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- Bedside prayers
AEB1522 (Dev)

BEDSIDE PRAYERS

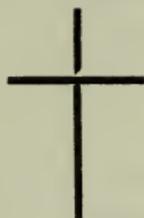


Compiled by
REV. ALBERT A. MURRAY
of the
PAULIST FATHERS

GRAIL PUBLICATIONS

St. Meinrad, Indiana

BEDSIDE PRAYERS



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Price fifteen cents

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IMPRIMI POTEST:

VERY REV. WILLIAM A. MICHELL, C.S.P.
Provincial

January 13, 1955

NIHIL OBSTAT:

JOSEPH D. BROKHAGE, S.T.D.
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✠ PAUL C. SCHULTE, D.D.
Archbishop of Indianapolis

February 3, 1955

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GRAIL PUBLICATIONS
St. Meinrad, Indiana

THE GREATEST NEED OF THE HOUR IS PRAYER

LET'S not minimize how *much* our prayers can do. If we pray for the world instead of for ourselves, as Our Lord did on the cross, before our prayers are even finished the very charity of them will have opened the floodgates of grace, even though we may not see with our bodily eyes the wondrous effect we are producing.

As we look around us at this dark hour there is so much for which to pray.

So let us pray! Let us pray!

IF THE WORLD WOULD TURN TO GOD

IF all the people in this world went on their
knees each day,
And offered up their thanks to God, in his or
her own way,
For all the blessings and comforts that make us
blithe and gay,
For all the span of life He grants us, for the
privilege to pray.
Just thank him for the sunshine and the free air
that we breathe,
The verdant fields, the flowers fair, the birds we
love to feed.
Ask Him to give us grace and strength to love
our fellow man,
And take the rancor from our hearts and place
therein a calm.
Ask him to take from this sordid world the
spectacle of war,
And turn cannons into plow-shares, so the fields
will yield galore.
Dear people pray and trust in God, and in time
we'll surely be,
A world of love and friendship, with God's
tranquillity.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Come Holy Spirit and teach me to pray.

Then say very slowly:

OUR FATHER *Who art in heaven,*
Hallowed be Thy name,
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy 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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.



HAIL, MARY! Full of grace,
The Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

ADORE GOD

GLORY be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen.



THE DIVINE PRAISES

BLESSED be God.
Blessed be His Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be His most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of
the Altar.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary, most
holy.
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

AN ACT OF FAITH

O MY GOD, I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three divine persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; I believe in Jesus Christ, the true and only Son of God, Who was born of the Virgin Mary, and died on the cross for our salvation. I also believe all the sacred truths the Catholic Church believes and teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, Who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.



AN ACT OF HOPE

O MY GOD, relying upon Thy goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon for my sins, grace to serve Thee in this world, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.



AN ACT OF LOVE

O MY GOD, I love Thee above all things with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art infinitely worthy of love; I love also my neighbor as myself, for the love of Thee; I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O MY GOD! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all, because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.



CONTRITION

CAN you resist the mercy of the Lord? Come hither to the cross of Christ. Press your forehead against the hard wood of it. Let His blood trickle down on your hair. Kiss those feet and say: Dear feet that walked so far and wearily for me and now are pierced for me, I love you. Dear arms of Christ outstretched, embrace me. Dear blood of Christ, flowing for me, cleanse me. Dear heart of Christ, broken for me, forgive me. I am yours. Your Cross has conquered me. I am sorry for my sins, I wish I had never committed them. If I had it to do again I would do otherwise. By Thy love and Thy grace I will never, never sin again.

Robert Kane, S.J.

MY DAILY PRAYER

O MY GOD, I place my trust and confidence in Thee, Who will reward the good and punish the wicked. I believe in Thee and accept everything Thou hast taught and revealed.

I believe that in one God there are three Divine Persons—God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost.

I believe that God the Son became Man without ceasing to be God. He is Jesus Christ, my Lord and my Saviour, the Redeemer of the human race. He died on the Cross for my salvation and eternal happiness.

O my God, give me strong faith. Help me to believe with lively faith.

O my God, Who are all-good and all-merciful, I sincerely hope to be saved. Help me to do all that is necessary to gain eternal life.

I have committed many sins in my life, but now I turn away from them. I am sorry, truly sorry for all of them, because I have offended Thee, my God, Who art all-good, all-perfect, all-holy and all-merciful.

I love Thee, O my God, with all my heart. Please forgive me for having offended Thee.

I promise that, with Thy help, I will never offend Thee again.

My God, have mercy on me.

SALVE REGINA

HAIL, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy: hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.



ANIMA CHRISTI

SOUL of Christ, sanctify me,
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me:
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
From the evil enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me,
And bid me come unto Thee.
That with all Thy saints I may praise Thee
For all eternity. Amen.

SOUL OF CHRIST, SANCTIFY ME!

MAKE a saint of me. Show me how to rid myself of traits of character that annoy others; that make the lives of those about me miserable.

Help me to break the hardened shell within which selfishness hides, and which renders me insensible to the needs of others.

May I become great enough to be the servant of both rich and poor.

May I grow strong in virtue, so as to sustain the weak and encourage the weary.

May my heart increase its power to love, so as to be able to minister kindness to the timid and mercy to the wayward.

May I have the honor to bring cheer to all my fellow-men on the long and sometimes rugged road of life.

