

## LITANY FOR THE SOULS OF THE DEPARTED

Responses are in *Italics*

In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, *And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Absolve, O Lord, the souls of the faithful departed from every bond of sin, and by the help of your grace may they be enabled to escape the avenging judgment, and to enjoy the happiness of eternal life. *Amen.*

Because in your mercy are deposited the souls that departed in an inferior degree of grace, *Lord have mercy.*

Because their present suffering is greatest in the knowledge of the pain that their separation from you is causing you, *Lord have mercy.*

Because of their present inability to add to your accidental glory, *Lord have mercy.*

Not for our consolation, O Lord; nor for their release from purgative pain, O God; but for your joy and the greater honor of your throne, O Christ the King, *Lord have mercy.*

For the souls of our departed friends, relatives and benefactors, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those of our family who have fallen asleep in Thy bosom, O Jesus, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those who have gone to prepare our place, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For priests who were our spiritual directors, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For men or women who were our teachers in school, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those who were our employers or employees, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those who were our associates in daily toil, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For any soul whom we ever offended, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For our enemies now departed, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those souls who have none to pray for them, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those forgotten by their friends and relatives, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those now suffering the most, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those who, while on earth, were most devoted to God the Holy Ghost, and to the holy Mother of God, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For all deceased bishops and prelates, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For all deceased priests, seminarians and religious, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For all our brethren in the Faith everywhere, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For all our separated brethren who deeply loved Thee, and would have come into Thy household had they known the truth, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those souls who need our prayers, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

For those, closer to you than we are, whose prayers we need, *Grant light and peace, O Lord.*

That those may be happy with you forever, who on earth were true exemplars of the Orthodox Catholic Faith, *Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*

That those may be admitted to your unveiled Presence, who as far as we know never committed mortal sin, *Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*

That those may be housed in glory, who lived always in recollection and prayer, *Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*

That those may be given the celestial joy of beholding you, who lived lives of mortification, self-denial, and penance, *Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*

That those may be flooded with your love, who denied themselves even your favors of indulgence and who made the heroic act for the souls who had gone before them, *Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.*

That those may be drawn up to the Beatific Vision, who never put obstacles in the way of sanctifying grace and who ever drew closer in mystical union with you, *Grant them eternal rest O Lord.*

We most especially pray for \_\_\_\_\_ that you will grant them eternal rest O Lord. *And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Our Father.....

*Readings from the Rites of Burial or from the Funeral Liturgy may be read here, followed by a homily or sermon, if this devotion takes place as a service unto itself. If this devotion precedes or follows Mass or one of the Hours, the readings and sermon are omitted.*

Let us pray : Be mindful, O Lord, of all your servants and handmaids who are gone before us with the sign of faith and repose in the sleep of grace. To these, O Lord, and to all who rest in Christ, grant, we beseech you, a place of refreshment, light and peace, through the same Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*

#### PRAYER FOR THE FORGOTTEN DEAD

O merciful God, take pity on those souls who have no particular friends and intercessors to recommend them to you, who, either through the negligence of those who are alive, or through length of time are forgotten by their friends and by all. Spare them, O Lord, and remember Your own mercy, when others forget to appeal to it.

Let not the souls which you have created be parted from you, their Creator, through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, unto the ages of ages. *Amen.*

May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

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