Funeral prayers are short writings that provide encouragement and strength which many families have used to reflect and remember their loved one. Funeral prayers can also be read aloud in the memorial service and is the perfect additional to any of our templates.

The following is a selection of popular funeral prayers. Use them inside your funeral programs, thank you notes, graduated programs, memorial cards, bookmarks, and/or prayer cards. They are appropriate to use in any of these memorial service keepsake items.

Peace Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
when there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that I 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 [to ourselves]
that we are born to eternal life.

Student's Prayer

Creator of all things,
true source of Light and Wisdom,
lofty source of all Being,
graciously let a ray of
Your Brilliance penetrate into the darkness
of my understanding and take from me the
double darkness in which I have been born;
sin and ignorance.
Give me a sharp sense of understanding,
a retentive memory, and the ability to grasp
things correctly and fundamentally.
Grant me the talent of being exact in my explanations,
and the ability to express myself with thoroughness and charm.
Point out the beginning, direct the progress,
help in the completion.

Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord
**Serenity Prayer**

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him
Forever in the next.

Amen.

--Reinhold Niebuhr

**Prayer for the Departed**

God our Father,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family,
relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to You alone.

In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever.

Amen.

**Novena to St. Jude**

Most Merciful Jesus,
lover of souls,
I pray You,
by the agony of Your most Sacred Heart,
and by the sorrows of Your Immaculate Mother,
to wash in Your Most Precious Blood,
the sinners of the world who are now in their agony,
and who will die today.

Heart of Jesus,
once in agony,
have mercy on the dying.

Amen.
The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted, for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
The Mourner's Kaddish

Magnified and sanctified
May His great Name be
In the world that He created,
As He wills
And may His kingdom come
In your lives and in your days
And in the lives of all the house if Israel
Swiftly and soon
And say all amen!

Amen!
May His great Name be blessed
Always and forever!

Blessed and praised
and glorified
and raised
and exalted
and honored
and uplifted
and lauded
be the Name of the Holy One
(He is blessed!)
Above all blessings
And hymns and praises and consolations
That are uttered in the world,
And all say amen!

May a great peace from heaven –
And life! –
Be upon us and upon all Israel
And say all amen!

May He who makes peace in his High places
Make peace upon us and upon all Israel,
And say all amen!
Jewish Funeral Prayer

God full of mercy who dwells on high
Grant perfect rest on the wings of Your
Divine Presence In the lofty heights of the holy and pure
who shine as the brightness of the heavens to
the soul of (name of loved one) who has gone
to his eternal rest as all his family and friends pray
for the elevation of his soul. His resting place shall
be in the Garden of Eden. Therefore, the
Master of mercy will care for him under the
protection of His wings for all time
And bind his soul in the bond of everlasting life.
God is his inheritance and he will rest in peace
and let us say Amen.

El maley rachamim shochen bam'romim
hamtzey menuchah nechonah al kanfey haschechinah
bem'alot kedoshim u'te'horim kezohar harakia
me'irim umazhirim lenishmat shehalach
le'olam ba'avur shekol beney hamishpachah,
yedidim umakirim mitpalelim le'iluy
nishmato began eden tehey
menuchato lachen ba'al harachamim
yastireyhu beseter kenafav le'olamim veyitzror
bitzror hachayim et nismato
Adonai hu nachalato Veyanuach
beshalom al mishkavo
Venomar amen.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
rest, if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is queer with its twists and turns,
as everyone of us sometimes learns,
and many a failure turns about
when he might have won had he stuck it out,
Don't give up though the pace seems slow --
You may succeed with another blow.
Success is failure turned inside out --
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit --
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.
Bless This Little Child

Lord, look down from heaven above
And touch this special child with love,
Protect and guide this little one
Till each and every day is done.
Remind us often that it's true,
This little life is a gift from you.
A miracle You've sent our way!
Lord, bless this little child today.

Christ Have Mercy

With the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
give rest to the soul of Thy servant, O Saviour;
and preserve it in that life of
blessedness which is with thee,
O thou who lovest mankind.
In the place of Thy rest,
O Lord, where all thy Saints repose,
give rest also to the soul of Thy servant for
Thou only loveth mankind. Glory to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Thou art our God, who descended into Hell,
and loosed the bonds of those who were there,
Thyself give rest also to the soul of
Thy servant Now and ever unto ages of ages.
Amen.

Days Without End

GOD, Your days are without end,
Your mercies beyond counting.
Help us always to remember that
life is short and the day of our death
is known to You alone.
May Your Holy Spirit lead us to live
in holiness and justice all our days.
Then, after serving You in the fellowship of
Your Church, with strong faith, consoling hope,
and perfect love for all, may we joyfully
come to Your Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Ashem Vohu Prayer

God our Father, Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives, and by
Your command we return to dust.
Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to You alone.
In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever.
Amen.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from Christ's side, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy saints
and with Thy angels
Forever and ever...
Amen.

Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun
Of happy memories that I leave When life is done.

God Needed An Angel

God needed an angel in Heaven
To stand at the Savior’s feet;
His choice must be the rarest
A lily pure and sweet.
He gazed upon the mighty throng
Then stopped and picked the best
With Jesus she's [he's] now at rest.
Not Forgotten But Loved

Your gentle face and patient smile.
With sadness we recall
You had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.
The voice is mute and stilled the heart
That loved us well and true.
Ah, bitter was the trial to part
From one so good as you.
You are not forgotten loved one
Nor will you ever be
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes by we miss you more,
Your loving smile, your gentle face
No one can fill your vacant place.

I Am Waiting

When I must leave you For a little while
Please do not grieve And hug your sorrow to you
Through the years, But start out bravely
With a gallant smile; And for my sake
And in my name Live on and do
All things the same. Feed not your loneliness
On empty days,
But fill each waking hour In useful ways
Reach out your hand In comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you And hold you near;
And never, never Be afraid to die,
For I am waiting for you in the sky!

May You Walk in Sunshine

May you always walk in sunshine and
God's love around you flow,
for the happiness you gave us,
no one will ever know,
it broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone,
a part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.
A million times we've needed you.
A million times we've cried.
If love could only have saved you.
You never would have died.
The Lord be with you
And may you rest in peace. Amen.

Ref.: http://www.funeralprogram-site.com/funeral-prayers/