**Prayer Resources**

Both ancient and contemporary prayers may be used to supplement the free and specific prayers suggested by the situation. In the ancient prayers of the church there is both beauty and power. Over the years, certain forms and phrases have been found to carry meaning and grace. These often provide comfort and strength when other words fail. A selection of prayers is below.

**A Prayer For Healing**

Holy Father, physician of souls and bodies, you sent your beloved Son, Jesus, to heal every infirmity and deliver us from death: deliver, we pray, your servant, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, from the bodily and spiritual weakness that presses upon them, and quicken them by the grace of our Saviour Jesus Christ. You are the fount of all healing, O God, and to you we ascribe honour and glory.  **Amen**. *A Greek Orthodox Prayer*.

**A Blessing**

May our Lord Jesus Christ be near to defend you,

within to refresh you,

around to preserve you,

beneath to support you,

before you to guide you,

above you to bless you;

may he give health;

may he give wholeness;

may he give peace.  **Amen**. *Old Irish*.

**Prayer For A Sick Child**

Was omitted online due to copyright see page 548.

**Prayer For The Care-Givers**

Merciful God, you have created us in your image and made us temples of your Holy Spirit. Sustain with your presence all care-givers whom you have called to aid in bringing your healing purpose to bear in the life of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Uphold doctors, nurses, technicians, visitors and volunteers in their ministry of comfort. Give them wisdom in the prevention of disease and control of pain. Strengthen them by the power of your Holy Spirit, that through their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified, through Jesus Christ the healer and saviour of all. **Amen**.

**A Prayer For Families**

Gracious God, grant to our family strength in the midst of exhaustion; love in the midst of frustration; hope when the way looks hopeless. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us always in the grace and peace of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

**A Prayer For Grace**

God, grant to us
the serenity to accept the things we cannot change,

the courage to change the things we can,

and the wisdom to know the difference;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  **Amen**.

 *Traditional. Ascribed to Reinhold Niebuhr.*

**Thanksgiving For The Beginning Of Recovery**

Was omitted online due to copyright see page 548.

**A Prayer For Support**

O Lord,

support us all the day long,

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.**

 *Used by John Henry Newman in 19th century*

 *but probably of 16th century origin.*

**Prayer When Death is Near**

Go forth upon your journey from this world,

O Christian soul:

in the name of God who created you,

in the name of Jesus who suffered for you,

in the name of the Spirit who strengthened you.

In communion with the saints
and all the heavenly host,

may your portion this day be in peace

and your dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem. **Amen**.

 *Old Latin*.

**A Commendation**

*This prayer may be used when death is near and with those who mourn.*

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,

we commend your servant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Acknowledge, we humbly pray,

a sheep of your own fold,

a lamb of your own flock,

a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive them into the arms of your mercy,

into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,

and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**Amen**. *The Book of Common Prayer, 1549, adapted*.

**A Prayer For The Bereaved**

Was omitted online due to copyright see page 548.

**A Prayer For The Bereaved**

Eternal God:

help us to trust our loved ones to your care.

As death and sorrow darken our lives,

help us to look to you,

remembering that great cloud of witnesses which

surrounds us.

Rejoicing ever in your presence,

grant that we on earth may share with them

the rest and peace which your presence gives;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**. *Book of Common Order, 1964, adapted*.

**Prayers For Use By A Sick Person**

Was omitted online due to copyright see page 548.