BODY OF CHRIST, SAVE ME!

SAVE me from my great arch-enemy, my weak and faltering self.

Save me from all greed of money, of power, and of praise.

Save me from thirst for pleasure, worldly show, and midnight revelry.

Save me from betraying You, Dear Lord, in thought, or in word, or in deed.

BLOOD OF CHRIST, INEBRIATE ME!

INEBRIATE me with Your Love, that I may be absorbed in Your interests and Your Will. Absorbed so as to be unmindful of my ills and petty cares.

Unmindful of weariness and pain, heartache, and disappointment.

Heedless of the lash of cruel words, and patient under wrongs.

PASSION OF CHRIST, STRENGTHEN ME!

STRENGTHEN me under the pressure of temptation.

Strengthen me when principle is at stake.

Strengthen me to stand for right, at any cost.

Strengthen me to do Your Will, My God.

Strengthen me in moments of suffering, in times of loneliness, in periods of depression.

Strengthen me that I may never swerve from You, Dear Christ, nor weaken through human respect, through a desire to be popular, through hope of social distinction.

Strengthen me to accept my cross and carry it generously to the end.

On the battlefield of life, stand by me that I may never prove a traitor in the ranks.

Stand by me that I may not be dazzled by the glitter and glow of the enemy camp.

Stand by me that I may be brave enough to
fight gloriously to the end for the sake of Thee,
My Divine Captain.

At the hour of my death, call me to stand by
Thee for all eternity! *Amen.*



TO MY CRUCIFIX

O CROSS of Jesus, Supreme Consoler
I will never forget what Thou didst do
To calm the waves of despair
And transform blinding tears
Into tears of peace and gladness.

May my last look be upon the Sacred
Image of my Saviour.
May a friendly hand place it in mine,
Raise it to my dimming vision,
Press it to my lips.

And when the last moment is come
And I am too weak to utter a prayer,
My eyes fixed on Thee shall bear
To my soul the succor of Thy Presence.
Blessed shall I be
Dying in a look of love.

PRAYERS TO OUR LADY

OUR PRAYERS to Our Lady ought to be connected with certain great *needs*.

We need to learn to love with the Heart of Christ.

“What you do to the least of My brethren, you do to Me.” The “least”—the poor, the afflicted, the sick, the aged—need gentle sympathy, personal interest, quiet kindness:

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Form in me a sincere heart,
That does not seek crooked ways.
A heart joyful in its gift of self,
Tender in its compassion,
A loyal and generous heart,
That does not forget a kindness,
And harbours no grudge for any wrong.
Make my heart gentle and humble,
Loving without seeking selfish love,
Losing itself in another heart,
In the presence of thy Divine Son.

We need Christian simplicity expressed in Christian sentiment:

Mothers are always as close to the mature man as they are to the little child. And I want you to be close to me, and so keep me childlike in my affections.

If I am a success, I'll need my Mother to take the conceit out of me and yet leave me confidence in my powers. If I am a failure, I'll need to come back to bury my head in my Mother's lap.

At the end of my life, I want my Mother at my bedside to keep me from being frightened at the gathering shadows, just as my other mother sat beside me when I, as a small child, afraid of the dark, went to sleep.

Mother, pray for me now and at the hour of my death.



THE MEMORARE

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was ever left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ALL IN TROUBLE

HOLY VIRGIN, in the midst of your glorious days, do not forget the sadness of earth. Cast a look of goodness on those who are suffering, who are fighting against difficulties.

Have pity on those who love one another and who have been separated.

Have pity on the loneliness of our hearts.

Have pity on the weakness of our faith.

Have pity on the objects of our love.

Have pity on those who are weeping, on those who are praying, on those who are seized with fear.

Give to all of us hope and peace with victory!
Amen.



O JESUS, living in Mary, come Thou and live in my soul; by Thy Spirit of Holiness, in the fulness of Thy Strength, in the perfection of Thy Virtues, in the power of Thy Truth, and by communicating to me Thy mysterious Graces. Deliver me from all the enemies of my salvation; and govern me by Thy Spirit, to the glory of Thy Father. Amen.

O Loving Jesus! open Thy Sacred Heart to me, show me Its charms, unite me to It for ever: may

every breath I draw, every beating of my heart, be so many proofs of my love; and remind Thee that I belong entirely to Thee, O Lord. Receive graciously, O my God, the small amount of good I am able to do each day; so that I may bless Thee in this life, and praise Thee for all eternity. Amen.



O MARY, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. O Refuge of sinners, O Mother of those in their agony, forsake us not in the hour of our death, but obtain for us perfect sorrow, sincere contrition, remission of our sins, a worthy reception of the most holy Viaticum, the strengthening power of the Sacrament of Extreme Unction; that we may present ourselves without fear before the throne of that Judge Who is both Just and Merciful, our God and our Redeemer. Amen.

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

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with you.

