

Prayer of the Faithful (I)

Presider:

My brothers and sisters, our God is a God of mercy.
Let us pray that he soften our grief and teach us to live more gently in this world. Our response to these intentions: Lord, hear our prayer.

1. For _____ that he/she might find the love, the joy and the rest that Jesus our risen brother promises us all, we pray:
2. For all those who have ministered to this family and for all in God's church who are called to extend the kindness of our God, we pray:
3. For all whom we call family that we might remember the Lord's command to act like brothers and sisters, members of the household of God, we pray:
4. For all of us that we might continue in our effort to be messengers of the Gospel message of life, we pray:
5. For all those who struggle with prolonged sickness and for all who care for them, we pray:
6. For the repose of all those who have gone before us in faith especially members of this family, we pray:
7. For all in our world who find it difficult to believe in the Lord's promise of resurrected life, we pray:

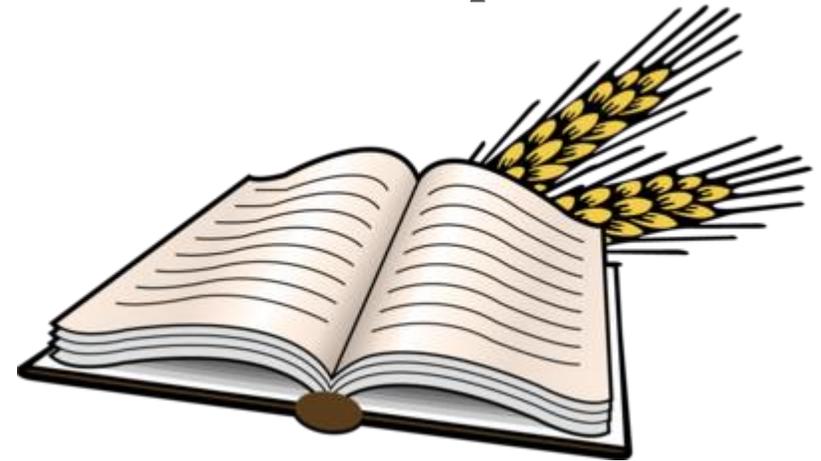
Presider:

Gracious and loving Father, you see our sadness and you know it is a sign of our deep love. Lift our spirits with your gift of faith that we might be comforted in our loss and strengthened in our hope for the promise of life that never ends. Bring our brother/ sister to the banquet table of life in the kingdom of your glory where you live and reign forever and ever.

All:

Amen

The Liturgy of Christian Burial: Recommended Readings from Sacred Scripture



The Liturgy of Christian Burial: Recommended Readings from Sacred Scripture

Normally, one reading from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament are chosen. There is a sung response between those two readings and they are followed always by a Gospel reading.

Family members or friends are invited to select the readings for the Liturgy and to participate in the Liturgy by reading the sections chosen either from the Old Testament and/or the New Testament. The Gospel is proclaimed either by a priest or a deacon.

Old Testament readings are numbered with the letter **C**

New Testament readings are numbered with the letter **E**

Gospel Readings are numbered with the letter **G**.

C1 A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

The Lord who created you says,
“Do not be afraid I will save you;
I have called you by your name and you are mine. When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you and your troubles will not be able to overcome you. Even if you walk through fire, you will not be burned; even though you endure hard trials they will not be victorious over you. For I am your God, the God who saves you from final harm. You are precious to me and I love you, so do not be afraid for I am with you. From the distant West and the farthest East, I will bring you home. I will tell the North to let you go, and the South not to hold you back, for you are my own dear child whom I have created for glory. Before you were even born I chose you for my own.” But perhaps you say, “How can we be sure of the Lord’s love?” And so the Lord answers, “Can a mother forget her own baby? Can she refuse to love the child that she bore?
Yet even if she should forget I will never forget you.” I have written your name on the palm of my hand and I will bring you home one day.”

The word of the Lord.

C2

Job 19:1, 23-27a

I know that my Vindicator lives.

