

Godly priuate Prayers for Housholders to meditate vpon, and to saie in their families.

MARKE. 11. 24.

What soeuer ye desire when ye pray, beleene that ye shall haue it, and it shall be done vnto you.

ROM. 10. 13.

Whosoever shall call vpon the Name of the Lord shall bee saved.

A prayer containing the effect of the Houf-
holders Catechisme.



Almighty God and most mercifull Father, I see in thy blessed lawes & commandements the greatnes of my sinnes and wickednesse; yea, I see (O Lord my G O D) the whole course of my life to be almost nothing else, but a continuall breaking of thy holy Lawes and commaundements. The thoughts of my heart, either in vanitie, or else open wickednesse, are in number infinite, daily in the abundance of them, causing my mouth to speake, and my body to execute and doe contrary to thy holy will. And againe (O Lord) I see thy heauie wrath, vengeance, and iudgement against sinne to be intollerable, that euen the least wicked thought and most secrete cogitation of my heart, procureth thy heauy wrath, and euerlasting curse, the torments of hell, and euerlasting fire, euen although I had but once in all my life broke any of thy commandements, so much as once in thought. And I know (O Lord G O D) that thou art true and iust, and canst not abide sin and wickednes, but wilt iustly punish

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euery

Godly private prayers

every sinne, euen with the selfe same torments of hell, which thy iustice hath appointed, euen for euerie sinne. This O Lord my God throweth me downe, & euen amazeth me, so that I know not what to do. I looke into my selfe, viewing mine owne power, whether I am able to overcome this punishment of my sinne or no: and I see that all, euen the most exquisite punishment that I can deuise to my selfe, in whipping of my bodie as long as I liue, wearing haire-cloth, pining my selfe with fasting, or any other paine, I see, I see (O Lord) that all this punishment is not sufficient for one of my least finnes, because it deserueth euen the euerlasting paines of hell. I looke to heauen, I see there is no Saint nor Angel able to abide and overcome this punishment of sinne: I looke to men in this world, euen to the Popes treasure, that wicked man of sinne, and I see that neither his Masse nor purgatorie, pilgrimage, pardons, penance, satisfactions, nor any of such like wicked stuffe, alas I see they are nothing for the satisfying for one of my least wicked thoughts, seeing the punishment is by thy iust decree and sentence thine euerlasting curse. Wherefore I am driuen out from my selfe, and all that I can doe, to seeke this punishment discharged elsewhere, or else to fall vnder the burden. I see there is no helpe for mee in Angels, Saints, nor mortall men, but onely in that perfect man Christ Iesus thy deere sonne, in whom I see the full punishment of my sinne wholly paide, satisfied, discharged, and overcome: death vanquished, the paines of hell in victorie swallowed vp, the curse satisfied, and the eternitie of the punishment (through his euerlasting power) over-reached. This I see (O Lord) by the eies of faith, being thorough thy holy Spirite wholly assured, that all the whole punishment of sinne, paide by my Saviour Christ,

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Christ, is not onely paid for other men, but euen also for mee and my sinne. This assurance of my faith, being thine onely worke in mee, I beseech thee in mercy, to strengthen and increase, for I feele it often full of waucring and doubting. Grant that I may daily more and more in my soule and conscience, feele my selfe knit and grafted into the body of thy Sonne, whereby I may bee assured, that whatsoever hee hath done, pertaineth to mee, and is fully and wholly mine : that I may through the power of his death, feele daily sinne die in mee, and through the power of his resurrection, feele my selfe risen from sinne, to haue my full ioy and comfort in those things which bee agreeable to thy holy will, vtterly detesting, hating, and abhorring from my heart all thinges which be contrarie to thy will and pleasure : that euen in this life I may still looke for this endlesse ioy and felicitie, vsing the things of this world as though I vsed them not, till that good time that it shall please thee to call mee to thine euerlasting kingdome of glorie, there to raign with my Lord and Sauiour Iesus Christ, for euer and euer. Amen.

A prayer vpon the Lords prayer.

O Most mightie Lord and eternall God, who hast by thy deere sonne Christ Iesus our Lord and Sauiour, reconciled vnto thy selfe all thinges in heauen and earth, and in him hast made an euerlasting bond and couenant with vs thy faithfull children, that thou wilt not onely be our God, but also our most louing and mercifull Father, whereof as a pledge thou hast given vs thy holy Spirit of adoption, whereby we may with boldnes and full trust and confidence, come to thee by hartie
Our Father which art in heauen.

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prayer, as vnto our most louing and mercifull Father, being assured that thou wilt not denie vs any thing which thou knowest shall bee expedient for vs: grant wee beseech thee deere father, that wee being fully perswaded in our hearts of this thy fatherly loue and affection towards vs, may be stirred vp to make our petitions with such an affection, ardent desire, loue & reuerence to thy Maiestie, that our mindes bee not carried away with by-thoughts creeping in, but without all wandering, may be fully bent and attentiuē to the thing we aske; and fully staid vpon thy mercifull and iust protection.

*Hallowed be
thy Name.*

Wee then beseech thee (deere father) that thou wilt strengthen our hearts with thy holy Spirit, that considering thou hast made all things for the glory of thy Name, so wee may in all our doings, enterprises, counselles, and purposes, chiefly aboue all things seeke thy glory: that wee may fully acknowledge thee, not onely the Authour of all things, but the ruler, guider, and gouernour of all things, both in heauen and earth: that wee neuer diminish thine incomprehensible glory, by attributing vnto our selues any power, strength, or abilitie to doe, will, or thinke that which is good: but from our hearts wee may acknowledge all our goodnesse to come from thee, yeelding for the same continuall praise and thanksgiuing to thy glorious Name: that wee neuer by distrusting thy mercifull prouidence, dishonour thy Name, but that euen in our greatest distresse wee may put our full confidence in thee, not looking vppon our weaknesse, but staying vppon thy power and promises: by heartie prayer flying vnto thee our onely refuge: that our whole life may be so framed according to thy holy will in all points, that thy most glorious Name in vs may be sanctified, and that wee be not an occasion that thy holy Name be blasphemed

for Christian Families.

phemed through our wicked life and conuerſation.

Let thy Kingdome (moſt mercifull Father) appeare, and manifeſtly be declared in all the world, but eſpecially amongſt thy Church and faithful ſlocke: declare thy ſelfe Lord and King ouer them, ruling them by the ſcepter of thy holy word, and force of thy holy Spirit. Increate the number of faithfull Paſtors and Preachers amongſt the people: bleſſe their labours to the increaſe of the kingdome of thy deere ſon Ieſus Chriſt, and to the deſtruction of the kingdome of ſathan and Antichriſt. Suppreſſe the rage of the enemies, that they may know that thou, O Lord, doſt raign in al ages, to the behoofe of thy Church, and terrour of thine enemies. . . Grant theſe mercies good Lord, not onely to the whole Church in generall, but eſpecially to euery one of vs thy children particularly: Grant that wee may effectually feele the force of this thy kingdome in our hearts. Beate downe in vs our old corrupt Adam, with al ſinful delights, thoughts, motions, and deſires: and renew in vs day by day our ſpiritual and inward man, that we may bee wholly bent to delight, thinke, deſire, and doe thoſe things which be acceptable in thy ſight.

Frame our hearts (good Lord) with ſuch humble obedience to thy holiè wil, that we may be heartilie wel content with whatſoever it pleaſeth thy goodneſſe to lay vpon vs: that wee neuer ceaſe in our miſeries, but continually cal vpon thee by heartie praiers, although wee feele no releaſe at al, yet that ſtil patiently wee may abide, and quietly waite for thy good leiſure and appointed time of deliuerance, when thou knoweſt it ſhal bee moſt expedient for vs.

Grant vs (deere Father) that al our counſailes, ſtudies, labours, and endeuours, being by thy holy Spirit

Thy Kingdome come.

Thy will be done in earth as it is in heauen.

Give vs this day our daily bread.

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guided and framed, wee may euery one in that vocation in which thou hast placed him, so faithfully trauel, to the discharging of our consciences, & edifying of thy church, that our account may bee found acceptable before thy throne and iudgement seate. So blesse our labours and trauailes, that wee may haue sufficient for the preseruing of this present life, and bee content with those benefits which thou shalt bestow vpon vs, whether they be many or few, acknowledging them to be receiued of thee: not greedily to care for them, or vainly to delight in them, but thankfully esteeme of them, as thy benefits bestowed vpon vs, and as faithful stewards inoderatly vse them, to the releefe of our brethren, and the discharge of our consciences.

*Forgiue vs
our trespasses,
as we forgiue them
that trespass
against vs.*

Increase in vs (good Lord) the gift of faith, that we may daily more and more in our soules and consciences be assured, that our sins bee defaced, cleane blotted out, and couered with the ful, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice of thy deere Sonne Christ Iesus our Lord and Saviour, once made for vs: that wee are vnited, knit, & made one body with him, partakers of his righteousnes, iustification, and holinesse, and euen fellow heires with him of euerlasting life: that wee may vnfaignedly from the bottoome of our hearts loue thee for this thine vnspeakeable goodnesse and mercy: forgiuing from our hearts our Brethren which doe offend vs, pray for them, loue, cherish, and comfort them as fellow members al of one body, with perfect natural loue and compassion linked together to our head Christ Iesus.

*Leade vs not
into tempta-
tion.*

Strengthen vs, good Lord, with thy holy Spirit, that wee bee not ouercome with the subtile suggestions and sinneful motions of sathan the diuell: hold vs vs with thy mercifull hand, that wee sleepe not in sinne, that

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we bee not drawne away with the wicked world, nor the inticements of the flesh, to delight in wickednesse: but so arme vs with thy mighty power, that wee may strongly abide all the assaultes and subtile sleights of our ghostly enemy, and sincerely to walke before thy face, both in prosperity and aduersitie, to thy honour and glorie, the health of our soules, and profit of thy Church, through Iesus Christ our onely Lord and Sauour, Amen.

The Lords praier more at large.

O Most mighty and eternal God, who of thine infinite loue to mankinde, hast giuen vs thine owne eternal Sonne Christ Iesus our Lord, to be made man for vs, in the similitude of sinneful flesh, to become flesh of our flesh, bone of our bones, in al things like vnto vs, sinne onely excepted: who being thy true and natural Sonne, hath made vs with him, sonnes, children, and heires to thee our most mercifull Father, giuing vnto vs by grace, that which is his by nature. And by his due, alone, once offered, al sufficient sacrifice, hath paide the rancome of our sinnes before thy diuine Maiestie, to satisfie thy iustice for vs sinfull flesh. Which debt being paide for vs, hee hath brought vs in fauour with thee, so that wee may now with boldnesse and trust come to thee as vnto our most merciful and louing Father, with full assurance, that as thy loue is so much greater and more excellent towards vs, then al loue of earthly parents towards their Children, as thou passest all men in goodnesse and mercy, so thou wilt denie vs nothing which shal bee expedient for vs. So that although al the Fathers which are in earth, hauing shaken off al

Our Father which art in heauen.

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feeling of fatherly naturalnesse, would forsake their children, yet thou wouldest neuer forsake vs, because thou canst not denie thy selfe : who promisest, that if earthly Fathers being euil; can giue good gifts to their Children, how much more wilt thou our heavenly Father, being altogether goodnesse it selfe, giue good things to them that aske in thy Sonnes Name? And that although a Mother should forsake her Children, yet wilt thou not forsake vs thy Children, whom thou hast before the beginning of the world in thy deere Sonne Iesus Christ, chosen to bee thy children and heires with him of thine immortal Kingdome. Whereof that wee in our selues might be sure and certaine, and out of al doubt, that wee are the children and heires of euerlasting life, thou hast giuen into our hearts thy holy Spirit, as a true pledge and earnest of our inheritance, which Spirit doeth assure our spirits that we are thy Children, and therefore cryeth in our hearts, Abba Father.

Wee therefore as thy deere Children, ransomed and bought by thy deere Sonne, do flee to thee our most louing and merciful Father, who in goodnesse art infinite, in mercie aboundant, in substance incomprehensible, in immortalitie euerlasting: who by thy mightie power and singular prouidence rulest al things, according to thy heavenly wisdome: beseeching thee for thy deere Sonne Christ Iesus his sake, that as thou hast sufficientlie set foorth thy glorious Name in making the whole world, heauen, earth, and all thinges therein contained: so wee may in beholding and viewing thy creatures the workes of thine handes, bee lifted vp to thee our Lord GOD the Creatour and Maker, and in them glorifie thy holy Name, acknowledging in them thy singular goodnesse and loue towards man, for
whose

*Hallowed be
thy Name.*

for Christian Families.

whose vse thou hast created all things, both in heauen and earth : and that wee may for the same, euen from the bottome of our hearts, yeeld due honour, praise, and thanksgiuing to thee (deere Father) all the daies of our life. Grant most mercifull Father, that we may in heart and minde bee fullie assured, that thou by thy heauenly prouidence rulest and guidest all things in heauen and earth, so that nothing in the whole world cometh to passe but according to thine appointment : that thou guidest and framest the affaires and doings of men, that thou hast euen their hearts and all their powers in thy mercifull hand, to turne them which way so euer it seemeth best to thy godlie wisdom : so that whether wee be in prosperitie or aduersitie, we may acknowledge both of them to bee thy worke in vs, and therefore bee no lesse thankfull for sicknesse then for health : for sorrow, then for comfort : for a troubled minde, then for a quiet : for imprisonment and banishment, then for libertie : especially seeing wee know that thou turnest them all (seeme they neuer so sharpe) to the comfort and commoditie of thy Children which feare thee : and that in all things which shall befall vnto vs, whether they bee grieuous or ioyous, prosperity or aduersity, life or death, thy holy Name may be sanctified in vs by yeelding due and continual praise and thanksgiuing to thy eternall Maiestie : that we neuer cease to put our full trust and confidence in thy mercie, who hast promised to bee our defender, buckler, and shield, to keepe vs as the apple of thine eye, to deliuer vs when wee call vpon thee, to open when we knocke, to giue when wee aske that wee knowing our owne weaknes, that of our selues wee haue no power or strength to doe, no not so much as to will that which is good, we may acknowledge al our strength, comfort,

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comfort, joy, faith, loue, hope, and confidence to be thine onely gift and worke in vs. And for the same, and the increase of the same, and for all thy benefits in vs, whereof we feele our selues destitute, we may constantly flee vnto thee by hearty prayer, requiring the same at thy mercifull hand. And hauing felt thy mercifull dealing towards vs, we may alway to the end of our life continue thankfull to thy blessed Name: that we neuer speake or thinke of thee (O Lord God) without high reuerence and an obedient feare vnto thy glorious Name.

*Thy King-
dome come.*

And that thy Kingdome (O Lord) may more gloriously shine amongst men, subdue the hearts of the people to be obedient to thy word. Lighten al nations with thy glorious Gospell: raise vp faithfull Ministers of thy word, abundantly in euery place, who with pure and perfect zeale in true knowledge may feede the hungrie soules with the soueraine life. Lighten the hearts of thy Children, whom yet thou hast not called to the feeling of thy mercies, in thy Sonne reuealed. Beate downe the furie and rage of the kingdome of sathan and Antichrist, with all tyrants, who shew their viter malice and furie against thy decre and faithfull stocke. Confound their deuices, suppress their pride, and so strengthen al thy true and faithfull seruants against their rage, that they may haue true wisdom to confound their enemies, and stedfast constancie to professe the truth of thy glorious Gospell, euen to the death. And that euerie one of vs may feele the force of this thy kingdome particularly in our selues, wee beseech thee kill in vs, by thy holy Spirit, al wicked delights of Sinne, and vanities of this world. Morte in vs our earthly and carnal affections, and grant that wee may haue our full delight and pleasure in thee our heauenlic Father, and in thy
Sonne

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Sonne Christ Iesus our Lord and Saviour, and reverently embrace thy holy word, that our soules may bee comforted therein, and our faith thereby confirmed. Lighten our vnderstanding, that we may in thy holy word learne, and in heart be fully assured, that thou art our most mercifull Father: and thy deere Sonne, our Lord and Saviour. Beate downe in vs all sinful motions of the aduersarie, which do rebell against thy holy Spirit, and settle and frame our minds by thy holy Spirit in vs, that al rebellion in our flesh being killed, wee may quietly with staid minds and consciences let our full ioy, comfort, and consolation in heavenly things, walking before thee in sincerity of minde: put our full trust and confidence in thee, rest and quiet our selues wholly in thy mightie protection and providence.