THE MAGNIFICAT

(The Canticle of Our Blessed Mother)

1. My soul doth magnify the Lord.
2. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
3. Because He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid: for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
4. Because He that is mighty hath done great things to me: and holy is His name.
5. And His mercy is from generation unto generation: to them that fear Him.
6. He hath showed might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.
7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble.
8. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich He hath sent away empty.
9. He hath received Israel, His servant, being mindful of His mercy.
10. As He spoke unto our fathers: to Abraham and his seed for ever.
11. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
12. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

W^B come to thee, O blessed Joseph, in our sore distress. Having sought the aid of thy most blessed spouse, we now confidently implore thy assistance also. We humbly beg that, mindful of the dutiful affection which bound thee to the immaculate Virgin Mother of God, and of the fatherly love with which thou didst cherish the Child Jesus, thou wilt lovingly watch over the heritage which Jesus Christ purchased with His blood, and by thy powerful intercession help us in our urgent need. Most powerful guardian of the Holy Family, protect the chosen race of Jesus Christ; drive far from us, most loving father, every pest of error and corrupting sin. From thy place in heaven, most powerful protector, graciously come to our aid in this conflict with the powers of darkness, and as of old thou didst deliver the Child Jesus from supreme peril of life, so now defend the holy Church of God from the snares of her enemies and from all adversity. Have each of us always in thy keeping, that, following thy example, and borne up by thy strength, we may be able to live holily, die happily, and so enter the everlasting bliss of heaven. Amen.

PRAYER
TO THE GUARDIAN ANGEL

O HOLY ANGEL, at my side,
Go to the church for me,
Kneel in my place at Holy Mass,
Where I desire to be.
At Offertory, in my stead,
Take all I am and own,
And place it as a sacrifice,
Upon the Altar Throne.
At holy Consecration's bell,
Adore with Seraph's love,
My Jesus, hidden in the Host,
Come down from heaven above.
And when the priest Communion takes,
Oh bring my Lord to me,
That His sweet Heart may rest on mine,
And I His temple be.
Pray that this Sacrifice Divine,
May mankind's sins efface;
Then bring me Jesus' blessing home,
The pledge of every grace. Amen.

A NGEL OF GOD, my Guardian dear,
To whom His love commits me here,
Ever this day be at my side,
To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

ASPIRATIONS

SACRED HEART OF JESUS, have mercy on me.
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for me.

Mary, my Mother, shield me from the justice my sins deserve.

Sweet Jesus, permit not the child of Thy Mother to perish.

O Mary, obtain for me perfect sorrow for having offended so good a God.

I offer thee my heart, Mother of Jesus, Mother of love.

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us, inflame our hearts with love for Thee.

My Jesus mercy!

Jesus, Son of the living God, have mercy on me.

Sweet Jesus, I unite my sufferings to Thine.

Sweet Jesus, be to me a merciful Judge, and a Saviour.

O Jesus, accept my death, united to Thine, in expiation for my sins.

Glorious St. Joseph, who hadst the happiness of dying in the arms of Jesus and Mary, assist me in the hour of my death.

O my holy Angel Guardian, protect me against all the powers of darkness.

O DIVINE JESUS

O DIVINE JESUS, lonely tonight in so many tabernacles, without visitor or worshipper, I offer Thee my poor but loving heart. May its every beating be a prayer of love for Thee.

Thou art ever watching under the sacramental veils; in Thy love Thou never sleepest and art never weary of Thy vigil for sinners. O good Jesus, I love Thee; I am truly sorry for having offended Thee.

O lonely Jesus, may my heart be a lamp, the light of which shall burn and beam for Thee alone. Bless me, O Jesus, come spiritually into my soul and fill my heart with love for Thee. Make me, Jesus, wholly Thine. Take this wayward heart of mine. Guide it through this vale of tears. Heart of Jesus, hear me.

When I draw my parting breath, when my eyes shall close in death, then, sweet Jesus, be Thou near, Heart of Jesus, hear me. Watch, Sacramental Sentinel, watch for the weary world, for the erring soul, and for Thy poor lonely child.



MAY the Heart of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament be praised, adored, and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even to the end of time. Amen.

PRAYER

COME O HOLY SPIRIT! Enlighten the minds of all with Thy sacred light, and inflame their hearts with the fire of Thy love. Teach us what we are to believe, and engage us to practice it. For, alas! what will it avail us to know what is required of us in order to be saved, if we do not endeavor to reduce it to practice?

Suffer not our faith to condemn us at the last day, by bearing witness to what we ought to have done to gain heaven, and to our having neglected to perform it; and grant that both our minds and our hearts by belief and practice may equally conspire to prepare us for eternal bliss. Amen.



A PRAYER FOR LIGHT

O HOLY SPIRIT of God, take me as Thy disciple; guide me, illuminate me, sanctify me. Bind my hands, that they may do no evil; cover my eyes, that they may see it no more; sanctify my heart, that evil may not dwell within me. Be Thou my God; be Thou my guide. Whithersoever Thou leadest me I will go; whatsoever Thou forbiddest me I will renounce; and whatsoever Thou commandest me, in Thy strength I will do. Lead me, then, unto the fullness of Thy truth. Amen. † CARDINAL MANNING

PRAYER FOR THE CONVERSION OF AMERICA

DEAR GOD, bring the Faith to our beloved country. It was once a virgin land wherein the only praise was that of the murmur of the Mass on the shores, the hills and the prairies. Zealous priests and explorers claimed it for Thee, giving Thy Holy Name to its rivers, lakes and cities. From east to west they traveled, from mission to mission, from Mass to Mass until the land was encircled by prayer and gave of its bounty to Thy glory. And now it is dedicated to Thy Immaculate Mother. May she find America again, as she once found the lost Child Jesus in the Temple. May she touch the hearts of our people, disposing them to receive the ancient Faith, and thus showing them the things that are to their peace. We ask this of Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

GOD sees you always. Keep from sin. Be humble and kindly. Speak the truth and love honesty. Only fear God. When tempted ask our Lord to help you. If you fall into sin, be sorry at once and ask God to pardon you. Never miss Mass on Sundays, and keep the rules of the Church.

