

St John's, Brooklands

Extending God's welcome to everyone

A selection of resources for use at home during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

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A general collection of prayers that can be used

A Prayer before Bible Reading

O Lord, you have given us your word
for a light to shine upon our path.
Grant us so to meditate on that word,
and to follow its teaching,
that we may find in it the light
that shines more and more until the perfect day;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

after Jerome (420)

A Morning Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
we thank you that you have brought us safely
to the beginning of this day.
Keep us from falling into sin
or running into danger,
order us in all our doings
and guide us to do always
what is righteous in your sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

adapted from The Book of Common Prayer

An Evening Collect

Lighten our darkness,
Lord, we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

adapted from The Book of Common Prayer

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks
for all your goodness and loving kindness.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful,
and that we show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honour and glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

adapted from The Book of Common Prayer

Come, my Light, and illumine my darkness.
Come, my Life, and revive me from death.
Come, my Physician, and heal my wounds.
Come, Flame of divine love, and burn up the thorns of my sins,
kindling my heart with the flame of your love.
Come, my King, sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there,
for you alone are my King and my Lord.

Amen.

Dimitri of Rostov (1709)

Heavenly Father,
in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith and a sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days,
that we may live as those who believe in
the communion of saints
the forgiveness of sins
and the resurrection to eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

adapted from the 1928 Prayer Book

Keep us in peace, O Christ our God,
under the protection of your holy and venerable cross;
save us from our enemies, visible and invisible,
and count us worthy to glorify you with thanksgiving,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever, world without end.

Amen.

an Armenian Orthodox dismissal

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way, the truth and the life:
let us not stray from you who are the way,
nor distrust your promises who are the truth,
nor rest in anything but you who are the life,
for beyond you there is nothing to be desired
neither in heaven nor in earth.

Amen.

from a prayer of Erasmus (1536)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

a Franciscan prayer

May the power of your love, O Lord,
fiery and sweet as honey,
so absorb our hearts
as to withdraw them from all that is under heaven.
Grant that we may be ready
to die for love of your love
as you died for love of our love.
Amen.

Francis of Assisi (1226)

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery,
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence
carry out the work of our salvation:
and let the whole world feel and see
that things which were cast down are being raised up
and things which had grown old are being made new
and that all things are returning to perfection
through him from whom they took their origin,
even Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gelasian Sacramentary (8th century)

O Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
set your passion, cross and death
between your judgement and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death.
Grant mercy and grace to the living,
rest to the departed,
to your Church peace and concord
and to us sinners forgiveness,
and everlasting life and glory;
for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
you are alive and reign,
God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Collect for None

Remember, Lord, what you have wrought in us
and not what we deserve,
and as you have called us to your service
make us worthy of our calling
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

adapted from the 1928 Prayer Book

Support us, O Lord,
all the day long of this troublous life,
until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
the busy world is hushed,
the fever of life is over
and our work is done.

Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at the last;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

adapted from the 1928 Prayer Book

Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ,
understood people's fear and pain
before they spoke of them,
we pray for those in hospital or sick at home;
surround the frightened with your tenderness;
give strength to those in pain;
hold the weak in your arms of love,
and give hope and patience
to those who are recovering;
we ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The collect for purity

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A prayer of confession

Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen

Prayers to be used before sleeping

Be present, O merciful God,
and protect us through the silent hours of this night,
so that we who are wearied
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,
may rest upon your eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

May the cross of the Son of God,
which is mightier than all the hosts of Satan,

and more glorious than all the hosts of heaven,
abide with me in my going out and my coming in.
By day and by night, at morning and at evening,
at all times and in all places may it protect and defend me.
From the wrath of evildoers, from the assaults of evil spirits,
from foes visible and invisible, from the snares of the devil,
from all passions that beguile the soul and body:
may it guard, protect and deliver me.

Amen.

an Indian prayer

Prayers for use at mealtime

Taken from *To Thank and Bless* by Reinhart and Kwatera

For use in Lent

Before the meal

Intro Let us turn back to the Lord, our God,
who is gracious and compassionate,
long-suffering and ever constant,
always ready to relent.
Though our sins are like scarlet,
they shall be white as snow.
Though they are red as crimson,
they shall be made like wool.

Pray Ever-patient God,
meet us as we set ourselves to know you,
and leave a blessing upon our table
and all those dear to us.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

After the meal

Abiding Lord,
we thank you for this meal
and for your faithful presence in our lives.
as we grow more deeply open to you,
we shall praise and magnify your name,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

For use during Easter

Before the meal

Intro God ever-faithful has guided our fasting,
from food and sin,
and now bids us feast on abundant mercy
in the risen Christ.
Let us rejoice and be glad!
For behold, Jesus died
and now lives for evermore. Alleluia!
He has gone before us.
Yet he is with us for all time. Alleluia!

Pray Giver of new life,
bless your gifts to us at this table.
be present here as our guest,
until the day we join you
in the paschal feast of heaven,
for ever and ever.
Amen

After the meal

We thank you, O God, on this most holy day
for gladdening our hearts at this festive meal.
With Peter and the apostles,
who ate and drank with the risen Lord,
we proclaim your goodness and love,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Suggested Bible Readings

You may wish to take some time to read through some big chunks of the Old Testament and some whole books of the New Testament. The following are some suggestions of where to start. Don't worry if you don't understand everything that the writer says, over time you will come to understand more and more.

Genesis 12, 15, and 17

Exodus 1-15

Leviticus 16

Deuteronomy 28-30

2 Samuel 5-7

1 Kings 1-12

2 Kings 22-25

Lamentations 1-2, 5

Isaiah 40-55

Haggai 1 & 2

Mark

Luke

Acts

Romans 5-8

Romans 12-16

1 Corinthians

Philippians

Ephesians

Colossians

1 Peter

2 Peter

James

As you read these try to use the Swedish Study Method! It will take a bit of practice, but in time it becomes second nature!

SWEDISH STUDY METHOD



AN ARISE MINISTRIES COLLECTIVE RESOURCE

PRAY

Prayer is powerful in understanding scripture. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding as you read.

READ

Reading scripture out loud together helps focus the mind and heart.

OBSERVE • DISCUSS

Look for three things:



A LIGHT BULB //

Anything that draws attention or stands out. It can be something that strikes you particularly or is an important part of the passage.



A QUESTION MARK //

Anything that is hard to understand.



AN ARROW //

How can you apply this to your life? How is God encouraging you? Is there a sin God is revealing to you?

EXPAND

As you become more comfortable, expand your questions to include the following:

- **GENRE //** What type of writing is this? Narrative? Poetry? Wisdom Literature? A Parable?
- **MAIN IDEA //** What is the central idea the author was trying to get his audience to understand? Look at repeated words and phrases. How is the plot developing?
- **CONTEXT //** What happened before and after the passage? What is the historical context? What would the original audience have seen or experienced?
- **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT //** Has a character grown? Changed in some way? Is there a sin revealed?
- **GOD'S CHARACTER //** What does this passage reveal about God?
- **GOSPEL CONNECTION //** How does this passage reveal the Gospel - Namely how is God working towards the redemption of humanity? Does it hint at Jesus and the cross in some way?