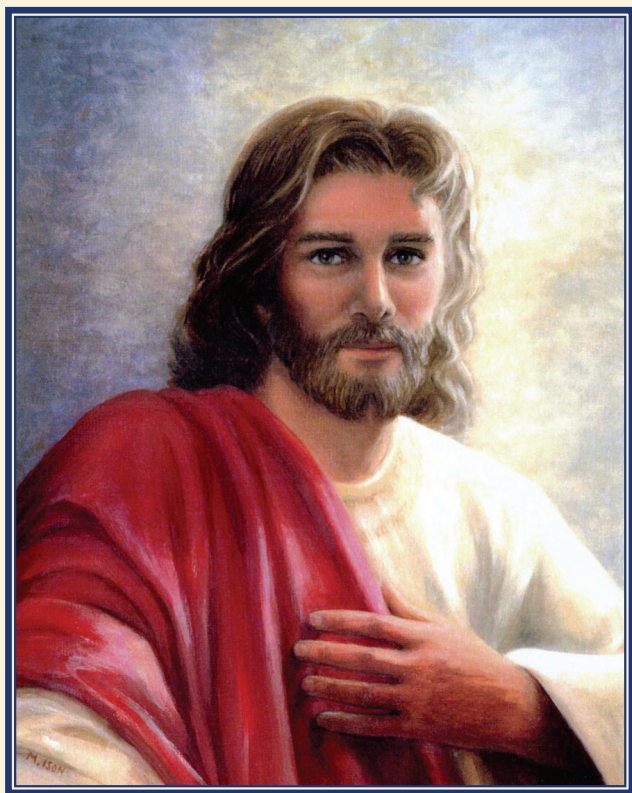


Words of Comfort for the Dying

Prayers to be said at the bedside of a dying person

“Come with Me”



“Be not afraid!”

John 14:26-28

Meditations and prayers to bring comfort,
peace and hope to the dying.

Words of Comfort for the Dying
is a companion to the
“Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying Booklet”
from the Apostolate for the Dying Ministry.



A Special Thanks To

SANTOS AUTO SERVICE CO.

Import Car Specialist

1217 Springfield Pike • Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

(513) 761-7881 • Fax: (513) 761-8160

santosauto@fuse.net

www.santosauto.com



Antônio Santos Albuquerque,
who generously sponsored this
booklet to honor the memory
of his brother Julio Santos Albuquerque.
May the Lord bless him always!

IMPRIMATUR

In accord with the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby grant the *Imprimatur* ("Permission to Publish") regarding the manuscript entitled *Words of Comfort for the Dying*.

Most Reverend Joseph R. Binzer
Auxiliary Bishop, Vicar General
Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio
July 8, 2013

To order copies of:

Booklets:

"Words of Comfort for the Dying"

"Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying" (Available on CD)

Holy Cards:

"Meditations on the Five Wounds of Christ for the dying"

"The Seven Sorrows of Mary"

"Prayer for a Holy Death"

"Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel"

"Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel"

CD & DVD:

"Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying"

To make a donation, or to join our Apostolate, please contact us at:

ApostolateForTheDying.org

ApostolateForTheDying@catholicweb.com

Apostolate for the Dying

P.O. Box 38 - 9185

Cincinnati, OH 45238

Phone: 513-922-0370

Editor: Maria Fernanda Moreira

Cover painting: Marilyn D. Ison

Special thanks to Annamarie Short and Paula Dudzinski who revised the Booklet and Front Cover.

© Copyright 2013 Apostolate for the Dying

Printed in the U.S.A.

This booklet is consecrated to
The Sacred Heart of Jesus,
The Immaculate Heart of Mary,
And St. Joseph, Patron of the Dying



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Fernando Antunes Marques

A dear friend who offered his great suffering for the Apostolate for the Dying. The rose is in memory of all the roses he picked from his garden to offer to Our Lady of Fatima.



Note: These prayers can be prayed entirely or in part.
The soul who hears them will be comforted and
God will bless them.

Contents

Introduction	4
Words of Comfort for the Dying	6
Opening Meditation	7
The Divine Mercy Chaplet	9
Psalms	10
The Glorious Mysteries	12
Litany for the Dying	13
Amazing Grace	15
Three Special Prayers	17
Helpful Prayers	18
Memorare	20

Introduction

When a family member or a dear friend comes to the end of this earthly life, it can be very difficult to find the right words to say to them. In our pain, many times, we do not know what to say. Yet we all wish to say something to give them some peace and spiritual comfort.

This is the reason for this booklet. Some time ago a friend mentioned to me: “Fernanda, I wish that you would have some prayers that we can say by the bedside of a dying person. It is so important...” Several people have also told me that there have been times when they wished they had something to help them when a loved one was dying.