FOR PURITY

O JESUS, through frequent union with Thy Sacred Humanity in Holy Communion, may my mind be pure, my body chaste, my words and manner modest. May the Sacrament of Thy Body and Blood keep the laxity of the times out of my life. Cleanse my mind of the memory of evil that begets so many temptations. Keep me from the occasions of sin, and be with me in the hour of temptation. I am sorry for my recklessness in the past, when I plunged headlong into danger. Help me guard my eyes and to give no time to dangerous reading. Free my ears from all contaminating influences, especially during my working hours. Never let me forget Thy spotless Presence no matter where I may be.

Come, O Holy Ghost and Creator, come and breathe Thy spirit of life and of beauty into worldly, sensual, sickly man, transform him utterly, pluck him from the midst of his narrow, petty intellectual existence, from the stupid insignificance of his daily life, and teach him instead to live after the pattern of Christ.

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, come into our hearts; shed the brightness of Thy light on all nations, that they may be one in Faith and pleasing to Thee.

THANKSGIVING

I GIVE Thee thanks, eternal Father, for having, out of Thy pure mercy, without any deserts of mine, been pleased to feed my soul with the body and blood of Thy only Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. I beseech Thee that this holy communion may not be to my condemnation, but prove an effectual remission of all my sins. May it strengthen my faith; encourage me in all that is good; deliver me from my vicious customs; remove all concupiscence; perfect me in charity, patience, humility, and obedience, and in all other virtues. May it secure me against all the snares of my enemies, both visible and invisible; perfectly moderate all my inclinations, closely unite me to Thee, the true and only good, and happily settle me in unchangeable bliss. I now make it my hearty request, that Thou wilt one day admit me, though an unworthy sinner, to be a guest at Thy divine Banquet where Thou, with Thy Son and the Holy Ghost, art to Thy saints true light, the fulfilling of their every desire, their everlasting gladness, their treasure beyond price, and their utter happiness. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Thomas Aquinas

DAILY THANKSGIVING

O LOVING GOD, I thank Thee for Thy care of me throughout my life. For the blessing of my birth in a Catholic home.

For my Baptism (and Confirmation).

(For every Holy Communion.)

For every sin forgiven.

For each new beginning allowed by Thy love.

For my home.

For the love of every dear friend.

For the kindness that I never can repay.

For those whose love has drawn me near to Thee.

For all who have helped me in my spiritual life.

For all who have cared for my bodily needs.

For times of pleasure and happiness.

For trials or illnesses permitted that I might be drawn nearer to Thee.

For the love of JESUS my LORD.

For the glory of His friendship.

For the HOLY SPIRIT'S guidance.

For all answers to my prayers.

O LORD, I thank Thee, I praise Thee, I bless Thee. O make me worthier of Thy love; help me to consecrate my life to Thee afresh in gratitude and love of Thy dear SON. Amen.

LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART

LORD, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously bear us.

God, the Father of Heaven,

Have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Ghost,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Heart of Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father,

Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Ghost
in the Womb of the Virgin Mother,

Heart of Jesus, substantially united to the
Word of God,

Heart of Jesus, of Infinite Majesty,

Heart of Jesus, Sacred Temple of God,

Heart of Jesus Tabernacle of the Most High,

Heart of Jesus, House of God and Gate of
Heaven,

Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity,

Heart of Jesus, abode of Justice and Love,

Heart of Jesus, full of Goodness and Love,

Heart of Jesus, abyss of all virtues,

Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise,

Heart of Jesus, King and Center of all hearts,

Heart of Jesus, in whom are all the treasures
of wisdom and knowledge,
Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness
of divinity,
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father was well
pleased,
Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have
all received,
Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills,
Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful,
Heart of Jesus, enriching all who invoke
Thee,
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness,
Heart of Jesus, propitiation of our sins,
Heart of Jesus, loaded down with opprobri-
um,
Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses,
Heart of Jesus, obedient unto death,
Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance.
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation,
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection,
Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation,
Heart of Jesus, Victim of Sin,
Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who trust
in Thee,
Heart of Jesus, hope of those who ide in
Thee,
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints,

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

Lamb of God, who takest 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.*

℣. Jesus meek and humble of heart,

℟. Make our hearts like unto Thine.

Let Us Pray

O Almighty and Eternal God look upon the Heart of Thy dearly beloved Son and upon the praise and satisfaction He offers Thee in behalf of sinners and being appeased grant pardon to those who seek Thy mercy in the name of the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost world without end. Amen.

Indulgence of 7 years.



