

Prayers for the Dying



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Words of Comfort

What will separate us from the love of Christ? (Rom 8:35)

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. (Rom 14:8)

We shall always be with the Lord. (1 Thes 4:17)

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps 25:1)

Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil would I fear, for you are with me. (Ps 23:4)

Into your hands I commend my spirit. (Ps 31:6a)

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (Lk 23:42)

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. (Acts 7:59)

Holy Mary, pray for me. Saint Joseph, pray for me. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Scripture Readings

Job 19:23-27

Luke 22:39-46

Psalm 23. . .

Luke 23:44-49

Psalm 91. . .

Luke 24:1-8

Psalm 121. . .

John 6:37-40

1 John 4:16

John 14:16, 23, 27

Revelation 21:1-7

Matthew 25:1-13

Prayer of Commendation

As the time of death approaches

Go forth, Christian soul, from this world
in the name of God the almighty Father,
who created you,
in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
who suffered for you,
in the name of the Holy Spirit,
who was poured out upon you,
go forth, faithful Christian.

May you live in peace this day,
may your home be with God in Zion,
with Mary, the Virgin Mother of God,
with Joseph, and all the Angels and Saints.

Prayer for the Dead

In your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.
In this life you embraced them with your tender love;
deliver them now from every evil
and bid them eternal rest.

The old order has passed away:
welcome them into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,
but fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever.

Amen.

Then this prayer is said:

Into your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brother/sister _____
In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love;
deliver him/her now from every evil
and bid him/her enter eternal rest.

The old order has passed away:
welcome him/her then into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain,
but the fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit
forever and ever.
Amen.

All may sign the forehead of the deceased with the Sign of the Cross.

Blessed are those who have died in the Lord;
let them rest from their labors
for their good deeds go with them.

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.
May he/she rest in peace. Amen.

Prayers Immediately after Death

The following prayers may be recited immediately after death and may be repeated in the hours that follow.

Saints of God, come to his/her aid!
Come to meet him/her, Angels of the Lord!

R/. Receive his/her soul and present him/her to God the Most High.
May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;
may Angels lead you to Abraham's side.

R/. Give him/her eternal rest, O Lord,
and may your light shine on him/her forever.

Let us pray.
All-powerful and merciful God,
we commend to you N., your servant.
In your mercy and love,
blot out the sins he/she has committed
through human weakness.
In this world he/she has died:
let him/her live with you forever.
Through Christ our Lord.
R/. Amen.

Gathering in the Presence of the Body

When the family first gathers around the body, before or after it is prepared for burial, all or some of the following prayers may be used. It is most fitting that, where possible, family members take part in preparing the body for burial.

All make the Sign of the Cross.

My brothers and sisters, Jesus says:

"Come to me, all you who labor and are overburdened,
and I will give you rest.

Shoulder my yoke and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.

Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light."

The Lord God lives in his holy temple yet abides in our midst.
Since in Baptism, N. became God's temple
and the Spirit of God lived in him/her,
with reverence we bless his/her mortal body.

With God there is mercy and fullness of redemption;
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father...

Prayers for Mourners

Lord God, you are attentive to the voice of our pleading. Let us find in your Son comfort in our sadness, certainty in our doubt, and courage to live through this hour. Make our faith strong through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, _____ is gone now from this earthly dwelling, and has left behind those who mourn his/her absence. Grant that we may hold his/her memory dear, never bitter for what we have lost nor in regret for the past, but always in hope of the eternal Kingdom where you will bring us together again. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers at Graveside

Lord Jesus Christ, by your own three days in the tomb, you hallowed the graves of all who believe in you and so made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal bodies.

Grant that our brother/sister, _____ may sleep here in peace until you awaken him/her to glory, for you are the resurrection and the life. Then he/she will see you face to face and in your light will see light and know the splendor of God, for you live and reign forever and ever.

Amen.

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, send your holy Angel to watch over this grave. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Litany of Saints

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy on us.

Christ hear us, Christ graciously hear us.

God the Father, have mercy on us.

God the Son, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

St. Michael, pray for us.

St. Gabriel, pray for us.

St. Raphael, pray for us.

All you holy angels and archangels, pray for us.

St. John the Baptist, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

All you holy Patriarchs and prophets, pray for us.

St. Peter, pray for us.

St. Paul, pray for us.
St. Andrew, pray for us.
St. James, pray for us.
St. John, pray for us.
St. Mary Magdalen, pray for us.

All you holy apostles and evangelists, pray for us.
All you holy martyrs, pray for us.
All you men and women, Saints of God, make intercession for us.
Be merciful, spare us, O Lord!
Be merciful, graciously hear us, O Lord!

From all evil, O Lord, deliver us.
From all sin, O Lord, deliver us.
From anger and hatred, O Lord, deliver us.
Through your death and resurrection, O Lord, deliver us.

On the day of judgement, O Lord, hear us.
That you would forgive us and all those we love,
O Lord, hear us.
That you would grant peace and unity to all,
O Lord, hear us.
That you would give rest to those who have died,
O Lord, hear us.
That you would lift up our minds to heavenly desires,
O Lord, hear us.

Son of God, O Lord, hear us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Lord's Prayer

Hail Mary

Glory Be

The Divine Mercy Chaplet

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

Eternal Father

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a powerful devotion given by our Lord to

St. Faustina Kowalska in the early 20th century.

This devotion is a profound prayer of reparation that begs the grace of conversion and offers the sacrifice of Christ's own Passion for the sake of sinful mankind.

Our Lord told St. Faustina, "The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death."

Intercessory Prayers

For persons who are elderly: that we might cherish their presence in our midst and drink deeply of their wisdom; We pray to the Lord

For all who are about to die: that through our love, care, and devotion, they might know the beauty of life, as they prepare for death;

We pray to the Lord

For all who suffer: that the Lord will provide them with the comfort of family and friends and interior peace in prayer, that they will have hope in eternal life; We pray to the Lord

For all who are forgotten or thrown away, and especially for the poor, the sick and the aged: that God might change our hearts and move us to love them as the image of Christ; We pray to the Lord

For all who care for the dying: that through the intercession of Saint John the Apostle and the Blessed Virgin Mary, they might dedicate their ministry to the Cross of Christ; We pray to the Lord

For those tempted to despair because of constant pain: that they might join their suffering to the Cross of Christ; We pray to the Lord

For nurses and all professionals who care for the sick and dying: that they will be given the grace to love each patient with the love of Christ, and to never see those they care for as a burden; We pray to the Lord

For those who have grown weak or infirm: that we might see God's power in their fragility and experience a new revelation of God's love for them; We pray to the Lord

That the sick may find strength and courage in the cross of Christ and discover the redemptive value of their suffering; We pray to the Lord

Prayer for the Minister

2 Corinthians 1: 3-7

Prayer to the God of all Comfort:

Almighty God, you are the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation. You comfort us in all our afflictions and enable us to comfort those who are in trouble, with the same comfort we receive from you.

God of compassion, fill me with the power of your Word and the love of the Holy Spirit as I visit your suffering people. Help me so that I may worthily and gracefully share your sacred presence with those who await your coming to them. May the Body and Blood of Jesus heal and comfort us, deepen our faith and strengthen our hope in the promise of eternal life.

God, I pray to you for myself and for those I visit, in the saving name of Jesus, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen



