

Prayers for Pet Owners

Blessings for Sick or Injured Pets

Heavenly Father, we ask for your mercy that this beloved small creature, which is your own, be not in pain. We ask that health be restored and sustain if it is your will so that they be allowed to stay with us a little longer here in this world, where they are needed. We ask that if there is medical care needed, that the way be provided. We ask that this one does not suffer needlessly. We ask for your compassion and grace that this one be healed through your love, through your mercy and through the help of those here on earth, through whom your love comes forth. In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, we ask these things not for ourselves, but for this small life that is so precious and carries the light of your love. Amen.

Blessings for Pets in Pain

Beloved merciful Lord, we know that in nature you do not allow your creatures to suffer. As you have allowed us the utmost generous gift of your creatures into our lives, we ask that we are able to keep them from suffering in pain. Bless us with understanding to know when our pet is hurting, because we as humans cannot always know. Our pets cannot tell us with words and sometimes we are so busy in our lives that we do not see the signs of pain. Teach us to be more sensitive to our pet's needs. Help us to find the resources to restore health and to keep them from pain. Show us the way Lord, to keep the sacred trust of dominion over your little ones. Help us to live up to that trust and to honor the life that you have blessed us with so that they do not live in pain as a result of living with human beings. We ask this blessing from the sincerity of our hearts and with humility, in Jesus name. Amen.

Blessings for Elderly Pets

Beloved Lord, Bless this dear one that has given so much love for so long. Bless them, that they are given comfort as their time draws near; that they are able to stay in their home with their familiar things and with their human family, that they so love until that time comes. We pray that although they are aging now and draw closer to their time left here in this physical world, that they would be free from pain and suffering and that they will continue to feel joy and our love. We ask your blessings that when the time comes that are called home, that each day left with us is one of quiet love and peaceful companionship. We thank you for the time you have given us with our pet and for your grace in allowing our pet to stay so long here on this earth and to richly bless our lives. In Jesus name, we thank you and ask these things. Amen.

The Euthanasia Prayer

Beloved God, Help me to understand that you are/were with me, by my side, helping me to make the humane decision to end the suffering of my beloved pet. Help me to forgive myself, as you forgive me lovingly each day for my shortcomings, knowing my heart. Help me to understand that it is good and noble to have the courage to face such a difficult decision and to make them despite how much it hurts to do so. Help me to realize that, as my decision was made from love, there is no reason for me to hang onto the heavy burden of guilt that I feel at times. Help me to realize that, as you have sent us our beloved pets to be our guardians, we are their guardians in return and are responsible for their every need - including their need to be free of pain and suffering. Help me to realize that our life together was a blessing from you and that is you who called them home to Heaven, and that I only took them to the door, where you gratefully and lovingly welcomed them home. Amen.

Prayer for the Pet Just Passed

My Beloved God, I thank you for blessing me with the angel that you sent to me as my pet. I know that this divine one came from your Grace, as my very days were blessed by your presence of that one in my life. For this I am grateful. My heart is released from the burden of sadness in knowing that we will be reunited again when we return to our true home in Heaven. Please help me through my loss with the understanding and knowing that my pet remains with me in spirit, loving me still as I love them. Thank you for giving me the time with this divine angel, whom you sent directly from your love. I have truly been blessed. Amen.

Prayer for The Healing of The Heart

My Beloved God, help me to know the truth from within that, although my pet has passed away, they live in spirit. Give me the grace to go within my heart and to feel and know this truth so that I do not doubt. Help me to regain my balance and my enjoyment of life by realizing that we are all infinite spirit and that my pet is still with me in that living spirit. Help me to take those spiritual gifts that my pet gave and taught to me and use them to give my life a richer meaning and substance, and to share those things with others. Thank you for allowing me to care for one of your beloved angels for the time that we had. Amen.

Prayer for Those Who Mourn

Beloved God, Give me the grace to mourn with dignity.

Give me the grace to mourn in peace.

Give me the grace to mourn without shame or embarrassment.

Give me the grace to mourn fully so that my heart will be healed.

Give me the grace to mourn out loud and cry until my crying is done.

Give me the grace to mourn the loss of the one I love, and to understand others when they must face a similar road.

Give me the grace to mourn with patience and to be tolerant of my own need and to move through this at my own pace.

Give me the grace to accept that I am in mourning and to be at peace with that while my heart mends.

I pray that my time of mourning will be made easier through the understanding of that mourning is good for my heart. It is a good mourning and for that, I am blessed. Amen.

Prayer for the Feeling of Loss

Beloved God, I feel so lost and alone since the passing of my loving pet. Help me to know that the love I feel for my pet remains alive and can nurture me through this time of adjustment and through my loss. Help me to understand that nothing is ever lost and that spirit does not die. When I feel this loss so deeply, remind me of what my life was before my pet came into my life, so that I can see how much richer I am now. Help me to draw upon my happy memories with my pet, just as a person draws upon money in a bank account. The bank of joy is my resource that I can spend to help me get through the days ahead. Help me to transform my feelings of loss into feelings of wonder and gratitude for having been so blessed with this precious one in my life. Lord, I am at a loss for words. I am at a loss for love. Help me to know that I have truly been blessed and that my loss will turn to gain. Amen.

Above prayers taken from www.chaplinofpets.com

Devotion for a Dead or Dying Pet

Leader Let us sing to the Lord a new song;
All **a song for all the creatures of the earth.**
Leader Let us rejoice in the goodness of God
All **shown in the beauty of all things.**

"I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God."

- Romans 8:18-21

"I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away. And he shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold I make all things new. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end."

- Revelation 21:1, 4-5a, 6

Dear God;

This we know: every living thing is yours and returns to you. As we ponder this mystery we give you thanks for the life of _____ and we now commit him/her into your loving hands. Gentle God: fragile is your world, delicate are your creatures, and costly is your love which bears and redeems us all. Holy Creator, give us eyes to see and ears to hear how every living thing speaks to us of your love. Let us be awestruck at your creation and daily sing your praises. Especially, create within us a spirit of gratitude for the life of this beloved pet who has lived among us and given us freely of his/her love. Even in our sorrow we have cause for joy for we know that all creatures who died on earth shall live again in your new creation. Amen.

St. Margret's Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas
www.stmargaretschurch.org