**AN ACT OF CONSECRATION
TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

MOST SWEET JESUS, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us, humbly standing before Thy altar. We are Thine and Thine we wish to be; but to be more surely united to Thee, behold each one of us freely consecrates himself

today to Thy Most Sacred Heart. Many indeed have never known Thee. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to Thy Sacred Heart. Be Thou King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken Thee, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned Thee; grant that they may quickly return to their Father's house, lest they die of wretchedness and hunger. Be Thou King of all those who are deceived by erroneous opinions, or whom discord keeps aloof, and call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith, so that there may be but one flock and one Shepherd. Be Thou King of all those who are still involved in the darkness of idolatry, and of Islamism, and refuse not to draw them all into the light and Kingdom of God. Turn Thine eyes of Mercy toward the children of that race, once Thy chosen people. Of old they called down upon themselves the Blood of the Savior; may it descend upon them, a laver of redemption and of life. Grant, O Lord, to Thy Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give peace and order to all nations, and make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry: Praise to the Divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to It be glory and honor forever.
Amen.

PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

I FLY to Thee, Sacred Heart of my Savior, for Thou art my sole refuge, my only hope. Thou art the remedy for all my miseries, my consolation in all my wretchedness, the reparation for all my infidelities, the supplement for all my deficiencies, the expiation for all my sins, and the hope and end of all my prayers.

Thou art the only one Who is never weary of me and Who can bear with my faults, because Thou lovest me with an infinite love. Therefore, O my God, have mercy on me according to Thy great mercy, and do with me, and for me, and in me, whatever Thou wilt, for I give myself entirely to Thee, divine Heart, with full confidence that Thou wilt never reject me. Amen.



A PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART FOR PERSEVERANCE

ETERNAL FATHER, Who through Thy beloved Son dost teach us ever to pray, "Thy kingdom come," grant us, O Lord, through His most Sacred Heart, the grace of final perseverance in Thy love, that having with entire devotion promoted the glory of that Sacred Heart on earth, we may share the more intimate favors of its love for all eternity. Amen.

For Review

BEDSIDE PRAYERS

Compiled by

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MEMORARE TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

REMEMBER, O Jesus, Who art meek and humble of Heart, remember, that none who, in whatever necessity, had recourse to Thy loving Heart, was rejected or left unaided. Inspired with this confidence I come to Thee, O Jesus, to Thee I take my refuge, poor and needy as I am, and commend myself unto Thy loving Heart. Permit not, O most merciful Jesus, that I, though unworthy, be rejected by Thee, but receive me into Thy Heart and let me never more be separated from Thee. Assist me, I beseech Thee, in all my necessities, now and forever, and especially at the hour of my death. O most benign, O most loving, O sweetest Jesus. Amen.



TO GUARD THE TONGUE

DEAREST JESUS, suffer not my tongue, which has been and is so often purpled with Thy Precious Blood, to speak well of myself, or ill of others, so that no uncharitable word may be recorded against me in the "Book of Life" on the judgment. Accept all the victories I gain over my tongue as a preparation for my next Holy Communion. Amen.

LEARNING CHRIST

TEACH me, my Lord, to be sweet and gentle in all the events of life; in disappointments, in the thoughtlessness of others, in the insincerity of those I trusted, in the unfaithfulness of those on whom I relied.

Let me put myself aside, to think of the happiness of others, to hide my little pains and heart-aches, so that I may be the only one to suffer from them.

Teach me to profit by the suffering that comes across my path.

Let me so use it that it may mellow me, not harden nor embitter me; that it may make me patient, not irritable; that it may make me broad in my forgiveness, not narrow, haughty and overbearing.

May no one be less good for having come within my influence. No one less pure, less kind, less noble for having been a fellow-traveler in our journey toward Eternal Life.

As I go my rounds from one distraction to another, let me whisper, from time to time, a word of love to Thee. May my life be lived in the supernatural, full of power for good, and strong in its purpose of sanctity.

PRAYER OF THE WORKER

LORD JESUS, Carpenter of Nazareth, You were a worker as I am. Give to me and all the workers of the world the privilege to work as You did, so that everything we do may be to the benefit of our fellowmen and the greater glory of God the Father. Thy Kingdom come into the factories and into the shops, into our homes and into our streets. Give us this day our daily bread. May we receive it without envy or injustice. To us who labor and are heavily burdened send speedily the refreshment of Thy love. May we never sin against Thee. Show us Thy way to work, and when it is done, may we with all our fellow-workers rest in peace. Amen.



IN TIME OF TRIAL

MY STRENGTH fails; I feel only weakness, irritation, and depression. I am tempted to complain and to despair. What has become of the courage I was so proud of and that gave me so much self-confidence? In addition to my pain, I have to bear the shame of my fretful feebleness. Lord, destroy my pride; leave it no resource. How happy I shall be if Thou canst teach me by these terrible trials that I am nothing, that I can do nothing, and that Thou art all!

FOR COURAGE

DEAR GOD, give me courage, for perhaps I lack it more than anything else. I need courage before men against their threats and against their seductions. I need courage to bear unkindness, mockery, contradiction. I need courage to fight against the devil, against terrors and troubles, temptations, attractions, darkness and false lights, against tears, depression, and above all fear. I need your help, dear God. Strengthen me with Thy love and Thy grace. Console me with Thy blessed Presence and I will try to go on and be brave.



