



A Prayer Guide for Family and Friends Who
are Ill & Dying

Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer 2019

Introduction from Fr. Matt Burnett

Dear Holy Trinity Family, I and all your leadership hope that these Scriptures, thoughts, and Prayers will be used by God the Holy Spirit for deep and genuine comfort and strength in situations of physical illness, even death. We offer them for your own comfort, and also to equip you to bring comfort to others by having a guide ready and easy to use in your own ministry in these times.

In Christ,
matt.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our affliction,
so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any
affliction,
with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by
God.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3–4

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MINISTRY TO THE SICK

*This service can be prayed in the presence or absence of a Priest.
In the absence, simply designate a primary Officiant, and follow the rubrics,
printed in italics.*

*Prayers said by all present are printed in **bold**.*

The Officiant begins

Savior of the world, by your Cross and precious blood you have redeemed us; Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

The Priest (or other authorized person) anoints the sick person's forehead with the Oil of the Sick by making the sign of the Cross. If appropriate, other parts of the body which suffer from sickness or injury may also be anointed. Others may join in the laying on of hands. The Officiant says

N., I anoint you with oil and I (or we) lay my (or our) hands upon you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, heal this your servant, sustain *him* with your presence, drive away all sickness of body, mind, and spirit, and give to *him* that victory of life and peace which will enable *him* to serve you both now and evermore. **Amen.**

A Priest may add the following prayer. If this rite is used with multiple persons, it is appropriate for this prayer to be used after all have received individual prayer.

As you are outwardly anointed with this holy oil, so may our heavenly Father grant you the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Of his great mercy, may he forgive you your sins, release you from suffering, and restore you to wholeness and strength. May he deliver you from all evil, preserve you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Additional prayers or intercessions may be said, including the following. Additional written prayers may be found in Appendices 2 & 3, on pages

_____.

FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech you to behold, visit, and relieve your sick servant *N.* for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon *him* with the eyes of your mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of your goodness; preserve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; and give *him* patience under *his* affliction. In your good time, restore *him* to health, and enable *him* to lead the remainder of his life in your fear, and to your glory; and grant that finally *he* may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servant *N.* the help of your power, that *his* sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR THE SANCTIFICATION OF ILLNESS

Sanctify, O Lord, the sickness of your servant *N.*, that the sense of *his* weakness may add strength to *his* faith and seriousness to *his* repentance; and grant that *he* may live with you in everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Officiant then prays

The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and obey: Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Priest may conclude the above prayer with a blessing.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK

This rite is used when the consecrated elements are brought from an earlier celebration of Holy Communion.

The Minister is a Priest or a Christian authorized by a Priest to minister lay communion.

The Minister says

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:2

The Minister continues

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A psalm may be prayed. Psalms 23, 62, 103, and 145 are particularly appropriate.

One of the following Gospel lessons is read, or the readings appropriate to the day.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread

that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.”

JOHN 6:51, 55-56

Reflection on the Lessons may follow. Additional prayers may be offered.

The Minister may say the Confession, and the sick person joins in as able.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

A Priest, if present, says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If a Priest is not present, a Deacon or lay person prays

Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Minister Let us pray.

Minister and People pray the Lord's Prayer together.

**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.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Then may be said

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace.

The Minister may say

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Sacrament is then distributed with the following words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.

After Communion, the Minister and people say

Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,

with the spiritual food of the most precious Body

and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor

and goodness towards us:

**that we are true members of the mystical body of your
Son,**

the blessed company of all faithful people;

**and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting
kingdom.**

And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,

to assist us with your grace,

that we may continue in that holy fellowship,

and do all the good works that you have prepared

for us to walk in;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

A Priest gives this blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your
hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his

Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

A Deacon or lay person says the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

Minister Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTRY *to the* DYING

Concerning Ministry to the Dying

For Christians, death is a defeated enemy. In Christ, death has become the gateway to everlasting life. As St. Paul reminded the Church at Corinth:

‘Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is your victory?

O death, where 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.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-57

When a person is near death, the minister should be notified. This rite is a customary part of the Church’s pastoral care.

This liturgy is intended to be prayed with one who has received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The Officiant may appropriately inquire of the dying person as to his or her acceptance of the Christian faith. If the person has not been baptized, Emergency Baptism should be administered before the use of this rite.

General Directions

This rite is designed to be flexible in length. It may be adjusted according to the circumstances and condition of the dying person. Different portions of the rite may be used at different times, provided the order of the various elements is retained. In cases of great urgency, the Commendation at the Time of Death may be used alone. **In the absence of a member of the clergy, this service may be led by any Christian, designated the Officiant in the italicized rubrics.**

The minister may inquire of the dying person as to his or her desire to be reconciled to both God and neighbor. If the dying person feels troubled in conscience with any matter, the minister should offer the rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent. On evidence of repentance, the minister shall give assurance of God's mercy and forgiveness.