And inasmuch (O Lord God) as of our selues we be nothing but stubberness and rebellion, we beseech thee (deere Father) that as thine Angels in heauen doe willingly obey thy wil without resistance, so wee thy children in earth (al stubberness and perverseness, by thy holy Spirit in vs being vicerly extinguished and quenched) wee may willingly submit our selues, resigne and yeeld our whole affections to thee, O Lord, to be gouerned after thy blessed and heavenly will. That wee may feele in our selues no other motion or desire, then a meete consent to thy holy Will: that whatsoever affections in vs fight against thy holy Will, thou wilt vicerly make them voide. That wee neuer wil any thing of our selues, but that thy holie Spirit in vs may gouerne our hearts, by whom inwardlie being taught, wee may learne to loue, embrace, and take comfort in those things that please thee, and to hate those things that displease thee: That our hearts, mindes, and wils, being wholly

*Thy will be
done in earth
as it is in
heauen.*

22. *Godly priuate prayers*

wholy subdued to thy most blessed wil, wee may willingly bee content with that estate of life, which it pleaseth thy goodnesse to exercise vs withal in this world, whether it bee in aduersitie or prosperity, in sicknes or health, in ignominie or glory, in quietnes or trouble, in sorrow or gladnesse. Grant vs, deere Father, this willing and patient minde, that euen in our greatest distresse we may be content with thy good Wil, & not to murmur or grudge against thy Maiestie, knowing that thou wilt lay nothing vpon vs, but that which shall turne to our good or profit. And that we may patiently abide whatsoeuer it shall please thee to lay vpon vs: that wee bee assured in our hearts, that thou wilt not lay more vpon vs, then thou wilt giue vs strength to beare, and euen in our greatest afflictions, wilt finde a way for our deliuerance, and that thy power and strength is more fullie declared, when wee feele our selues vterly voyd of all strength, and see no way of deliuerance: that wee may in our most greiuous assaults, conflicts and anguish of mind, submit our selues wholy to thy blessed Wil, & looke for our deliuerance at thy hand, when thou knowest it shall bee most expedient for vs, & most for thy glory, leauing the time and meane of deliuerance to thy good will and pleasure, and that in the meane time we neuer cease but cal vpon thee, by hartie prayers continually as thou hast commanded, vntill such time as thou shalt heare our petitions. And although after many and sundry callings vpon thee, thou seeme not to regard vs, but rather deale more extremely with vs: yet notwithstanding strengthen vs so with perseverance in praier, that wee faint not, but stil continue in praier, being assured that although wee feele our selues nothing released, yet wee may quiet our selues heerein, that wee as thy *Children* haue laide our complaints, greefes,

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griefes and sorrowes in the bosome of thee our heauenly Father, who wilt as a louing Father, when hee seeth it most conuenient, helpe vs. And that although thou seeme nothing to grant our requests, yet we honour thee in calling vpon thy Name: seeing thou doest accept it as a most chiefe honour, to bee called vpon in the day of trouble.

And forasmuch (deere Father) as thou doost by thy mighty power nourish, feede, sustaine, preserue, & maintaine all liuing creatures, yea, euen the very young foules and beastes, wee beseech thee to sende vnto vs thy children, (ouer whom thou hast a more speciall care) all things necessary for this our present life: that we hauing sufficient, may walke euery one in our calling, in sinceritie and pure holinesse before thy face, acknowledging all our benefits of riches, wealth, health, meate, drinke, apparrell, and all our substance to bee thy meere giftes, bestowed vpon vs, and deliuered vnto vs from thy hands: that wee bee not drawne from thee through setting our mindes too much vpon them, but so moderatly vse them, as thy benefits for a time bestowed vpon vs, knowing that thou wilt at our hands require an account how wee haue vsed them. That we doe not carelessly gape or seeke after them, but discreetly to thy glory vse them, acknowledging in them thy goodnesse and liberality towards vs. And seeing, most mercifull Father, that it is not our trauaile, labour, paines, studie, or endeuour which is able to get vs our liuing, but onely inasmuch as it pleaseth thy goodnesse to blesse and prosper them: wee beseech thee, that if through our great trauaile and paines, wee be yet still in poore and meane estate, that thou wilt giue vs a contented heart, knowing that thereby thou lettest vs vnderstand, that it is thy good will and pleasure, so to

*Giue vs this
day our daily
bread.*

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keepe vs vnder, that wee more effectually may giue our selues to serue thee. Or if it be thy will and pleasure more aboundantly to blesse vs and our trauaile, to send vs a-bundance of all things, we beseech thee (deere Father) giue vs a thankfull heart to acknowledge them to bee thy good gifts, and frame our harts with such liberalitie, that we may be contented to distribute them according to the necessitie of thy children; being assured that thou hast to that end made vs Stewards ouer them, that thou maist at his hands require much, on whom thou hast bestowed much: so that wee hauing the due estimation of thy benefits which wee ought to haue, may both reuerence thy goodnes in thy benefits, and supply the want of our brethren, to the reliefe of their necessitie, and furtherance of thy glorie.

And whereas (most mercifull Father) thy sonne our

Lord and Sauiour Christ Iesus, hath in our nature paid the ransome and debt of all our sinnes, which wee haue from the beginning of our life committed, and doe daile commit, we beseech thy gracious goodnesse, that thou wilt by thy holie spirit in our harts, assure our soules and consciences with a liuelie faith, that by that same one alone sufficient sacrifice, the punishment of our sinnes is paid, thy wrath appeased, and thy iustice satisfied, whereby our consciences may bee quieted and set at peace with thee our mercifull Father and G O D. Let vs (deere Father) feele in our soules and consciences, that we are vnited and knit to thy deere sonne Iesus Christ, and made one bodie with him, & heire with him of euerlasting glorie, so coupled and ioyned with him, that being members of his bodie, wee may be assured that hee is ours: that his righteousnesse, is our righteousnesse: his satisfaction and holines is ours: the curse, condemnation & death which

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*Forgiue vs
our trespasses
as we forgiue
the that tres-
passe against
vs.*

for Christian Families.

he suffered, is the same curse, condemnation, and death due for our sinnes: that wee knowing that our sinnes bee done away, and cleane forgotten & forgiven by thy merciful loue and goodnes declared in offering vp thy sonne to death for vs, we may be driuen to loue thee vnfainedly from the bottome of our hearts, for this thine vnspeakable loue. And considering that thou hast in mercie pardoned so many our hainous offences, we may gladlie be moued to forgive one another their offences, and put out of our hearts, all rancour, malice, and hatred toward our brehten, knowing that wee are all members of one bodie, Christ our Sauour: that so surely as wee haue forgiven all them that offend against vs, wee may bee so certainly assured, that thou our mercifull Father hast forgiven vs, like as we haue forgiven our brethren.

And forasmuch (most heavenly Father) as we of our selues be feeble, fraile and weake, and haue a strong and subtile aduersarie sathan the diuell, who goeth about continually like a roaring Lyon, seeking whom he may deuour: wee beseech thee strengthen vs by thy holy Spirit, that wee may withstand his subtile suggestions and motions: hold thou vs by thy mercifull hand, and keepe vs alwaies in thy safegard and protection, that we be not ouercome in the mightie assaults of our aduersarie. And forasmuch as hee often vseth euen our owne flesh armed against vs, to conquer vs, we humbly beseech thee deere Father, mortifie, subdue, and kill in our flesh all subtile suggestions, and sinfull motions of sathan, that we yeeld not our selues as slaues thereunto, but continually fight against them, and bring them into subiection of the spirit. Grant vnto vs most mercifull Father, that we be not drawne through the subtile and sliely torments of sathan, to haue our delight and pleasure in the vanities

Lead vs not into temptation, but deliver vs from euill.

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of this present world, but by thy grace, might, & power, may so in the prosperitie of this life be vpholden, that our mindes with full ioy and comfort may be lifted vp to our perfect consolation in our Lord and Sauour Christ, and in him, take our full and perfect ioy and consolation, so that no vaine delight of this world put vs from the same, neither any sharpe aduersitie, as pouertie, miserie, or calamitie, through the malice of the diuell, driue vs to despaire of thy merciful goodnes towards vs: but alwaies being thorough thy grace and assistance defended, we may be fully and perfectly armed against all the subtile intrappings of sathan, and rest wholly in thy mercifull defence and aide. For thou hast (O Lord and eternall God) in thy gouernment, all things in heauen and earth, all power and dominion ouer al creatures, Angels and diuels, to rule them according to thy good pleasure and will, to the profit and commoditie of thy Church, and euery faithfull member thereof, and to thine owne incomprehensible glory: that in al things, in al ages, for euer & euer thy glorious Name may bee exalted, and thy faithful flocke edified through Christ our Lord, Amen.

A confession of sinnes, with faith and repentance.

O Mercifull and heauenly Father, wee thy seruants doe humbly prostrate our selues before thy Maiestie, acknowledging heere in thy sight our haynous offences committed against thy Maiestie, seeing and beholding thy heauie wrath against them: wee feele our selues laden (O Lord our God) with a huge companie of horrible sinnes, whereof euen the very least, being but conceiued in thought, is sufficient in iudgement to throw vs downe to the euerlasting burning Lake. Our
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for Christian Families.

owne consciences, O Lord, doe beare witness against vs, of our manifold transgressions of thy blessed Lawe, of our securitie and sencelesse blindnes, running headlong to destruction, committing sin after sinne, although not notorious to the world, yet horrible before thine eyes. The thoughts of our hearts rise vp in iudgement against vs: the vanitie of our talke before thy Maiestie condemneth vs: the wickednes of our deedes from thy sight reiecteth vs: al our wicked thoughts, words and deedes, with the inward corruption of our nature, doe altogether as it were a whole lump and load of sinne, lie heauie vpon vs, and with their intollerable weight, doe euen presse vs downe to hell. We doe daily grone vnder the burthen of them, inwardly lamenting our owne follie so greedilie running into them. In heauen, earth, or hell, wee see none able to sustaine the weight of them, but euen thy deere beloued Sonne Iesus Christ, who in mercie infinite, and compassion endlesse, hath sustained and ouer-come the endlesse punishment due vnto them: in him therefore, in him, most merciful Father, & through him wee come to thee, being fully assured according to thy promise, that thou wilt accept and take that full recompence which he thy deere Sonne hath made for vs, as a iust ransome for al the sinnes of al those who with a true faith take hold on him. In him therefore wee see thine anger towards vs appeased, thy wrath satisfied, and our debts paid.

Increase in vs, good Lord, wee beseech thee, this liuelie and feeling faith, for wee feele it often-times in vs very weake, and troubled with many doubts: increase it in vs (O Lord) that we may through thy holy Spirit be assured, that the punishment of our sinnes is fully in thy Sonne discharged. Make vs, O Lord our God, to feele

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this same in our soules and consciences, that Iesus Christ is ours, and al that he hath done : that we are grafted into his bodie, and made one with him, and therefore fellow heires with him of euerlasting life. Let vs not onely haue these wordes in our mouthes (good Lord) but through thy holy Spirit, let vs feele the comfort of them in our hearts fully sealed and setled in vs : that wee feeling our selues inwardly before thy iudgement seate discharged, and our consciences towards thee appeased, may bee swallowed vp with an vnfained loue toward thy heavenly Maiestie, and towards our Brethren for thy sake. Make sinne to die in vs daily more and more, that wee may hate, detest, and vtterlie abhorre all sinne and wickednesse in all men, but especially in our selues: that wee may strongly through thy holy Spirit set our selues in open warre and defiance against all sinne and wickednesse : that we please not our selues in our sinnes, but straightlie examining sinne by the iust rule of thy holie lawes, wee may vtterlie from the bottome of our hearts condemne euen the least sinne in our selues, hauiing our whole ioy, comfort, and consolation vppon those thinges which bee agreeable to thy blessed will, alwaies being afraide to doe any thing contrary to the same : that we may euen from the bottome of our hearts, examine and try our thoughts before thy presence, that they bee vpright and vnfained, not hypocriticall in outward shew onely and apperance ; but that euen all corners of our hearts beeing opened and disclosed before thee, wee may euen as though it were openly before the face of the whole world bring them in shew, knowing that a double heart is detestable in thine eyes : and that wee may walke alwaies as before thine eyes, not onlie before the eyes of man, being more carefull to walke
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circumspectly, in this respect, that wee haue thee to bee a viewer of our dooings, a thousand fold more then the eyes of man. That thus wee may walke as becommeth thy Children, not onely in outward shew, but also in sinceritie of heart, abhorring euen the least sinne in our selues, struiuing, resisting, and fighting against sinne, not delighting our selues in sinne, nor nourishing the same in our breast, but earnestlie embracing, and studiouslie seeking after those thinges which bee pleasant in thine eyes: that neither the feare of man, nor losse of goods, life, lands, possessions, or friendes, draw vs away from thee, to doe any least thing contrarie to thy wil and pleasure: neither the fauour or friendship of man, nor yet the flattering enticements of this world, nor the vaine promotions of the same do moue vs any whit from the true and endlesse ioy, delight and pleasure which wee ought to haue in those thinges which bee agreeable to thy will, and the constant performance of the same: but that alwaies to the ende of our life wee may continue in thy paths, growing and increasing from faith to faith, from strength to strength, till at length wee shall come to thy euerlasting rest, Amen.

A prayer for the estate of the whole Church.

O Lord our God, and heavenly Father, for asmuch as by thy holy word wee are commanded in our prayers not onely to bee mindfull of our selues, but also of all other thy Children; yea euen of our enemies: wee commend vnto thy Maiestie all thy whole true and Catholike Church, and euery member thereof: that as it hath pleased thy goodnesse by the bright beames of thy holy word, to shine ouer the whole world;

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whereby thou hast expelled, driuen away, and caused to vanish the darke and mistie cloudes of ignorance and superstition, so thou wouldst vouchsafe by thy holy Spirit, to touch the hearts of men, that they may ioyfully embrace that thine so high a treasure sent amongst vs, that through our vnthankfulnes we prouoke not thy Maiestie in anger to take it from vs. Crush, bruse & destroy with the breath of thy mouth, the mightie power of that man of sin, which so proudly exalteth himselfe aboue all that is called God. Let not thy simple flocke (deere Father) in whose consciences hee of long time hath and yet doth sit as God, bee any longer poysoned with his sweete enticing poysons; but so lighten their hearts, that they may perceiue his iuglings, and embrace the sweete comfortable doctrine of life euerlasting, reuealed in thy glorious Gospel.

And forasmuch as it hath pleased thee in mercie aboue all Nations of the earth, to powre downe the sweete showers of thy heauenly graces vpon this our English Nation abundantly, in more plentifull wise watering the same with the gistes of thy holy Spirit; in promoting thy Gospel, and ouerthrowing idolatrie, wee beseech thee to continue thy fauour toward the same, and vtterly roote out all remnants, reliques, and monuments of idolatry, that thy glorious Name may bee thoroughly exalted, in sincere, pure, and holy worshipping. And as thou hast in mercie from amongst vs in this thy Church, vtterly banished all false, venemous, and poysonfull doctrine, wherewith the soules of thy children heeretofore haue beene wounded to death, and in place thereof hast placed the true and comfortable doctrine of life euerlasting, where-with the soules of thy children bee fedde and nourished to euerlasting ioy: so in like mercie and fauour

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fauour wee beseech thee, deere Father, establish in the samethy Church, a true, perfect, and sincere regiment thereof, according to the prescript rule of thy blessed word, all fantasies of mans braine, and dreames of humane policie vtterly abolished: that thy glorious Maiesty onely may be exalted in the light of thy glorious Gospel: and that thy Church may flourish and increase, being through thy protection aided, supported, maintained, and defended: we beseech thee by thy holie Spirit, guide and rule every part and member thereof, especiallie thy seruant *James*, our King, whom thy gracious fauour and mercifull prouidence hath appointed a chiefe member in the same: vnder whose wings (next vnto thy protection) it hath a chiefe succour and support. Grant vnto him, O Lord, a pure and perfect zeale, aboue all things to promote thy glorie: first and chiefe in labouring and endeououring of himselfe earnestlie in wiping away and purging out of thy Church all blots and deformities, to reduce the same to a pure and sincere forme of worshippe, agreeing to thy blessed word, vtterlie to remooue al stumbling blockes, which stay and hinder the course of thy Gospell: giue him in like manner, O Lord G O D, the spirite of wisdome, discretion, and gouernment, that with equitie and iustice he may see this whole Realme, which thou hast committed to his charge, peaceably and quietly gouerned: that hee may studiouse labour, that as well thorough the whole Realme vertue be exalted, and vice abandoned, as especially in his owne house and Court, that al wicked vanities of this world, all licentious and inordinate life, all flattering and dissimulation being vtterlie banished, the feare of thy glorious Maiestie may so reigne in the hearts of all within his highnes Pallace & Court, that their liues and

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conuerſation may be agreeable to thy bleſſed will, in ſinceritie and true holineſſe and integritie of life, that from them, as from the head, may ſhine purity of life and conuerſation, as an example and patterne of true godlineſſe to the whole Realme. Preſerue him wee beſeech thee good Lord, from al conſpiracies and treaſons, that if it be thy good wil, hee may haue a long and quiet reigne ouer vs, to the benefit of thy Church, and the aduancement of thy glory. Indue the whole Councell, good Lord, with true and perfect wiſedome, that in all their conſultations and counſels, hauing thee preſent before their eyes, they may conſult of thoſe thinges which principally and chiefly may bee for the aduancement of thy glory, and the commoditie of thy Church, and next for the quiet peace and gracious gouernment of this Realme. So lighten all inferiour Magiſtrates of this Realme, good Lord, with the brightneſſe of thy holy Spirit, that vnderſtanding thy will, they may zealouslie defend, maintaine & further the courſe of the Goſpell with the ſword of iuſtice, cut off the wicked, and cheriſh the godly.

