

## Prayers for the Dying/ Prayers for the Dead

### A Call to Prayer

#### A. *Te Deum* (prayed)

*You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father: all creation worships you.*

*To you all angels, all the powers of heaven  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*The glorious company of apostles praises you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praises you.  
The white robed army of martyrs praises you.*

*Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:  
Father of majesty unbounded,  
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
And the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.*

*You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
The eternal Son of the Father.*

*When you became human to set us free  
You did not spurn the Virgin's womb.*

*You overcame the sting of death,  
And opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.*

*You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.*

*Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
Bought with the price of your own blood,  
And bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.*

*Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.  
Govern and uphold them now and always.  
Day by day we bless you.  
We praise your name for ever.  
Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, show us your love and mercy; we put our trust in you.  
In you, Lord, is our hope:  
And we shall never hope in vain.*

## **B. Holy God We Praise They Name**

1. Holy God we praise thy name; Lord of all we bow before thee! All on earth thy scepter claim, all in heaven above adore thee; *Infinite, thy vast domain, Everlasting is thy reign* (2 times)
2. Hark! The loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; Cherubim and Seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising; *Fill the heavens with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"* (2 times)
3. Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name thee; While in essence only One, undivided God we claim thee; *And adoring bend the knee, while we own the mystery* (2 times)

## Invitation to Prayer:

**When praying the prayers for the dying, please use this prayer:**

**Leader:** A) We gather to pray for our Sister \_\_\_\_\_.  
We believe that all the ties of friendship and affection which knit us together as one will not unravel in death.

**When praying the prayers for the dead, please use this prayer:**

**Leader:**  
B) Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Father of mercies, and the God of all consolation! He comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who grieve with the same consolation we have received from him.

## All Join in Singing:

### A) *The Bridegroom Song*

**ALL:** Our lamps are trimmed and burning,  
Our robes are white and clean;  
We've tarried for the Bridegroom  
O may we enter in?  
We know we've nothing worthy  
That we can call our own;  
The light, the oil, the robes we wear  
Are all from Him alone.

**REFRAIN:** Behold the bridegroom cometh  
And all may enter in,  
Whose lamps are trimmed and burning  
Whose robes are white and clean.

Go forth, go forth to meet Him

The way is open now;  
All lighted with the glory  
That's streaming from His brow;  
Accept the invitation  
Beyond deserving kind,  
Make no delay but take your lamps  
And joy eternal find.

We see the marriage splendor,  
Within the open door;  
We know that those who enter  
Are blest forevermore;  
We see He is more lovely  
Than all the sons of men,  
But still we know the door once shut  
Will never open again.

**B) *Center of My Life*** (Paul Inwood)

***O Lord, you are the center of my life  
I will always praise you  
I will always serve you  
I will always keep you in my sight***

- 1) Keep me safe, O God, I take refuge in you  
I say to the Lord, "You are my God. My happiness lies  
in You alone; my happiness lies in you alone."
- 2) And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even in safety shall my body rest. For you will not leave  
my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know  
decay.
- 3) You will show me the path of life,  
The fullness of joy in your presence,  
At your right hand, at your right hand, happiness  
forever. OCP Publications license number 609678

**Psalm 27:1, 4, 7-9 & Psalm 28:7 & 9**

**Leader: Refrain: “Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; for their good deeds go with them.”**

**All: Repeat Refrain**

**Leader:** The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The Lord protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.

**ALL: Refrain**

**Leader:** I have asked the Lord for one thing; one thing only do I want: to live in the Lord’s house all my life, to marvel there at God’s goodness, and to ask for his guidance.

**ALL: Refrain**

**Leader:** Hear me, Lord, when I call to you! Be merciful and answer me! When you said, “Come worship me,” I answered, “I will come, Lord.” Don’t hide yourself from me!

**ALL: Refrain**

**Leader:** I know that I will live to see the Lord’s goodness in this present life. Trust in the Lord. Have faith, do not despair. Trust in the Lord.

**ALL: Refrain**

**Leader:** The Lord protects me; I trust in him. He gives me help and makes me glad; I praise him with joyful songs.

**ALL: Refrain**

**Leader:** Save your people, Lord, and bless those who are yours. Be their shepherd, and take care of them forever.

**ALL: Refrain**

**Reading: Lamentations 3: 22-25**

The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue,  
Fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise.  
The Lord is all I have, and so in him I put my hope.  
The Lord is good to everyone who trusts in him.

