

ESSENTIAL PRAYERS

The Sign of the Cross

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

The Apostles’ Creed

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; He ascended into heaven and sits 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.

The Our Father

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.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among 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.

The Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy. Amen

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen

FOR FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have done, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

PREPARATION FOR DEATH

(Name), God has breathed into you the breath of life. Remember that He has carried you from the moment of conception right to this moment, and will continue to do so without end. Be at peace now with the knowledge of God’s total love and acceptance, and that your task on earth is nearing completion. Rest totally in God and surrender into His loving arms. Be free to let go of your body and all attachments, and trust that All Shall Be Well. Amen

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

When the moment of death seems near:

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.

I commend you, my dear brother /sister, to almighty God, and entrust you to your Creator. May you return to him who formed you from the dust of the earth. May holy Mary, the angels, and all the saints come to meet you as you go forth from this life. May Christ who was crucified for you bring you freedom and peace. May Christ who died for you admit you into his garden of paradise. May Christ, the true Shepherd, acknowledge you as one of his flock. May he forgive all your sins, and set you among those he has chosen. May you see your Redeemer face to face, and enjoy the vision of God for ever. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

Almighty and eternal God, hear our prayers for your son/daughter (*Name*), whom you have called (whom you are calling) from this life to yourself. Grant him/her light, happiness, and peace. Let him/her pass in safety through the gates of death and live forever with all your saints in the light you promised to Abraham and to all his descendants in faith.

Guard him/her from all harm and on that great day of resurrection and reward raise him/her up with all your saints. Pardon his/her sins and give him/her eternal life in your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Father of mercies and God of all consolation,
you pursue us with untiring love
and dispel the shadow of death
with the bright dawn of life.
Comfort your family in their loss and sorrow.
Be our refuge and our strength, O Lord,
and lift us from the depths of grief
into the peace and light of your presence.
Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
by dying has destroyed our death,
and by rising, restored our life.
Enable us therefore to press on toward him,
so that, after our earthly course is run,
he may reunite us with those we love,
when every tear will be wiped away.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

WHY PRAY FOR THE DYING?

Family and friends should keep vigil beside the dying person. It is vital that the dying have the prayers and the faithful encouragement from their loved ones. Even if the person appears nonresponsive and unaware, their soul is aware and listening. Prayers said aloud will help the dying focus on God and prepare for the afterlife.

Various forms of prayer can be used at this time, according to the individual’s needs. As the time of death draws near, these recommended prayers can be recited, commending the person’s soul to God and encouraging them to go forth to meet Him. Prayers near the time of death may be repeated as the condition of the dying person changes. Prayers do not have to be said in any particular order.

If an unbaptized person wishes to be baptized, anybody may do so in case of an emergency.

PSALM 23

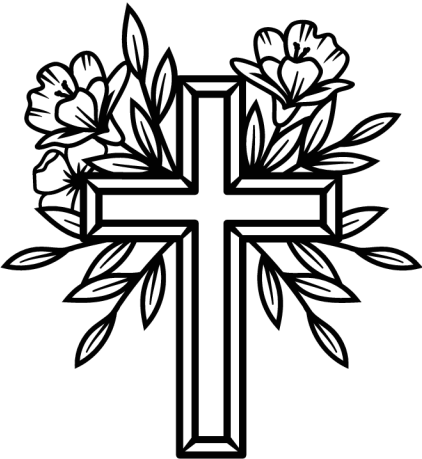
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my
soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they
comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies; You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

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PRAYER VIGIL

— for —

**THE DYING &
THE DECEASED**



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