Defend and gouerne, by thy holy Spirit, the Paſtours of thy Church, and labourers in thy vineyard, that they may zealouslie, carneſtly, and diligently feede thy flocke committed vnto them, with the foode of life thy bleſſed word, where-with their ſoules may bee nourished to life euerlaſting. Increase the number of them, deere Father, place ouer euery flocke a godly, learned, and painful Paſtour, who may painfully and carefully trauaile euery one in his charge, to bring thy people (which now alas in moſt parts do wander & go aſtray like loſt ſheepe) to the true knowledge of thee their Lord and God, and of thy deere Son Chriſt Ieſus their Saujour. And for thy mer-

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cy, we beseech thee, to take pittie vpon thy poore & simple flocke, roote out all rauening Woules, which haue craftilie crept into thy sheepefold, and do make hauocke of the soules of thy simple flocke. Cast out al hirelings, time-seruers, and dumbe dogges, which to fill their bellies onely, haue thrust themselues among thy sheepe, and do plentifully suffer the flocke of Christ thy Sonne, to be deuoured and scattered of the Wolfe. Stirre vp good Lord, and place in their roomes faithfull shepherds, which diligently, painfullie, carefully, and earnestly may labour in thy vineyard, seeke to winne the soules of thy people, out of the tyrannie and power of sathan, to the freedome of thy deere Sonne Christ Iesus our Lord.

And that thy Church may better bee furnished with godlie and learned Pastours, we beseech thee prosper and increase in all godly knowledge, al Schooles of learning, especially the two Vniuersities, Cambridge & Oxford; Grant deere Father vnto al the students of the same, that the chiefe ende of al their studies, may bee to the furtherance of thy Church, and maintenance of the common-wealth. Blesse their studies, deere Father, that al vaine studies set aside, they may so fructifie and profite in al profitable and godly sciences, that heereafter they may become profitable members in thy Church, & godly vp-holders of the Common-wealth. Grant, good Lord, to al the whole Commons of this Realme, that their hearts being touched with a sincere feare and reuerence of thy heauenly Maiestie, acknowledging thy mercie in placing ouer them a godly Prince, they may every one in their callings, walke in al true and humble obedience vnto him, in thee and for thee, without resistance, tumults, insurrections, conspiracies, or rebellions: knowing, that to resist the higher Powers,

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is to rebell against thy Maiestie. Finally, we beseech thy goodnes to guide and gouerne the hearts of all the whole Realme of euery degree, that euery one in his calling, being by thy grace supported, may so occupie thy talent, that thy glorie in al things may be aduanced, thy Church enlarged, and this whole Realme into sincere goodnesse vertuously reduced.

Moreouer, wee beseech thee (O Lord our G O D) in mercy behold all those which suffer persecution for thy glorious words sake, whether it be imprisonment, death, or banishment, or whatsoeuer else; strengthen them good Lord, that they hauing thee alwaies before their eyes, and the glorie laid vp for them in the life to come, may continue constant in defending thy truth, without feare of man, or vaine allurements of this world, that whether it come by life or death, they may glorifie thy holy Name, in continuing in the truth to the end. Preserue in like manner wee beseech thee, all others thy Children, whom it hath pleased thee with any other kinde of crosse to chasten for their amendement, whether by pestilence, famine, warre, pouertie, imprisonment, sicknes or banishment, trouble of conscience, vexation of spirit, disquietnesse of minde, want of spirite, want of spirituall comfort, or what kinde of affliction of bodie or minde thou doost try them with: that by thy holy Spirit being fully assured that thou by this thy correction mindest to call them backe to a feeling of their sinne, and due consideration of their life and conuersation, that they may patiently abide thy fatherly tryall, looking for aide, helpe and comfort from thee, when it seemeth most conuenient to thy godly wisdom: and being by thy mercifull hand once deliuered, may acknowledge thy singular power and worke, giuing all laude and praise to thy glorious

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ous Name : and afterwards, all the daies of their life, studie to liue before thee in sincerity and perfect holinesse, euen to their liues end, Amen.

Morning prayer for priuate houses and Families.

O Gracious God, and louing Father, according to thy commandement, wee doe heere present our selues before the throne of thy mercie, acknowledging and confessing from the bottome of our hearts, that wee bee miserable sinners, daily breaking thy commandements, both in thought, word and deede, wherein we iustly deserue euerlasting damnation, and to bee vtterly throwne from thy presence : yet, O Lord, wee see thy goodnesse againe towards vs, who not suffering vs thus to perish in our sinnes, hast sent thine owne deere Sonne Iesus Christ, to take vpon him whatsoeuer is due, to reconcile and make vs at one with thee againe. In him therefore good Lord, and through him, doe wee come vnto thee, beseeching thee for his sake, that wee feeling the grieuousnesse of our sinnes, and groning vnder the burthen of them, may feele the release and ease of them, in that wee be through thy holy Spirit assured. and steadfastly beleecie, that Christ hath borne the burthen of them euen for vs. Grant likewise, O most merciful Lord and heauenly Father, that wee being assured heereof in our consciences, may through thy holy Spirit bee renued in the inner man, to hate, detest, and abhorre sinne, and to studie to liue according to thy blessed will during our whole life.

Wee doe not onely pray for our selues, but also for all thy whole Church, especially such as bee persecuted for thy word : grant vnto them, that whether it bee
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by death or life, they may glorifie thy Name to their liues end. Be mercifull to this Church of England, Scotland, and Ireland, we beseech thee good Lord, and preserue euery part and member of the same, especially thy seruant *James* our King: grant him all such giftes as bee needfull for so high a calling, to the aduancement of thy glorie, and benefit of this Common-wealth, to the establishing of a perfect gouernment of thy Church, according to the prescript rule of thy blessed word, to the rooting out of all superstition and reliques of Antichrist, to the gouerning of his subiects in all peace and tranquillitie. Defend him, O Lord, from all conspiracies, treasons, and rebellions, and so worke in the hearts of all his subiects, that knowing his authoritie dooth come from thy heauenly Maiestie, they may with obedient harts humbly obey him in thee and for thee. Preserue the whole Councell and the Magistrats of the Realme, that being lightened through thy holy Spirite, they may defend the truth, suppress wickednesse, and maintaine equitie. Behold al the Pastours and Preachers of thy word, blesse their labours, increase the number of them, place ouer euery Church a painful watchman, remoue al idle lubbers, and confound the power of Antichrist, and turne the hearts of the people that they may bee obedient to thy truth. Blesse the two famous Vniuersities, Cambridge and Oxford, and all the students of the same, with all Schooles of learning. Behold all those that be afflicted with any kind of crosse, that they may profit by thy correction in newnesse of life. (*)

Lastly, for our selues heere gathered together, wee humbly (O Lord) craue at thy handes, that it would please thee to make vs thankfull vnto thy Maiestie for all thy louing kindnesse shewed vnto vs euen from our infancie:

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fancie : especially, that thou hast this present night delivered vs from all dangers both of body and soule, where-into many haue fallen ; as we in the like manner should haue done, if wee had not bene staid with thy merciful hand : that thou hast also granted vnto vs so sweete and comfortable rest, and hast now presently brought vs to the beginning of this day. For these things, good Lord, wee yeeld vnto thee most hearty thanks, beseeching thee to make vs more and more daily thankfull vnto thy Maiestie for them, and pardon our vnthankfulnesse. And as thou hast safely preserved vs vnto this present houre from all the dangers of this life : so wee beseech thee continue thy fauour towards vs this day, and the whole course of our life. Defend vs, O Lord, that we now entering into the affaires of this day, bee not drawne away with the vaine allurements of this world, to sinne and wickednesse : that wee walke not in the shadow of death, that wee be not intangled in the snares of sinne, that wee stumble not at the blockes of iniquitie, that we finally fall not into the pit of death and destruction : but being shadowed vnder thy winges, wee may cheerefully and constantlie goe on forward to the end of our course. Grant vnto vs, O Lord our God, that this good time which thou grantest vnto vs in this life, be not idely, or vainly of vs consumed, but that euery one of vs may be diligently exercised in his calling this day ; and all our life long, being assured that thou wilt once call vs to yeeld an account of our stewardshippe : indue vs, wee beseech thee, with those gifts and graces which bee needfull for vs in our calling, and that with a pure and sincere conscience we may vse them to the benefit of our brethren, and discharge of our owne conscience before thy Maiestie. We beseech thee, O Lord, that in all our consultations,

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words and workes this day, and the whole course of our life, wee may alwaies haue thee present before our eyes, knowing that thou seest euen the very deepe thoughts of our hearts, which alwaies may bee as a bridle to pull vs backe, that wee neither doe nor yet consent vnto any sin or wickednes: but that alwaies wee may bee so exercised in the affaires of this life, that we looke still to the ende of our course, when it shall please thee to bring vs through the pilgrimage of this life to our euerlasting rest with thy deere Sonne Iesus Christ our Sauour. In whose Name for these mercies and whatsoener thou knowest to be needfull for vs, and for thy whole Church, wee pray vnto thee, as hee himselfe hath taught vs in his holie word, saying: *Our Father, &c.* The Lord blesse vs and saue vs, the Lord make his face to shine vpon vs, and be merciful vnto vs, the Lord turne his fauourable countenance towards vs, and grant vs his peace. The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ, the loue of God the Father, and the most comfortable fellowshippe of the holy Ghost, bee with vs, preferue and keepe vs this day and euermore, Amen.

Euening prayer for priuate houses and Families.

O Gracious God and louing Father, &c. As in the beginning of the morning praier, reading so forth till you come to this marke (*) Then reade this following for the Euening.

Lastly, for our selues heere gathered together, wee render most hartty thanks to thy Maiesty, O Lord, which hast hitherto from our infancy, preferued vs by thy mercie. frō all perils & dangers both of soule & body wherevnto fraile man is subiect; that thou hast sent vnto vs all things

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things necessarie for this present life, as health, food, app-
parrell, and such like, which many of thy deere children
doe want; being notwithstanding as precious bought
with the precious blood of thy deere Sonne, as wee bee,
and yet lie in miserie and calamitie, oppressed with po-
uertie, nakednesse, imprisonment and banishment, into
which case also, deere father, thou mightest have brought
vs, saue onely that thou dealest heerein more fauourably
with vs then with them. For the which thy louing kind-
nesse we giue thee heartie thanks, desiring thee, that as
thou hast hitherto thus fauourably in mercie preserued
vs by thy protection, and euen presently this day hast
brought vs past all dangers thereof: so wee beseech thee
good Lord, in like fauour behold vs this night, that wee
taking our natural rest and quietnesse, may thorow thy
protection bee defended, that our bodies resting, our
soules may be occupied in beholding thy fauour and mer-
cie toward thy children, still looking for the comming of
our Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ for our full redemp-
tion. Grant that our sleepe be not immoderate, accor-
ding to the lust of our flesh, but as much as is sufficient to
refresh our weake nature: that being thus refreshed,
both the bodie and the minde may bee more able to doe
their seuerall office and function, in that vocation where-
in thou hast placed vs.

Grant that wee laying our bodies downe to rest, may
bee thereby put in minde of our long rest of death: that
as we doe now lay downe our bodies in bed, so wee may
be thereby admonished, that heereafter they shal be laid
down in graue, to be consumed to dust, earth, and ashes,
from whence they were taken: That wee hauing this be-
fore our eyes, may bee stirred vp in mind warily to walke
in this our pilgrimage, not knowing when the time shall
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bee of our departure, but alwaies to bee found readie with our Lampes of pure faith clearelye burning, that wee may be accepted to meete the Bridegroom, when our mortall, earthly, and corruptible bodies shalbe made like to the glorious body of our Lord and Sauour Christ Iesus, there to reigne with him in perpetuall ioy and consolation together with all the elect children of God, continually lauding with all the heavenly multitude the glorious Maiestie of thee our Lord God & heavenly Father, in our onely Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ. For these and whatsoever else thou knowest to be most needful for vs and thy whole Church, we pray vnto thee, as he himselfe hath taught vs, saying: Our Father, &c.

The Lord blesse vs and saue vs, the Lord make his face to shine vpon vs, and be merciful vnto vs: the Lord turne his fauourable countenance vnto vs, & grant vs his peace. The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ, the loue of God the Father, and the most comfortable fellowship of the holy Ghost, be with vs, preserue and keepe vs this night and euermore, Amen.

A prayer to bee saide before the studying or reading of holy Scripture.

O Heauenly Father, whatsoever I am, whatsoever I haue, whatsoever I know, it is onely by thy free grace. For by nature I am the child of wrath, and I am not borne anew of flesh and blood, neither of the seede of man, or of the wil of man. Flesh and blood cannot reueale the mysteries of thy Heauenly Kingdome vnto mee: but by thy blessed will I am that I am, and by the same know I that I know. Therefore, O Father, doe I commit into thy handes onely, my saluation.

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If my knowledge bee small, yet I doubt nothing but that I am the childe of thy euerlasting Kingdome : and therefore by thy mightie power I shall growe (when it shall bee thy good will and pleasure) to a more full and richer knowledge, as of a more perfect age, wherein my faith shall bee fully able to comprehend and perceiue the breadth, depth, height and largenessse of thy great mercies and gracious promises. But seeing, O Father, this power of full knowledge and perfect reuelation, passeth all power natural, and remaineth onely in thy power, and the light of thy Spirit : O Lord, doe thou whatsoeuer it shall please thee, to open vnto me and all the rest of thine elect seruantes and children, depending vpon thee, so much of the light of thy countenance, as may bee most for thy glorie and our comfort, yea, and at such time as shall seeme good to thy wisdom and fatherly mercie. In the meane while thus resting wholly vpon thee, neither can I despaire, neither will I bee too much careful, although I cannot attaine to the knowledge of manie of thy workes, neither to the vnderstanding of manie places of thy Scriptures. But I will confesse vnto thee the weakenesse of my faith, waiting alwaies for the further reuealing of thy glorious light to bee vttered vnto mee thy poore seruante, when thou shalt thinke (of thy Fatherly beneuolence and goodnes) meete & conuenient. I knowing most assuredly that thou wilt pittie my weak imbecilitie and childish infancie; and cause the same to serue for thy glorie, & my great commoditie : seeing that I erre as a child before such a Father, which canst not put off thy fatherly pittie and compassion, but rather as thou hast bought mee vnto thee, to bee an heire of thy kingdome by the blood of thy natural Sonne my Sauour Iesus Christ; so am I sure that thou wilt lighten me in
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the end with full fruition of the bright light of thy countenance, that I may see thee and know thee, as this thy Sonne knoweth thee: yea, see thee and know thee my Father face to face, and know thee as I am knowne. Thus rest I onely in thy hands (O my God) crauing of thee to increase my knowledge in thy holy word, whereby I may know thy good will and pleasure. And knowing the same, giue me, O Lord, thy holy Spirit to conduct and lead me in the same all the daies of my life, that in sinceritie of faith, and purenesse of liuing and conuersation, thy glorious Maiestic may be magnified in me for euer. Grant this, O Father, for thy deerely beloved Sonne our Sauour Iesus Christ, to whom with thee and the holy Ghost, bee all honour, glorie, and praise, world without end, Amen.