"The Word of the Lord"

**Psalm 42: 1, 2, 8 & Psalm 43: 3-4, 5b**

**Leader:** As a deer longs for a stream of cool water, so I  
long for you, O God.

**All:** I thirst for you, the living God.  
When can I go and worship in your presence?

**Leader:** May the Lord show his constant love during the day,  
so that I may have a song at night, a prayer to the God  
of my life.

**All:** Send your light and your truth;  
may they lead me and bring me back to Zion, your  
sacred hill, and to your Temple, where you live.

**Leader:** Then I will go to your altar, O God;  
you are the source of my happiness.  
I will play my harp and sing praise to you, O God,  
my God.

**All:** I will put my hope in God, and once again I will praise  
him, my savior and my God.

## **(A) Reading from the Gospel according to John 20:11-18**

Mary stood crying outside the tomb. While she was still crying, she bent over and looked in the tomb and saw two angels there dressed in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and the other at the feet. “Woman, why are you crying?” they asked her. She answered, “They have taken my Lord away, and I do not know where they have put him!”

Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not know that it was Jesus. “Woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who is it that you are looking for?” She thought he was the gardener, so she said to him, “If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned toward him and said in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (This means “Teacher.”)

“Do not hold on to me”, Jesus told her, “because I have not yet gone back to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am returning to him who is my Father and their Father, my God and their God.”

So Mary Magdalene went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord and related to them what he had told her.

“The Gospel of the Lord”

## **(B) Reading from the Gospel according to Luke 20: 35-38**

Jesus said: “Those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age and in the resurrection of the dead neither marry nor or given in marriage. They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise. That the dead will

rise even Moses made known in the passage about the bush, when he called 'Lord' the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, For to him all are alive."

"The Gospel of the Lord"

**(C) A Reading from the Gospel according to John 6: 51-58**

Jesus said to the crowd: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us this flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

"The Gospel of the Lord"

**Litany for Our Sister**

**Leader:** Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.



Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Holy Mary,  
St. Joseph,  
All you holy angels and Archangels,  
All you choirs of the just,  
All you holy patriarchs and prophets,  
All you holy Apostles and Evangelists,  
All you holy women and men of God,

Pray for her.

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**\*\*Name the patron saint of the Sister,**

Welcome her into  
the Kingdom.

Mother Theresa Weber and Father Karl Rolfus,  
Mother Celestine and Mother Casparine,  
Mother Augusta and Mother Armella,  
Mother Beata and Mother Wilhelmine,  
Mother Ancilla, Mother Borgia, and Mother Lorenza,  
Sister Verona, Sister Miriam Joseph, Sister Andrée,  
and Sister Mary

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**\*\*Name the Sisters who have died since last year,**

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All our Precious Blood Sisters who have  
gone before us in faith,  
All you holy Saints of God,

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## Closing Prayer

**When praying the prayers for the dying, please use  
this prayer:**

**Leader:**

**A)** Go forth from this world, O Christian soul, in the

name of God the Father almighty, who created you; in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, who suffered and died for you; and in the name of the Holy Spirit, who sanctified you.

May peace come to you today, and may St. Joseph and the Virgin Mary, the holy Mother of God, welcome you into your heavenly home.

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.

**All:** Amen.

**When praying the prayers for the deceased, please use this prayer:**

**Leader:**

**B)** God of mercy and consolation, you pursue us with untiring love and dispel the shadow of death with the bright dawn of life. Hear our prayer for our Sister \_\_\_\_\_ whom you have summoned out of this world.

Comfort your family in our 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. Into your hands, O Faithful God, we humbly entrust our Sister \_\_\_\_\_.

Welcome her into a place of refreshment and light where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain but the fullness of peace and joy with

**All:** your Son and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**All join in Singing:**

**Marian Anthem according to the season.**

This revised booklet of prayers will serve for the times we are making vigil before the Sister's death as well as for our thanksgiving at the time of a Sister's death. The Leader will need to choose those options that are most appropriate to the Sister and for the community gathered.

(Revised February 2013)