In her love for souls St. Faustina said to Jesus: “O Jesus, I want to bring souls to the fount of Your Mercy to draw the reviving water of life with the vessel of trust.” Jesus responded: **“My beloved child, delight of My Heart, your words are dearer and more pleasing to Me than the Angelic chorus. All the treasures of My Heart are open to you. Take from this Heart all that you need for yourself and for the whole world...”** Diary 1489.

What could be more consoling than these beautiful words? Jesus wants us to draw from His Sacred Heart all we need, not only for us, but also for others, and for the whole world!

With these prayers and meditations, we will draw from the furnace of divine love, the trust and love, peace and consolation, a soul is in most need of at the critical moment of death, when eternity is right there, at the door.

Oh! How great must be the need for a dying person to hear about God's most gracious Mercy... how consoling to their hearts and souls.

Our Lord is giving all we need. It is up to us to respond. May God give us the grace to open our hearts to do His Will, and help our brothers and sisters cross the bridge to Eternal Life trusting that a loving Father is there, waiting for them. Annamarie Short who reviewed this little book said: "This is true love in action, a powerful deed of God's great Mercy!"

It is our hope to also help family and friends in their pain and sorrow. May the prayers and meditations contained in this little book be a channel of God's graces for all.

Jesus said to St. Faustina... **"Pray as much as you can for the dying...Be assured that the grace of eternal salvation for certain souls in their final moment depends on your prayers"**. Diary 1777

Words of Comfort for the Dying



“The best way to prepare for my own death
is to pray for the dying.

That is the greatest act of charity I can do
for those who go before me, and consequently for
me, when my own hour comes.” *Fernanda Moreira*

Opening Meditations

Words of Comfort and Hope

Come Holy Spirit; fill our hearts
with your gifts of peace and love.

“Happy the people who know you, Lord, who walk in the radiance of your face. You are their majestic strength.... Truly, the Lord is our shield, the Holy One of Israel, our King!” Psalm 89: 16,18,19

God, our Father! You created us for yourself, to share your infinite love with us and to live with you in Heaven. A place of beauty, peace and joy you have prepared for us. In this place, there is no sadness, no tears, no pain, no suffering of any kind; just the eternal bliss of your holy Presence. St. Paul, says that we cannot even imagine what you have prepared for those who love you! Dear Lord, You are a loving Father, waiting for your children to come home, so that you may lavish them with the riches of your infinite love. Merciful Lord, we trust in you! Like the prodigal son, we are in need of your Mercy and forgiveness. O loving Father, fill the heart of this child whom you are calling home, with trust in your merciful love.

Our Father...

Jesus suffered and died for the forgiveness of all sin, so that we may have life and have it abundantly. Nailed to the Cross, Jesus gave His all for us. In His Infinite Love, He redeemed us from the scourge of sin. Having nothing else to give, before expiring, He gave us His sorrowful and loving Mother to be our mother too.

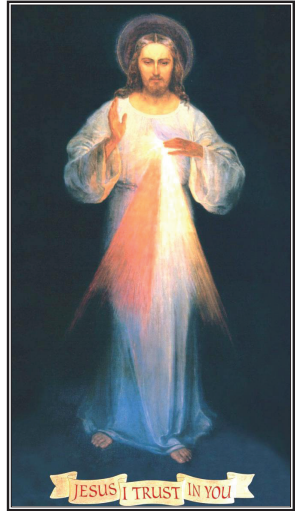
Hail Mary....

O Mary, Mother of God, and our mother, pray for (*say the person's name,*) in this hour of great need, obtain for..... all the necessary graces for salvation. Hold..... in your loving arms and wash..... soul in the Precious Blood of Jesus. Present..... to the Most Blessed Trinity, cleaned and prepared to enter eternal life. Loving Mother, with all the Angels and Saints, obtain for this soul eternal salvation.

Jesus told St. Faustina: **“Whoever places his trust in My Mercy will be filled with My Divine peace at the hour of death.”** Diary 811. So with great confidence we say: **Jesus, I trust in You!** (Invite your loved one to say this if they are able to.) Repeat this often or pray the complete Chaplet.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet

YOU expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.



O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!
(3 times)

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . .

I Believe in God . . .

On the Our Father beads:

- V. Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.....
- R. in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the Hail Mary beads:

- V. For the sake of his sorrowful passion.....
- R. have mercy on us and on the whole world. (10 times)

Doxology

- All. Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (3 times)

Closing Prayer

ETERNAL God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

Jesus, I trust in You! Amen. (3 times)

Psalms

Psalm 51:3-4

“Have mercy on me, God, in your goodness; in your abundant compassion blot out my offense. Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me.”

Our Father...