Prayers and thanksgiuings to be said before and after meate.

Prayer before meate.

O Lord our God and heauenly Father, in thy beloved Sonne Iesus Christ, worke in our hearts true repentance, with increase of a true & liuely faith; make vs thankful vnto thy Maiestic, for al thy benefites which wee continually receiue at thy merciful hande: grant vs thy grace, that wee may at this present with thankful hearts, as from thy hands receiue meate and drinke for the sustenance of our bodies, with moderation; vse them to thy glory, and through thy blessing, receiue by them perfect nourishment: and aboue all wee craue at thy hands, most mercifull Father, the heauenly food of our soules, which neuer perisheth: that through thy glorious goodnesse, wee may bee nourished and
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strengthened both in soule and body to eternall life thorough Iesus Christ our Sauour, Amen.

Thanksgiving after meate.

ETernall God, and most merciful Father, wee yeeld vnto thee most heartie thanks for al thy benefites so plentifully bestowed vpon vs : especially that thou hast at this present fed and nourished our mortal bodies with meate and drinke ; wee beseech thee in like manner let our soules feele the sweete tast of thy heauenly foode, that we being fedde and nourished at thy hands, both in soule and body, may in this life walke as it becommeth thy children, and in the life to come, be receiued to thine eternall Kingdome of glory, through Iesus Christ our Lord and Sauour, Amen.

A prayer before meate.

OMerciful and heauenly Father, who giuest foode to euery liuing creature, and without whom nothing can liue, blesse and sanctifie our meates and drinckes, which wee are now about to receiue, that they may turne to the nourishment of our bodies, whereunto thou hast appointed them : that wee acknowledging thy gracious goodnesse in prouiding so liberally for our bodies, may with cheereful hearts, bee lifted vp earnestly to long after the food of our soules, whereby we may be fed eternally, through Iesus Christ our Sauour, Amen.

A thanksgiving after meate.

OHeauenly Father, for these thy benefites wherewith thou hast now sufficiently fedde our bodies, wee beseech thee make vs thankful ; And as wee feele the sweetnes of them pleasant to our bodies, so wee

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befeech thee, good Lord, that the foode of our foules may be as pleafant and comfortable vnto our foules, and that wee may with as carefull hearts provide for the nourishment of our foules, as wee are carefull for our bodies, till it shall please thy Maieftie to bring vs to the place, where we shall neuer hunger nor thirft more, but liue eternally through Christ our Sauour, Amen.

A prayer before meate.

O Lord our God and heavenly Father, which haft provided meate and drinke for the nourishment of our bodies, giue vs grace to vse them reuerently as from thy hands with thankfull hearts. And as we do greatly hunger and thirft for this foode of our bodies, so wee befeech thee good Lord, that our foules may earnestly hunger after the like foode and nourishment, that with earnest minds wee may seeke to haue our foules fed and refreshed eternally, through our onely Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ, So be it.

A thanksgiving after meate.

Wonderfull is thy prouidence, O Lord, in preserving all liuing creatures. Grant vs grace we befeech thee, that with thankfull hearts wee may acknowledge thy bountifull goodnesse, so liberally giuing vnto vs all thinges needefull: especially feeding vs so plentifully at this present with thy manifold blessings, whereof a great many of our brethren are destitute, as in like manner wee should bee, if thou diddest not deale more liberally with vs: grant vs therefore, gracious Lord, that wee may bee thankfull for this thy goodnesse, and to bee mindfull of them, which haue not such abundance to relecue them: that being all members
of

Godly priuate prayers

strengthening our hearts in earnest loue of thy truth, and careful obedience of thy commandements, through Iesus Christ our onely Mediatour and Sauour, who in the Sacrifice of his owne body, hath purchased vnto vs, al thy fauour, and hath giuen vs this boldnes to call vpon thee: vnto whom (O Father) with thee and the holy Ghost, be al praise, honour, and glory, world without end, Amen.

E. D.

A prayer for all times.

O Lord God Father of mercy, and God of all consolation, without whom wee haue neither hope nor comfort, wee poore wretches and miserable sinners beseech thee of thy fatherly goodnesse to looke vpon vs, and so make vs partakers of thy gracious goodnes that we may still increase in all goodnes, so that euermore wee may set foorth thine honour and glory; let our conuersation be such, that a great many beholding our good workes, may glorifie thee our heauenly Father: and so direct our waies, that wee may hold forth the profession of the Gospell, as a Lanthorne to lighten the steppes of a great many, that they may turne to thee, and praise thy Name in their visitation. Thus (O Lord) we beseech thee to deale with vs, that indeede we may bee vessels of honour vnto thee, now to set foorth the praise of thy holy Name, and after this transitorie life, to behold thy glorie, who hast immortalitie alone, and dwellest in the light that no man hath approched vnto: remooue farre from vs our sinnes and iniquities, that they may not separate betweene vs and thee: blotte out of vs our offences, for thy Sonnes sake, and make our prayers righteous, that thou maist fauourably grant our request: looke
vpon

for Christian Families.

vpon vs with thy fauourable mercy, that thou maiest haue pitty vpon vs, and behold vs in the righteoufnesse of thy beloued Sonne Christ Iesus, and that wee may bee presented faultlesse in thy sight : and thou accepting vs as holy, wee may finde the grace euermore to set foorth thine honour and glorie, & to speake of thy praises in the midst of all thy people . . Let vs loue (O Lord) the things that are good, and hate the things that are euill : let vs delight in all thinges that may please thee, and let vs bee greeued with whatsoeuer is displeasent in thy sight. And to the intent wee may haue true vnderstanding, and be able to discern betweene things what is good or euill, wee beseech thee let thy word dwell plentifully in vs, which may guid our vnderstandings so, that wee may abound in all knowledge, and do according to that which is righteous. And in this estate of true Christianity, being instructed in minde, and ready in body to all holy obedience, wee beseech thee make vs to grow and increase from grace to grace, from faith to faith, vntill we come vnto the fulnes of age to be perfect members of the body of Christ, waiting for the blessed hope of thine elect, and sighing in spirit vntill the time that thy children shal bee reuealed. In the meane season let vs sigh with all those that haue receiued the first fruits of thy Spirite, that these daies of sinne may cease, that sathan be troden downe vnder feete, that Antichrist may be reuealed yet to many thousands, that be in ignorance; that the number of thine elect may bee full, the body of thy Saints made perfect, all teares wiped from our eyes, euen then when thy Sonne shall appeare againe the second time to iudge the quicke and the dead, which time (O Lord) send quickly, according to thy good will, and teach vs to pray with al thy Saints, Come Lord Iesus, come quickly : grant this (O Father) for thy

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Sonnes sake, in whose Name we pray vnto thee. And although we bee but earth and ashes, yet we are bold to say vnto thee (the God of all glory) euen as he hath taught vs. Our Father which art in heauen, &c.

E. D.

A prayer for all estates.

O Lord God, Father of light, with whom is no change, neyther yet shadow of change, but hast established thine appointed counsels, which shal not bee changed for euer: Thou (O God) hast made among vs this diuersitie of estates and degrees, according as euery common wealth requireth, keepe vs all, wee beseech thee, that wee way walke obediently in our calling, and follow the steps that thou hast set before vs, euen from the highest to the lowest, let vs accomplish that dutie vnto which thou hast appointed vs; and with a faithfull remembrance of thy promise made of olde to our Father Abraham, that thou art his exceeding great reward, we may likewise depend on thy prouidence, and seeke not any shameful waies to get our liuing, wandring from the righteousnesse of our vocation, into the manifold errours of sin and iniquity: looke vpon vs (O Lord) and enrich vs with thy grace, make vs obedient to our inferiours, meeke towards our enemies, faithfull to our friends, true and iust towards all men, that we may dwell stedfastly rooted in the hope of thine elect, vntill thou shalt make an ende of all our labours: looke vpon our most excellent King, and his honourable Counsell, and as thou hast called them to the highest roome, so giue vnto them the greatest measures of grace, that they faithfullly dispence the talents committed vnto them: leade them
with

for Christian Families.

with the good King Dauid into thy Sanctuary, that they may see thy louing kindnesse which is better then life, and say with the Prophet: All flesh is grasse, and the glory of man is as the flower of the field, and so consecrate themselves to doe thy will, offer vp their bodies to bee holy, liuely, and reasonable sacrifices vnto thee, that they may bee Nurses and Nurse-fathers vnto thy Church: looke also wee beseech thee vpon thy Ministers whom thou hast appointed to the preaching of thy Gospell, make them (O God) faithfull dispensers of thy mysteries, without respect of persons to doe the worke vnto the which thou hast appointed them, that they may conuert sinners; and haue their glorie perfect in the day of Christ: and knit vs together in peace and loue, that wee may bee full of compassion one towards another, to reioyce with them that reioyce, and mourne with them that mourne, especiallie to instruct one another in the waies of righteousnesse, that by our mutuall helpe wee may the better withstand our enemies, and dwell safe in hope of thine elect, till our daies shall bee full, and wee shall walke the waies of all the world, which time wee beseech thee bring vs happilie vnto, euen for thy best beloved Sonnes sake, our Lord and Sauour Christ Iesus, we humbly beseech thee, to whom with thee and the holy Ghost, three persons and one euerlasting and liuing God, bee all praise, honour, and glory, now and for euermore,
Amen, Amen.

Godly priuate prayers

*A forme of Morning prayer necessarie for this present time
for godly Christians, to use in their houses and
Families.*

WEe most humbly thanke thee (O heauenly Father) for the sweete and quiet rest that wee haue had this night, for the louing and fauourable deliuerance out of all dangers both of body and soule, which we iustly deserue to be throwne into for our manifold sinnes: for that thou hast raised vs vp this morning. We pray thee to goe before vs: and for as much as thou seest our sluggishnes and drowlines, it would please thee (good Lord) to pull vs after thee, and to shew vs those waies, which thou hast appointed vs to walke in. And as thou renewest this morning, so renue thy mercies: and as thou causest the Sun comfortably to shine to our bodily eyes, so vouchsafe (we pray thee) to be Sun vnto our bodies and to our soules, by the beames of thy holy Spirit, and starre of thy blessed word, thining into the middest of our hearts, to driue away all the night and darknesse of all prophanenesse: to chase away all want of true feare of thy good Maiestie: and in place thereof, bring in loue towards thy glory, zeale of thy house, loue also towards our brethren: especially those that thou aboue the rest commendest vnto vs, that wee may loue them with that loue, wherewithall thou hast first loued vs: which is pure, vncorrupt, vehement, and euerlasting: and therefore we pray thee to rid our harts of all naughty and corrupt loue, & whatsoever is vnmeet to be in those vessels that are to serue such a mighty prince as thou art: and in those houses wherein it pleaseth thy Maiestie by thy holy Spirit to dwell. And therefore on the other side

(good

for Christian Families.

good Lord) chase away from vs all rancor and malice, all pride, enuioufnesse, disdainfulnesse, vncharitablenesse, vnnaturalnesse, vnkindnesse, and whatsoeuer is contrarie to that loue, whereof thou hast giuen vs a liuely example in our Sauour Iesus Christ: vnto the which example, grant (good Lord) that we may alwaies haue our eyes lifted vp, and therein holden, and caused thereby to profit, vntill such time, as we come to that perfection, whereunto thou hast appointed we shall come. Vouchsafe moreover by the comming of the selfe-same Spirit, to scatter in vs all the night and darknesse of ignorance, and forgetfulness, and of all those things which pertaine to the clearer and fuller knowledge of thy truth. Take from vs all negligence, al want of iudgement and discretion, and deliuer vs from all those things, which thou knowest to bee hinderances to vs, either to walke in that great calling of Christianitie whereunto thou hast called vs, or in those seuerall and particular callings wherein thou hast placed euerie one of vs: that we may walke so (good Lord) both in the one and in the other, that thy Name may be glorified in both, Amen.

Euening prayer.

O Lord prepare our hearts to pray, bowe downe thine eares (deere Father) and heare vs, open thine eyes and looke vpon vs for thy deere Sonne Iesus Christes sake, and receiue our humble confession that wee make to thee against our selues, which haue broken al thy lawes, & therefore deserue to haue thy heavy iudgements poured vpon our heads to our vtter destruction, if thou shouldest enter into iudgement with the least of our sinnes, whereof we haue so great and infinite thousands: notwithstanding

Godly priuate prayers

notwithstanding, we pray thee to turne away thy face from our sins, and for Iesus Christes sake to forgie vs al that is past, and grant that we may haue the assurance of the forgiuenesse of our sinnes, sealed vp by thy holy Spirit in our consciences, wherby we knowing that we are at one with thee, may haue our hearts kindled with thy loue so feruently, as it may waste in vs al that is against thy holy wil. And for this cause we beseech thee, Lord, to go forward with the worke of our new birth, that thou hast begun in vs, & neuer take away thy hand, vntill such time as thou hast made an ende of it: and to this ende wee beseech thee to slay in vs euery day more and more, the olde man with his concupiscences, nailing them to the crosse of thy deare Son Iesus Christ: and causing vs to feele the power of his passion in our bodyes and in our soules, that wee beeing partakers thereof, may come also to the fellowshippe of his holy Resurrection: not onely in that we shall once appeare before thee, hauing these our base bodies changed, and made like vnto his glorious body, but also that we may in the meane time rise from the death of sinne to al newnesse of life, and that our good workes may shine before men, that they seeing them, may glorifie thee our heavenly Father: not onely they that are of the selfe same Religion with vs, but those also that are enemies vnto thy truth, may rather in the time of their calling by the voyce of thy Gospel, yeeld themselues to bee one sheepefolde with vs. And wee most humbly thanke thee (O heavenly Father) for al thy louing kindnesse bestowed vpon vs from time to time, and especially for that olde & aunient Loue, wherewithal thou hast loued vs before the beginning of the worlde: for that also that thou calling vs by the voyce of thy holie
Gospel

for Christian Families.

Gospel in that good time that thou appointedst for vs, hast giuen vs faith, hope, and loue, and all other graces which thou knowest to be needefull for vs: which wee beseech thee to increase in vs with mighty increases, according to that thou seest we haue neede of, hauing regard to our manifolde enemies, that wee haue to wrestle with: and that wee haue not to striue with flesh and blood, but against the diuels themselues. And therefore considering their strength and our weaknesse, their craft and our simplicity, their watchfulnesse and our sluggishnesse, their long experience and our rawnesse, their preparation and our nakednes, and that we haue not onely nothing to helpe vs, but also do carrie about vs our owne concupiscences, ready to betray vs into the hands of our enemies, it may please thee to furnish vs from aboue, giuing vs the strength of thy holy Spirit, in the inner man, reaching vnto vs the complect harnessse of thy grace, wherewith wee being armed on both sides, may bee prepared at all assaies against all assaults of our enemies. And for as much as in this weaknes we oftentimes giue back, and sometimes run away, wee pray thee (O Lorde) that with the hand of Faith, wee may lay holde on the victory of our Sauiour Iesus Christ: that albeit wee be not able to ouercome in our owne persons, yet notwithstanding we may ouercome in his, who hath ouercommed for vs all, and so be partakers of those promises that thou hast knit vnto that glorious victory. And wee most humbly thanke thee also for those graces both of the body and soule which pertaine to this present life: desiringe thee to increase them vpon vs, and in vs, so farre forth as thou seest wee haue neede of to thy glorye, the commoditie of others, and our owne comfortes: therefore wee beseech

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befeech thee, Lord, to teach vs with thy holy Spirite the lawfull vse of them : that thou wouldest not suffer our hearts to be rooted in them, but that at all times we may be willing to part from them. And whensoever it shall please thee to call for vs, we may willingly goe vnto thee, as children to their deere Fathers, strangers vnto their owne Country, & members of the body vnto their head: and so much the gladder, by how much thou Lord art better then all the men in the world, and the kingdome that thou hast prepared, better then all the kingdomes thereof.

An addition to the former morning prayer, as time and leisure shall serue.

