

The Diocese of Melbourne
Liturgical Committee

Death and Dying

**Prayers suitable for Memorial Services
held some time after Death**

*Authorised by the Archbishop of Melbourne
for use in the Diocese of Melbourne
17 August 2021*



Prayers suitable for Memorial Services held some time after Death

These resources are intended to be used in the context of a Memorial Service that follows the structure of the Funeral Service contained in A Prayer Book for Australia, pages 70-76, especially where a Funeral can only be attended by a limited number of mourners due to Coronavirus public health restrictions

At ¶5 of the ABPA Funeral Service, the minister may use this introduction

We gather together to celebrate the life of *Name* who died *on date*.

Though time has passed,
we come together to support one another as we remember and grieve.
Trusting in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection that Christ has wrought
for all who believe, we give thanks for *Name's* life,
pray for those who mourn *them*
and recall the promise that all who die in Christ
will share eternal life with him.

At ¶7 of the ABPA Funeral Service, Romans 8.38-39 should be used as one of the sentences

The following prayer may be used in addition to the provision at ¶14 in APBA Funeral Service

For those who mourn

Holy God,
Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, Abiding Spirit,
we pray for *Name's* family and friends
who continue to mourn and remember *them*:
As they grieve, may they know your comfort and assurance,
and as they feel the depth of loss,
may they know they are loved by you, Lord God.
May they know your mercy
in times of sorrow and times of joy,
for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Instead of the Prayer of Entrusting and The Committal at ¶20-21 of the Funeral Service, the following should be used

Trusting *Name* to the eternal mercy of God, we pray.

Holy and loving God, by your loving power you gave us life,
and in your mercy you have given us new life in Jesus Christ.
Hold *Name* in your merciful keeping, we pray,
in the faith of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to save us
and now, with all the faithful departed, lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit
in glory for ever. **Amen.**