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# CATHOLIC PRAYERS

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for the  
Sick and Dying



*Compliments of*







I have compiled this booklet to help clients, customers, friends and family accompany the sick and dying. Our original mission statement included a quote from St. Thomas Aquinas: “Each human soul is worth more than the entire material universe”.

We hope that each person who comes in contact with this booklet is enriched and able to find some consolation in the prayers, the Word of God and references to and explanation of the Sacraments.

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## Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name;  
your kingdom come;  
your 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. Amen.

## Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you;  
blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.





## Glory Be

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirt,  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

## Prayer to the Angels

Bless the Lord, all you Angels: You who are mighty in strength, who fulfill His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His words.

He hath given His Angels charge concerning you,  
To keep you in all your ways.



## Gospel of Luke 1:42-55

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

*And Mary said:*

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
My spirit rejoices in God my savior.  
For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;  
behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.  
The Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is His name  
His mercy is from age to age  
to those who fear him.  
He has shown might with his arm,  
dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.  
He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones  
but lifted up the lowly.  
The hungry He has filled with good things;  
the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has helped Israel his servant,  
remembering his mercy  
according to his promise to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.*



## The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Luke 15:1-7

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Him, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So to them He addressed this parable.

“What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.”

## The Parable of the Lost Coin

Luke 15:8-10

“Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.’ In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”



there will be more  
joy in heaven  
over one sinner who repents...



## The Parable of the Lost Son

Luke 15:11-32

Then he said, “A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’ So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need.

So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought, ‘How many of my father’s hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers.”’ So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.’

But his father ordered his servants, ‘Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.’ Then the celebration began.





Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing.

He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean.

The servant said to him, ‘Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him.

He said to his father in reply, ‘Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.’

He said to him, ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’”



He was lost and  
has been found



## The Litany of the Holy Guardian Angel

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

Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

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

Christ, hear us. *Christ, have mercy.*

Christ, graciously hear us.

*Christ, graciously hear us.*

God the Father of heaven,  
*have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
*have mercy on us.*

God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Mary, Queen of Angels. *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my guardian, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my prince, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my monitor, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my counselor, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my defender, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my steward, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my friend, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my consoler, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my brother, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my teacher, *pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my shepherd,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my witness,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my helper,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my watcher,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my negotiator,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my intercessor,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my patron,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my ruler,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my protector,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my defender,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my leader,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my preserver,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, my preacher,  
*pray for us.*



Holy Angel, my enlightener,  
*pray for us.*

Holy Angel, guard and keep us  
*pray for us.*

From every sin  
*guard and preserve us!*

From every danger  
*guard and preserve us!*

From every snare of the devil  
*guard and preserve us!*

From every enemy, visible and  
invisible *guard and preserve us!*

From pestilence, hunger, and war  
*guard and preserve us!*

From the works of darkness  
*guard and preserve us!*

From sluggishness in the service  
of God *guard and preserve us!*

From sadness and anxiety  
*guard and preserve us!*

From hardness of heart  
*guard and preserve us!*

From the unworthy reception of  
the Most Holy Body and Blood of  
the Lord *guard and preserve us!*

From a sudden and unprovided  
death *guard and preserve us!*

From the eternal death  
*guard and preserve us!*

Lamb of God, who takes away  
the sins of the world,  
*spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away  
the sins of the world,  
*graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takest away  
the sins of the world,  
*have mercy on us.*

Christ, hear us, *Christ, hear us.*


Christ, graciously hear us,  
*Christ, graciously hear us.*

Lord, have mercy on us.  
*Lord, have mercy on us.*

Christ, have mercy on us.  
*Christ, have mercy on us.*

Lord, have mercy on us.  
*Lord, have mercy on us.*





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He has commanded His Angels to watch over you,  
*That they may guard you in all your ways.*

Lord, hear my prayer,  
*Let my cry come before You.*

Let us pray;

