

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory be...



Concluding Prayer

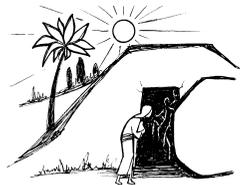
Lord God, whose days are without end and whose mercies beyond counting, keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.

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, perfected in love.

And when our earthly journey is ended, lead us rejoicing into your Kingdom, where you live for ever and ever.

Amen

[If you wish you can sprinkle the grave with Holy Water]



Mary, Mother of Mercy



'At the foot of the Cross, Mary, together with John, the disciple of love, witnessed the words of forgiveness spoken by Jesus. This supreme expression of mercy towards those who crucified him shows us the point to which the mercy of God can reach. Mary attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone without exception' (MV24).

Concluding Rite

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

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

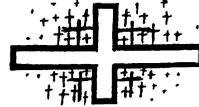
May they rest in peace.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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.

AMEN



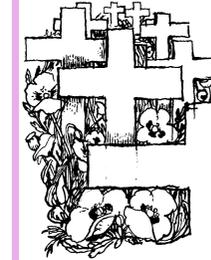
*May he support us all the day long,
'til the shades lengthen
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed
and the fever of life is over
and our work is done.*

*Then in his mercy,
may he give us a safe lodging
and Holy rest
and peace at the last.*

[Blessed John Henry Newman]

Prayer Service for Visiting a Cemetery

An Invitation.



One is never prepared for the death of a loved one. Losing someone you love or care deeply about is very painful, even when that death comes after a long illness; and when the loss is sudden and unexpected, the shock can be devastating.

For many Catholics, a visit to the cemetery where their loved ones are buried is a very special and personal time.

Our Church encourages us to pray for the souls of our faithful departed and in doing so, we are united with them and the saints in Heaven.

This short prayer service may be used by individuals, a family or a group of people, to aid your prayer time whilst visiting a cemetery.



St. Erconwald's Church

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Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila

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

AMEN.

Praise be to God our Father, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

R. Blessed be God forever.

Sacred Scripture: I Thes. 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up into the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air.

So we shall stay with the Lord forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God



RESPONSORIAL PSALM: "*The Lord is my shepherd.*"

The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.



Litany of Intercession

Let us turn to Christ Jesus with confidence and faith in the power of his cross and resurrection:

Risen Lord, pattern of our life forever:

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Promise and image of what we shall be:

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Son of God who came to destroy sin and death:

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Word of God who delivered us from the fear of death:

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Crucified Lord, forsaken in death, raised in glory:

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, gentle Shepherd who brings rest to our souls, give peace to N. forever.

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bless those who mourn and are in pain. Bless the family and friends who gather here today.

Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