WE pray not only for our selues (O most mercifull Father) but for all those that thou hast appointed to eternall life: beseeching thee to gather the number of those that are to bee gathered, those that thou hast already called, thou wouldest alwaies keep: and to this ende (good Lord) raise vp faithfull Ministers, both of thy Church & common-weale, whose harts thou wouldest fill with all graces of thy holy Spirit, meeete for their calling, meeete also for these dangerous times: roote out from among thy Church, al rauening and deuouring beasts, which to fill their own bellies, destroy thy flocke: ease thy selfe of all hirelings and idle shepheards, which haue no care nor skill to feed thy flock with the wholesome foode of thy blessed word, nor to rule them with that equity wherewithal thou wilt haue thy people to be ruled. Those Pastors that thou hast giuen, it would please thee to increase the number of them: those that are fallen asleep and carried away with the corruptions of these times, that thou wouldest awake, letting them vnderstand the charge

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charge that thou hast committed vnto them, the trust that thou hast put them in, & the account that thou wilt take at their hands. Be gracious (O Lord) vnto this Land of ours, and enter not into iudgement with the horrible sinnes of it, namely, the contempt and light esteeming of thy holy Word, so many yeeres offered vnto vs, and we being trusted withall, so many Nations better then wee being passed by, which would haue brought foorth the fruite thereof more then we haue done: and we not onely haue brought forth no good fruite, but rotten and vsauorie, to prouoke thy Maiestie withall: notwithstanding all these our sinnes, it would please thee in that loue wherewithal thou hast first loued vs, when we hated thee, & in that long patience wherein thou hast hitherto borne with vs, and doost yet beare, and tarriest for our repentance: to grant vs heartie and earnest repentance, our hearts beeing effectually touched with thy holy Spirit, striking those rocky hearts of ours, that they may bee resolved into riuers of teares for our sinnes, making them soft and meeke to receiue the print of thy holy Word, and the scale of thy blessed Spirit, writing with thy finger thine owne Lawes in them, so that thou maiest read thine owne hand, acknowledge thine owne scale, and so passe by vs, when thou shalt bring thy iudgement vpon the face of the earth, for the iniquities thereof: whereof thou hast giuen, and still giuest, from time to time diuers tokens, which wee beseech thee may bee profitable vnto vs, whilst first of all wee acknowledge thy hand striking vs, and thy counsell calling vs thereby to repentance, that thy heauier iudgements doe not fall vpon vs to our destruction.

Moreouer, wee humbly thank thee (O Lord) for that it hath pleased thee to bee the Watch man, and as it were

Godly priuate prayers

were the spie of this Church and Common-wealth, and hast foreseene al the stormes and treasons committed against it, and against thine annointed our Soueraigne, whom thou in mercie hast appointed to rule ouer it, and hast scattered them and brought them to nought, & hast pursued certaine of thine enemies and ours vnto death; beseeching thee to continue this watchful and careful eye ouer vs, still to do vs good; and to pursue the rest of thine enemies and ours vnto the graue, giuing notwithstanding repentance vnto them, vnto whom thou hast left place of repentance.

And to this ende raise vp the hearts of our most gracious King, and his honourable Councell thy Magistrates, that as they sit in thy seate, and are called by thy Name, so they may execute thy iustice, which thou so well approouest of, whereof also thou wilt require a straight account at their hands. Vve desire thee also to shew these thy graces to all other Churches of thine, namely, thy Church of Scotland, that it may enioy that peace that thou hast giuen it: and grant that the same bee referred to that ende wherefore thou hast giuen it, namely, to the full establishment of the throne of thy deere Sonne our Sauour Iesus Christ, and to the building of his Kingdome there. Vve beseech thee also for the Churches, which thy hand hath planted long since: especially those, from whom wee haue receiued knowledge in time of our ignorance, places of refuge in time of persecution: that it would please thee to continue thy louing kindnesse towards them, and therefore cause them to continue their faith towardes thee, and obedience towards thy holy word. And whensoever it shalbe thy pleasure to try them with any kinde of affliction, it would please thee to grant vnto them, that they may put their
trust

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trust in thee, hauing regard to the truth of thy promises, and to the good experience that they haue of thy helpe in times past, and thereby conceiue comfort and hope, O Lord, euen of life in death, and of saluation in destruction. We pray thee also (good Lord) that we may haue the feeling of the miseries of our Brethren, as members of the same body, and those that liue by the same spirite. And therefore wee pray thee, that according to the manifold troubles that thou shalt visite them with, it would bee thy good pleasure, to measure out thy grace in such plentifull manner, that thy children may patiently beare, and ioyfully attend for the good houre wherein thou wilt pull them out of all their troubles. And especiallie wee pray thy Maiestic for our Brethren that are afflicted for thy Gospel sake: namely, those that suffer imprisonment or otherwise in any Nation, for the cleerer testimonie of it: that it would please thee to giue them patience in all their troubles, wisdom and mouthes to defend their cause against all those that rise vp against it: that thou wouldest blesse their trauels and sufferings for that, for which they are taken: which is, to giue a freer course of thy Gospel in all places. And there withal wee beseech thee for the Churches of France and Flanders, which are so miserable racked and torne in sunder, and which are almost cleane consumed with these siery tryals; that it would please thee in mercy to looke vpon their sighings and gronings, the teares that fall from their eyes continually, the blood that is shedde in all parts of the Land, the bodies that lie vnburied, to bee meate for the foules of the ayre, and the fishes of the sea, the loneness of Wiues wanting their Husbands, children their Fathers, and euery friende his friend. And forasmuch as those thinges are come vpon them for
thy

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thy names sake, let it be thy good pleasure to helpe them, considering that they are forsaken of all their friendes round about : and therefore pray thee that thou wouldest not looke vpon our sinnes nor the sins of our forefathers, whereby wee deserue not onely this correction, but vtter destruction, as Sodome and Gomorra; but rather looke vpon thy mercies which were before them: whereby thou hast saide, that although wee doe offend, and thou doost correct vs, yet thou wilt not take away thy mercies from vs, but leaue a remnant which thou wilt multiplie, and make as the starres of the heauen, and as the sands of the sea. Looke also (O Lord) vpon the outragiousnesse and crueltie, vnfaithfulnesse and blasphemie of thy enemies, where-withall they blaspheme thee, & prouoke thee to thy face; and therefore in thine owne cause, and for thine owne sake, take the matter into thine owne hands, and pay into the bosomes of thine enemies double and treble of that they haue giuen to thee. Notwithstanding, those amongst them that belong to thine holy election, hasten their calling, that afterwards thy iudgement may hasten vpon the earth, and the inhabitants thereof may learne to know thee by thy iudgements, that would not vnderstand and come to thee by the louing calling of thy Gospell. Wee pray thee (O Lord) for our brethren that are vp in armes in both those countries: that thou wouldest goe before them, and come behinde them, and on euery side of them: couer their heads in the day of battel, teach their hands to fight, and their fingers to warre: giue them wisdom and valiantnesse, and good successe in al their enterprises: strike a dizinesse and amaze of spirite into the enemies hearts, and take away from them all force, and disappoint all their counsels.

And

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And vpon our Brethren in Flaunders, wee beseech thee that thou wouldest comforte them ouer all the troubles that they haue receiued, and breaches that haue bene made in vpon them: and where there are newe forces euery day gathered, newe sleights inuented to destroy them, it may please thee to scatter their forces, and bring theyr sleightes to nothing. Yea graunt also, (O Lord) that that which they haue deuised against thy Children, may come vpon their owne heades. And for our Brethren in Fraunce wee beseech thee (O Lorde) what streights soeuer they bee in, thou wouldest deliuer them: and although they bee forsaken in the iudgement of all the worde, and in theyr owne iudgements, notwithstanding thou that hast the issues of death in thine owne handes, deliuer those that are appoynted to death. And finally wee most humbly thanke thee, for that it hath pleased thee to keepe vs this day, and all the dayes and times of our liues: beseeching thee, that thou wouldest receiue vs this night into thy holy keeping; that wee may haue quiet rest, not of bodies alone, but of our soules also, resting from all those things that are contrarie to thy most holy will, attending while thou raysest vs vp in the morning, to doe all those thinges that thou hast appoynted vs. These things wee desire of thee, and all other thinges (which thou knowest to bee more needfull for vs, and thy whole Church, better then wee our selues doe knowe) for Iesus Christes sake: saying the same prayer that hee himselfe hath taught. Our Father, which art &c.

A Prayer for the King.

O Gracious Lorde, and most mercifull Father, wee acknowledge thee the Lord of Lordes, and the King of
F Kings,

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Kings, creating at the beginning, and ruling all things euermore in heauen and earth, according to thy wonderfull wisdom and power: and our selues to be thy poore seruants, the woorke of thy hands; and the sheepe of thy pasture, subiected to thy high Maiestie, and depending vpon thy fatherlie prouidence for all things. Neuerthelesse, seeing thou in thy wisdom annointest Kings and Queenes, appointing them to rule ouer thy people, to sitte as Lieue-tenants in thy feare, to minister iustice, and most of all, as Fathers and Nurses to maintaine and cherish thy Church: commanding vs not onelic to obey and honour them, but moreouer to pray for them, as watching ouer vs for our good: wee therefore beseech thee for thy great Names sake, and for Iesus Christs sake, to shewe thy mercie to all Kings and Princes, that maintaine thy glorious Gospell: but especially wee pray thee to blesse our gracious King, in all spirituall blessings in Christ Iesus, and in all temporall blessings, according to thy good pleasure, that in the great measures of thy effectuall Lawe, hee may more and more finde great increases of vertue, and wisdom, and strength in Christ Iesus; to the faithfull and happy discharge of his dutie: that his happinesse, & ioy, and zeale of thy house may bee multiplied and euerlasting.

And seeing (O mercifull Father) it hath pleased thee of thy singular loue and mercy, to giue him this especial honour, not onely to suffer for thy glorious trueth, and miraculously deliuering him out of the handes of his enemies, to set a Crowne vpon his head, and to make him the instruement to aduance thy glory and gospel, for which hee suffered, and to bring it out of darknesse into light, out of persecution into this great and long peace; as wee giue thee most hartly thanks for this
singular

for Christian Families.

singular benefit, so we humbly beseech thee to make him and vs euermore thankefull for it, and in thy good pleasure stil to preferue him for the continuance of these blessings towards vse, with all increase from time to time, to thy glory, the benefite of the Church, and his infinite peace in Christ Iesus, the Prince of Peace.

And furthermore we pray thee for him, and the estate, that such as bee enemies of the Gospell, and his enemies also for the defence thereof, may not despise the peace offered them to repentance, but that they may account thy long suffering, and his peaceable and vnbloudy gouernment, an occasion of saluation to their soules, and vnfaigned loue to the truth, and their mercifull Soueraigne. Otherwise, if they still remaine disobedient to the truth, disobedient to his Highnesse, and dangerous to the state, then, (O God of our saluation) as thou hast discovered them, so discover them still, as thou hast preuented them, so preuent them still, and let their eyes waxe weary with looking, and their hearts faint with waiting for the comming of that, which yet commeth not, neither let it come (O Lord) wee beseech thee, but a blessed and a long raigne to him, and peace to Syon for euermore.

Also (deare Father) so blesse, so loue, so in thy holy Spirite sanctifie and keepe him, that he may in the spirite of Counsell and fortitude so rule that other sister also, namely this his Common-wealth, that they may flourish together, and growe vp together as Palme trees, in beauty and in strength, giuing ayde and helpe one to another, that in the Church the glory of almighty God may appeare, as the Sunne in his brightnes, and that the Land may flowe with Milke and Hony, and true peace abound therein, as in the triumphant reigne of Debora.

Godly private prayers

These graces (O Lord) are great, and wee miserable sinners, vnworthy of the least of them: therefore looke not to vs but to thy selfe, not to our iniquities but to thy great mercies, accepting the death and passion of thy Sonne, as a full ransome of all our offences: throwing them into the bottome of the Sea, and making his crosse and resurrection effectuell in vs to all obedience and godlines as becommeth thy Saints, that to all other thy good blessings toward our gracious Soueraigne, this may be added, that hee governeth blessedly, ouer a blessed people, a people blessed of the Lorde, and beloued of the Lord, and that thy graces may abound as the waues of the Sea, in the Prince and in the people, in the Church and in the Common-wealth, from day to day, till the day of our translation into the kingdome, where iustice inhabiteth, where wee also shall inhabite and reigne with thee, according to thy promise, for euer. Graunt vs these things (O mercifull Father) for thy deare Son our Lord

Jesus Christ his sake, in whose name we craue

them at thy mercifull hand, praying

furthermore for them, as he

hath taught vs to

pray.

Our Father &c.

(. . .)

for Christian Families.

A prayer for mortification and holines.

O Lord our God most gracious and most mercifull, I doe acknowledge vnto thee, that I am vnwoorthy to appeare before thy high Maiestie, to offer vppe vnto thee a sacrifice of praier, beeing full of sinne, and corruption, naturally glad of euill, and vnprofitable to good. Yea, beeing so miserable, yet I see not my miserie, I feele it not, I bewaile it not, as I ought to doe, but multiply mine iniquities, prouoking thy iust iudgement against mee. My zeale is cold, my loue feeble, my exercises of Religion faint and fewe, and I take no way but that which leadeth from euill to worse, and finally, woulde leade me from sin, to the reward of sinne. All this is true, deere Father, yet my hart is not moued with feare: all this is true, yet I doe not sorrowe for it, but walke with ioy, where I must (if I continue) reape affliction: therefore be merciful vnto me and blesse me, be merciful vnto me, and in Christ Iesus, wash away all my iniquities, be mercifull vnto mee, and create in mee a new heart, and prepare it to praier, and to thy holy seruice; For thou alone O Lord art my hope, and the mighty God of my saluation. Thou hast giuen mee a desire to serue thee, O teach me that I may doe it: and the good worke which thou hast begun, make it perfect in mee, that I may no more loue wickednes, and follow vanity, but that my good desires in thee may be increased and al of them accomplished; so shal I praise thee & magnifie thee for euer. For there is no honor but thy honor, no glory but thy glory, O Lord it is in vain to trust in princes, but truely to trust in the Lord bringeth plentiful saluation. From age to age it hath appeared, that thou O Lord God art mercifull, and that in thy Courts there is nothing but truth &

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holinesse. This world is full of vanitie, full of pride, full of rebellion, and the flesh also. The world hath many baies to destruction, and the flesh doth delight in them: they are sworne together to betray vs to Sathan, yea, we betray our selues, therefore deere Father, by the crosse of Christ, mortifie in vs the deeds of the flesh, & crucifie in vs the deeds of the flesh, & crucifie both vs to the world, and the world to vs, that our soules may liue. In our generall calling make vs obedient to serue thee in holines and in righteousnes al the daies of our life: in our particular callings, also make vs faithfull, that we may neither put away a good conscience, nor make ship-wracke of faith. I beleene, O Lord help my vnbelieve: in the day of peace and prosperitie make vs sober, in the day of trouble and aduersitie make vs looke vppe, and cheerfullie to waite and trust in thee for our deliuerance, that our enemies mouthes may be stopped by our godly conuersation, and their harts pricked with zeale to turne vnto thee. Neither do I pray O Lord for my selfe alone, but for the whole body into the which I am grafted by Christ Iesus: that is for thy Church O God, for thine inheritance, that thou wouldest encrease it frō one end of the worlde to another, that all Nations may worshippe before thy foot-stoole. Especially O Lord, I pray for them that professe thy Gospel, as for this our Nation, that thou wouldest be merciful vnto it, turning our harts to thee: for our gracious Soueraigne the King, and for all our Councel, that thou wouldest poure thy graces vpon them to discharge of their dutie and our peace: for all the holie Teachers in the Church, that thou wouldest blesse them and their labours: for the peace and ful beautie of this Church, for the peace and wealth of the Cōmon-weale. Wee pray thee also for to blesse all the meanes to bring
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this to passe. Also we pray thee for our Parents, for all others to whome wee owe special loue or seruice: but principallie we beseech thee to shew thy compassion vpon al that are in persecution for thy Gospel: O Lord increase and reneue their strength, giue them victorie and turne their aduersaries harts, if they pertaine to thy holy election; otherwise O Lord, bring vpon them the confusion that they woulde bring vpon others, and into the pit that they haue digged, let them fall and neuer rise vp againe. O Lorde, heate vs in these sutes: pardon our dull spirits in praier, and giue vs these and all other graces needful for vs, and the Church, to thy glorie, for our Lord Iesus Christ, in whose name wee pray as hee hath taught vs, saying: Our Father, &c.

A short prayer for the Morning.

WE giue thee thanks O Lord our God, in the name of Iesus Christ, for the quiet rest and sleep which thou hast bestowed vpon vs this night past, for the preservation of our bodies. Also we thanke thee for those greater graces of our creation, and of our redemption, of our calling in the Gospel, and for thy great patience in tarrying so long for our repentance, beseeching thee to giue vs this grace also among the rest, that wee may vse all other graces to thy glorie and our saluation.

