

PREPARE YE THE WAY

PRAYERS TO PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prayers for Loved Ones

Lord, I come before You today and ask that you have mercy on me and my loved ones. Please grant us favor with you and with man as we make our supplications unto You. I especially ask for _____ and for me that we may walk in Your way and do all that is pleasing in Your sight. We look to You for direction and guidance in all matters that come before us.

Please watch over our going out and our coming in. Create in us a caring heart, an attentive heart, a contented heart, a hungry heart for more of You. Lord, we honor You and praise Your Name and give thanks to You for all the blessings of this life.

For those who do not know you Lord Jesus, I pray that you bring them to a Saving Knowledge of You. Father, bring people into their lives that would reveal the True Jesus to them in ways that only You know will touch them. I pray that you will soften their hearts and mine. For those of us who know You, I pray that you would draw us into an ever deepening relationship with You.

Today I pray that my loved ones and I would take on the whole armor of God in order that we may be able to withstand in the evil day (Ephes. 6:13-17). We gird our waist with Truth, put on the Breastplate of Righteousness, shod our feet with the gospel sandals of Peace, take the shield of Faith, put on the Helmet of Salvation, and take up the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Prepare us for every fight, dear Lord. In Jesus' name we pray.

Father, I know that you work through families. I lift my entire family to you Lord. I pray for only unity in our family and that any whispers of disunity and miscommunication would be revealed to us quickly for what they are. Father, I prayer for protection over my family from any plans of the evil one or evil people.

I pray that You would help me to maintain healthy boundaries with my extended family. Lord, your word says that your blessings extend to a thousand generations for those who love you and keep your commandments. Lord, bless my generations, and in any area where there is disobedience, I pray that it would stop so that your favor would rest upon my family line. Help us to break free from the sin that entangles us so that we may bless your Holy Name and bring glory and honor to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Father, for those areas in me where I have lacked a family blessing, I pray that you would lead me to a Spiritual Family, to people who You have arranged to stand in to bridge those gaps. Father, I thank you for Your Nature, that You make it possible for those wounds to be healed by using others in the Body of Christ. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who places solitary persons in families: We commend to your continual care the homes in which your people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech you, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in marriage, have been made one flesh.

Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, Jesus Christ our God, who taught us to pray continually for one another, thus fulfilling your commandment and manifesting our desire for your mercy, in your compassion watch over and protect my loved ones for all seen and unseen enemies. Grant them health and complete wisdom so that they may fulfill all their obligations according to your will and commandments. Protect them from all temptations which they does not have the strength to resist. Strengthen them in the right faith and in perfect love, that we may live together in virtue, and direct our lives according to your precepts. For yours is the power and glory forever. Amen.

Adapted from Orthodox Prayerbook by Mother Kassiana

Prayers Specific to Married People

Father, I lift our marriage to You. I pray that both of us are first in love with You and then deeply in love with each other – realizing that these are the two covenant relationships that we will experience on earth. I pray that I will reflect You accurately to my husband/wife – I pray that You give me Your eyes to see them. Father, make me quick to be willing to serve him/her.

I pray that you would protect our relationship from anything that would come against it and that You would give us both a hunger for purity and commitment to each other. I pray that we would continue to date and woo each other, and that we would not grow complacent in our own appearance or care of each other.

I thank you for the gift of my husband/wife and pray that You would help me to continually be a good steward of this gift.

I pray for a mission statement for our family. I know that You want to use us together to touch people and to help each other grow. Show us what that mission is Father, that we may bring glory to your Holy Name. In Jesus' name. Amen.

We implore You, O merciful Lord: Help us to remember that marriage is indeed holy, and strengthen the sanctity of our union. Shower Your grace upon us so that we may live our lives in true faithfulness and love. Help us to understand and trust each other fully, keeping quarrels and arguments far from us. Bestow Your blessings upon us, and in Your mercy, count us worthy of Your kingdom, for You are our sanctification, and we offer glory to You: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Additional Prayer for Married Couples with Children

I pray that we always serve as godly examples as parents, so that we are able to accurately model You to our children. I pray that we allow other Christians to influence our children's lives and come along side us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer Specific to Single People

Father, I thank You for this time of my life. I know that this is a time that I can focus on You and myself. I pray that You help me to lead a holy and pure life. I want to be sold out for You, to dedicate myself without any distractions to You. Help me to turn to you about all of my needs and wants first and quickly.

O merciful Lord, help me to remember that you alone are my God and that you make me whole, that I am created to bring you glory and honor. Shower your grace upon me so that I may live my life in true faithfulness and love. Help me to understand and trust those who I am in relationship with and keep us from quarrels and arguments. Bestow your blessings upon me, and in your mercy, count me worthy of your kingdom, for you are my satisfaction, and I offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit now and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayers for our Children and Spiritual Children

Father, I pray that our children will come to know and love you at a very young age...that they love you and follow you with all of their beings all the days of their lives. I pray that they have healthy relationships – please give them discernment in this area of their lives. I pray that they come to know Your purpose for their lives early and live all their days fulfilling this calling. Father, I pray that you prepare them and their future spouses for each other even now, that they would both love You and each other above all else.

I pray that I do not see this season in my life as a burden, but as a very special time to reflect Your love to others. I realize the responsibility of raising children that You have entrusted to my care and I pray that I am quick to release any feelings of being burdened or overwhelmed to You and pray for Your refreshing. Father, guide me and help me to be quick to hear and follow You. Help me to prioritize times to be with You alone and to create times to nurture myself, so that I am a better nurturer. Lord, I thank you for the gift of children. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord you are great and awesome, and we fight for our sons, our daughters, our spouses and our houses. On the authority of Your promise we declare that You will contend with him who contends with us, and You will give safety to our children, save them and ease them day by day... You are our LORD, our Savior, our Redeemer, and the Mighty One of Jacob. We proclaim our children as a heritage and a reward from You.

We ask You, Father, draw them to repentance with Your goodness, and give them as an inheritance in the Lord Jesus Christ. He shed his blood for them that they might be saved, and Your arm is not shortened that You cannot save. Holy Spirit, we ask You to convince and convict them of sin, righteousness and judgment. May our sons and daughters repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and they will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. According to Your promise we are asking You to pour Your Spirit and Your blessings on our children. Lord, bring us to the day where our sons and daughters shall prophesy; our young men shall see visions. Create in them a love for Your Word. Lord, thank you for choosing our children before the foundation of the world and calling them in their youth. Our children are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation. They are Your own special people. Father, confirm Your word and hallow Your name in the lives of our children for Your glory and honor. In Jesus Name, Amen”

(By Germaine Copeland)

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.