



FAMILY PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

"We hold on to our faith in the Communion of Saints and to our oneness with our beloved dead. We believe that death does not totally separate our loved ones from us. In physical death life is changed, not ended...We will set aside time together as a family in our homes and pray for those who have gone ahead of us. It is a good and holy thought to pray for the dead. It would also be good if we can share with the family members our recollections about our beloved dead so that their memory can bind us closer to each other." (Pastoral Instruction "One with Our Beloved Dead")

To foster an atmosphere of prayer, an altar may be prepared with a crucifix and a lighted candle as well as pictures of departed loved ones. The head of the family may serve as prayer leader, other members of the family may serve as readers.

This prayer may also be used during a visit to the cemetery or columbarium when permitted by quarantine protocols. The head of the family may sprinkle holy water on the tomb of the deceased after the Concluding Prayer.

Prayer Leader:

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

All: Amen.

PSALM

All: My soul hopes in the Lord.

Reader:

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to my voice in supplication. R.

If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered. R.

I trust in the Lord;
my soul trusts in his word.
My soul waits for the Lord
more than sentinels wait for the dawn.
More than sentinels wait for the dawn,
let Israel hope in the Lord. R.

For with the Lord is kindness
and with him is plenteous redemption;
And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities. R.

GOSPEL

Let us now listen to the reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the crowd:

"All that the Father gives me shall come to me; no one who comes will I ever reject, because it is not to do my own will that I have come down from heaven, but to do the will of him who sent me. It is the will of him who sent me that I should lose nothing of what he has given me; rather, that I should raise it up on the last day.

Indeed, this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life.

Him I will raise up on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION AND FAITH SHARING

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Prayer Leader:

My dear friends, we join in prayer for our deceased brothers and sisters, let us pray also for the Church, for peace in the world, and for ourselves.

All: Hear us, Lord, and have mercy.

We pray that God may free our brothers and sisters from punishment and darkness. R.

We pray that in his mercy
God may forgive all their sins. R.

We pray that God may give them peace and light forever. R.

We pray that God may give them joy in the company of all his saints. R.

Prayer Leader:

Remember us Lord when you come to your kingdom and teach us how to pray.

OUR FATHER

Prayer Leader:

O God, almighty Father,
who have strengthened us by the mystery of the Cross and promise us a share in the mystery of your Son's Resurrection,
mercifully grant, we pray, that your departed servants may be gathered into the company of your chosen ones. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

When this is prayed at the cemetery or columbarium, the head of the family may sprinkle holy water on the tomb of the deceased.

Prayer Leader:

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.