Almighty and eternal God, who have created me in your image, though unworthy that I am, and have assigned your holy Angel as my guardian, grant me, your servant, that I may happily pass over the dangers of every evil, both of body and soul, and after the course of this life, to come to eternal joy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Lord,  
here my prayer





## Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.  
Jesus, hear us.  
God, the Father of Heaven,  
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
God, the Holy Spirit,  
Holy Trinity, One God,  
Holy Mary,  
St. Joseph,  
Renowned offspring of David,  
Light of Patriarchs,  
Spouse of the Mother of God,  
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,  
Foster father of the Son of God,  
Diligent protector of Christ,  
Head of the Holy Family,  
Joseph most just,  
Joseph most chaste,  
Joseph most prudent,  
Joseph most strong,  
Joseph most obedient,  
Joseph most faithful,  
Mirror of patience,  
Lover of poverty,  
Model of artisans,  
Glory of home life,  
Guardian of virgins,  
Pillar of families,  
Solace of the wretched,  
Hope of the sick,  
Patron of the dying,  
Terror of demons,

Protector of Holy Church,  
Lamb of God, who take away the  
sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, who take away the  
sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, who take away the  
sins of the world.  
He made him the lord of his  
household.

Let us pray, – O God, in your  
ineffable providence you were  
pleased to choose Blessed Joseph  
to be the spouse of your most holy  
Mother; grant, we beg you, that  
we may be worthy to have him for  
our intercessor in heaven whom on  
earth we venerate as our Protector:  
You who live and reign forever and  
ever.

Saint Joseph, *pray for us.*





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## WHEN APPROACHING DEATH

### Prayer to St. Anthony for a Happy Death

Good St. Anthony, In God's infinite goodness you have enriched the lives of those who rely on you with many spiritual graces and material favors as well. I turn to you in great confidence to ask you to be my special advocate before the throne of God. Kindly protect me from the snares of spiritual enemies, comfort me in affliction, and provide me with life's necessities. Especially do I implore your protection in the final trials of my life. Comforted by your aid, may I persevere in the grace of God until my last breath. Then, in the company of the blessed, may you be my patron also in perpetual praise and thanksgiving in the glory of Paradise. Amen.



### For Final Perseverance

O Jesus, my Savior, my God, by Your Sacred Heart, by the most pure Heart of the Virgin Mother, by whatever is pleasing to You in heaven and on earth, I beg and entreat You, grant me holy perseverance, grant me patience. Give me grace and courage that I may efficaciously employ the means which You have given.

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love, Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.  
*(3 times)*

Sweet Heart of Jesus,  
by my love, Sweet Heart of Mary,  
be my salvation.



Eternal Father, I humbly adore You, and thank You for having created me, and for having redeemed me through Jesus Christ.

I thank You most sincerely for having made me a Christian, by giving me the true faith, and by adopting me as Your son/daughter, in the sacrament of baptism.

I thank You for having, after the numberless sins I had committed, waited for my repentance, and for having pardoned (as I humbly hope) all the offenses which I have offered to You, and for which I am now sincerely sorry, because they have been displeasing to You, who art infinite goodness.

I thank You for having preserved me from so many relapses, of which I would have been guilty if You had not protected me.

But my enemies still continue, and will continue till death, to combat against me, and to endeavor to make me their slave.

If You did not constantly guard and succor me with your aid, I, a miserable creature, shall return to sin, and shall certainly lose Your grace.

I beseech You, then, for the love of Jesus Christ, to grant me holy perseverance unto death.

Jesus, Your Son, has promised that You will grant whatsoever we ask in his name.

Through the merits, then, of Jesus Christ, I beg, for myself and for all the just, the grace never again to be separated from Your love, but to love You forever, in time and eternity.

Mary, Mother of God, pray to Jesus for me.

Amen.



