

PRAYERS AFTER DEATH

SIGN OF THE CROSS

The minister and all those present sign themselves with the sign of the cross as the minister says:

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

R. Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Using one of the following greetings, or in similar words, the minister greets those present.

A In this moment of sorrow the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word: Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted.

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.

The minister then invites those present to pray in silence.

READING

The minister or one of those present proclaims the reading.

A *Matthew 18:19-20*

Jesus said: 'If two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, I shall be there with them.'

B *John 11:21-24*

Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother,' said Jesus to her, 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know that he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will

never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said, 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

C *Luke 20:35-38*

Jesus said: 'Those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Using one of the following invitations, or in similar words, the minister invites those present to pray the Lord's Prayer.

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

B Let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom as Jesus taught us:

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.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

*For the deceased person: The minister says the following prayer
or one from the Additional Texts:Prayers for the Dead(Pg 57-68)*

Holy Lord, almighty and eternal God,
hear our prayers for your servant N.,
whom you have summoned out of this world.
Forgive his/her sins and failings
and grant him/her a place of refreshment, light and peace.
Let him/her pass unharmed through the gates of death
to dwell with the blessed in light,
as you promised to Abraham and his children forever.
Accept N. into your safekeeping
and on the great day of judgement
raise him/her up with all the saints
to inherit your eternal kingdom.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
R. Amen

*For the mourners: The minister says the following prayer
or one from the Additional Texts:Prayers for the Mourners (Pg 69-72)*

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.
R. Amen

BLESSING

The minister says:

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

A gesture, for example, signing the forehead of the deceased with the sign of the cross, may accompany the following words.

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

R. and let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

May he/she rest in peace.

R. Amen.

May his/her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen

A lay minister invokes God's blessing and signs themselves with the sign of the cross, saying:

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.

R. Amen