

Prayers for difficult times

O God, help me to think of you in this bitter trial. In my weakness, tested so severely in soul for this loss, I cry to you, Father of all life, give me strength to say, with your servant Job: "The Lord hath given, the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Forgive the thoughts of my rebellious soul. Pardon me in these first hours of my grief if I question your wisdom and exercise myself in things too high for me. Grant me strength to rise above this trial, to bear with humility life's sorrows and disappointments. Be near me, O God. Bring consolation and peace to my soul.

Praise to you, dear Lord, who comforts mourners.

A bereavement prayer adapted from "The Union Prayer Book for Jewish Worship"

Watch dear Lord,
with those who wake or watch or weep tonight,
And give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend your sick ones.
O Lord Christ,
Rest your weary ones,
Bless your dying ones,
Sooth your suffering ones,
Pity your afflicted ones,
Shield your joyous ones,
all for your love's sake.
Amen

St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)



Prayers
for
Everyday

St John's United Reformed Church, Orpington, BR6 0BG

Website: www.stjohnsurc.org.uk

Prayers for daily living

Let nothing disturb thee,
Nothing affright thee
All things are passing
God never changeth
Patience endureth
Attaineth to all things
Who God possesseth
Is nothing wanting
Alone God sufficeth.

St Teresa's Bookmark

Father, help me to use
the brains you have given me without conceit,
the hands you have given me without laziness,
and the tongue you have given me without hurting others.

I bind unto myself today
The power of God to hold and lead
His eye to watch, His might to stay
His ear to harken to my need
The wisdom of my God to teach
His hand to guide, His shield to ward
The word of God to give me speech
His heavenly host to be my guard.

St Patrick's Breastplate

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
The courage to change the things I can;
And the wisdom to know the difference.

May the Babe of Bethlehem be yours to tend
May the boy of Nazareth be yours to friend
May the man of Galilee his healing send
May the Christ of Calvary his courage lend
May the risen Lord his presence send
And his holy angels defend you, to the end.

Canon Ronald Brownrigg

Lord for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray.
But keep me, guide me, love me Lord,
Just for today

Grant us Lord
In thought, faith
In word, wisdom
In deed, courage
In life, service
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer at the naïve altar in York Cathedral

Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead me for hate to love, from war to peace.
Let peace fill our heart, our world, our universe.

Satish Kumar (adapted by the Prayer for Peace movement, 1981)