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## To the Blessed Virgin for a Good Death Mary Sweet Refuge

Mary, sweet refuge of miserable sinners, when my soul is on the point of leaving this world, O, my most sweet Mother, by that sorrow which you did endure when assisting at the death of your Son on the cross, assist me with your mercy. Drive the infernal enemy far from me, and do you come and take my soul to thyself, and present it to the eternal Judge. My Queen, abandon me not. You, after Jesus, have to be my comfort in that terrible moment. Entreat your beloved Son, in His goodness, to grant me the grace to die clinging to your feet, and to breathe forth my soul in His wounds, saying, 'Jesus and Mary, I give you my heart and my soul!'



Jesus and Mary,  
I give you my heart  
and my soul.





## Prayer for Those in Their Last Agony

O Most Merciful Jesus, Lover of Souls: I pray You, by the agony of Your most Sacred Heart, and by the sorrows of Your Immaculate Mother, cleanse in Your blood the sinners of the whole world who are now in their agony and are to die this day. Amen.

Heart of Jesus Agonizing, have mercy on the dying.



## Acceptance of Death

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I accept from Your hands whatever kind of death  
it may please You to send me this day (night)  
with all its pains, penalties and sorrows;  
in reparation for all of my sins,  
for the souls in Purgatory,  
for all those who will die today  
and for Your greater glory.  
Amen.



## “Heal the Sick”

**1506** Christ invites his disciples to follow him by taking up their cross in their turn.<sup>114</sup> By following him they acquire a new outlook on illness and the sick. Jesus associates them with his own life of poverty and service. He makes them share in his ministry of compassion and healing: “So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.”<sup>115</sup>

**1507** The risen Lord renews this mission (“In my name . . . they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”<sup>116</sup>) and confirms it through the signs that the Church performs by invoking his name.<sup>117</sup> These signs demonstrate in a special way that Jesus is truly “God who saves.”<sup>118</sup>

**1508** The Holy Spirit gives to some a special charism of healing<sup>119</sup> so as to make manifest the power of the grace of the risen Lord. But even the most intense prayers do not always obtain the healing of all illnesses. Thus St. Paul must learn from the Lord that “my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness,” and that the sufferings to be endured can mean that “in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his Body, that is, the Church.”<sup>120</sup>

**1509** “Heal the sick!”<sup>121</sup> The Church has received this charge from the Lord and strives to carry it out by taking care of the sick as well as by accompanying them with her prayer of intercession. She believes in the life-giving presence of Christ, the physician of souls and bodies. This presence is particularly active through the sacraments, and in an altogether special way through the Eucharist, the bread that gives eternal life and that St. Paul suggests is connected with bodily health.<sup>122</sup>

**1510** However, the apostolic Church has its own rite for the sick, attested to by St. James: “Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders [presbyters] of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”<sup>123</sup> Tradition has recognized in this rite one of the seven sacraments.<sup>124</sup>



## A Sacrament of the Sick

**1511** The Church believes and confesses that among the seven sacraments there is one especially intended to strengthen those who are being tried by illness, the Anointing of the Sick:

This sacred anointing of the sick was instituted by Christ our Lord as a true and proper sacrament of the New Testament. It is alluded to indeed by Mark, but is recommended to the faithful and promulgated by James the apostle and brother of the Lord.<sup>125</sup>

**1512** From ancient times in the liturgical traditions of both East and West, we have testimonies to the practice of anointings of the sick with blessed oil. Over the centuries the Anointing of the Sick was conferred more and more exclusively on those at the point of death. Because of this it received the name "Extreme Unction." Not with standing this evolution the liturgy has never failed to beg the Lord that the sick person may recover his health if it would be conducive to his salvation.<sup>126</sup>

**1513** The Apostolic Constitution *Sacram unctionem infirmorum*,<sup>127</sup> following upon the Second Vatican Council,<sup>128</sup> established that henceforth, in the Roman Rite, the following be observed:

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given to those who are seriously ill by anointing them on the forehead and hands with duly blessed oil - pressed from olives or from other plants - saying, only once: "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."<sup>129</sup>



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