

PRAYER RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Prayers for the Sick

- Go to Mass and, if in the state of grace, receive Holy Communion, offering your prayers for accompaniment and healing for your loved one.
- Pray the rosary.
- Read Psalm 23.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.
In green pastures he makes me lie down;
to still waters he leads me;
he restores my soul.
He guides me along right paths
for the sake of his name.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff comfort me.
You set a table before me
in front of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of the LORD
for endless days.

Prayers at the Hour of Death

I commend you, my dear *brother/sister*, to almighty God, and entrust you to your Creator. May you return to the One who formed you from the dust of the earth. May holy Mary, the angels, and all the saints come to meet you as you go forth from this life. May Christ who was crucified for you bring you freedom and peace. May Christ who died for you admit you into his garden of paradise. May Christ, the true Shepherd, acknowledge you as one of his flock. May he forgive all your sins, and set you among those he has chosen. May you see your Redeemer face to face, and enjoy the vision of God for ever. Amen.

▪ *Pastoral Care of the Sick*

Prayers at the Hour of Death

Keep in mind that Jesus Christ has died for us and is risen from the dead. He is our saving Lord. He is joy for all ages. If we die with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord. If we endure with the Lord, we shall reign with the Lord. In him all our sorrow, in him all our joy. In him hope of glory, in him all our love. In him our redemption, in him all our grace. In him our salvation, in him all our peace.

- *Lucein Deiss*

Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, we pray for your servant, *N.*, and commend *him/her* to your mercy. For *his/her* sake you came down from heaven; receive *him/her* into the joy of your kingdom. For though *he/she* has sinned, *he/she* has not denied the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, but has believed in God and has worshiped *his/her* Creator. Amen.

- *Pastoral Care of the Sick*

Prayer after Death

God of our destiny, into your hands we commend our *brother/sister*. We are confident that with all who have died in Christ *he/she* will be raised to life on the last day and live with Christ for ever. We thank you for all the blessings you gave *him/her* in this life to show your fatherly care for all of us and for the fellowship which is ours with the saints in Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer: welcome our *brother/sister* to paradise and help us to comfort each other with the assurance of our faith until we all meet in Christ to be with you and with our *brother/sister* forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- *Pastoral Care of the Sick*

For Those Who Mourn

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. Amen.

- *Order of Christian Funerals*