Psalm 33:20-22, and 34:5-8

“Our soul waits for the Lord, who is our help and shield. For in God our hearts rejoice; in your holy name we trust. May your kindness Lord, be upon us; we have put our hope in you... I sought the Lord, who answered me, delivered me from all my fears. Look to God that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush with shame. In my misfortune I called, the Lord heard and saved me from all distress. The angel of the Lord, who encamps with them, delivers all who fear God.”

Our Father...

Psalm 23:1-6

“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

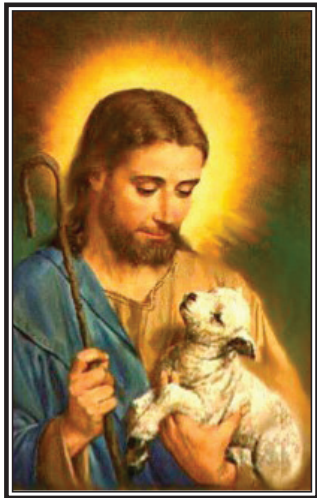
Our Father...

Psalm 98:1- 6

“Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous deeds, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory. The Lord has made His victory known; has revealed His triumph for the nations to see, has remembered His faithful love toward the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Psalm 62:2

“My soul rests in God alone, from whom comes my salvation.”



The Glorious Mysteries



1. The Resurrection

“I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in Me will have eternal life” John 11:25

Lord Jesus we believe in You, we trust in You!

---Mary, our Mother pray for.....

2. The Ascension

Jesus said: “I go to prepare a place for you; I will come back again and take You to Myself, so that where I am you also may be” John 14:2-3

Lord Jesus, we believe in You, we trust in You!

--- Mary, our Mother, pray for.....

3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit

“Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.” Acts:2-3

Lord Jesus, we believe in You, we trust in You!

--- Mary, our Mother, pray for.....

4. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

“The Immaculate Virgin, full of grace and preserved from original sin, was taken body and soul into heavenly glory.”

Lord Jesus, we believe in You, we trust in You!

--- Mary, our Mother, pray for.....

5. The crowning of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth

“A great sign appeared in the sky: a woman clothed with the sun, with a moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.” Rev 12:1

Jesus, we believe in You, we trust in You!

--- Mary, our Mother and Queen, pray for.....

[The prayers of the Rosary can be found on the Booklet back cover]

LITANY FOR THE DYING

Lord have mercy	...Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy, Christ hear us	...Christ graciously hear us.
Holy Mary	...pray for..... (<i>name</i>)
Holy Angels and Archangels,	"
Holy Abel,	"
Holy Choirs of the Just,	"
Holy Abraham,	"
St. John the Baptist,	"
St. Joseph,	"
All Holy Patriarchs and Prophets,	"
St. Peter,	"
St. Paul,	"
St. Andrew,	"
St. John,	"
All Holy Apostles and Evangelists,	"
All Holy Disciples of the Lord,	"
All Holy Innocents of the Lord,	"
St. Stephen,	"
St. Lawrence,	"
All Holy Martyrs,	"
St. Sylvester,	"
St. Gregory,	"
St. Augustine,	"
St. Benedict,	"
All Bishops and Confessors	"
St. Francis,	"
St. Clare,	"
St. Camillus,	"
St. John of God,	"
All Holy Monks and Hermits,	"

St. Mary Magdalene,	“
St. Lucy,	“
St. Anthony,	“
St. Thérèse the Little Flower,	“
St. Faustina,	“
St. Padre Pio,	“
All Holy Virgins and Widows,	“
All Holy Saints of God,	“
Be merciful.....	...forgive..... O Lord.
Be merciful.....	...spare..... O Lord.
From your wrath.....	...deliver..... O Lord.
From the peril of death,	“
From an evil death,	“
From the pains of hell,	“
From all evil,	“
From the power of the devil,	“
Through your birth,	“
Through your cross and passion,	“
Through your death and burial,	“
Through your glorious resurrection,	“
Through your admirable Ascension,	“
Through the grace of the Holy Spirit,	“
the Comforter,	“
On the Day of Judgment,	“

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
.....have mercy on..... (name)

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
.....have mercy on.....

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
.....have mercy on.....

AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear.
And Grace, my fears relieved.
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
and Grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.*

*Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.*

*When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.*

Three Special Prayers

Which are very useful to a dying person, please
pray it often as an act of mercy

First Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of the Virgin Mary, by the merits of Your Most Sorrowful Agony and by the prayers You offered for us on the Mount of Olives, when in great anguish Your sweat became drops of Blood falling down upon the earth, we beseech You to offer up your Most Precious Blood to the Heavenly Father in atonement for the sins of..... name

Merciful Jesus, deliver this soul from the pain and suffering..... may justly deserve. Who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Second Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who willingly chose to die upon the cross for love of us, we beseech You to offer up Your bitter Passion and Holy Death to the Heavenly Father. Present them on behalf of..... especially the moment when Your Soul departed from Your Most Sacred Body.

