

# **Magor Ministry Area**

**A service for those  
unable to attend a  
funeral**



We are aware that for various reasons people are sometimes unable to be present at the funeral of a family member or friend. It may be that the service will be 'livestreamed' or recorded for people to view remotely. But often this isn't possible and so we have produced this short service for people to use in their homes or another location when they are unable to be present in person.

You might wish to use this service alone or with someone else; you could use it at the same time as the funeral is taking place or if not possible at some other time. As you follow this service you might find it helpful to light a candle or have a cross/ crucifix as a focal point and a photograph of the person you are remembering. Where you see 'N' in this service then please do insert the name of the person you are remembering. Please do take your time in following this service and take time to remember and give thanks.

If you would like to chat to one of our ministry team then please don't hesitate to contact us:

[www.magorministryarea.org.uk](http://www.magorministryarea.org.uk)

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Please be assured that you are in our prayers at this difficult time.

*The ministry team*

At this time of sorrow the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word: Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted.

*Please take a moment to be still and to remember your loved one.*

*God's love and power extend over all creation. Every life is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ beyond death. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11.25,26).*

*There is a real sense of loss at the death of a loved one. We will each have had our own experiences of their life and death, with different memories and different feelings of love, grief and respect. To recognise this at the beginning of the service should help us to express our faith and our feelings as we say farewell, to acknowledge our loss and our sorrow, and to reflect on our own mortality. Those who mourn need support and consolation. We may be unable to be present in person but we can be part of that continuing support.*

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.

Although unable to be present in person today we come: to remember before God our brother/sister N: to give thanks for his/her life; to commend him/her into the hands to almighty God, and to comfort one another in our grief.

*We read two passages from the Bible which we hope may be of some comfort to you at this time:*

Some words from Psalm 23:

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures: and leads me beside still waters.

He shall refresh my soul: and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me:

you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

And some words of Jesus (John chapter 14: 1 to 4)

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God,  
believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are  
many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I  
have told you that I go to prepare a place for  
you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will  
come again and will take you to myself, so that  
where I am, there you may be also’.

*Please take some time to bring to mind memories  
of your loved one. If someone else is with you  
please do share your memories.....*

In our prayers we give thanks for the life of N and we pray for their family and friends:-

God of mercy, Lord of life,  
you have made us in your image  
to reflect your truth and light:  
we give you thanks for N,  
for the grace and mercy s/he received from you,  
for all that was good in his/her life,  
for the memories we treasure today.  
(Especially we thank you ...)

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief  
and life out of death.  
Look in mercy on all who mourn.  
Give them patient faith in times of darkness.  
Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*At the service for N the minister will commend their  
spirit into God's keeping. Whilst you may not be  
present in person you are invited to join in this  
prayer:-*

God our creator and redeemer,  
by your power Christ conquered death  
and entered into glory.  
Confident of his victory  
and claiming his promises,  
we entrust N to your mercy  
in the name of Jesus our Lord,  
who died and is alive  
and reigns with you,  
now and for ever. Amen

May the Lord bless us and keep us; may the Lord  
make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to  
us; may the Lord look kindly on us and give us His  
peace. Amen

