

Lead Thou me on!  
 The night is dark, and I am far from home -  
 Lead Thou me on!  
 Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see  
 The distant scene –one step enough for me.  
 I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou  
 should lead me on.  
 I loved to choose and see my path, but now  
 Lead Thou me on!  
 I loved the garish day, and in spite of fears,  
 Pride ruled my will: remember not past  
 years.  
 So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still  
 will lead me on,  
 O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till  
 The night is gone;  
 And with the morn those angel faces smile  
 Which I have loved long since, and lost  
 awhile.

### **A Prayer to St. Philip**

Philip, my holy advocate, who didst bear  
 persecution and calumny, pain and sickness,  
 with so admirable a patience, gain for me  
 the grace of true fortitude under all the trials  
 of this life. Alas! How I do need patience! I  
 shrink from every small inconvenience; I  
 sicken under every light affliction; I fire up  
 at every trifling contradiction; I fret and am  
 cross at every little suffering of body. Gain  
 for me the grace to enter with hearty good-  
 will into all such crosses as I may receive  
 day by day from my Heavenly Father. Let  
 me imitate thee, as thou didst imitate my  
 Lord and Savior, that so, as thou hast  
 attained heaven by thy calm endurance of  
 bodily and mental pain, I too may attain the  
 merit of patience, and the reward of life  
 everlasting.

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Pamphlet 245

## **Prayers for Those Who Just Died**

### **Prayers After Death**

C. Come to his (her) rescue, Saints of God;  
 run out to meet him (her), angels of the  
 Lord.

A. Welcome his (her) soul. Lead him (her)  
 into the presence of the Most High.

C. May Christ, who called you, receive you.  
 May the angels lead you to Abraham's  
 bosom.

A. Welcome his (her) soul. Lead him (her)  
 into the presence of the Most High.

C. Eternal rest grant to him (her) O Lord;  
 and let perpetual light shine upon him (her).

A. Lead him (her) into the presence of the  
 Most High

C. Lord, have mercy

A. Christ, have mercy

C. Lord, have mercy. Our Father...

A. ...who art in heaven

C. Eternal rest grant to him (her), O Lord

A. And let perpetual light shine upon him  
 (her)

C. From the gates of hell

A. Deliver his (her) soul, O Lord

C. May he (she) rest in peace

A. Amen

C. O Lord, hear my prayer

A. And let my cry come unto you

C. The Lord is with you

A. And with you also

C. Let us pray.

To you, Lord, we commend the soul of your  
 servant (handmaid) N. Being dead to this  
 world, may he (she) live unto you. In your  
 most merciful goodness forgive whatever

sins he (she) has committed in this life through human weakness: through Christ our Lord. Amen

Grant O God, that while we lament the departure of your servant (handmaid), we may always remember we are most certainly to follow him (her). Give us grace to prepare for that last hour by a good Life. May we not be surprised by a sudden and unexpected death, but may we be ever watching. May we thus, when you call, enter into eternal glory: through Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Prayer of Surrender**

My Lord and Savior, in your arms I am safe; keep me and I have nothing to fear; give me up and I have nothing to hope for. I pray you not to make me rich, I pray you not to make me very poor; but I leave it all to you, because you know and I do not. If you bring pain or sorrow on me, give me grace to bear it well. If you give me health and strength and success in this world, keep me ever on my guard lest these great gifts carry me away from you. Give me ever to aim at setting forth your glory to live to and for you; to set a good example to all around me; give me to die just at that time and in that way which is most for your glory, and best for my salvation.

### **Prayer for a Happy Death**

May He support us all the daylong, till the shades lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. There in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

## **Some Extra Prayers and Hymns**

### **Ave Maris Stella**

Hail Star of the Sea. Truly art thou a star, O Mary! Our Lord indeed Himself, Jesus Christ, He is the true and chief Star, the bright and morning Star, as St. John calls Him; that Star which was foretold from the beginning as destined to rise out of Israel, and which was displayed in figure by the star which appeared to the wise men in the East. But if the wise and learned and they who teach men in justice shall shine as stars for

ever and ever; and if the angels of the Churches are called stars in the Hand of Christ; if He honored the apostles even in the days of their flesh by a title, calling them lights of the world; if even those angels who fell from heaven are called by the beloved disciple stars; if lastly all the saints in bliss are called stars, in that they are stars differing from stars in glory; therefore most assuredly, without any derogation from the honor of our Lord, is Mary His mother called the Star of the Sea, and the more so because even on her head she wears a crown of twelve stars. Jesus is the Light of the world, illuminating every man who cometh into it, opening our eyes with the gift of faith, making souls luminous by His Almighty grace; and Mary is the Star, shining with the light of Jesus, fair as the moon, and bright as the sun, the star of the heavens, which it is good to look upon, the star of the sea, which is welcome to the tempest tossed, at whose smile the evil spirit flies, the passions are hushed, and peace is poured upon the soul. Hail then, Star of the

Sea, we rejoice in the recollection of thee. Pray for us ever at the throne of Grace; plead our cause, pray with us, present our prayers to thy Son and Lord - now and in the hour of death, Mary be thou our help.

### **Praise to the Holiest**

Praise to the holiest in the height, And in the depth be praise,  
In all his words most wonderful, Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!

When all was sin and shame,

A second Adam to the fight

And to the rescue came.

Which did in Adam fail, Should strive afresh  
against their foe,

Should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace.

Should flesh and blood refine, God's  
presence and his very self

And essence all divine.

O generous love that he who smote

In man for man the foe,

The double agony in man

For man should undergo

And in the garden secretly,

And on the cross on high,

Should teach his brethren, and inspire

To suffer and to die.

Praise to the holiest in the height,

And in the depth be praise,

In all his words most wonderful,

Most sure in all his ways.

*(The Dream of Gerontius)*

### **Lead Kindly Light**

Lead kindly Light, amid the encircling  
gloom