

Fully Alive Grade 8 Prayers

Prayer for Families

God of life and love, hear our prayers.

We pray that suffering families will be healed by your presence in their lives.

We pray that families in need will be met with compassion and generosity.

We pray that families facing great challenges will find strength in you.

God of life and love, hear our prayers.

Bless families who are stressed and worried with the gift of hope.

Bless families who are tired and downhearted with the gift of joy.

Bless families who have lost their way with the confidence of your presence.

God of life and love, hear our prayers.

Help all families to create loving and secure homes.

Help all family members to be patient and gentle with each other.

Help all family members to look upon each other as gifts of your love.

God of life and love, hear our prayers.

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If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the

right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,
endures all things. Love never ends....

I Corinthians 13: 1–8

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A Prayer for Wisdom

Creator God, you have made us in your image, male and female.
You are life and you are love.
Open our hearts so that we may reflect your image in all we say and do.

You know and love each one of us.
You have known and loved us from the moment we were conceived.
Open our hearts to your plan for us so that we may be fully alive.

You have given us the blessing of other people to share our lives.
Family members, friends, teachers, and others who reflect your wisdom.
Open our hearts so that we may welcome their words of guidance.

You have given us the promise of forgiveness, through your son, Jesus.
You ask us to be honest with ourselves and recognize our weaknesses and sins.
Open our hearts so that we may be healed and, with your help, start anew.

Amen.

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“When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome brought spices so that they might anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” (Mark 16:1-7)

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Prayer for the Dead

Lord, those who die still live in your presence;
their lives change but do not end.

I pray for my family,
relatives, and friends,
and for all the dead known to you alone.

In company with Christ,
who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.

Unite us together again in one family,
to sing your praise for ever and ever.

Amen.

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• **Scripture reading:** A reading from the holy gospel of Matthew

Then the king will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

(25:34-40) The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
with compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks
on earth to do good.
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
with compassion on the world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

St. Teresa of Avila

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