful music  
In one accord  
Honoring God  
Here on earth  
Songs of praise  
In one accord  
A joyful noise  
Here on Earth  
Voices in harmony  
In one accord  
Words and hearts  
Joy that never ends  
Up in Heaven  
his chosen ones  
In one accord  
An eternal choir  
Up in Heaven  
Sweet voices sing  
In one accord  
Lifting up His name  
Worship that never ends

Mary Ryan

## Worship #2

What is worship to me?  
Is it the songs I sing?  
Or the prayers I say?  
Do I come to Him with a willing heart?  
Listening through the sermon?  
Worship is much more than that  
It's the songs and the prayers  
When we have an open heart  
Seeking the Lord with all we are  
Giving to Him all we are  
That is the worship we need to have  
Not Sunday morning rituals  
Nor occasional prayers  
But continually being with God  
Then will come the joy  
Of true worship

Mary Ryan

# Years

Where do the years go?  
Sometimes we don't really know  
All too quickly they seem to fly by  
And to so many people we're saying 'Goodbye'  
Now where do the years go?  
Sometimes we seem to have nothing to show  
Slowly they pass one day at a time  
Seemingly with no reason or rhyme  
As we reflect on our life be it with laughter not tears  
And we'll not regret the passing of years

Mary Ryan

# You Cannot Hide

I know that you are weeping  
Your tears are flowing free  
I know it's deep within your heart  
You cannot hide from Me  
Though in such pain you try to hide  
And put on a happy face  
Acting though there's nothing wrong  
But you cannot hide from Me  
MY child, why are you weeping?  
Don't you know what I can do?  
Please just seek my face and you will find  
I'll never hide from you  
Your pain and tears I'll take away  
When you come and humbly pray  
My love will be the gift you get  
When you cast your cares on Me

Mary Ryan