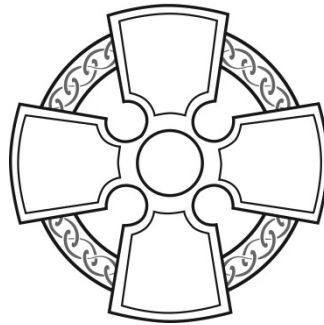


The Church in Wales



PRAYERS FOR A CHILD
~ BOOK FOUR ~

*Prayers after
a Miscarriage*

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INTRODUCTION

The Liturgy included in this booklet has been approved by the Bench of Bishops (June 2015) and produced by the Standing Liturgical Advisory Commission for use in services within the Church in Wales.

***Prayers after
A Miscarriage***

Gathering

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

Greeting

May the God of all consolation and hope be with you.
And also with you.

Introduction

Our lives, once filled with so much hope and joy, have now been touched by sadness at the death of this little child. And yet, with breaking hearts, we can find comfort in the Lord who has known this child *(even whilst he/she was growing in his/her mother's womb)* for God is the Lord of life. In Jesus, who took flesh in the womb *(or: who was born)* of Mary, he leads us home to heaven. And so we can, with faith and hope, commend this little one into the loving care of God *his/her* heavenly Father.

Reading

One or more of the following or other appropriate readings may be used:

Revelation 21. 1a, 3-5a: *'There will be no more death.'*

Psalms 121. *'My help is in the name of the Lord.'*

Revelation 21. 1a, 3-5a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

Psalms 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

Prayers of Intercession

O God, you know us through and through.
Strengthen *N* and *N* and give them new hope.

Your hand will guide me:
your right hand holds me fast.

You know our rising and our going to rest.
Give this family the assurance of eternal life.

Your hand will guide me:
your right hand holds me fast.

You have known this child, even before *he/she* came
into being
Receive *him/her* into your loving care.

Your hand will guide me:
your right hand holds me fast.

[You keep close behind and before.
We pray for *N*, who had looked forward with such joy
and excitement to the birth of a new baby *brother/sister*.
May *he/she* know the closeness of your love.

Your hand will guide me:
your right hand holds me fast.]

Your knowledge is beyond our grasp.
Help us to perceive your will and to stand in awe of
your presence.

Let us pray to God our loving and compassionate Father:

Either

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

or

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayer after a Miscarriage

Either:

Lord God,
full of gentleness and compassion,
we commit to your love this little one.
Brought to life for so short a time,
embrace *him/her* in your eternal love.
May *his/her* parents,
deeply saddened by the loss of their child,
have courage and hope.
Bring them through their pain and grief
to days filled with happiness and joy.
May they all meet one day
in the joy and peace of your kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or:

Loving Father,
you are our refuge and strength,
our hope and constant care.
Comfort these parents with the knowledge
that the child for whom they grieve
is now entrusted to your loving embrace.
Wipe every tear from their eyes
and mend their broken hearts that, yearning for life,
they may find fulfillment in Jesus your Son
whose rising from the dead
restores our lives to you,
and leads us to the life of heaven.
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

Lord God,
the heaviness of grief is laid upon these parents.
You know their pain and sadness
which they feel at the loss of the child.
Console them with the knowledge
that *he/she* lives in your loving care.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep watch over you;
the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord look lovingly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Acknowledgements

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