If desired, Holy Communion may be administered using the rite for Communion of the Sick. It is appropriate for others present to receive the Sacrament as well. If the dying person cannot receive both the consecrated bread and wine, it is suitable to administer the Sacrament in one kind only. If he or she desires to receive, but by reason of extreme sickness is unable to consume either element, the minister is to assure the person that all the benefits of Holy Communion are conveyed, even though the elements are not received with the mouth.

THE RITE FOR MINISTRY TO THE DYING

The Officiant begins

Peace be to this house [*or place*], and to all who dwell in it.

LUKE 10:5

The Officiant continues with the following prayer

Almighty God, look on this your servant, lying in great weakness, and comfort him with the promise of life everlasting, given in the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LITANY AT THE TIME OF DEATH

The following may be said. When possible, it is desirable that those present join in the responses.

O God the Father,

Have mercy on your servant.

O God the Son,

Have mercy on your servant.

O God the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy on your servant.

O Holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy on your servant.

Lord Jesus Christ, deliver your servant from all evil, sin, and tribulation;

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

By your holy Incarnation, by your Cross and Passion, by your precious Death and Burial,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

By your glorious Resurrection and Ascension, and by the
Coming of the Holy Spirit,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

We sinners beseech you to hear us, Lord Christ: That it may
please you to deliver the soul of your servant from the power
of evil, and from eternal death,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you mercifully to pardon all his sins,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to give him joy and gladness in your
kingdom, with your saints in light,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please you to raise him up at the last day,

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said

Son of God, we beseech you to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech you to hear us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy upon *him*.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy upon *him*.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant him your peace.

O Christ, hear us

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All present pray the Lord's Prayer together.

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant O Lord, show your mercy upon us;
People **As we put our trust in you.**

The Officiant prays

Let us pray.

O Sovereign Lord Christ, deliver your servant, *N.*, from all evil, and set *him* free from every bond; that *he* may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Officiant may invite those present to offer words of thanksgiving, reconciliation, or farewell. The Officiant may conclude with words of comfort.

COMMENDATION AT THE TIME OF DEATH

Here a Priest may anoint the dying person with oil.

The Priest says

Depart, O Christian soul, out of this world;
In the Name of God the Father Almighty who created you;
In the Name of Jesus Christ who redeemed you;
In the Name of the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you.
May your rest be this day in peace, and your dwelling place in
the Paradise of God.

A COMMENDATORY PRAYER

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant
N. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own
fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own
redeeming. Receive *him* into the arms of your mercy, into the
blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company
of the saints in light. **Amen.**

The Officiant and People may say

NUNC DIMITTIS

The Song of Simeon

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, *
according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation, *
which you have prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of your people Israel.
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.

LUKE 2:29-32

CLOSING PRAYER

The Officiant prays

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



APPENDIX 1: CONCERNING THE RITES OF HEALING

Healing was central to the ministry of Jesus, our incarnate Lord. Healing is central to the ministry of the Church, the Body of Christ. Spoken prayer, anointing with oil, and the laying on of hands are the principal outward means employed by the Church for its ministry to those whose health is in any way impaired. The rite of Reconciliation and the reception of Holy Communion are also gifts through which healing takes place.

All Christians are called to be agents of healing. Nevertheless, the regular forms of healing ministry set forth in this Prayer Book are expected to be coordinated and ordered under the authority of the Diocesan Bishop and the Priest having spiritual charge. Some aspects of healing ministry, most notably absolution and formal blessings, are reserved to Bishops and Priests. The use of holy oils (healing and exorcism), like the ministries of which they are a sign, may be extended to lay ministers by the Bishop and Priest having pastoral jurisdiction. Similarly, lay persons may be trained and authorized to carry the consecrated elements of Christ's Body and Blood to the sick (or those otherwise confined or kept away from regular celebrations of the Holy Communion) under provisions set forward by the Ordinary.

Because physical, emotional, and spiritual healing are often interrelated, it is particularly appropriate to encourage confession, reconciliation, and forgiveness in the context of ministry to the sick. The content of a confession is not normally a matter of subsequent discussion. The secrecy of a confession is morally binding for the confessor and is not to be broken.

