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J.M.J.

## PRAYER FOR THE DEPARTED

—*St. John Henry Newman*



O GOD of the Spirits of all flesh,  
O Jesu, Lover of souls,  
we recommend unto Thee  
the souls of all those  
Thy servants, who have  
departed with the sign of faith  
and sleep the sleep of peace.  
We beseech Thee, O Lord and  
Savior, that, as in Thy mercy  
to them Thou became man,  
so now Thou would hasten  
the time, and admit them  
to Thy presence above.

Remember, O Lord,  
that they are Thy creatures,  
not made by strange gods,  
but by Thee, the only Living  
and True God;  
for there is no other God  
but Thou, and none that  
can equal Thy works.  
Let their souls rejoice  
in Thy light,  
and impute not to them  
their former iniquities,  
which they committed through

the violence of passion,  
or the corrupt habits  
of their fallen nature.  
For, although they have sinned,  
yet they always firmly believed  
in the Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost; and before they died,  
they reconciled themselves  
to Thee by true contrition and  
the Sacraments of Thy Church.

O Gracious Lord,  
we beseech Thee,  
remember not against them  
the sins of their youth  
and their ignorance;  
but according to Thy  
great mercy,  
be mindful of them  
in Thy heavenly glory.  
May the heavens be opened  
to them, and the Angels  
rejoice with them.  
May the Archangel St. Michael  
conduct them to Thee.  
May Thy holy Angels  
come forth to meet them,

and carry them to the city  
of the heavenly Jerusalem.  
May St. Peter, to whom Thou  
gave the keys of the kingdom  
of heaven, receive them.  
May St. Paul, the vessel of  
election, stand by them.  
May St. John, the beloved  
disciple, who had the  
revelation of the secrets of  
heaven, intercede for them.  
May all the Holy Apostles,  
who received from Thee the  
power of binding and  
loosing, pray for them.  
May all the Saints and elect  
of God, who in this world  
suffered torments for Thy  
Name, befriend them;  
that, being freed from the  
prison beneath,  
they may be admitted  
into the glories  
of that kingdom,  
where with the Father  
and the Holy Ghost  
Thou lives and reigns one God,  
world without end.

Come to their assistance,  
all ye Saints of God;  
gain for them deliverance  
from their place of  
punishment;  
meet them, all ye Angels;  
receive these holy souls,  
and present them  
before the Lord.  
Eternal rest give to them,  
O Lord. And may perpetual  
light shine on them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.

### **A Byzantine Prayer for the Deceased**

God of the spirits  
and of all flesh,  
who have trampled death  
and annihilated the devil  
and given life to your world,  
may you yourself, O Lord,  
grant to the soul of your  
deceased servant N.  
rest in a place of light,  
a verdant place,

a place of freshness,  
from where suffering,  
pain and cries are far removed.

Do You, O good and  
compassionate God  
forgive every fault committed  
by him in word, work  
or thought  
because there is no man  
who lives and does not sin.  
You alone are without sin  
and your justice is justice  
throughout the ages  
and your word is truth.

Since you, O Christ our God,  
are the resurrection,  
the life and the repose  
of your deceased servant N.,  
we give you glory  
together with your  
un-begotten Father  
and your most holy, good  
and life-creating Spirit,  
now and always  
and forever and ever.