

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

*Serving St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's
Warrington*



Praying for a Deceased Loved One

The present pandemic means that restrictions have been placed around funerals. This means that many people won't be able to attend the funeral of a relative or friend. This little time of prayer is for use at home – perhaps at the time of the funeral.

Preparation

You might like to prepare a little space as a focus for the time of prayer. This might include a crucifix, icon or other holy image, and a lighted candle. It might also include a picture of the deceased if you have one.

Sign of the Cross

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

R. Amen.

Introduction

We offer this time of prayer for N. who has died, for those who are at the funeral, and for ourselves. May it console us and give us hope and strength.

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
you hold out a hand of love to all who call on you.
Take hold of our hands this day
and see us through this time of sorrow and loss.
Renew our faith in you
and help us to place our trust in your gentle care.
In the days that lie ahead, keep us close to you,
that we may find comfort and peace
in the nearness of your unending presence.
We pray for N. and commend him/her
to your love and compassion.
Grant him/her a place of light, happiness and peace
in the joy of your kingdom forever.

R. Amen.

Gospel

(John 14: 1-3)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Remembering

You may like to take a few moments to share your memories of N. and to give thanks to God for the gift s/he has been in your life.

Bidding Prayers

Let us pray for N. May God welcome him/her into the joy of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Heart our prayer.**

Let us pray for N.'s family and friends. May they find comfort in their faith and support in those around them.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Heart our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who are suffering at this time. May the Good Shepherd hold them close to himself.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Heart our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who care for the sick and the dying, and for all our healthcare workers.

Lord, in your mercy. **R. Heart our prayer.**

Decade of the Rosary

Concluding 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 N. will also rise again.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

May s/he rest in peace.

R. Amen.

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

R. Amen.

Blessing

May the love of God
and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ
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.

R. Amen.

Acknowledgements

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