

Special Prayers to use when you cannot attend a funeral



*My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.
With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.*

Introduction

Some will find it helpful to have a space as a focus for their prayer. This might include a crucifix, icon or other holy image, and a lighted candle. It might also include an image of the deceased.

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

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 N. to himself.

Prayer: *(Pause for silent prayer)*

God of all consolation, open our hearts to your word, so that, listening to it, we may comfort one another, finding light in time of darkness and faith in time of doubt. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples: *"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going."* Thomas said, *"Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"* Jesus said: *"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers

For all those who mourn the death of a loved one at this time. May we all be comforted in our grief. Lord in your mercy ... **hear our prayer.**

For those who care for the sick, especially those living with Coronavirus. May they be cared for and supported during their illness. Lord in your mercy ... **hear our prayer.**

For all our dead especially N. (include the name of the deceased) May the light of heaven shine on them today. Lord in your mercy ... **hear our prayer.**

Hail Mary, full of grace

Prayer

God of loving kindness, listen favourably to our prayers: strengthen our belief that your Son has risen from the dead and our hope that your servant N. will also rise again.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

May he/she rest in peace.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Conclusion

You may wish to follow your time of prayer by playing a favourite piece of music of the deceased, if you are with others sharing some memories and may be even raising a glass of something.

Prayer to Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,

that never was it known
that anyone who fled to your protection,
implored your help, or sought your intercession
was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen

Prayer of St John Henry Newman

O Lord, support us all the day long
until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.
Then, Lord, in thy mercy,
grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest,
and peace at the last. Amen