

### *Prayer for the Family*

Loving creator, author of life,  
we thank you for our special role in family life and for the gift we share with you in  
creating others in your own image and likeness.  
Life is so precious and so beautiful, mingling souls in so many mysterious and satisfying  
ways.  
May our human love and friendship reflect your own divine love.  
May we and our children be committed to being fully alive to your call and challenge,  
ever growing in discipleship and friendship with Jesus who alone is the way, the truth,  
and the life.  
May we praise you always.  
May we, without seeming to preach, teach you to our children and to others, not so  
much by our words as by our example.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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### *Prayer for our Ancestors*

God, Source of all hope and love  
Hear our prayers for our ancestors.  
May the road they walked in pursuit of peace and joy in you  
Mirror for us the same peace and joy we long for.

May we learn from their wisdom,  
Better understand the challenges of their time  
And appreciate the life they have given us.  
May we experience their presence  
As a communion of your everlasting love.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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### *Prayer for Eternal Rest*

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the  
souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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*Prayer for Those who Have Died*

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 our departed brothers and sisters  
will share in His resurrection,  
who lives and reigns  
with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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*Prayer for Healing the Family Tree (St. Charles Borromeo)*

Heavenly Father, I come before You as Your child, in great need of Your help. I have physical health needs, emotional needs, spiritual needs, and interpersonal needs. Many of my problems have been caused by my own failures, neglect and sinfulness, for which I humbly beg Your forgiveness, Lord. But I also ask You to forgive the sins of my ancestors whose failures have left their effects on me in the form of unwanted tendencies, behavior patterns and defects in body, mind and spirit. Heal me, Lord, of all these disorders.

With Your help I sincerely forgive everyone, especially living or dead members of my family tree, who have directly offended me or my loved ones in any way, or those whose sins have resulted in our present sufferings and disorders. In the name of Your divine Son Jesus, and in the power of His Holy Spirit, I ask You, Father, to deliver me and my entire family tree from the influence of the evil one. Free all living and dead members of my family tree, including those in adoptive relationships, and those inextended family relationships, from every contaminating form of bondage. By Your loving concern for us, heavenly Father, and by the shed blood of your Precious Son Jesus, I beg You to extend Your blessing to me and all my living and deceased relatives. Heal every negative effect transmitted through all past generations, and prevent such negative effects in future generations of my family tree.

I symbolically place the Cross of Jesus over the head of each person in my family tree, and between each generation; I ask You to let the cleansing blood of Jesus purify the blood lines in my family lineage. Set Your protective angels to encamp around us, and permit Archangel Raphael, the patron of healing, to administer Your divine healing power to all of us, even in areas of genetic disability. Give special power to our family members' guardian angels to heal, protect, guide and encourage

each of us in all our needs. Let Your healing power be released at this very moment and let it continue as long as Your sovereignty permits.

In our family tree, Lord, replace all bondage with a holy bonding in family love. And let there be an ever deeper bonding with You, Lord, by the Holy Spirit, to Your Son Jesus. Let the family of the Holy Trinity pervade our family with its tender, warm, loving presence, so that our family may recognize and manifest that love in all our relationships. All of our unknown needs we include with this petition that we pray in Jesus precious name. Amen.