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:
Oh, would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:
That with an iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;
Whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;
And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

C3

Wisdom 3:1-9

As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.
But they are in peace.
For if before men, indeed they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality;
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them worthy of himself.
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
In the time of their visitation they shall shine,
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and the LORD shall be their King forever.
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

Wisdom 4:7-15

An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early,
 shall be at rest.
 For the age that is honorable comes not
 with the passing of time,
 nor can it be measured in terms of years.
 Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,
 and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.
 He who pleased God was loved;
 he who lived among sinners was transported—
 Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind
 or deceit beguile his soul;
 For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
 and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.
 Having become perfect in a short while,
 he reached the fullness of a long career;
 for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,
 therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.
 But the people saw and did not understand,
 nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

Isaiah 25:6a,7-9

He will destroy death forever.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts
 will provide for all peoples.
 On this mountain he will destroy
 the veil that veils all peoples,
 The web that is woven over all nations;
 he will destroy death forever.
 The Lord GOD will wipe away
 the tears from all faces;
 The reproach of his people he will remove
 from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:
 "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
 This is the LORD for whom we looked;
 let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The word of the Lord.

C7

Daniel 12:1-3

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned
and heard this word of the Lord:
At that time there shall arise
Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since nations began until that time.
At that time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.
Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall
awake;
Some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,
And those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

The word of the Lord.

E1

Acts of the Apostles

10:34-36, 42-43

He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:
“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

Revelation 14:13

Blessed are the dead who die in the lord.

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The word of the Lord.

Revelation 20:11-21:1

The dead were judged according to their deeds.

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

The word of the Lord.

E4

Revelation 21:1-5a,6b-7

There shall be no more death.

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

The word of the Lord.

E5

Romans 6:3-9

We too might live in newness of life.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

Romans 8:14-23

We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Romans 14:7-9,
10c-12

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself,

and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord,

and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,

that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother?

Or you, why do you look down on your brother?

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee

shall bend before me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The word of the Lord.

1 Corinthians
15:20-23

So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,

the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man,

the resurrection of the dead came also through man.

For just as in Adam all die,

so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,

but each one in proper order:

Christ the firstfruits;

then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

E10

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Death is swallowed up in victory.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

E11

2 Corinthians

5:1, 6-10

We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

E12

Philippians 3:20-21

He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

Our citizenship is in heaven,
and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus
Christ.

He will change our lowly body
to conform with his glorified Body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The word of the Lord.

E13

1 Thessalonians

4:13-18

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the
Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

John 3:1-2

We shall see him as he is.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

Matthew 5:1-12a

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in
heaven.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

G2

Matthew 11:25-30

Come to me and I will give you rest.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.
No one knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

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

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

G6

Luke 7:11-17

Young man, I tell you, arise!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.
As he drew near to the gate of the city,
a man who had died was being carried out,
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.
A large crowd from the city was with her.
When the Lord saw her,
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,
"Do not weep."
He stepped forward and touched the coffin;
at this the bearers halted,
and he said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!"
The dead man sat up and began to speak,
and Jesus gave him to his mother.
Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,
"A great prophet has arisen in our midst,"
and "God has visited his people."
This report about him spread through the whole of Judea
and in all the surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

G7

Luke 12:35-40

You also must be prepared.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Gird your loins and light your lamps
and be like servants who await their master's return
from a wedding,
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those servants
whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.

Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,
have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on
them

And should he come in the second or third watch
and find them prepared in this way,
blessed are those servants.

Be sure of this:
if the master of the house had known the hour
when the thief was coming,
he would not have let his house be broken into.
You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not
expect,
the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

G10

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

*Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter
into his glory?*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus
were going to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem,
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And
it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus
himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were
prevented from recognizing him. As they approached the village to
which they were going, Jesus gave the impression that he was going
on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us,
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to
stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table,
he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With
that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished
from their sight.

Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"
So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found
gathered together the Eleven and those with them, who were saying,
"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the
two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was
made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

G12

John 6:37-40

Everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life and I shall raise him on the last day.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

"Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,
because I came down from heaven not to do my own
will
but the will of the one who sent me.

And this is the will of the one who sent me,
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,
but that I should raise it on the last day.

For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him
may have eternal life,
and I shall raise him on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord.

G14

John 11:21-27

I am the resurrection and the life.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you."

Jesus said to her,
"Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him,
"I know he will rise,
in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus told her,
"I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never
die.

Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord.

I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of
God,
the one who is coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

G16

John 12:23-26

If it dies, it produces much fruit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life will lose it,

and whoever hates his life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

G17

John 14:1-6

In my Father's house there are many dwellings.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not,

would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place
for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself,
so that where I am you also may be.

Where I am going you know the way."

Thomas said to him,

"Master, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.