And now O Lord, seeing thou hast reneued the light of the day vpon vs, reneue also we pray thee, the light of thy countenance towards vs, to open our eies, that wee may haue sences exercised in putting a difference betweene light and darknesse, betweene earthly things and heauenlie thinges, betweene true obedience and hypocrisie; that

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hauing of thee this wisdom, we may by thy power eschue the euill, and follow the good constantly and patiently.

For which cause, stretch forth thy hand, O God, and leade and keepe vs this day in thy waies, that we may do al things in a holy zeale of thy glory, and in godly loue to our brethren. And as this day adderh somewhat to our age, so let thy holy Spirite adde therein somewhat to our knowledge and faith, that so growing in the measures of his grace, wee may serue thee in holinesse and righteousnesse this day, and all the dayes of our life. Grant these things (O deere Father) for Iesus Christ his sake, in whose name we pray furthermore, saying. Our Father which art in heauen, &c.

A Prayer before sleepe.

O Lord God most gracious and most holy, wee thy poore seruants beseech thee for Iesus Christ, to accept this our poore euening sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving: which now wee offer vp vnto thee, giuing thee most hearty thanks, for thy loue towards vs, this day past, in keeping vs from the punishment of our sinnes, that might iustly haue beene layd vpon vs, and in feeding our bodies with sweet food, and our harts with gladnes, shewing thy selfe not onely the Author, but also the cherrisher and maintainer of our life, we being vnworthy of the least of al thy benefits. But pardon our vnworthinesse, O Lord, throw al our sinnes into the bottom of the Sea, which we this day, or at any other time haue committed against thee, and continue thy loue towards vs euermore, and namely this night; wherein although bodily darkenes be fallen vpon vs, yet keep vs frō the spiritual darknes of sinne and ignorance: and though

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we craue quiet sleep for our bodies, yet we beseech thee that our mindes neuer rest nor sleep, but that they waite and watch to thee continually. Keepe them in good meditations, free from all vaine dreames, and other offences, that waking and sleeping wee may bee thine, made and imployed to the setting soorth of thy honour and glory, in all holy obedience, through Iesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray further, as he hath taught vs, saying: Our Father, &c.

A prayer against the secret venom, and great danger of prosperity.

O Lord, prepare my heart to wisdom, prepare it to prayer, and teach my soule to seele all the dangers wherewith it is beset on euery side: & grant good Father, that I may not pray in wordes or in sound of speech, but in Spirite and faith. I acknowledge to thee O Lord, thy great mercies toward mee at this time; for beside the unspeakable graces of my redemption, and of my holy calling in the Gospell, (which are euer-more good) thou hast giuen mee a large measure of earthly blessings, my table is richly and daintily furnished, my Cup ouer-floweth, mine enemies are chased away, and I seele no want, no affliction, no sorrow: My prosperitie leadeth me, as by the hand, from one delight to another, and from one pleasure to another. In the morning, peace is at my right hand, and at night quietnes at my left. O Lord are not these thy blessings? Hast not thou opened thy mercifull hand, and filled mee with all these comforts? True it is, O Lord, that they came all from thee, and for them I am indebted vnto thee, & giue thee hearty thanks. But alas, Lord, I find by experience that prosperity (such is our infirmitie) carrieth vs too too farre away

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way, it feedeth vs from day to day, and from time to time, with new delights, it ingendereth also secretly such peace and confidence in these things, which are but as a reede to leane vpon, that we are carried away, wee forget not thee onely, but our selues also. But the daye of aduersitie, the day of sicknesse, the day of trouble, that layeth open our weakenesse, it causeth much care to be released, it prouoketh many praiers for reliefe. Oh it is a happie daye, a day of returning to the Lorde, a day of repentance, as in Sackcloath and Ashes. Oh how may my soule praise the daie of affliction, wherein I called vpon the name of the Lorde, and hee heard mee, and I found that his rod comforted mee. Neuerthelesse, O good Lord consider and helpe: two daies of health, take awaie the fruite of manie daies of sicknesse, wee are as men Sea-sicke, that comming on the shore, presently returne to ioy and mirth, and forget both dangers on the Sea, and dangers on the Land. So came it to passe from age to age in thy people of Israel, being tied fast in miserie, and iron, they called vpon thee and receiued mercie, being deliuered they soone turned backe like a bowe, and became drunken with prosperitie. Then thy face was against them, thy anger was kindled and they cast into affliction againe, but in their miseries they renewed their praiers and thou diddest renewe thy grace: but newe prosperitie brought newe rebellion, and new rebellion new punishments, and new punishments new conuersation. The house of mirth was to them, and is to all, a baite to wantonnesse: but in the house of sorrow, a prouocation of humilitie and praier; prosperitie is as a Cup of wine mingled with poyson, as a bed of securitie, and a way to destruction. Therefore Oh Lord with the fulnesse of earthlie things, giue mee also the fulnesse

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of spirituall thinges, that I forget thee not in vanity of life, or in the false delights of sinful flesh. O keepe my heart that it bee not made drunken with prosperity: but grant mee in sobernesse to vse thy blessings to thy glory, and to the releefe of my brethren: and when I reioyce not to reioyce in these base things (for that reioycing is euill) but to reioyce in thee, turning my mirth from wanton Daunces, from vaine Songs, from other carnall delights, to exercises of Religion, to helpes of knowledge, and singing of Psalmes with melodie to thee in my heart.

Finally, O Lord, seeing that in this earthly prosperity there is so great abuse and so present danger for wante of grace to abuse them: Oh Lord teach mee the true vse of them, that I may not set my hart thereon, but in thee, giuing thee thanks for them: and labouring with al diligence through thy grace in Iesus Christ, that they bee not through my wickednesse turned into curses. As *Salomon* teacheth wisdom, to take heede of an Harlotte, so teach me to take heede of vaine pleasures in worldlie matters, that I bee not bewitched with prosperity, and forget thee, bathing my selfe in pleasures, and neuer setting thee before mine eyes. O mercifull Father worke this in mee that I may be rich in good workes: that I may haue, as not hauing, that I may vse the world, as not abusing it, but vsing it to thy glory in Christ Iesus, who with thee and the holy Ghost be blessed for euer. Amen.

A Prayer before Child-birth.

All thy waies are iust, oh deere Father, and thy iudgements are true altogether. For worthily doth man liue in the sweate of his face, and the woman bring

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bring foorth children with much paine and trauaile, and with great danger. Yea, O mercifull Father, this paine is not a sufficient punishment for the grieuous transgressions wherewith wee and our fore-fathers haue transgressed thy most holy will. The punishment is in respect of our demerits too small, but in respect of our weakenesse, too great for vs, without thee to endure. Wherefore as I acknowledge O mercifull Father, this trauaile in child-birth, which now approacheth, to bee a iust rewarde of my manifolde sinnes, so I acknowledge also thy readie arme of defence, stretched out ouer mee, and ouer all them that call vpon thee in faith. Grant therefore, O deere Father, that I may in faith, pray and waite for that time of my trauaile patiently, that I may endure it, when it shall bee present, constantly and thankfully: knowing, that although I then feele some taste of the rewarde of sinne, yet I feele not all, and that little which I then feele, thou doost presently reward with comfort & gladnesse, when a childe is borne into the world. The which comfortable and glad issue grant mee, O Lorde if it be thy good pleasure, and hauing receiued such fruite of my body, grant me moreouer wisdome and strength to bring it vp in thy feare, and to trauaile (as it were) againe with it, till it be borne againe into a heauenly life, to the glory of thy holy Name, and my greater ioy: that so it may finally in Christ Iesus be partaker of those blessings, which thou doost plentifully raine downe vpon the faithful, and their seede for euer. And because I am not woorthy to present this my sute vnto thy heauenlic Maiestie of my selfe, a most wretched and sinfull Woman, I offer it in the Name, in the righteousnesse, and in the strength of my Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ, praying furthermore as he taught vs to pray. Our Father. &c.

Awake

for Christian Families.

Awake thou that sleepest, and stand vp from the dead, Ephe. 5. 14.
and Christ shall giue thee light.

Let our light so shine before men, that they may see
our good works, & glorifie our father which is in heauen. Matth. 5. 16.

We will sing of thy power, and will praise thy louing
kindnesse betimes in the morning, for thou hast beene Psal. 117.
euer our strength, our refuge, our defence, and our most Psal. 45.
mercifull Lord.

A Prayer for the Morning.

WEe yeeld vnto thee, our most hearty thanks, O
heauenly Father, for that thou hast deliuered
vs from all perills and dangers of this night, and
brought vs safe to the beginning of this day: we beseech
thee that thou wilt in the same, and euer heereafter re-
ceiue vs into thy defence and protection: and as thou hast
remoued the darknesse of the night, restored the light of
the Sunne, and raised vs from sleepe: so thou wouldest
vouchsafe also to remoue from vs, the inward darknesse
of ignorance, to raise vs from the sleepe of sinne, and to
lighten our minds with the heauenly beames of thy most
holy spirite, and with the knowledge of thy deare Sonne
our Sauour Iesu Christ, the true light of the world, that
we eschewing the workes of darknes, may guide the steps
of our liues after the light of thy holy worde, walking
comly, as the children of light, in holinesse and righteous-
nesse, as in the day, and in thy sight: and in the ende may
come vnto that most blessed eternall light, which thou
doest inhabite, the same thy Sonne our Sauour Iesu
Christ being our guide there-unto. To whome with
thee and the holy Ghost, one God of most glorious Ma-
iesty, bee all honour and glory worlde without ende, A-
men.

O God,

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O God, who commaundest the light to shine out of darknes, shine in our hearts, and giue vs the light of the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of Iesus Christ.

Open our eies, that wee may be turned from darknesse to light, and from the power of Sathan, vnto thee our God.

That we may receiue forgiuenes of sinnes, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith, that is, toward thy sonne Iesus Christ.

Another Euening Prayer.

A Almighty God, who as thou hast made the day for labour and trauaile, so hast thou created the night for the rest and refreshing of our wearied bodies and mindes, wee most humbly beseech thee, that as the night darkneth and shadoweth all things: so thou wouldest for thy deere sonne Iesus Christes sake, hide our sinnes, remoouing them from thy sight, putting away the memory of them by eternall obliuion, that as our bodies shall haue the rest of sleepe, so also our minds by hope of thy mercy, may enioy the rest of a quiet conscience, and so being wholly refreshed, we may awake and arise vnto thy seruice the next day, and all the daies of our life: and when death it selfe shall come, (from the which it is as easie for thee to raise vs, as from bodilie sleepe) wee may rest in hope of that most ioyfull resurrection, wherein our bodies shall awake vnto the euerlasting day, which shall neuer bee interrupted with anie darknesse, when we shall be made partakers of the inheritance of the Saints in light, into that most blessed Citie, the heauenly Ierusalem: where shall be no need of candle, neither of the Sunne, nor of the Moone, to lighten it, and thy Son the Lambe shall be our eternall light.

Vnto

for Christian Families.

Vnto the which most glorious light, and kingdome of thy deere son, we beseech thee bring vs, for the same our Sauiour Iesus Christes sake, vnto whome with thee and the holy Ghost, bee all honour and glorie, now and for euer. Amen.

A Prayer.

ALmighty God, sith thou of thine infinite mercie, hast not only admitted vs, but also taught, yea and commaunded by thy onely and deare Sonne our Lord Iesus Christ, that wee (trusting in his merits and protection, he being our intercessor) should beleue that thou art a louing Father vnto vs, and that we should also call thee Father: Giue vs we beseech thee, that wee may bring in our hearts sure trust (without feare) of thy Fatherly loue, and that we may with glad mindes, call thee Father, knowledge, loue, and crie on thee in all ieopardies: giue vnto vs an agreeing and brotherly loue, so that we may perceiue euerie one of vs, that we are truly brothers and sisters, & may pray to thee, as to our common and most merciful Father, euery one for other; euen as kinde Children intreat their Father one for another.

Grant that none of vs seeke that which is his owne, or else forget other in thy sight: but that (auoyding all hate, enuie, and dissention, as it becommeth the true children of God) we may loue together with due fauor: Teach vs to regarde none other thing then our soules health, and the euerlasting heritage, so that this temporal Country and worldly heritage (which compasseth and noyeth vs, labouring to make vs earthly and like vnto it selfe) deceiue vs not, so that wee say truly; and with a faithfull heart: O our heauenly Father giue vs thy grace that wee may bee thy heauenly Children, and graunt

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vs that in all perrils wee may call vpon thy name without ceasing: graunt that by our sinnes no man may take occasion to flander thy name, giue vs before all things true and constant faith in Christ, hope without feare in thy mercy, against all infirmities of our weake conscience, and pure loue towards thee, and all men, keepe vs from infidelity, desperation, and malice, so that wrath or any other bitternesse, haue not his kingdome in vs: lighten mine eies least I sleepe, or be wearie in the good life once begunne: graunt that thy kingdome which shall come, may finish and performe this kingdome which is begun by thee. Make vs desire the other life to come, giue vs grace not to feare death: but rather desire it, and to bee with Christ. Endue vs with thy grace that we may gladly suffer all diseases, pouertie, despisings, persecutions, crosses, and aduersities, knowledging that it is thy will to crucifie our will. Make vs that wee quite not euill for euill, neither to auoide violence by violence, and that we impute it not to the Diuell or euill men, when any aduersity commeth, but vnto thy godly will, without whome, a Sparrow falleth not on the ground. Make that all our members, eies, tongue, heart, handes, and feete, bee not suffered to follow their desires, neither that wee be at any time subdued vnder them. Teach vs to vnderstand, that no man may hurt vs, except hee do himselfe much more hurt in thy sight, so that wee may bee moued rather to weepe for his blindness, than to thinke of auengement: giue vs grace that wee reioice not in their trouble, which haue resisted our will or hurt vs, and also that wee be not sorry when they prosper and haue welfare. O heavenly Father giue vs this grace, that the life of Christ his word, works, and passions, may be preached, knowne, and holden, both of vs and of all the world.

Giue

for Christian Families.

Giue vs grace, good Lord wee beseech thee, that in our passions and aduersities, we may comfort our selues by his passion and Crosse, and that we may with a stable faith, ouer come our death by his death, and followe without feare this noble Captaine into another life. Teach vs by thy grace to thinke and haue in mind truelie (and as we ought to doe) the passion of Christ, and to ioyne it happily with our life, so that we may come and attaine to somerhing, though it be but a shadowe of it. Finallie, giue vs our dailie bread, that Christ in vs, and we in Christ, may dwell perpetually, and may woorthilie beare this name, for of Christ wee are called Christians. Giue vs peace into our hearts, that wee reioycing, may looke for thy iudgement, and glorious comming of Iesus Christ in the cloudes, to whome is giuen all iudgement in heauen, and in earth. Teach vs deare Father, not to sticke or be comforted in our good workes or deseruings, but to submit our selues faithfully to thine incomparable mercy.

Againe, make that we despaire not for this our guilty and sinfull life, but that we may iudge thy mercie more mightie and stronger then our life, howsoeuer wee haue ordered it, so that we, refreshed by the sure trust and confidence of thy mercy in the bottom of our harr, may liue, die, suffer, and take all things patientlie. Make that we resist and fight against this superfluitie of meate, drinke, sleepe, sloth, and idlenesse. Make that we may bring our old Adam into bondage & subiection with fasting, temperate diet, cloathing, sleepe, rest, watch, and labour, so that he may be meet and apt to good workes. Make that when we heare any glad or pleasant thing, or feele anie sweete thing, that wee seeke not therein our delight and pleasure, but thy praise and glory.

Godly private prayers

Keepe vs that the false subtiltie of this worlde, the counterfeite brightnesse and enticements of the same, perswade vs not to follow it. Graunt vs by thy grace to possesse our soules with patience in all our afflictions. Finally, fulfill vs all with thy grace, that in this miserable and perillous life, which is compassed with so many continuall enemies that neuer cease, wee may fight boldly with stable and constant faith, and obtaine the euerlasting Crowne. O Father deliuer vs from suddaine death, keepe vs from hunger, death, and warre, keepe vs from all euill and perilles of the body, to thy glorie and our saluation. Graunt vs good Lord that all these prayers may be obtained of vs without any doubt, neither suffer that wee mistrust any thing, but that in all these things wee shall be heard: yea, bee heard alreadie. And for all these things be sure and without any doubt, so may wee with glad hearts say, Amen. That is to say, stable, constant, true, and sure.

Of Faith.

