
PRAYER SERVICE FOUR

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Theme: “Watch and Pray”

OPENING HYMN

OPENING PRAYER

Leader : God, our heavenly Father, you have taught us through your Son that we do not have a lasting city here on earth. Therefore we should always watch and pray, and be ready because we do not know when you will call us. May this departure of **N...** from this life prompt us to be always awake in faith, prayer and good works. In your mercy and love, grant **N...** eternal rest and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All : Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 24:42-44

Leader: Jesus said, “So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have

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allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (PAUSE)

REFLECTION

Leader : As we think of our departed brother/sister, it is good to ask ourselves: ‘Will I be ready when my turn comes? Will I be at peace with God and others in the face of death? Will I be satisfied that I have led a meaningful life here on earth? Or have I been living in fear, frustration and misery? To be always ready means to have a firm life of faith, an active prayer life with constant acts of charity – this is Jesus’ code Word: ‘Be always ready.’ While he was in this world, Jesus was always prepared in facing death. (PAUSE)

MEDITATION ON THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

(Refer to the appropriate day of the week)

INTERCESSIONS

Response : Father, Your Will be done at all times

- That all family members of **N...** may further grow in Christian love and unity through regular and faith-filled family prayer. We pray to the Lord.
- That we may always be awoken to lead faithful Christian lives so that when the Lord calls us, we will be prepared to meet Him. We pray to the Lord.
- That the prayer of this Community may purify the soul of **N...** from all stain of sins and enable him/her to celebrate the joy of heaven. We pray to the Lord.
- That in our trials and temptations, struggles and tensions, we may discern God's Will and live on courageously in submission to His Will. We pray to the Lord.

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CONCLUDING PRAYER

Presider : God, our merciful Father, it is your Will that **N...** should pass on from this life. May he/she now enjoy the eternal life you have promised to all those who believe in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All : **Amen.**

CONCLUDING HYMN