

# General Intercessions – also known as Prayers of the Faithful

## General Intercessions

You may use one of the following formulas, combine parts of several together, adapt the material below to your circumstances, or compose one of your own.

If you choose to write your own, those given here can serve as helpful models. The various intentions should express the congregation's prayerful concern for others throughout the world. This naturally includes the deceased and bereaved, but also might reach out to persons in the community, the nation and beyond our shores to those who are in need of support.

To invite the people's response, an invitation at the end of each petition needs to be added like "Lord, in your mercy," "We pray to the Lord," "Lord, have mercy," "Let us pray to the Lord," or "To you we pray."

**NOTE:** Whenever there is a prayer for Deceased Family & Friends, you can personalize this by simply writing (for example): "including, Sharon Smith, Uncle Jack and Grandma Hazel".

### H-1

The priest begins:

(167-A)

Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:

Assisting minister:

In baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

[For a religious: Our brother/sister N. spent his/her life following Jesus, poor, chaste, and obedient. Count him/her among all holy men and women who sing in your courts.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

[For a bishop or priest: Our brother N. shared in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, leading God's people in prayer and worship. Bring him into your presence where he will take his place in the heavenly liturgy.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

[For a deacon: Our brother N. served God's people as a deacon of the Church. Prepare a place for him in the kingdom whose coming he proclaimed.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

[For the mourners: The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

The priest then concludes:

Lord God,

giver of peace and healer of souls,

hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ,

and the voices of your people,

whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ

and grant them a place in the kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

Assisting minister:

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

[For the mourners: For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

The priest then concludes:

God, our shelter and our strength,  
you listen in love to the cry of your people:  
hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters.  
Cleanse them of their sins  
and grant them the fullness of redemption.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**H-2**

The priest begins:

(167-B)

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:

Assisting minister:

For N. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of the saints.  
We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day.  
We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Assisting minister:

[For a deacon: For our brother N., who proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ and served the needs of the poor, that he may be welcomed into the sanctuary of heaven.  
We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

[For a bishop or priest: For our brother N., who served the Church as a priest, that he may be given a place in the liturgy of heaven.  
We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

Assisting minister:

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.  
We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**H-3**

(401-1)

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:

For N. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she now be admitted to the company of the saints.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

[For a layperson: For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

[For a deacon: For our brother N., who proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ and served the needs of the poor, that he may be welcomed into the sanctuary of heaven.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

[For a bishop or priest: For our brother N., who served the Church as a bishop/priest, that he may be given a place in the liturgy of heaven.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

[For the mourners: For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.]**

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

God, our shelter and our strength,  
you listen in love to the cry of your people:  
hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters.  
Cleanse them of their sins  
and grant them the fullness of redemption.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**H-4**

(401-2)

My dear friends, let us join with one another in praying to God, not only for our departed brother/sister, but also for the Church, for peace in the world, and for ourselves.

That the bishops and priests of the Church, and all who preach the Gospel, may be given the strength to express in action the word they proclaim.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those in public office may promote justice and peace.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who bear the cross of pain in mind or body may never feel forsaken by God.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may deliver the soul of his servant N. from punishment and from the powers of darkness.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God in his mercy may blot out all his/her offenses.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may establish him/her in light and peace.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**



That God may call him/her to happiness in the company of all the saints.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may welcome into his glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may give a place in the kingdom of heaven to all the faithful departed.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

O God,  
Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful,  
grant to the souls of your departed servants  
release from all their sins.  
Hear our prayers for those we love  
and give them the pardon they have always desired.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**H-5**

(401-3)

Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:

In baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

[For a religious: Our brother/sister N. spent his/her life following Jesus, poor, chaste, and obedient. Count him/her among all holy men and women who sing in your courts.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

[For a bishop or priest: Our brother N. shared in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, leading God's people in prayer and worship. Bring him into your presence where he will take his place in the heavenly liturgy.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

[For a deacon: Our brother N. served God's people as a deacon of the Church. Prepare a place for him in the kingdom whose coming he proclaimed.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

[For the mourners: The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.]**

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming.

Lord, in your mercy:

**R. Hear our prayer.**

Lord God,  
giver of peace and healer of souls,  
hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ,  
and the voices of your people,  
whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ  
and grant them a place in the kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**H-6**

(401-4)

Let us turn to Christ Jesus with confidence and faith in the power of his cross and resurrection:

Risen Lord, pattern of our life for ever:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Promise and image of what we shall be:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Son of God who came to destroy sin and death:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Word of God who delivered us from the fear of death:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Crucified Lord, forsaken in death, raised in glory:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, gentle Shepherd who brings rest to our souls, give peace to N. for ever:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bless those who mourn and are in pain. Bless N.'s family and friends who gather around him/her today:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

## H-7

A baptized child

(401-5)

Jesus is the Son of God and the pattern for our own creation. His promise is that one day we shall truly be like him. With our hope founded on that promise, we pray:

That God will receive our praise and thanksgiving for the life of N. :

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That God will bring to completion N.'s baptism into Christ:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That God will lead N. from death to life:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That all of us, N.'s family and friends, may be comforted in our grief:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That God will grant release to those who suffer:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That God will grant peace to all who have died in the faith of Christ:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

That one day we may all share in the banquet of the Lord, praising God for victory over death:

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

**H-8**

A baptized child

(401-6)

The Lord Jesus is the lover of his people and our only sure hope.  
 Let us ask him to deepen our faith and sustain us in this dark hour.  
 You became a little child for our sake, sharing our human life.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You grew in wisdom, age, and grace, and learned obedience  
 through suffering.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You welcomed children, promising them your kingdom.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You comforted those who mourned the loss of children and friends.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You took upon yourself the suffering and death of us all.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You promised to raise up those who believe in you just as you were  
 raised up in glory by the Father.

To you we pray:

**R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

Lord God, you entrusted N. to our care  
 and now you embrace him/her in your love.

Take N. into your keeping  
 together with all children who have died.

Comfort us, your sorrowing servants,  
 who seek to do your will and to know your saving peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## H-9

A deceased child

(401-7)

Let us pray for N., his/her family and friends, and for all God's people.

For N., child of God [and heir to the kingdom], that he/she be held securely in God's loving embrace now and for all eternity.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For N.'s family, especially his/her mother and father, [his/her brother(s) and sister(s)], that they feel the healing power of Christ in the midst of their pain and grief.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For N.'s friends, those who played with him/her and those who cared for him/her, that they may be consoled in their loss and strengthened in their love for one another.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all parents who grieve over the death of their children, that they may be comforted in the knowledge that their children dwell with God.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For children who have died of hunger and disease, that these little ones be seated close to the Lord at his heavenly table.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the whole Church, that we prepare worthily for the hour of our death, when God will call us by name to pass from this world to the next.

We pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord God,  
you entrusted N. to our care  
and now you embrace him/her in your love.  
Take N. into your keeping  
together with all children who have died.  
Comfort us, your sorrowing servants,  
who seek to do your will  
and to know your saving peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**