First deere Brethren, ye ought to giue diligent heede that you may purely vnderstand what faith is, and what fruites proceede out of her, and to conclude the summe in few wordes: Faith is a sure perswasion and full knowledge, that God for his trueth and righteousnes sake, will fulfill such promises as he hath made vnto vs, of his mercy and fauour; in his holy Testament, which sure perswasion must be giuen from God: *1. Corinth. 12.* For it cannot bee gotten but by Gods power neither yet trayned. Therefore with feare and trembling performe that health which is begunne in you, for it is GOD that worketh in you both the will, and also the deede, euen at his owne pleasure, and see that with all meekenesse ye
submit

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submit your selues vnto the vocation of God, not seeking the libertie of the flesh, neither yet despising good works; and the spirit of God which resteth in a faithfull man helpeth our infirmity, and fighteth without intermission against sinne, the deuill, and the world.

The power of faith.

THE power of faith is to iustifie vs, that is to dispoile vs from all our vices, and lay them on Christs backe (which hath pacified the Fathers wrath towards vs) and to endue vs with an others righteousnesse, that is Christs, so that I and all my sinnes are Christs, and Christ with all his vertues are mine: *For he was borne for vs, and giuen vnto vs. Esay 9. Rom. 8.* To obtaine this righteousnes, God the Father requireth nothing of vs but that wee beleeueth on him, and make him no liar. He that beleueth that God of his mercy hath made vs these promises, and that for his trueth sake, he will fulfill them, he setteth to his seale that God is true, but he that beleueth not, or doubteth of this (as much as in him is) he maketh God a liar, *1. Iohn 5.* For why shouldest thou doubt in him, except thou thoughtest that he were a liar, and wold not keepe his promise which hee made. Nowe if thou count God (which is the very trueth) to be a liar, art not thou worthy of a thousand damnations?

The worke of Faith.

FAith worketh by charity, for when my raging conscience which feeleth her sinne, is pacified and set at one with God through faith: then remembering the feruent loue of GOD towards mee, I cannot but loue my neighbour againe. For there is no man that hartily loueth the Father, and can hate the Sonne, and al-
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though the sonne be naught and vnthriftie, yet for his Fathers sake, hee will helpe to better him, and euen lament and be sorrie for the sonnes wickednes: Likewise, if we hartilie loue God, for his infinite benefites done vnto vs: then can wee not hate that creature, which hee hath made after his owne likenes, whome God the Father loveth so tenderly, that hee gaue his owne Sonne vnto the death to redeme him: yea, and whome he hath adopted through Christ, to bee his sonne and heire. Now albeit we see no kindnes in this man, for which we should loue him, yet hath God shewed vs kindnesse enough, for the which we ought to loue and succour him at all times.

Let vs therefore loue him, for the loue that God the Creator hath shewed vs, and beare his infirmity: if hee fal, let vs lift him vp againe, and endue him with our wisdom, and all our workes, euen as Christ hath done with vs. And this is an euident token that thou louest GOD, when thou louest thy brother. *1. John 4. 20.* And seekest all meanes to helpe him. These are the good works that follow faith, and are euident tokens that thy faith is right and pure. Thus seeest thou how good works flow out of faith through charitie, and charitie or loue to bee the fulfilling of the whole Law. *Rom. 13.*

Good workes.

AMong good workes, the chiefe are to bee obedient in all things, vnto Kings, Princes, Iudges, and such other Officers, as farre as they commaunde ciuill things, that is to say, such thinges as are indifferent, and not contrarie to the commandments of God. For then must wee rather obey God then men. *Acts 5.* although we should loose both our substance and life thereto. To honour Rulers, to promote peace, to pray for the Com-munalty,

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munaltie, and to apply all our studies to profite them. The next are to bee obedient to Father and Mother, to prouide for household, both nourishing our Family with bodily sustenance, and also to instruct them with the word of God, and to be their gouernour carnall and spirituall. Then must we looke how we ought to behaue our selues towards our neighbours, knowledging that all the giuists that are giuen vs of God, are not giuen for our owne selfe, but for the edifying of the Congregation. *1. Cor. 12.* And if we bestow them not on that manner, we shall surely giue a reckoning for them before the Lord.

Among these, ought wee to haue respect vnto the Preachers and Ministers of the word, that they may bee had in honour, and well prouided for. And aboue all things, good brethren, addresse your selues vnto that necessary work, Prayer. Remember to pray for all estates, for that is a worke that Christ and his Apostles full diligently exhorted all men vnto, promising them that they should obtaine their petitions. *John, 16. 1. John, 4.* if they be according to the wil of God and for his glory. Wherfoeuer is true faith, there is also repentance with it, there is hate of sinne, there is true feare, and again there is comfortablenesse of heart kindled by the Holy Ghost, a desire to further Gods glory among men. The duties of Charitie (or to comprehend all in one worde) true holiness which the flesh fighteth against. This holiness is not made perfect at one instant, but groweth all the time of a mans life. Labour for a liuely sight and sence of heavenly thinges, and so shall no sight or sence of earthly things trouble your affections, further then you shall bee able enough, with ease and pleasure to relinquish, and forsake them, whensoever Gods glory shall require.

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Now this sight and sence of heavenly thinges, is not otherwise then by faith, (or rather maketh an ende.) Therefore in all matters of Religion, and concerning saluation, leaue reason with Abraham, as hee did, and leaue your corporall senses with his seruants in the valley, to be occupied in ciuil things: If that you wil clime vp with *Isaack* into the hill of heauen, whither God our Father bring vs for his mercy sake, Amen.

A Prayer.

ETernal God, the Father of our Lord Iesus Christ, I giue to thee most hearty thanks, for that of thine abundant mercy, thou hast begotten me againe into a liuely hope, by the resurrection of Iesus Christ from death, to an inheritance immortall and vndefiled, and that perisheth not, reserued in heauen for mee whome thou hast taken to bee thy Childe of adoption by Iesus Christ, keepe mee I beseech thee by thy power, through faith vnto saluation, which saluation is prepared already, to bee shewed in the last time. Wherein cause mee O Lorde to reioyce, though nowe for a season I am in heauinesse, through manifolde temptations; that the trial of my fayth (beeing much more precious than the tryal of Gold that perisheth, and yet is tryed with fire) may bee found to be laude, glorie, and honour, at the appearing of Iesus Christ: whome though I haue not seene, worke by thy holy Spirite I pray thee, that notwithstanding I may loue constantly: in whome euen now, though I see him not, yet settle my beleefe that I may reioyce with ioy vnspeakeable and glorious, patiently abiding to receiue the ende of my faith: to witte, the saluation of my soule. Gird vp also Lord, the loynes of my minde; that I beeing sober and watchfull, may trust perfectly on
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the grace that is brought vnto mee now. When Iesus Christ is manifestly preached vnto mee, that I doe not (as becommeth a disobedient Childe) fashion my selfe to obey the lustes of the flesh, wherewith I was carried heeretofore, thorough ignorance of Christ, but that hauing my conuersation in the feare of G O D, I bestowe the remnant of mine abode heere in newnesse of lyfe: especially, for that I knowe, that I was not redeemed with corruptible thinges, as Siluer and Golde, from my vaine conuersation, but with the precious bloud of Christ, as of a Lambe vndefiled and without spot. And euen as thou hadst ordained thy Christ to bee my Sauour, before this world was made, but diddest make him knowne manifestly in these latter times, for our sakes, which through faith belecue in thee, O most mercifull Father: Euen so I beseech thee woorke in mee by the selfe same thy Sonne, that I may purifie my Soule by the holy Ghost in obeying the trueth, that with brotherly loue, voyde of all faigning in a pure heart, I may loue my neighbour feruently. And that I being borne anewe, not of a mortall seede, but of immortall by the worde of G O D, which liueth and lasteth for euer, may offer vp spiritual Sacrifices, thorough the holy Ghost, and acceptable to thee my onely God, thorough Iesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Another Prayer.

ETernal God which hast highly exalted thy Son Iesus Christ, & hast giuen him a name, which is aboue euery name, that in the name of Iesus, euery knee shold bow, of things in heauē & things in earth & things vnder the earth. I bow my knees vnto thee O father of our

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Lord Iesus Christ, of whome all the family in Heauen and earth is named, that thou wouldest graunt mee according to the riches of thy glorie, to bee strengthened with might by the holy Spirite in the inner man, & that Christ may dwel in my heart by faith, that I may be rooted and grounded in loue; that I may be able to comprehend with all Saints, what is the breadth, length, depth, and height, of the knowledge of Christes loue towards vs, which excelleth all knowledge, and that I may be filled with all fulnesse of God. Vnto thee that art able to do exceeding abundantly about al that I aske or think, according to the power that worketh in mee, be glory in the Church by Christ Iesus throughout all ages, worlde without end, Amen.

O God, most mercifull Father, which in time past, at sundry times, and in diuers manners spakest vnto the Fathers by the Prophets, and hast in these dayes spoken vnto vs by thy Son, whome thou hast appointed heyre of all things, by whome also thou madest the worldes: who being the brightnesse of thy glory, and the very Image of thy substance, vpholding all things with the worde of his power, hauing by himselfe purged our sinnes, fate on the right hand of the Maiestie on high: to whome thou saydest, thou art my Sonne, this day haue I begotten thee. *Heb. 1.* This day beget mee againe, I beseech thee, instructing mee from aboue by that same grace, which appeared healthfull to all men, that denying vngodlines and filthy lusts, I may liue soberly, godly, & iustly, in this present world, looking for that blessed hope, and appearance of the glory of the great God, and our Sauour Iesus Christ, who liueth and reigneth with thee, in the vnity of the holy Ghost, for euer and euer, Amen.

O Lord my heauenly Father, almighty and euerlasting
God,

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God, which hast safely brought vs to the beginning of this day, defend mee in the same with thy mighty power, and graunt that this day I fal into no sinne, neither runne into any kinde of daunger, but that all my dooings may bee ordered by thy gouernance, to doe alwaies that is righteous in thy sight, thorough Iesus Christ our Lord, Amen. Into thy handes O Lorde, I commend *James* our King, all his faithfull Counsellours, namely *N.N.* my selfe wholly, my Wife, Children, and whole Family, and the vniuersal Church, for thou hast redeemed vs O Lord our God.

O God of our Lord Iesus Christ, the Father of glory, giue mee the Spirite of wisedonie and reuelation by the knowledge of thee, and lighten the eyes of my mind, that I may knowe the hope whereunto thou hast called mee, how rich the glory of thine inheritance is in thy Saints, and what is the exceeding greatnesse of thy power to vsward, which belecue according to thy mighty power, which thou wroughtest in Christ, when thou raisedst him from the deade, and diddest set him on thy right hand in heauenlinesse. Quicken mee also being dead by sin, and rayse mee vp with him, and cause mee to sit in heauenlinesse, with Christ Iesus, by whome most bountifull Father, al honour and praise be to thee and the holy Ghost, now and euer, Amen.

Almighty God and most mercifull Father, seeing we haue liberty to enter into thy holy places, in the bloode of Iesus, by the newe and liuing way, which hee hath prepared for vs, through the veile, that is to say, his flesh; worke I beseech thee by thy holy Spirit, that I drawne nigh with a true heart in assurance of faith: that I beeing sprinckled in my hart from an euil conscience, & washed in body with a pure water, may holde the profession of
my

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my hope without wauering, for hee is faithfull that promised: and that I may consider my brethren, prouoking them vnto loue and good workes, not forsaking the assembling of our selues together, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, for that I see the day approaching: suffer mee not therefore to cast away my confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For I haue great neede of patience, that after I haue done the wil of God, I may receiue the promise. Wherefore all things layde away that presse mee downe, (especially sin that hangerh so fast vpon me) cause me O God, to runne with patience in the race that is set before mee, looking vnto Iesus, the beginner and finisher of my faith: Which for the ioy that was set before him, endured the Crosse, despised the shame, and set himselfe downe at the right hand of the throne of God, where hee maketh intercession for me, to whome with thee O Father, and the holy Ghost, bee praise now and euer, Amen.

A Prayer.

O Lord God and heauenly Father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaacke, the GOD of Iacob, which diddest promise vnto Abraham, that thou wouldest bee the God of his seede for euer. Which hast promised also to subdue Moab and Esau: that is to say, all Heathen Miscreants, and Idolatrous Papistes, to thy chosen Israel, and to gather vnder one Shepherde, thy seruant David, Christ our Sauour, all thy scattered Sheepe, both of the Jewes and Gentiles: That there might bee one Sheppard and one folde. Mercifully behold thy flocke amongst them, both dispersed and scattered: erring, wandring, and going astray, with peruerse iudges and erroneous opinions, farre from thy folde, not knowing

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knowing as yet, nor regarding the voyce of thy Sonne, the onely good Shepheard, which did giue his soule for his sheep. And draw them we beseech thee home againe to the folde of thy Sonne Iesus Christ, without whome there is no saluation, no comfort, no health, no hope, no stay of conscience, but miserable wandering from error to error, and in the end vtter desperation: haue mercy therefore on thy miserable stray sheepe, for their Shepherdes sake, and for the glory of thyne owne name, for the amplifying and enlarging the kingdome of thy Son Christ, who is declared already in the flesh, by his manifest myracles, justified in spirit, scene of the Angels, preached among the people, belieued vpon in the worlde, receiued vp in glory, and shortly shall come in the same glory, to make his enemies his foot-stoole. So be it.

A thanksgiving when a Woman is deliuered.

O Eternal and almighty God, thy power and might is to be praised and magnified for euer. For in the greatest weakenes of man, thy power is scene, in his greatest dangers, thy saluation is knowne, therefore wee praise thy name, and giue thee thanks for thy great mercies and wonderful works. Namely, Lord we giue thee thanks for thy mercy shewed to our sister at this time, in bringing her through many and great dangers of child-birth, and in giuing her the fruite of her body. It was thy hand O Lord, that hath done it, for it is a woorke greater then all the wisdome and power of man. Deere Father, we beseech thee, euer hereafter to deliuer the Mother & the Child out of all dangers, as may best make for thy glory and their saluation. Touching vs, wee thanke thee for blessing our work, and humbly beseech thee to continue thy fauour towards vs, for Iesus Christ his sake, our Lord and onely Sauour. Amen.

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*A prayer to be confirmed in the true knowledge of Gods word
for the reading, hearing, and studying of
the same.*

O Most mighty and eternall G O D, although thy goodnesse, mercy, and trueth to mankinde, in all thy workes abundantly doeth appeare, yet herein chiefly thou declarest thy selfe to be most fauourable, merciful, and gracious, that not suffering vs to walke in darkenesse, ignorance, and blindnesse, thou hast giuen vs thy most holy and blessed worde, to bee a Lanterne vnto our feete, to lighten our steps in the path-way to euerlasting life, least we should walke in the shadow of death: in which thy most blessed and sacred worde, thou hast fully and perfectly set foorth vnto mankinde, so much of thy glorious Maiesty as was expedient for vs to knowe; and not onely that, but hast therein also fully, wholly, and perfectly expressed thy most holy and blessed will, whatsoever is necessary for the saluation of mankinde to bee knowne, to bring him to life euerlasting. Giue mee grace most mercifull Father, that for so high a Treasure left among vs, I may be thankful, reuerently embrace, accept, and esteeme of the same, as the most precious Iewel on earth, be therein confirmed most strongly, that all things therein contained, bee most certainly and vndoubtedly true, not by any mortall man, but by thy most holy Spirite in man, penned and written to the comfort and behoofe of man, that I may most humbly, lowly, and with most high reuerence, submit my selfe thereunto, as becommeth thy eternall Maiesty, and the Worde proceeding out of thy blessed mouth: that I may reuerently with humblenesse and obedience, reade, heare, and occupy my selfe in the same, to the comfort of my soule, and encrease of thy glory.

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Lighten my vnderstanding, most deere Father, with thy holy Spirit, that I may learne, clearly conceiue and vnderstand the things therein contained, which no mortall man can conceiue, saue those who haue learned of thee, and whome thou by thy holy Spirit doest lighten and instruct: guide me deare Father with thy holy Spirit, that hauing the true vnderstanding of the mysteries therein contained, I may bee fully established, and confirmed in the true knowledge of thee my deere Father, and of thy beloued Sonne Christ Iesu, my Lord and Sauour, throughly in conscience perswaded, that I haue my full and perfect saluation and life euerlasting in him, and thorough his full atonement made by his death and passion: that I doe not vainely abuse the knowledge of thy most sacred word, to satisfie vaine curriositie or brag of knowledge, but onely to the relieuing of my hungry and wounded conscience, to the loosing of my fettered soule, and the appeasing of my sorrowfull heart, that I may to the end of my life, walke in sincerity before thee, my heavenly Father, in the comforts of thy deere Sonne my Sauour, vpholden stil by the merciful power of the Holie Ghost, to thine euerlasting praise and glorie, world without end. Amen.