These rites are foundational to the many ways that the Church ministers to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

APPENDIX 2:
ADDITIONAL PRAYERS FOR THOSE
WHO ARE ILL

FOR A SICK PERSON

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech you to behold, visit, and relieve your sick servant *N.* for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon *him* with the eyes of your mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of your goodness; preserve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; and give *him* patience under *his* affliction. In your good time, restore *him* to health, and enable *him* to lead the remainder of his life in your fear, and to your glory; and grant that finally *he* may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servant *N.* the help of your power, that *his* sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servant *N.*, that *his* weakness may be banished and *his* strength restored; and that, *his* health being renewed, *he* may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR A SICK CHILD

Heavenly Father, watch with us over your child *N.*, and grant that *he* may be restored to that perfect health which it is yours alone to give; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

or

Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you gather the lambs in your arms and carry them in your bosom: We commend to your loving care this child *N.* Relieve *his* pain, guard *him* from all danger, restore to *him* your gifts of gladness and strength, and raise *him* up to a life of service to you. Hear us, we pray, for your dear Name's sake. Amen.

BEFORE AN OPERATION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, graciously comfort your servant *N.* in *his* suffering, and bless the means used for *his* cure. Though at times *he* may be afraid, fill *his* heart with confidence that he may yet put his trust in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servant *N.*, and give your power of healing to those who minister to *his* needs, that *he* may be strengthened in *his* weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR THE SANCTIFICATION OF ILLNESS

Sanctify, O Lord, the sickness of your servant *N.*, that the sense of *his* weakness may add strength to *his* faith and seriousness to *his* repentance; and grant that *he* may live with you in everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL

May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BEGINNING OF RECOVERY

O Lord, your compassions never fail, and your mercies are new every morning: We give you thanks for giving our *brother N.* both relief from pain and hope of health renewed. Continue in *him*, we pray, the good work you have begun; that *he*, daily increasing in bodily strength, and rejoicing in your goodness, may so order *his* life that he may always think and do those things that please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR A SICK PERSON WHEN THERE IS LITTLE HOPE OF RECOVERY

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; We fly to you for aid on behalf of this your servant, here lying in great weakness of body. Look graciously

upon *him*, O Lord; that as *he* outwardly fades away, you would strengthen *him* inwardly with your grace and Holy Spirit. Give *him* true repentance for all the errors of *his* life, and steadfast faith in your Son Jesus; that *his* sins may be done away by your mercy, and *his* pardon sealed in heaven; through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

APPENDIX 3:
PRAYERS FOR USE BY A SICK PERSON

FOR TRUST IN GOD

O God, the source of all health: So fill my heart with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy I may make room for your power to possess me, and gracefully accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

IN PAIN

Lord Jesus Christ, by your patience in suffering you hallowed earthly pain and gave us the example of obedience to your Father's will: Be near me in my time of weakness and pain; sustain me by your grace, that my strength and courage may not fail; heal me according to your will; and help me always to believe that what happens to me here is of little account if you hold me in eternal life, my Lord and my God. **Amen.**

A PRAYER WHEN TAKING MEDICINE

Almighty God, in your goodness you created the earth and all its elements, and have given us skill to make medicines that heal and relieve our pain. All healing comes from you, and in you I put my trust. Grant that this medication may, in your mercy, give comfort and bring healing to my body; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR SLEEP

O heavenly Father, you give your children sleep for the refreshing of soul and body: Grant me this gift, I pray; keep me in that perfect peace which you have promised to those whose minds are fixed on you; and give me such a sense of your presence, that in the hours of silence I may enjoy the blessed assurance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

IN THE MORNING

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, help me to do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

APPENDIX 4:
SCRIPTURES FOR USE BY THOSE
WHO ARE ILL

For perseverance in suffering: ISAIAH 53, 1 PETER 2:21-25,
1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24, 2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10, ROMANS
8:18-39

For hope for healing: 2 KINGS 5:1-14, JAMES 5:13-20, LUKE 5:12-26,
LUKE 13:10-17, ACTS 3:1-10

For the hope of eternity: LUKE 2:25-35, JOHN 14, 1 CORINTHIANS
15:42-58, 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18, 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

A P P O S I T E P S A L M S

God our Refuge: 4, 20, 17, 37, 46, 49, 54, 61, 71, 91, 103, 121, 146

In Time of Trouble: 3, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 46, 30, 146, 40, 49, 57, 85,
62, 63, 80, 86, 90, 107, 118, 144

Peace: 29, 46, 76, 85, 98, 100, 124, 125, 126

The Transitoriness of Life: 39, 49, 90

The Hope of Immortality: 16, 146, 30, 121, 42, 49, 66, 73, 103, 116,
139

Penitential Psalms: 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143