**PRAYERS AT HOME** (Prepared by The Parish of Northumberland)

**For every day, or for those Sundays when we can’t get to church**

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Note: NONE OF THIS IS COMPULSORY – **You** are the one talking and listening to God. It is your conversation with your Maker and your Friend.

This short service below is meant as a guide, in case you forget something you wanted to remember! It was originally designed for families, but one person can use it as well.

It is taken from Home Prayers, p 687 BAS, with some additions from other parts of that book.

**Light a candle.**

God is our light and our salvation, and in his name we light this candle. May it remind us of the beauty of his truth and the radiance of his love. May our hearts be open to the light of Christ now and at all times. **R.** Lord, in your mercy, let there be light

**Praise** – the psalm for the day, a hymn, song, or instrumental music

**Reading(s**) One or more scripture passages may be read. (Check the monthly schedule sent out by this parish)

**Response to the reading(**s): silence, discussion of the scripture, theme or family concerns, poem or other literary reading, a story, study.

**Prayer:** *We confess our wrongs. We pray to be better people. We know that God forgives us.* *(Think of our mistakes, what we could have done better. Name them.)*

**Lord,** make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

 *Think of what is happening, name our concerns)* *Pray for the Church, Queen, government, all in authority, the whole world, the needs of ourselves and others, our worries and fears, those who have died.* *Name them.*

**Remember, Lord**, your people bowed before you, and those who are absent through age, sickness, or any other cause. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, inspire the faint-hearted, and bring the wandering to your fold. Journey with the travellers, encourage the oppressed, defend the widows, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Strengthen all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress. Remember for good those who love us, and those who hate us, and those who have asked us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. Remember especially, Lord, those whom we have forgotten. For you are the helper of the helpless, the saviour of the lost, the refuge of the wanderer, the healer of the sick. You know the need of all and have heard each prayer: save us in your merciful loving-kindness and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Thank God.** *(Think of all the good things in our lives. Name them)*

**Our Lord God**, we thank you for all your blessings, for life and health, for laughter and fun, for all our powers of mind and body, for our homes and the love of dear ones, for everything that is beautiful, good and true. We thank you for giving your Son to be our Saviour and Friend. May we always find our true happiness in pleasing you and helping others to know and love you, for Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen

*(We say the prayer that Jesus taught…*) **Our Father**……Amen.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with me/us now, and always. Amen.

(If you lit a candle, don’t forget to extinguish it!)

