

## A PRAYER OF RESOLVE:

Our Father of Heaven on Earth

I thank Thee for Thy great Love and for teaching me the Story of the gentle Carpenter of Nazareth.

Charge me and recharge me with Thy Heavenly Spirit.

Build me and rebuild me with Thy everlasting Spiritual Substance.

Fill me with Thy Almighty Energy so that I may radiate Thy Power to the weak.

Keep me as a polished Mirror reflecting Thy Light on the paths of those with whom I journey.

Fill me to overflow with Thy Love so that I may give comfort to the loveless.

Make me centred in Thy Perfect Man Jesus, giving as He gives, and not centred in myself, grasping and taking from others.

Guide me EVERY moment in EACH thought and word and deed.

Let me be with Thee not only in Churches or on Sundays or when I remember to speak to Thee: not only when I seek Thy guidance, but NOW and through all Eternity.

Forget me not when I forget Thee.

Tune me to the Music of Thy Heavenly Spheres so that I may radiate Thy Harmony.

Remind me that Thy Kingdom of Heaven is Here and Now and within me for evermore; not in a distant future of Time or Space, to be approached only through the dark tunnel of death for my earthly body.

I thank Thee for the lovely memories of my dear ones now beyond my earthly vision in the fuller radiance of Thy Glory. I thank Thee for my family and friends.

I thank Thee for the many pains and pleasures of my life on earth, and for the rough and smooth adventures survived to the strengthening of my trust in Thee. LEAD THOU ME ON.

Teach me to work diligently for Thee as one of Thy common men, and to bring common men to claim Thee as their ALL IN ALL, seeking always for Heavenly rather than Earthly welfare.

Amen.

*By Sir Eric Holt-Wilson, 1943. Sir Eric, former Deputy Director of MI5 during World War I, lived at Spye Arch House (Spye Park) on Bowden Hill, died in 1950, and is buried in St Anne's churchyard.*

# Prayers at a time of Bereavement



'I am the resurrection and the life', says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die'.

[John 11:25,26](#)

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Romans 8:38,39](#)

God's love and power extend over all creation.  
Every life, including our own, is precious to God.

Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life,  
and that there is new life in Christ after death.

**To find out more about the Christian faith, visit:**  
[www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/pilgrim-way](http://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/pilgrim-way)

Front page: Easter cross, 2018.

Inner pages: Angel and rosette bosses from east transept chancel window, 15th century.

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[WWW.STCYRIACS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.STCYRIACS.ORG.UK)

## FROM THE BIBLE:

I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not suffer your foot to stumble;  
he who watches over you will not  
sleep.

Behold, he who watches over Israel  
shall neither slumber or sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right  
hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by  
day,  
neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep you from all evil;  
it is he who shall keep your soul.

The Lord shall keep watch over your  
going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.

Psalms 121

For the Lamb at the centre of the  
throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of  
living water,  
and God will wipe every tear from  
their eyes.

Revelation 7:17

Jesus, speaking to his disciples  
before his death, said:

'I have told you these things, so  
that in me you may have peace.  
In this world you will have  
trouble. But take heart! I have  
overcome the world.'

John 16:33

The words, 'I have overcome'  
were spoken firmly to give  
assurance and comfort against  
all the troubles that might  
come.

He did not say, 'You will not be  
tempted, you will not be  
troubled, you will not be  
distressed'.

He said, 'Take heart! I have  
overcome the world'.

May we hear His words and find  
comfort and strength in good  
times and bad. He is the  
Resurrection and the Life,  
and the Good Shepherd who  
knows all our needs.

**Do not let your hearts be  
troubled,  
trust in God, trust also in Me.**

John 14:1



## PRAYERS OF COMFORT:

God of all consolation,  
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to  
tears at the grave of Lazarus his friend.  
Look with compassion on your children  
in our loss;  
give to troubled hearts the light of  
hope  
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

O Father of all,  
we pray for those whom we love, but  
see no longer.  
Let light perpetual shine upon them;  
Bring all who rest in Christ into the  
fullness of your kingdom  
where sins have been forgiven  
and death is no more.  
Amen.

O Lord, for us who remain, be with us  
in our sadness and turn our eyes to  
you. Support us all the day long of this  
troubled life, until the shadows  
lengthen, the evening comes, the busy  
world is hushed, the fever of life is  
over, and our work is done.  
Then, Lord, in your mercy, grant us  
safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at  
the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

(adapted from Common Worship)

We give back to you, O God,  
those whom you gave to us.  
You did not lose them when  
you gave them to us, and we  
do not lose them by their  
return to you. Your Son has  
taught us that life is eternal  
and love cannot die. So  
death is only a horizon, and a  
horizon is only the limit of  
our sight. Open our eyes to  
see more clearly, and draw us  
closer to you, so that we may  
know we are nearer to our  
loved ones, who are with you.

William Penn (1644-1718)

*Swift to its close  
ebbs out life's little day  
Earth's joys grow dim,  
its glories pass away  
Change and decay  
in all around I see  
O Thou who changest not,  
abide with me.*

*I fear no foe,  
with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight,  
and tears no bitterness  
Where is death's sting?  
Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still,  
if Thou abide with me.*

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)