

Prayers for Blessing the Grave of your Loved Ones

SIGN OF THE CROSS

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

INVITATION TO PRAYER

We believe that all the ties of friendship and affection which knit us as one throughout our lives do not unravel with death. Confident that God always remembers the good we have done and forgives our sins, let us pray, asking God to gather to himself all our loved ones, all who are at rest in this cemetery, and all the faithful departed.

Pause for silent prayer

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God,
through the death of your Son on the cross
you destroyed our death;
through his rest in the tomb
you hallowed the graves of all who believe in you;
and through his rising again
you restored us to eternal life.
God of the living and the dead
accept our prayers for those who have died in Christ
and are buried with him in the hope of rising again.
Since they were true to your name on earth,
let them praise you for ever in the joy of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

John 11:25

Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

God, the Almighty Father, raised his Son Jesus Christ from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead.

For our relatives and friends who have gone before us, and await the kingdom, that they may have the reward of their goodness.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

For those whose faith was known to you alone, that they will have light, happiness and peace.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

For all who mourn for the loss of their loved ones, that they will find comfort in their sadness, certainty in their doubt and courage in their loneliness.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

For ourselves, who have assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be reunited one day with all whom we love, when every tear will be wiped away.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

God, our shelter and strength,
you listen in love to the cry of your people:
hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters.
Cleanse them of their sins
and grant them the fullness of redemption.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

The Grave is Sprinkled with Holy Water

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God,
whose days are without end and whose mercies beyond counting,
keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.
Let your Spirit guide our days on earth
in the ways of holiness and justice,
that we may serve you in union with the whole Church,
sure in faith, strong in hope, perfect in love.
And when our earthly journey is ended,
lead us rejoicing into your kingdom,
where you live for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

May the Lord Bless Us,
May He protect us from all harm,
And May Lead us to eternal Life.
Amen.

Let us Bless the Lord:

Thanks Be to God.

