

Prayers without citations are offered by the Department of Pastoral Care and Education Staff and students. (Insert appropriate name(s) wherever “N” appears)

End of Life

Christian

A Commendation at the Time of Death

Depart, O Christian soul, out of this world;

In the Name of God the Father Almighty who created you;

In the Name of Jesus Christ who redeemed you;

In the Name of the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you.

May your rest be this day in peace,

and your dwelling place in the Paradise of God.

The Book of Common Prayer, The Episcopal Church, p. 464

A Commendatory Prayer

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant N. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him/her 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, The Episcopal Church, p. 465



Roman Catholic

Almighty and eternal God, hear our prayers for your son/daughter whom you have called from this life to yourself. Grant him/her light, happiness and peace. Let him/her pass in safety through the gates of death, and live forever with all your saints in the light of Abraham and to all his descendants in faith. Guard him/her from all harm and on that great day of resurrection and reward raise him/her up with all your saints. Pardon his/her sins and give him/her eternal life in your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen (*Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum. p.214*)



Muslim

For before the soul departs the body

Laa illaha illallaahu

'There is none worthy of worship but Allah.' If the patient is unable to say it, hold his/her right hand and position the pointer finger upwards and say it on their behalf.

Prophet Muhammad

As he was dying, the Prophet (peace be upon him) dipped his hands in water and wiped his face saying: *Laa illaha illallaahu inna lilmawti lasakaraatin*

There is none worthy of worship but Allah, surely death has agonies.

Prophet Muhammad

Ya Rabb, You are the Source of all Strength,

The one who has given us life and will surely bring us to taste death.

I implore You by Your blessed Names, by the Mercy you have decreed upon yourself.

Nurture my soul, my spirit, my body, with Your peace and Your love.

Allow me to place my pain in Your Hands.

If it is Your Will that my soul be returned to you, command your angels to be gentle with me; to caress my spirit with the sweet breeze of Your Mercy and let me die upon faith.

Make my grave a source of light, peace and rest, in wait of my meeting with You, *Ya*

Rabb.

If it is in Your Will that You should grant me more time upon this earth, let it be guided by Your Light.

In my suffering allow me to know serenity, and let my body and spirit find contentment in You.

I testify that there is none worthy of worship except for You Ya Allah, and that Muhammad, peace be upon him, is your servant and final Messenger. Ameen

For after the soul has departed the body

Oh (Allah)

the Cause and Effect of the Whole universe
the Source from whence we have come
and the Goal toward which all are bound:
receive this soul, who is coming to Thee,
into Thy parental arms.

May Thy forgiving Glance heal (their) heart.
Lift (them) from the denseness of the earth.
Surround (them) with the Light of Thine own Spirit.

Raise (them) up to heaven
which is (their) true dwelling place.

We pray Thee, grant (them) the blessing
of Thy most exalted Presence.

May (their) life upon earth become as a dream
to (their) waking soul,

And let (their) thirsting eyes behold
the glorious vision of Thy Sunshine. Amen

Hazrat Inayat Khan

After the death of Abu Salama (rA) the Prophet Muhammad closed his eyes and recited this dua (prayer): "O Allah, forgive N. Make her/him among the guided ones, raise her/his status and be her/his deputy among the grieving. Oh Lord of two worlds, forgive us, and her/him and make her/his grave wide and full of light."

Prophet Muhammad