Merciful Jesus, deliver this soul from the pain and suffering..... may justly deserve. Who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Third Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by the mouth of the prophet has said: "I have loved you with an everlasting love, so I have kept My Mercy toward you." We beseech you to offer up this same love, which drew You down from Heaven to Earth to endure all the bitterness of Your Passion. Present Your suffering to the Almighty Father for this soul.

Most Merciful Jesus, You redeemed us by Your Most Precious Blood. We beg You to have compassion on..... Save this soul, and open the gates of Life that..... may rejoice with the Saints in everlasting glory. Grant that..... enter into the evergreen beauty of Paradise, so to live with You in undivided love, never to be separated from You and Your chosen ones.

Merciful Jesus, deliver this soul from the pain and suffering..... may justly deserve. Who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



Helpful Prayers

“Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel for the Dying”

O Glorious Prince, St. Michael, guard and protect the souls of those who are dying, especially those who will die this day. Defend them from the attacks of Satan and his evil spirits. Be their advocate, we humbly pray, in their final hour of earthly life. Assist them dear St. Michael, in their agony, from the evil spirits who like devouring lions, will contrive their last attack upon those suffering souls. Behold them Great Archangel, safely through the eternal gates of Heaven. May we be faithful during our lives in venerating you, O Wondrous Saint, and implore your powerful aid at the hour of our death. Amen

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Prayer For The Dying

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, powerful Mother of us all, by a singular grace, you gave us the promise and protection of the Scapular promising to save the souls of all those who die wearing it. We now come before you, our hearts full of love and trust, imploring from you this same promise and protection over those souls who throughout the world have lived not knowing or even caring to know, about such a grace or such a Mother, and are now at the hour of leaving this world. O Sweet Mother of Mount Carmel, extend Your protective Mantle over these souls and obtain for them the grace of eternal salvation. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for the dying!

Saint Joseph, Patron of the Dying

Saint Joseph, how greatly you were blessed, to die in the arms of Jesus and Mary! Please, come to our aid in this hour of great sorrow. Intercede for us and for our dear one so that like you..... may die in the loving arms of Jesus and Mary. Be our powerful intercessor, St. Joseph. Speak for before the throne of God, and obtain pardon and mercy, the gift of eternal salvation. Protect and lead on the way to eternal life. Oh, Saint Joseph, patron of the dying, we entrust to you this precious soul, please pray for.....!

Comfort Prayer

Oh Jesus, the Angel brought You the Father's comfort on the eve of Your Passion. We pray that You send all the Angels with Your comfort to those who are dying, to strengthen them in their final hour. Amen



**“BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO MOURN, FOR THEY
SHALL BE COMFORTED.”**

MT.5-4

The Memorare

Remember, O Most Gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee

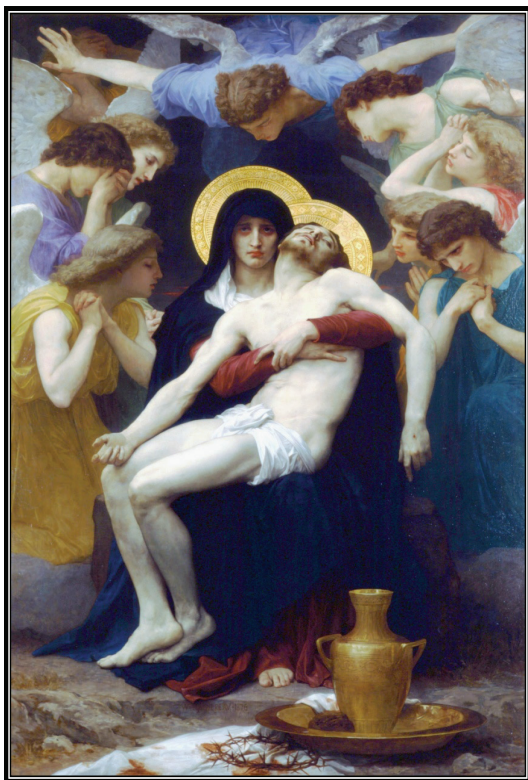
O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee I come,
before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my
petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen



Prayer for a Holy Death



O Most Merciful Jesus, I entrust to You the hour of my death. In Your great compassion, through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, wash away all my sins in Your Most Precious Blood. Make me clean, Lord, worthy to look at Your Radiant Face. Lead me through the gates of Paradise where I will live with You forever.

O Most Merciful Jesus, I place all my trust in You. Grant me the grace of a holy and peaceful death. Amen

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OUR FATHER

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

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

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.

FATIMA PRAYER

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy. Amen.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile, shown unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.