Prayers & Bible Verses

PART ONE:

PRAYERS

paraphrases from

The Book of Common Prayer

The Collect for purity

Almighty God:

You know everything that is in our heart and no secrets are hidden from you. Make our minds and hearts pure by your Holy Spirit so that we can love and worship you the way we should. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY: This prayer is always used at the beginning of the Communion service to focus and prepare us for worship.

(Based on the Book of Common Prayer, p. 67)

Confession and absolution

Almighty God:

You made everything and everyone, and you are the judge of everything we do. We know that we have done things wrong in our thoughts and words and actions. We are sorry. Please forgive us. Help us to live the way we should. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We know that God loves us and has promised to forgive us when we repent.
We thank him for his forgiveness, and we trust him to help us do what is good, and one day to bring us to heaven.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION: Just before the holiest part of the Communion service, we always say a prayer of confession, and then the priest reminds us that God has promised to forgive us when we come to him with sincere repentance.

(Based on the Book of Common Prayer, p. 77)

The Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven,
your name is holy.
May your kingdom come,
And may your will be done
on earth just as it is in heaven.
Give us today what we need for today.
And forgive us our wrong-doings,
as we forgive those who do wrong to us
Do not lead us into temptation,
but save us from evil.
The kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: We often say this prayer which Jesus taught to his disciples many years ago. (Based on the Book of Common Prayer, p. 85)

Morning prayer

O heavenly Father,

We thank you for the past night's rest, and for the gift of a new day.
Help us to pass the coming hours in the freedom of serving you, and to come to you with thankful hearts at the end of this day.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Night prayer

O merciful Lord,

Be with us and protect us through the silent hours of this night so that even when we are tired with all the changes and chances of this world, we can rest in your eternal changelessness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For churches everywhere

Most Gracious God:

We ask you to bless churches everywhere. Make them full of truth and peace. Where things have gone wrong, make them right again.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For St. Bart's Church

O God, our heavenly Father:

We ask you to help, protect and bless St. Bart's Church, and the priests and workers, and all of the people who come here. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For church schools

Almighty God:

You love children and have asked churches to teach and care for them.

Help teachers and students to learn well, and to always be joyful about what is true. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For leaders in government

Most Gracious God:

Please help, protect and bless all of the leaders in government.

Help them to know and to do what is right.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For good weather

O God, our heavenly Father:

You know what we need better than we know ourselves. Please send us good weather so that food can grow, and so we can live in peace and health. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For teachers at school

O heavenly Father:

Please give wisdom and grace to all of our teachers at school so that they will always love and teach what is true and good.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For people travelling

O God, our heavenly Father:

You are powerful no matter where we are. Please take care of those who are travelling by land, water, and air, especially ______.

We ask you to protect and keep them safe. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

For people who are sick

Almighty and immortal God:

We know that life and health are in your hands. We ask you to show mercy to the sick, especially _______.

Please bless those who take care of them, and if it is your will, heal them in mind and body.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For people who are worried

Almighty God:

You care about what your people care about. Show mercy to those who are worried. Provide them with whatever they need, and help them to trust you. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When we are sad

O heavenly Father:

Help us to trust that you care for us.
When we are sad, help us to look up to you.
Remind us that you are with us,
and give us rest and peace.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For our friends and families

O Loving Father:

Please take care of our families and friends, including those who are sick or sad, both the young and the old.

Help us to be a blessing to each other.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

For a birthday

O heavenly Father:

Please give a long and happy life to our friend whose birthday is today.

Help ______ to always live in a way that makes you glad.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

VERSES

from

The Holy Bible

(Paraphrases from NIV and NASB)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- Genesis 1:1

If you will obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

- Exodus 19:5-6a

Thus you are to be holy to Me for I the LORD am holy; and I have set you apart from the peoples to be Mine.

- Leviticus 20:26

THE BOOKS OF MOSES sometimes called "The Law" make up the first five books of the Old Testament: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance on you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

You will seek the LORD your God and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.

- Deuteronomy 4:29

Know today, and take to your heart, that the LORD is God in heaven above and on earth below; there is no other.

Deuteronomy 4:29

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Be strong and courageous!

Do not tremble or be dismayed,
for the LORD your God
is with you wherever you go.

- Joshua 1:9

Revere the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth.

- Joshua 24:14a

Who is able to build a house for the LORD? For the even the heavens cannot contain Him. So who am I that I should build a house for Him except to burn incense before Him.

- 2 Chronicles 2:6

THE HISTORICAL BOOKS of the Old Testament follow the story of God's relationship with his missionary nation over hundreds of years. These books include: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1+2 Samuel, 1+2 Kings, 1+2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

- 2 Chronicles 7:14

You alone are the LORD.
You made the heavens,
and all their starry host,
the earth and all that is on it,
the seas and all that is in them.
You give life to everything, and the
multitudes of heaven worship You.

- Nehemiah 9:6

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I know that You can do all things, and that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.

- Job 42:2

Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for Him.

- Psalm 37:7

The LORD will command His loving-kindness in the daytime; and His song will be with me in the night; a prayer to the God of my life.

- Psalm 42:8

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me...
A broken and contrite heart,
O God, You will not despise.

- Psalm 51:10,17

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him in truth.

- Psalm 145:1

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding; in all of your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.

- Proverbs 3:5-6

Though the mountains be shaken and the hills removed, yet My unfailing love for you will not be shaken.

- Isaiah 54:10

Before I formed you in the womb
I knew you; before you were born
I set you apart; I appointed you
as a prophet to the nations...
Do not say, 'I am only a youth.'
You must go to everyone I send you to
and say whatever I command you.
Do not be afraid of them, for I am
with you and will rescue you.

- Jeremiah 1:5-8

THE PROPHETS are the writings of some of God's messengers in the Old Testament. They include: Isaiah, Jeremiah (Lamentations), Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

"I take no pleasure in the death of anyone," declares the Sovereign LORD, "Therefore, repent and live!"

- Ezekiel 18:32

What does the LORD require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

- Micah 6:8

For you who revere My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.

- Malachi 4:2

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Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

- Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "The most important commandment is this:

'Love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no commandment greater than these."

- Mark 12:29-31

THE GOSPELS are the first four books in the New Testament. They tell the story of Jesus from the perspectives of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. 'The Acts of the Apostles' was written by Luke as a kind of sequel to the Gospel. For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him
should not perish but have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son
into the world to judge the world;
but that the world
should be saved through Him.

- John 3:16-17

Jesus said, "My sheep listen
to My voice; I know them and
they follow Me. I give them
eternal life and they shall
never perish; no one
can snatch them out of My hand."

- John 10:27-28

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Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Romans 8:38-39

Do not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up.

- Galatians 6:9

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Honour your father and your mother.

Ephesians 6:1

THE EPISTLES are teaching letters that were written to the Christian church by apostles after Jesus died and rose again. They include: Romans, 1+2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1+2 Thessalonians, 1+2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1+2 Peter, 1+2+3 John, Jude, and Revelation.

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity.

- 1 Timothy 4:12

Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God so that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety upon Him because He cares for you.

- 1 Peter 5:6-7

Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

- 1 John 4:11

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