

### Prayer for every departed person

Remember, O Lord our God, Thy servant, our *brother/sister, N.*, who has reposed in the Faith and hope of life eternal, and in that Thou art good and the Lover of mankind, Who remittest sins and blottest out iniquities, do Thou loose, remit and pardon all *his/her* sins, voluntary and involuntary.

Deliver *him/her* from eternal torment and the fire of Gehenna, and grant unto *him/her* the communion and delight of Thine eternal good things prepared for them that love Thee.

For though *he/she* hath sinned, yet hath *he/she* not forsaken Thee, and *he/she* undoubtedly believed in the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit; and even until *his/her* last breath did *he/she* confess Thee in Orthodox fashion: God glorified in Trinity, Unity in Trinity and Trinity in Unity.

Wherefore, be Thou merciful unto *him/her* and reckon *his/her* faith in Thee, rather than *his/her* deeds, and in that Thou art compassionate, grant him/her rest with Thy saints; for there is no man that liveth and doth not sin.

But Thou alone art wholly without sin, and Thy truth is forever; and Thou alone art the God of mercies, and compassion, and love for mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

<http://www.orthodox.net/trebnic/prayer-for-every-departed-person-in-the-psalter-card.doc>

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## Praying for the Dead. A short Primer.

**Why?** Because: we love them, and do not stop loving them after they die. Because: to God, all live, and life after death is a mystery, of which many things have not been revealed to us. Because: we will not forget those we love, whether living or dead. Because: From apostolic times, Christians have prayed for their reposed loved ones.

**When?** If we love someone we think of them often. We pray every day for our loved ones, dead in the flesh, or alive in the flesh, and the church has many appointed days when we serve services for our reposed loved ones.

**How?** With love, and hope in the resurrection. We may pray the “Prayer for every departed person”, which is in any Orthodox Psalter (book of Psalms), or pray more simply, simply saying

“Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on thy servant N.”

It is common, and very helpful to pray this prayer with prostrations. I do this every day, and if you do it to, you will understand what I mean. There are many beautiful prayers for the dead which we may sing in our homes. For more information, contact [Priest Seraphim Holland seraphim@orthodox.net](mailto:seraphim@orthodox.net)

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