

Prayer for Visiting a Grave on MEMORIAL DAY

On Memorial Day, we traditionally remember those who have served our country, especially those who have given their lives. We also remember all our loved ones as we visit their graves and honor their memory. As we visit the grave we also pray trusting in God's merciful love and in the fullness of eternal life in which our loved ones now dwell.

Following the placement of flowers, if used to honor the grave, the following prayer may be said. Each person present may take various parts or the prayer...

All make the Sign of the Cross +

Leader: **Praise be to God our Father, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead!
Blessed be God forever!**

ALL: **BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!**

The following Scripture text, or another chosen beforehand, may be proclaimed:

Reader: **I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.**

Romans 8:38-39

All then pray the **LORD'S PRAYER**. All may join hands for the Prayer:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Following the Lord's Prayer, one of those gathered prays the following prayer:

**Lord God, whose days are without ending and whose mercies are beyond counting, keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.
Let your Spirit guide our days on earth in the ways of holiness and justice, that we may serve you in union with the whole Church, sure in faith, strong in hope, perfected in love.
And when our earthly journey is ended, lead us rejoicing into your dwelling place, where you live forever and ever. AMEN.**

If visiting the grave of one who has served in the military the following prayer may be prayed:

**God of power and mercy, you destroy war and put down earthly pride.
Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears,
that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.
Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your dwelling place of justice and peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN**



Leader: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

ALL: AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.

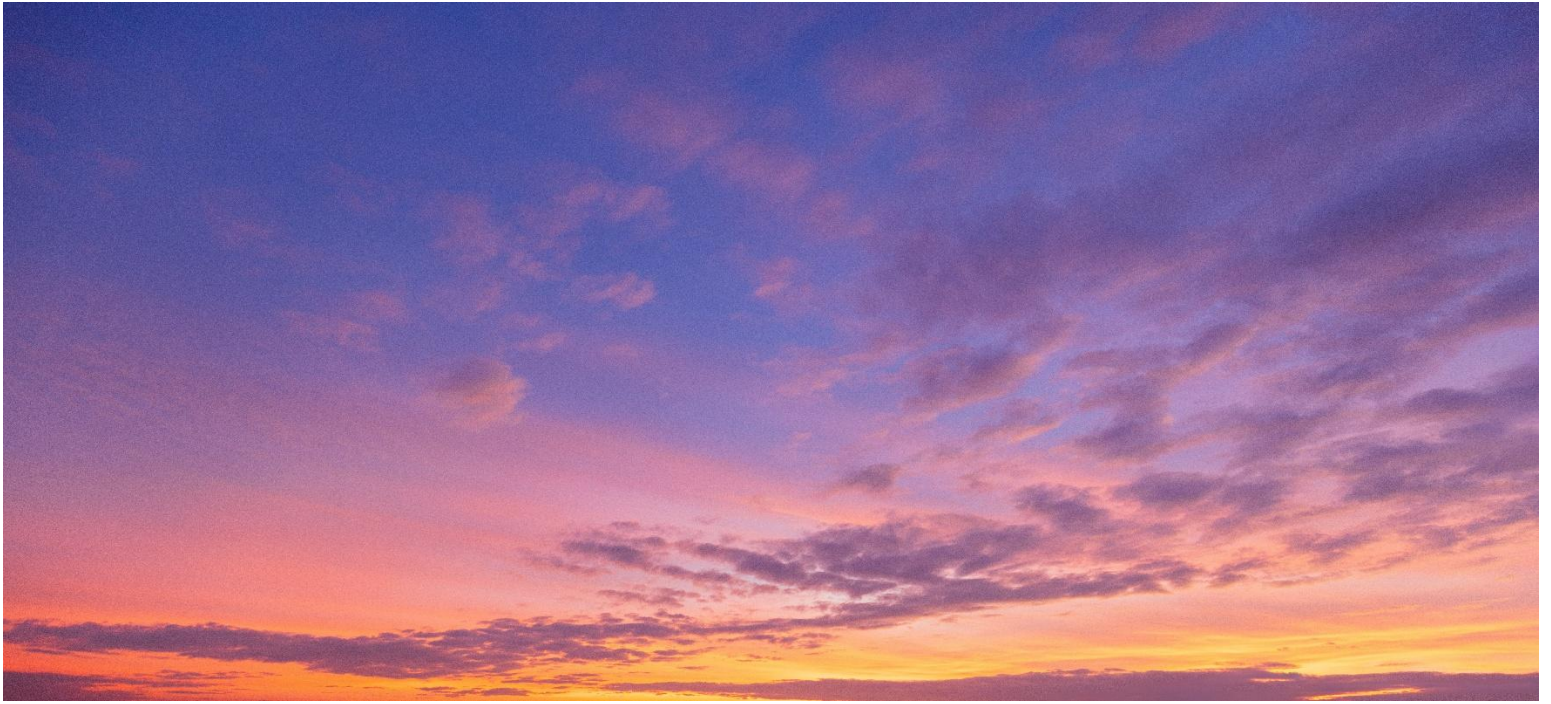
Leader: May they rest in Peace.

ALL: AMEN.

Leader: May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ALL: AMEN.

The prayer concludes with the Sign of the Cross



Memorial Day 2026

“Remember your servants whom you have called from this world to yourself.
Grant that those who were united with your Son in a death like his,
may also be one with him in his Resurrection,
when from the earth he will raise up in the flesh those who have died...

To our departed brothers and sisters,
and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life,
give kind admittance to your kingdom.

There we hope to enjoy forever the fullness of your glory,
when you will wipe away every tear from our eyes.
For seeing you, our God, as you are, we shall be like you for all the ages
and praise you without end, through Christ our Lord,
through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.”

AMEN!

The Roman Missal, Eucharistic Prayer III, commemoration of the dead.