THAT GOD'S WILL BE DONE

O SWEET JESUS, I desire neither life, nor death, but Thy most holy will. Thou art the One, O Lord, that I long for. If it be Thy holy will to have me die, receive my soul; and grant that in Thee and with Thee, I may receive everlasting rest. If it be Thy holy will to have me live longer upon this earth, give me the grace to amend the rest of my life, and with good works to glorify Thy Holy Name, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. Amen.

DE PROFUNDIS

OUT of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities; Lord, who shall stand it?

For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness: and and reason of Thy law, I have waited for Thee, O Lord.

My soul hath relied on His word; my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch even until night: let Israel hope in the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy: and with Him plenteous redemption.

And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



FOR THE POOR SOULS

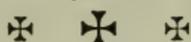
O DIVINE BLOOD, Who art the reconciliation and purification of sinners, Thou art also the perfection of the just who are detained in purgatory and who did not appropriate to themselves, while living, the strength of this all-assuaging balm. O heavenly rain, flow copiously down upon and wash the yet impure! Cleanse them, Thou purest Blood; sanctify them, Thou holiest Blood. O Blood that inflames with love, take from them all dross and conduct them to the refreshing abode of light and peace, so that praise and glory to Thee may resound from thousands and thousands of tongues throughout eternity. Amen.



FOR SOULS IN GENERAL

O MY GOD, I beg of Thee in union with the immaculate Heart of Mary, through the merits of the Precious Blood offered Thee in every sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, to grant that this day one mortal sin may be averted, one soul in doubt be converted to the truth, one soul about to die in sin receive the grace of repentance and a happy death, and the deliverance of that soul in purgatory which is nearest heaven. I wish by this offering to console the Heart of Jesus in agony for the souls

lost through the teaching of error against the true Church of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.



PRAYER FOR A GOOD DEATH

DIVINE JESUS, incarnate Son of God, Who for our salvation didst vouchsafe to be born in a stable, to pass Thy life in poverty, trials and misery, and to die amid the sufferings of the Cross, I entreat Thee, say to Thy divine Father at the hour of my death: *Father, forgive him; say to Thy beloved Mother: Behold thy son; say to my soul, This day thou shalt be with Me in paradise.* My God, my God, forsake me not in that hour. I thirst; yes, my God, my soul thirsts after Thee, Who art the fountain of living waters. My life passes like a shadow; yet a little while, and all will be consummated. Wherefore, O my adorable Saviour, from this moment, for all eternity, *into Thy hands I commend my spirit.* Lord Jesus, receive my soul. Amen.



MAY HE support us all the day long till 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 a holy rest, and peace at the last!

Cardinal Newman

MORNING PRAYER

SWEET JESUS, lay Your wounded Hand upon my head and bless me. Stretch forth that same dear Hand and bless each one at home (name them). And give me Your Crook, I will return it to You tonight, and help me to go around in Your Fold, just for today, doing Your work in Your way.

Do not let the human in me spoil anything You give me to do. Push me back when I would go wrong and make me go forward when I am afraid to do right. Be with me in my dealings with each soul with whom I come in contact, and grant each may know, love and serve You better for having passed me by.

One favor more. You will not think me presumptuous for You know me. I want to know, love and serve You better than anyone else on earth, and when life's little day is ended and its task complete, give me a place at Your Feet to rest for all eternity. Amen.



O HEAVENLY FATHER, help me to feel Thy Presence near me. Watch over me this day and keep me from falling into sin. Amen.

PRAYER

PASSION of Christ, comfort me! Comfort me for the day is long and weary; comfort me as I fight my way up the path of life safe to the haven of Thy Sacred Heart; comfort me in sorrow, in pain, in sickness. Comfort me when temptation rages round me, and every hope seems lost; and when that last dread hour has sounded and my eyes are closing on this world of sin, O Passion of Christ! comfort me then, and lead me gently to Thy wounded Sacred Feet above.



PRAYER

O MY ADORABLE REDEEMER, grant that Thy admirable designs may be accomplished in me. Thy heart is pure; may mine be pure. Thy heart is humble; may mine be humble. Thy heart is patient; may mine be patient. Thy heart is docile; may mine be docile. Thy heart is sincere; may mine be sincere. Thy heart is exempt from all evil; may mine be exempt from all evil. Thy heart is all love and sanctified love; may mine be all love, and all holy love. May Thy heart, O my Jesus, entirely possess mine. Amen.

MOTHER STUART'S PRAYER

KEEP us, O God, from pettiness: let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding, and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face—without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.

Let us take time for all things: make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are all one.

And may we strive to touch and to know the great, common, human heart of us all—and—

O Lord God, let us forget not, to be kind.



MEEKNESS

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Whose only Son did show His strength most truly in withholding His power in meekness, put away from my heart all pride and self-importance, all vanity and contempt; that, forgetful of self, I may think only of others and of Thee. Amen.

FOR PEACE

LORD, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi



LORD JESUS,
I give You my hands to do Your work.
I give You my feet to go Your way.
I give You my eyes to see as You do.
I give You my tongue to speak Your words.
I give You my mind that You may think in me.
I give You my spirit that You may pray in me.
Above all, I give You my heart that You may
love in me Your Father and all mankind.
I give You my whole self, that You may grow
in me,
So that it is You, Lord Jesus,
Who work and live and pray in me,

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O JESUS, I pray Thee for Thy faithful and fervent priests; for Thy unfaithful and tepid priests; for Thy priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Thy tempted priests; for Thy lonely and desolate priests; for Thy young priests; for Thy dying priests; for the souls of Thy priests in purgatory.

