

## Prayers for the dead and Blessing of the graves

### ROMAN CATHOLIC FAMILY OF DAYSLAND, HEISLER, KILLAM & PARISHES

Daysland – Our Lady of the Prairies Church \* Heisler – St. Martin Church \* Killam – St. Joseph Church  
Spring Lake - St. Boniface Historical Church \* Strome – St. Peter Historical Church



**Dying is the last page of time and the first page of eternity.**

## LITANY FOR THE DEAD

**Priest: Let us pray for those who have passed through the gates of death and await God's abundant mercy:**

Priest: For those who died from sickness, disease or addiction,  
For those who died in fire, floods or natural disasters,  
For those who died from hunger, thirst or malnutrition, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died slowly, painfully or from prolonged illness,  
For those who died in shame or guilt,  
For those who died in poverty-stricken or dehumanizing conditions, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died suddenly or unexpectedly,  
For those who died by violence, abuse or neglect,  
For those who died at the hands of loved ones, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died in times of war,  
For those who died in acts of terrorism,  
For those who died by execution, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died at birth,  
For those who died in the womb and by abortion,  
For those who died prematurely in their youth, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died by suicide, in despair or without hope,  
For those who died unreconciled with another or family, with the church or with God,  
For those who died alone or unloved, unmourned or forgotten, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died in sorrow or regret,  
For those who died amidst broken promises and unfulfilled  
dreams,  
For those who died in accidental or tragic circumstances, we  
pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died as innocent victims,  
For those who died for the sake of others,  
For those who died defending life and protecting the innocent, we  
pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died in witness to the truth and justice,  
For those who died in witness to faith, hope and love,  
For those who died peacefully surrounded by family and friends,  
we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

Priest: For those who died prayerfully in the hope of rising again,  
For those who died fortified by the Sacraments of the Church and  
nourished by the Bread of Life,  
For those who have died from our family or from among our  
friends, we pray:

**People: Be merciful, O Lord, and take them to yourself.**

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**Priest: Let us pray: To you, O God, the dead do not die, in death our life is changed, not ended. Hear our prayers and command the souls of our servants to dwell with Abraham and Sarah, your friends, and be raised at last on the great day of judgment. In your mercy cleanse them of any sin which they may have committed through human frailty. We ask this through Christ, our Risen Lord.**

**People: Amen.**

Priest: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

People: And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Priest: May they rest in peace.

People: Amen.

Priest: May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace.

People: Amen.

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## 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet will descend from heaven and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.



**Pope John Paul II**

"It is an important duty of ours to pray for the dead because although they may have died in grace and in friendship with God, they may still be in need of a last purification in order to enter into the joy of heaven.

"Prayer for the souls of the dead can be expressed in various ways, including a visit to the cemetery. Going to these sacred places provides an auspicious occasion to reflect on the meaning of earthly life and to nourish, at the same time, hope in the blessed eternity of paradise."

### **O loving God...**

We pray that you will welcome our deceased family members, friends and loved ones into heaven with you. Forgive them their sins and reward them their goodness. Grant that we may be with them again in your Peaceful presence. Amen.

### **O God our Father,**

Creator of all the living, we entrust to Your gentle care all those we love who have gone before us; and have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### **Let us Pray:**

Merciful Father, hear our prayer and console us. As we renew our faith in your Son, whom you raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all of our departed brothers and sisters will share in his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Catholic Prayer For The Dead.**

God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by Your command we return to dust. Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. We pray in hope for our families, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone. In company with Christ, Who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.