

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(Suitable for an older person)

Priest: For those who live a good life, the hour of death is transformed into an hour of glory, because God gives them the crown of eternal life. Let us pray to God in our hour of loss.

1. N. has finally reached the shore of eternity; may she enjoy rest from all her labours.

Lord hear us.

2. N. fought the good fight; he/she finished the race; may she now receive the crown of eternal glory Christ won for us with his death and resurrection.

Lord hear us.

3. That the hardships and sufferings he/she endured may, through the mercy of God, gain him/her forgiveness for his/her sins.

Lord hear us.

4. For those who grieve for him/her: that their sorrow may be changed to joy.

Lord hear us.

5. For all those who cared for N. in his/her old age: that their kindness and patience may be rewarded.

Lord hear us.

6. That all who knew N. may draw inspiration from his/her life.

Lord hear us.

7. For all the dead, especially our relatives and friends, may they enjoy eternal life.

Lord hear us.

Priest: Lord, may you support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen, and the evening falls, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done; then in your mercy, Lord, grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at last.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(A younger person / sudden death)

Priest: As we stand before the mystery of death, Christ stands among us and says to us, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.' Therefore, let us place our prayers before him, confident that he will hear them.

1. That N., whose life was cut short by death, may enter into the fullness of that life Christ won for us by his own death.
Lord hear us.
2. As death surprised him/her with its suddenness, may God now surprise him/her with his kindness and mercy.
Lord hear us.
3. That his/her family may find comfort through faith in God and the support of the community.
Lord hear us.
4. For all here present: that we may remember that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory which is waiting for us in the next.
Lord hear us.
5. That God may grant eternal life to all those whom death has taken away from us.
Lord hear us.
6. For those who care for the sick and suffering: that they may have kind hearts and gentle hands.
Lord hear us.
7. That God may bless this community with an increase of hope and love.
Lord hear us.

Priest: God of power and love, you made us not for death, but for eternal life. Let the splendour of Christ's resurrection scatter the shadows of death, and cause the radiance of eternity to shine on us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(Someone who showed great love)

Priest: My friends, since God has loved us so much, we too must love one another. No one has seen God, but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us, and we know that love is stronger than death. So let us pray to the God who first loved us.

1. N. lived Christ's commandment of love; may he/she now hear those words, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' **Lord hear us.**
2. N. showed much love for others in this life; may he/she now experience the loving mercy of God for his/her sins and failings. **Lord hear us.**
3. That from his/her place in the kingdom of the Father, he/she may intercede for us and continue to help us. **Lord hear us.**
4. For those who mourn for N.; that they may find strength through reaping the fruits of what N. sowed with love. **Lord hear us.**
5. For all here present; that we may draw inspiration from the example of N. and so strive to live out in our own lives Christ's great commandment of love. **Lord hear us.**
6. For all those who have died, who during their lives on earth loved and helped us. **Lord hear us**
7. We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Sons coming. **Lord hear us.**

Priest: Father, all those who love others after the example of Christ your Son are truly blessed by you in this life, but what they receive here is only a shadow compared with the good things you have prepared for them in the next life. We make all our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(A child)

Priest: My friends, let us not be afraid. God is with us. Let us pray to him with the trust of a child.

1. That we may let N. go with love and trust into the hands of God.
Lord hear us.
2. That N. may see the face of God in heaven and intercede for us there.
Lord hear us.
3. For N's parents (and family): that they may find comfort in the faith that they will see her/him again in the kingdom of heaven.
Lord hear us.
4. For doctors, nurses, and all who care for life at its weakest moments.
Lord hear us.
5. For all of us here present: that we may remember that we are God's children and that he cares about us.
Lord hear us.
6. We may now make our own prayer.
(PAUSE) Lord hear us.

Priest: God of love and mercy, we give this child back to you who first gave her/him to us; and as you did not lose her/him in the giving, so we do not lose her/him in the return. Keep her/him safe, and welcome him/her into your kingdom.
We make all our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(A child)

Priest: Let us now pray with confidence to Christ who showed in word and deed that the little ones are precious to him.

1. That Christ may welcome N. into that kingdom which he said belongs especially to the little ones.

Lord hear us.

2. As a child, N. thirsted for life here on earth; may she/he now enjoy the fullness of life in heaven.

Lord hear us.

3. For the parents of N.: that they may be consoled in the knowledge that as they cherished her/him in life, God will cherish her/him in death.

Lord hear us.

4. That we may treasure the beautiful but fragile gift of life which God has given us.

Lord hear us

5. For our deceased relatives and friends.

Lord hear us.

6. We may now make our own prayer.

(PAUSE)

Lord hear us.

Priest: God of love and mercy, we give this child back to you who first gave her/him to us; and as you did not lose her/him in the giving, so we do not lose her/him in the return. Keep her/him safe and welcome him/her into your kingdom.

We make all our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(A person of faith)

Priest: Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, we join our prayers to his.

1. In baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. **Lord hear us.**
2. Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Saviour. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.
Lord hear us.
3. Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.
Lord hear us.
4. Many people die by violence, war and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace.
Lord hear us.
5. Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all those whose faith is known to you alone.
Lord hear us.
6. The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. **Lord hear us.**
7. We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Sons coming. **Lord hear us.**

Priest: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the Kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**