But above all I commend to Thee the priests dearest to me; the priest who baptized me; the priests who absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Thy Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way. O Jesus, keep them all close to Thy heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.



FOR THE SORELY TEMPTED

O MARY, immaculate Mother of Jesus, we beseech thee, offer to the eternal Father the Precious Blood of thy divine Son, to save the sorely tempted this day from falling into sin.

SAINT GERTRUDE'S PRAYER

LORD JESUS CHRIST, Son of the Living God, grant that I may sigh for Thee with all my heart, with all my desires, with all my soul athirst for Thee; to breathe only in Thee, sweetest and dearest of Friends, and to pant after Thee only, my true blessedness. Imprint, O merciful Lord, with Thy Precious Blood, Thy Sacred Wounds on my heart, that I may read therein Thy sorrows and Thy love. May the memory of Thy wounds remain forever engraven on my heart; may it fill me with Thy holy love. Grant also that creatures may henceforth be nothing to me, and that my heart may delight in Thee alone.



ST. TERESA'S BOOK MARK

LET nothing trouble thee,
Let nothing affright thee,
All things are passing,
God never changes;
Patience obtains everything,
Nothing is wanting to him
who possesses God.
God alone suffices.

FOR TRUST

O CHRIST JESUS, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Thy presence, Thy love, and Thy strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Thy protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for living close to Thee we shall see Thy hand, Thy purpose, Thy will through all things.



TEACH us, good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do Thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Take, O Lord, all my liberty. Receive my memory, understanding, and entire will. Thou hast bestowed on me whatever I have or possess; I give all back to Thee, and deliver it to Thee to be entirely subject to Thy will. Only grant me Thy love and Thy grace, and I am rich enough and ask for nothing more.

St. Ignatius

AN EVENING VISIT

STAY with us, Lord, tonight. Stay to adore and praise, and give thanks for us whilst we sleep; to draw down mercy and grace upon the world; to succor from earth's tabernacles the suffering souls in purgatory in their long night of weary pain.

Stay with us, to ward off the anger of God from our crowded cities with their dens of vice, their crimes that call to Heaven for vengeance.

Stay with us, to guard the innocent, to sustain the tempted, to raise the fallen, to curb the power of the evil one, to prevent sin.

Stay with us, to comfort the sorrowing, to bless the death-beds, to grant contrition to the dying, to receive unto the arms of Your mercy the thousands that this night must come before You for judgment.

A Good Shepherd, stay with Your sheep. Secure them against the perils that beset them. Stay, above all, with the suffering and the dying. Grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Be our merciful Shepherd to the last, that without fear we may appear before You as our Judge.

DEAR LORD, as my life declines and my energies decrease, do Thou more than ever hold me by Thy Power, that I may not offend Thee, but daily increase in Thy Love. Give me strength to work in Thy service till the last day of my life. Make me ever have an increasing horror for venial sin, or whatever would cause the slightest withdrawal of Thy Love, all day long, and at night keep me close to Thy Heart; and should I die, ere the morning breaks, may I go rejoicing to that vision of Thy entrancing beauty, never to be separated from Thee. Amen.



ST. AUGUSTINE

BLESSED are they who have passed over the great and wide sea to the eternal shore, and are now blessed in their desired rest. Blessed are they who have escaped from all evils, and are secure of their unfading glory in thee, thou kingdom of blessedness. How long shall I be tossed about on the waves of this mortal life crying unto Thee, O Lord God, while Thou hearest me not? Hear me, O Lord, from this great and wide ocean, and bring me to the everlasting haven.

FOR A GREATER LOVE OF THE CROSS

PENETRATE my heart, O Jesus, with a love for Thy holy cross and support me in all my afflictions; for alas! Thou knowest how naturally I hate and fly from the cross, although I am persuaded that it was by the cross Thou didst save me, and that I cannot gain salvation, nor enter into heaven, but by the way of Calvary. Inspire me with that patience, that strength, and that courage which Thou didst impart to Thy Martyrs; and since I cannot better evince my love and gratitude towards Thee than by suffering for Thee, nor render myself more worthy of Thy grace and glory than by carrying the cross, vouchsafe to support me when sinking under its burden by the desire of pleasing Thee, and the hope of eternal happiness. Amen.



PRAYER FOR THE AGONIZING

O MOST MERCIFUL JESUS, lover of souls, I implore Thee by the agony of Thy own most Sacred Heart and by the sorrows of Thy Immaculate Mother, to wash in Thy Blood the sinners of the whole world who are now in their agony, and who are to die this day.

Agonizing Heart of Jesus, have mercy on the dying.

PRAYER IN AFFLICTION

KEEP me from bitterness. It is so easy to nurse sharp, bitter thoughts each dull, dark hour! Against self-pity, Man of Sorrows, defend me with Thy deep sweetness and Thy gentle power! And, out of all this hurt and heartbreak, help me to harvest a new sympathy for suffering humankind; a wiser pity for those who lift a heavier cross with Thee!

ACT OF SUBMISSION

LORD, I submit to all the pains and uneasiness of this my illness; my sins have deserved infinitely more. Thou art just, O Lord, and Thy judgment is right.

