

Ritual Prayers For Children Gone too Soon

A flower is available to each participant. These become symbols of our loss and we express our grief and longing to Our Lord. Our flowers are then presented to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, she who lost her own son. For she knows our sorrow and offers us consolation at this time and always.

Opening Responses

Come among us God of our hearts:

You, who cast the planets into space
and cradle the sparrow in her nest

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE

Come among us God of our hearts:

You, who bless the poor and the broken
and stand by the sad and the strong

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE

Come among us God of our hearts:

You, who dance in the silence
and shine in the darkness

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE

Come among us God of our hearts:

You, who comforted Mary's broken heart
at the foot of the cross.

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE

Come among us God of our hearts:

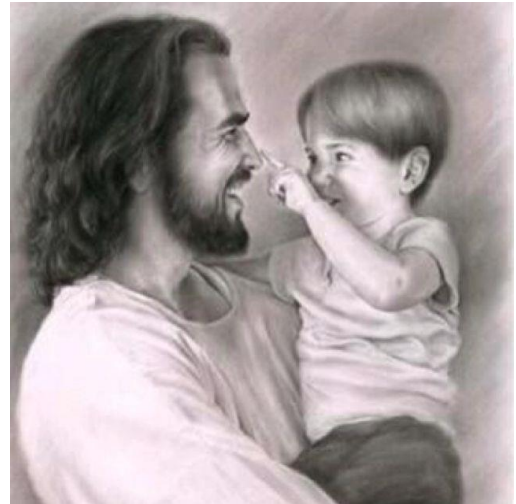
You, who knows the deep numbness
left by the one who has died.

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE

Come among us God of our hearts:

You, who stands with us in our sorrow
and weeps with us in our grief.

All: COME LORD AND MEET US HERE



Brief Silence

Ritual Remembrance

You are invited to come forward and place a flower on the plate before the Lord- a symbol of the child/ren lost too soon. Let us pray for those among us who declare their loss before us.



Litany for Those Gone Too Soon

When all the flowers have been placed

All their potential, all their energy

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All their laughter, all our joy

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All their giving, all our receiving

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All their presence, all our delight

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All their touch, all our response

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All their little ways, all our wonder

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All our shock, all our denial

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All our anger, all our blaming

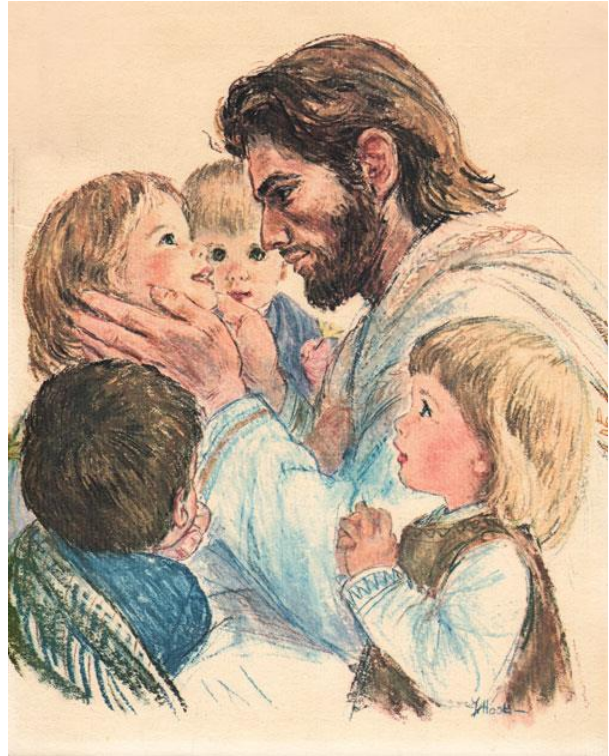
All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

All our grief, all our tears

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS

Those we remember, those we love

All: SAFE NOW IN GOD'S HANDS



Procession of the Flowers

The flowers are taken in procession and placed in front of the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, she who knows what it is to lose a child.

Prayer For Those Who Have Lost a Child Too Soon - Unison

Said after the flowers have been placed in front of the icon of Our Lady

Hold our hands, Mother Mary.

Walk with us through the loneliness and the valley of our sorrows.

Hold on to us when we are too afraid to think about the future.

Let us lean on you, Mary, when we are too weary to continue.

May we hold hands together through the night until we see the light of dawn.

Lead us to your Son, Jesus, and the memory of his resurrection promise.

Amen

Blessing

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit †

All: Amen

