

## Prayers for those making a visit to Church

*Welcome to Church today. You will have prayers that you want to say for your loved ones, the world and yourself.*

*As you begin take time just to be quiet and to feel the presence of God in this holy place.*

*Here are some suggestions below to start your time of prayer and to finish.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say,  
'let us go to the house of the Lord'.  
I have entered your house, O God,  
and it is a coming home for me;  
it is good to be here.  
I look at you and you look at me.  
You love me without condition;  
may my love be purer and deeper  
for you and for others.

In this sacred place I worship you  
and ask forgiveness for my sins,  
for healing of my sorrows,  
for strength in uncertainties.  
You know, Lord,  
the concerns and joys of my life,  
the needs and wants of those I love.  
Be merciful and kind  
teach me to be of like mind.

There are many who have suffered  
and I pray for them.  
For those who mourn,  
I ask peace of heart.  
For carers and hospital staff  
I ask blessing and safety.  
For the sick and those remaining at home  
I ask health and strength.  
For those who have died  
I ask happiness and rest.

*Below are some familiar prayers for you to say but remember the Lord wants to hear your voice in the depths of your heart.*

*Speak to him as a friend and worship him as God.  
Remember to stop and listen. Let the Lord enter your thoughts.*

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 who 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.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

Dear Jesus  
Help me to spread Your fragrance everywhere I go.  
Flood my soul with Your spirit and life.  
Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly,  
that my life may only be a radiance of Yours.  
Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in  
contact with may feel Your presence in my soul.  
Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus!  
Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as You shine,  
so to shine as to be a light to others; The light, O Jesus will be  
all from You; none of it will be mine;  
It will be you shining on others through me.  
Saint John Henry Newman

God, of your goodness, give me yourself;  
you are enough for me,  
and anything less that I could ask for  
would not do you full honour.  
And if I ask anything that is less,  
I shall always lack something,  
but in you alone I have everything'.  
Julian of Norwich

*After you have spent some time in prayer and before you leave the church you might like to say the following prayer.*

I take my leave of you my Lord  
I know you are with me always.  
But here in this church  
I feel your presence in a special way.  
Send help and consolation  
on those unable to come here in prayer  
May they detect your closeness  
in their homes and hearts.

In your good time bring me back.  
Now let my steps follow your path.

## Prayers for those who remain at home

*It may be that your Parish Church has not yet been opened or perhaps you cannot to go there. During this time pray for those who are able to go out, that they may be safe.*

*Remember that God is close to you wherever you may be and is always interested in your thoughts and your concerns, your joys and hopes.*

*Below are some words you may wish to add to those you offer in your daily prayers.*

Lord,  
at this time I must stay with you at home.  
I make of my home your house  
and of my heart a sanctuary  
in which you ever dwell.

Give me patience and joy, Lord Jesus,  
and grant those who  
visit you in Church  
and in the Blessed Sacrament  
to value so great a gift and cherish so great a love  
that leads you to choose to be with us  
now and always.  
Amen.

Father,  
bless this house in which you keep me safe.  
Let your light shine in every corner of this place.  
May your Son raised in an ordinary home  
come to me in the ordinary things of each day  
Send your Spirit to anoint my heart  
and give me wisdom to accept your will.

*Below are some prayers of the Saints that you may wish to say quietly.*

*Remember to spend time to sit in silence – a Crucifix, holy picture or statue may help you focus your thoughts.*

Let nothing disturb you.  
Let nothing frighten you.  
All things are passing away:  
God never changes.  
Patience obtains all things.  
Whoever has God lacks nothing;  
God alone suffices.

*Saint Teresa of Avila*

Thanks be to you, my Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.

*Saint Richard of Chichester*

Lord,  
let not our souls be busy inns  
that have no room for thee or thine,  
but quiet homes of prayer and praise,  
where thou mayest find fit company,  
where the needful cares of life  
are wisely ordered and put away,  
and wide, sweet spaces kept for thee;  
where holy thoughts pass up and down  
and fervent longings watch and wait thy coming.”

*Julian of Norwich*