ACT OF RESIGNATION

LORD, I accept this sickness from Thy Fatherly hands; I entirely resign myself to Thy blessed will, whether it be for life or death. Not my will but Thine be done. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

ACT OF COMMENDATION TO GOD

I COMMEND my soul to God my maker, Who created me from nothing; to Jesus Christ my Saviour Who redeemed me with His Blood; to the Holy Ghost Who sanctified me in baptism. Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

SICK MAN'S CREED

1.—I BELIEVE that neither chance nor fate plays a part in sending me crosses and sorrows; it is the Providence of God and His fatherly goodness.

2.—I believe that to those who love God, all things work together for the very best; for me—also the fact that I am now sick.

3.—I believe that my life on earth is only a momentary stopping-off place on the great trip to eternity.

4.—I believe that God never sends pain merely to provoke, plague or harass me.

5.—I believe that my sickness is a signal from God for me to stop hurrying through life; He tells me to stop, learn self-control, patience, and to begin thinking of eternity.

6.—I believe that all carping, murmuring and rationalizing God's reason for sending me this sickness sinful and an injustice to my heavenly Father.

7.—I believe that through sickness I can atone for my past sins and for the sins of others.

8.—I believe that through sickness God wants to make me a richer, better and more perfect character.

9.—I believe that by my impatience I am a stumbling block to the healthy; by my patience I am teaching them how to accept God's will.

10.—I believe that my sickness is a special letter from God to me, in which He says: "I love you; and that is why I want you to think about your home with Me in Heaven."



SHORT EJACULATORY PRAYERS

JESUS, my God, I love Thee above all things.
Heart of Jesus, have pity on the dying.

May the divine assistance remain always with us.

It is Almighty God Who girdeth me with strength.

My Lord and my God; my God and my All.
My heart is ready, Lord, my heart is ready.

O Lord, my God, how wonderful is Thy name in the whole world.

My God look upon me. Why hast Thou forsaken me?

The Lord is my strength and my praise, and He is become salvation to me.

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped, let me never be confounded.

FOR STILLNESS

THOU art our peace, O Lord.

From the thousand wearinesses of our daily life,

From the dissappointments, from nervous and senseless haste,

We turn to Thee and are at peace.

We cannot live apart from the labour and the noise,

Yet on our brows, we pray Thee Dear Lord to set the seal of Thy Love, and keep us amid the turmoil and the stress of this life, ever closer and closer to Thee.



FOR PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

O MERCIFUL FATHER, Who hast wonderfully fashioned man in Thy own image and hast made his body to be a temple of the Holy Ghost; sanctify, we pray Thee, all those whom Thou hast called to study and practice the arts of healing the sick, and the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them in body and soul, and bless their work, that they may themselves give comfort to those whom He lived and died to save. This we ask through Him Who now liveth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

NIGHT PRAYER

LORD, keep our spirits while we wake and our bodies while we sleep, that we may watch with Christ and that we may sleep in peace.

Have mercy on our weakness. Send the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Light, to remove far from Thy children the shadows of darkness surrounding us. Grant that we may resist them, being courageous in the Faith. Give penitence to sinners, perseverance to the just, and peace to the dead.



O MY LORD AND SAVIOUR, support me in my last hour by the strong arms of Thy sacraments, and the fragrance of Thy consolations. Let Thy absolving words be said over me, and the holy oil sign and seal me; and let Thine own Body be my food, and Thy Blood my sprinkling; and let Thy Mother Mary come to me, and Thy glorious saints and my own dear patrons smile on me, that in and through them all I may die as I desire to live, in Thy Church, in Thy Faith, and in Thy love. Amen.

Cardinal Newman

CLOSING PRAYER

BLESS, O Lord, the repose I am going to take in order to renew my strength that I may be better able to serve Thee. O all ye Saints and Angels, but chiefly thou, O mother of God, intercede for me this night and during the rest of my life, but particularly at the hour of death.

May the divine assistance always remain with us. Amen. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



WATCH Thou, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give Thine angels charge over those who sleep.

Tend Thy sick ones, O Lord Christ.

Rest Thy weary ones.

Bless Thy dying ones.

Soothe Thy suffering ones.

Pity Thine afflicted ones.

Shield Thy joyous ones.

And all for Thy love's sake. Amen.

St. Augustine

TEACH ME TO PRAY

LORD, I know not what to ask of Thee. Thou only knowest what I need. Thou lovest me better than I know how to love myself. O Heavenly Father, give to Thy child what he knows not how to ask. I dare not ask either crosses or consolations. I stand before Thee. I open my heart to Thee. Behold my needs that I know not of; behold and do Thou according to Thy mercy. I adore all Thy purposes without knowing them. Smite me or heal me, depress me or lift me up; I am silent. I offer myself to Thee. I yield to Thee. I no longer have any desire but to do Thy Will. Lord, teach me to pray.



STAY with me, God. The night is dark,
The night is cold: my little spark
Of courage dies. The night is long;
Be with me, God, and make me strong.

THE ANSWER

HE asked for health that he might achieve;
God made him weak that he might obey.

He asked for riches that he might be happy;
God gave him poverty that he might be wise.

He asked for strength that he might do great
things;
God gave him infirmity that he might do better
things.

He asked for all things that he might enjoy life:
God gave him life eternal that he might enjoy
all things.

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