*Another before the reading, hearing, or studying
of the word of God.*

ALmighty and most mercifull Father, which hast in thy blessed word revealed thy most holy wil, what soeuer was expedient for vs to knowe, concerning thy Maiestie & our saluation, giue me grace good Lord, that I may haue a hartly desire, & a willing mind, diligently and with my whole endeuour to read, heare, and study thy holy Scriptures with humble obedience, submitting
my

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my iudgement to thy holy and infinite wisdom there in contained, and that I may fruitfully trauaile therein graunt me heavenly Father, thy holy Spirite, to lighten my vnderstanding, to touch my hart, that I may thoroughly vnderstand the mysteries therein contained, to the comfort of my soule, so that my whole life and conuersation, may bee thereafter directed, to the honour and glory of thy Name, and the peace of my conscience, through Iesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

A Prayer to be conformed in the knowledge of God

O Most mighty and eternall God, thou by the creation of the world, the Sunne, the Moone, and Starres, the earth, the sea, and all that therein is, hast sufficiently declared thy selfe to bee the euertasting and almighty God, for that these things doe farre passe the reach of mans wisdom. And not heerein onely hast thou declared thy selfe to bee God, but in that also, that thou doest continually guide and gouerne all things of thee created; It is thou therefore that thundrest from heauen, that with lightnings and tempests, and waters and winds, shewest thy terrible vengeance vpon sinfull flesh; It is thou, O God, which lettest vs feele sensibly in our selues, thy mighty power and working, not onely in that, that thou hast made our bodies and soules, but especially, that thou makest vs euen of force to confesse thy eternall Spirit in vs, who so mightily fighteth against the assaults of the enemy, that of force wee are driuen to acknowledge that it is thy working in vs, and not wee our selues. Seeing therefore, O Father, that we haue both in thy creatures, and in our selues, so manifest testimonies that thou onely art the eternal God, which reignest in all
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thy creatures, guiding them by thy heavenly prouidēce, graunt we beseech thee, that our hearts may bee heereof full assured, to acknowledge thee not onely to be God eternal, who hast created al things, but also, that wee may in heart be fully perswaded, that thou O Lord God, doest gouerne all things according to thy most blessed will, so that nothing can bee done in the worlde without thyne appointment, and that thou hast such a singular care o-uer thine elected people, so that not so much as an haire of their head shal fal without thy prouidence, that thou so guidest all their doings, that all things shall turne to their comodity and thy glory. Grant O Lord God, that hereof wee may bee fully assured in our heartes and soules, that we may in all our doings set thee before our eyes, acknowledging thee to bee our onely Lord and Father, and by the working of thy holy Spirit in vs, may bee confirmed in faith, comforted in soule, and lightened in vnderstanding, that alwayes here vpon earth, wee may glorifie thy holy Name; and after the dissolution of this body, we may attaine to the euerlasting ioy, through our Lord and Sauour Christ Iesus. Amen.

*A prayer for patience in tribulation, and that God
may be glorified thereby.*

O Eternall and most merciful Father, who hast from time to time, in al ages exercised euen thy deere Children, with grieuous afflictions and sharpe corrections, to drawe their mindes from too much loue of worldly pleasures, to bee delighted in heavenly ioyes, and spiritual comforts of the soule: graunt good Lord, I humbly beseech thee, that I, euen from my heart may acknowledge this affliction, which doeth nowe grieuously pierce my soule, to be thy fatherly correction, & scourge of

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of thy meere mercy and loue laid vpon me, to put me in minde of my dutie towards thee, least els, with too much quietnes, I should haue been drawne through the flattering pleasures of this vaine world, frō the remembrance & delight of my spiritual ioy in heauenly things, to haue had my full delight in this vaine worlde, and so shoulde haue runne headlong to euerlasting damnation with the world: but that thou (O Father) hast called me back by this thy Fatherly rod, whereby thou mindest to let mee see, that of my selfe I haue no strength vnto goodnesse; but that it was thou, who by thy aboundant mercie, haddest before time replenished my heart with ioy, that I tooke great pleasure and comfort in reading and hearing thy holy word, and receiuing other thy benefits: which spirituall comfort and quietnes of minde, because I did not fully acknowledge to be thy good gift in mee, thou hast now taken from me for a time: that I may effectually perceiue and learne (by the lacke of it) that it was thy worke in mee, and when thou restorest the same to mee againe, I may more aboundantly glorifie thee in thy manifold mercies. But while it shal be thy good wil & pleasure, O Lord, to exercise me with this thy louing correction, giue me grace that I may patiently abide whatsoever it shall please thee to lay vpon mee for mine amendment, strengthen me (O Lord) that I doe not faint vnder the burthen of affliction: but beeing vpholden by the strength of thy holy Spirit in me, I may neuer cease calling vpon thy Name, with full perswasion that thou wilt at thy time appointed, sende mee full assurance, to my singular comfort, and thy eternall glory. And when it shall please thee, O Lord, fully to deliuer me, I beseech thee so worke in my hearr, that I may acknowledge the same to come from thee, to be thy onely worke, that I
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so worke in my heart, that I may acknowledge the same to come from thee, to be thy onely worke, that I may be thankful for thy so great mercies al the dayes of my lyfe, that I neuer forget thy louing and fatherly dealings towards mee, but so to the ende of my life I may liue in thy feare and loue, that thy holy name in my life may be glorified, and after death, I may be receiued to that full ioy, which thou hast prepared for thine elect Childrē throught our onely Lord and Sauour Iesu Christ, Amen.

A prayer to feele in heart spirituall comforts

from faith

O Lord God, and most merciful Father, nowe I fully perceiue and know, that the heart of man is not in his owne hand; for thou hast taught mee, by diminishing thy spirit of comfort in my hart, that it is thou onely, which makest ioyfull the heart of man, and which diminihest the same ioy according to thy good pleasure and will; for if it had beene in mine owne power to haue receiued comfort in thy worde; or to haue beleued thy promises from my heart, I would long since haue enjoyed comfort, and beene confirmed in faith, but I cannot, O Lord, it is thy meere worke. I look therefore, O deere Father; for thy blessed comfort and strength of Fayth, which I beseech thee, O merciful Father, send into my heart, to fill the same with spirituall ioy, that by the working of thy holy Spirit in mee, the comfortable promises of thy mercifull protection; may be sealed in my hart, and sinck deepe into my soule, that I may be fully assured that thou art my strong Rocke, and house of defence; that thou dost keepe me as the apple of thine eye, as thou hast promised in thy blessed worde, that thou wilt not laye

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more vppon mee, then thou wilt giue mee strength to abide, and that thou wilt assuredly at thine appoynted time renue my heart, and the whole powers of my mind, that I may fully glorifie thy holy Name. But in the meantime (O Lord) alas, my heart is cleane voyde of spiritual ioy, yea, euen as hard as a stone, so that the louing promises of thy holy Word, although I know them to be true, yet they cannot suck into my hard and stony heart, vntill such time, as thou by encreasing thy holy Spirit in me, shalt mollifie and make tender my hard heart, that it may be meere to receiue the sweet comfort of thy Spirit. Thy holy spirit (O Lord) in mee, which is the assurance of my saluation, doeth continually send forth vnspeakable sighes and longings, for thy full and ioyful presence. I beseech thee therefore, deere Father, for thy beloued Sonne Christ Iesus sake, hearken vnto my prayers, and graunt my requests, make tender my hard and stony hart, by thy holy spirite, that I may from the bottome of my hart, acknowledge thee to be my most mercifull God and Father, and all things in thy holy Word contained to be most true: reuerently embrace, take comforte, and continue the same, and in my soule take ioy of the same: that I may (deere Father) euen vnto my liues end, walke before thy face in sincerity of heart, being assured of my saluation, through that one alone sufficient sacrifice for my sinnes, made by thy best beloued Sonne, Christ Iesus my Lord and onely Sauour. To whom with thee
and the holy Ghost, bee all honour
and glory, world without
end, Amen.

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*A Prayer after benefites obtained, to acknowledge
them only to come from God.*

O Lorde God, I feele in my selfe howe mercifully thou hast dealt with mee, grieuoufly I was troubled, and nowe by thy goodnesse partly releas'd, how dangerously I was assaulted, and nowe by thy mercy partly deliuered; this releefe, although I must needes confesse by infallible arguments, to bee thy onely worke in mee, yet such is the pride of my rebellious flesh, that it will not suffer mee to ascribe fully the same to proceede from thee, and thine onely goodnesse, but seeketh out other fained causes, according to the vaine deuises of my minde; therefore I beseech thee most gracious Father, that thou wilt so frame my heart, that I may with whole heart and minde, and with the powers of my soule, acknowledge this my comfort and ayde, to bee thine onely worke, wrought in mee; by thy holy spirit, and that I may be thankful for the same all the daies of my life.

O Lord, thou hast sworne by thy holinesse, that thou wilt not giue thine honour to any other: seeing then deere Father, that thou hast sent mee this strength, let mee be perswaded fully in hart, deere Father that it cometh from thee, that to thee I may render due honour, prayse and thanksgiuing for the same, and the rest of my life, that I may be assured in hart of thy merciful defence, in mine extreame dangers, as thou hast many times heretofore wonderfully deliuered mee, that thou wilt according to thy promise so continue thy merciful aide, whereby thy Name in me may be glorified, my soule in mercy preserued, and thy whole Church edified, now and for euer, Amen.

Godly private prayers

*A prayer for constant perseveranc in prayer, when
we are dull to prayer.*

O Lord God most merciful father, according to thy commaundement in mine afflictions and necessities, I seeke to thee for succour by continual prayer, and calling vpon thy Name, I call vpon thee in the day time, and in the night season doe I poure out my prayers vnto thee; and yet for all that, I feele me nothing released, but oftentimes woorse and woorse, which maketh me oftentimes (deere Father) almost to doubt of thy goodnesse, that thou doest reiect my prayers, and giuest no heede vnto them, whereby I doe almost thinke, that it is no boote for me to pray, seeing I feele no release; but (O Lord) this is my weaknesse in mee, and the frailty of my flesh, which will not willingly bee subdued vnto the spirite; which my frailty, I beseech thee, O Lord forgiue me. For thou doest O Lord God see my conflicts, and lookest vpon my continual sighes and petitions, but thou doest deferre and prolong thine help the longer, and dost not at the first helpe mee, to this end, that I may see fully mine owne weaknes, learne by litle and litle, to subdue my rebellious will, to thy good will, who knowest better what is meet for me than my selfe.

Therefore (O most deere Father) strengthen mee by thy holy Spirit, that I may still perseuer and continue in prayer, and with longing desire patiently waite for thee O Lord, being assured, that although it appeare not, yet art thou alwaies present with mee, and hearest my sighes and complaints, and wilt when thou seest thy time, declare thy selfe manifestly, in renewing my heart with spiritual ioy. Stir vp O Lord, my dull and sluggish nature, to call vpon thee continually, appointing thee neither time
nor

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nor the meanes of my deliuerance, but leauing all to thy good will and pleasure, I may in the meane time neuer cease by con:inuall prayer, to call for thy mercifull helpe, vntill such time as it shall please thy goodnes to send mee full deliuerance. I feele my selfe, O Lorde, oftentimes very vnwilling to pray, for that I doe not fully perceiue my prayers to bee heard, but doe goe on still languishing in my sorrowes, as though thou haddest no care of mee. But this my dulnesse I beseech thee, O mercifull Father, pardon in me, and graunt that I may be raised vp to pray for ayde and releefe of thee continually, although I shoulde see no signe of fauour, yet that I may continue stil with the faithfull woman of Canaan, and neuer cease in heart, minde, and mouth, til thou graunt my requestes at thine appointed time, when thou knowest it shall bee most for my behoofe, and for thy glory. And that when thou shalt mercifully looke vppon mee to deliuer mee, I may then fully with my whole hearte, acknowledge thy goodnes towards me, and let it neuer slip out of my hart, but continue thankfull for the same all the dayes of my life, whereby thy glory in mee may bee declared, and my soule relieued, through Christ my Lord and Sauour. Amen.

A thanksgiving when thou hast recieued some comfort, but yet not fully deliuered.

O Most louing and merciful Father, now I feele thy sweet mercies and louing kindnesse shewed vppon mee poore wretch, whome thou hast out of grieuous assaults deliuered from painefull sorrow, to ioyfull comforts restored.

Now I know, O Lord, that my many and sundry prayers that I made to thee, in the anguish and bitternesse

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of my soule were not voide, although for a time thou seemedst to reiect them, nowe I knowe that although thou seemedst to bee angry, yet thy fatherly affection still remained surely fixed vppon thy Children, so that nothing can remoue thy loue from thy deere Children, but who thou louest, thou louest vnto the ende, euen when thou dost scourge and correct them most sharply, thou woundest and healest againe, thou throwest downe to hell, and raisest vp againe. For whereas my heart was so dull, that no spiritual comfort could enter therein, nowe I feele, O Lord God, that thou hast begunne so to frame it anewe, that I beginne to take more comfort and ioy in thee, and thy holy Worde: nowe I feele my heart partly lightned by thy onely worke, from that great dulnesse wherewith thou hast smitten mee downe, for the which thy merciful worke in mee, I heartily thanke thee O Lord God, be-seeching thee most deere Father, for thy best beloued Sonne Christ Iesus sake, as thou hast begunne to settle my heart in peace and quietnesse, and partly wrought in the same, some comfort and ioy: so thou wilt in mercy encrease the same more and more in me, that I may from day to day, acknowledge thy manifold benefits towards mee, and for the same yeelde due honour and praise vnto thy holy Name; that I may thorough this thy woorke in mee, bee thoroughly confirmed of thy goodnesse towards mee, that as thou hast begunne in mee a good worke, so thou wilt fulfill the same, vntill the comming of our Lord and Sauour Christ, when hee shall fully deliuer his Children, and bring them to that ful and perfect ioy, for euer to raigne with thee, in thy kingdome of euerlasting glory, world without end, Amen.

for Christian Families.

A Thanksgiuing after deliuerance from affliction.

THy mercy O Lorde my God, endureth for euer, and thy louing kindnesse towards thy Children is not able to bee vttered, the trueth of thy promises neuer faileth thine Elect. O how wonderful deere Father is thy working amongst thy Children: the sorrowes of death tooke holde vpon mee, and the snares of hel almost entangled mee, the daungerous waues of distrust had euen ouerwhelmed my soule: I was as one entangled in a Nette, and fast caught, not knowing how to bee loosed. Thou hadst O Lord God, so terrified my soule and minde, that I became vtterly astonyed, and in extreame feare, throwne downe prostrate to the ground, my hart failed within me, and all the powers of my mind were discomfited: the cogitation of my mynde did so fight within me, that I was wholly disquieted in soule & conscience, I could not consider (O Lord God) of thee my Sauour aright, nor take holde of thy mercifull and louing promises, I coulde not bee perswaded of thee my deere Father and God, nor of thy fatherly loue towards thy Children, scarce coulde I finde within my selfe anie little sparke of faith, to confirme mee in the knowledge of thy good will towards mee, reuealed in thy blessed Worde. For thou (good Lord) hadst for a time withdrawne from mee thine hand, wherewith thou haddest before time stayed and vpholden mee from falling, that I might more cleerely see mine owne weaknes, and more effectually consider thy power towards me.

In this distresse (good Lorde) and anguish of minde, I poured out my plaintes before thee, and cryed vnto thee day and night, with continuall sighes and groanes,

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till at length thou in mercy haddest respect vnto mee, and consideredst my request and sent me some releefe, where as I might take a taste of thy mercifull dealing with thy Children, and thereby bee strengthened more and more, and confirmed of thy good-will towards me. And now deere Father, I feele thy louing mercies towards mee abundantly, who hast deliuered me from my dangerous feare, and set my troubled minde at quietnesse, thou hast made calme the troubled waues of wauering thoughtes, which ouerwhelmed my soule; and hast brought mee to the quiet hauen of thy mercifull protection and defence, and hast deliuered my eyes from teares, and my feet from falling, and my heart from distrust. O Lord God, my most louing and mercifull Father, let this thy grace, mercy, and louing kindnesse shewed vpon mee, neuer depart out of my heart, but that I may bee thereof continually mindfull all the dayes of my life. And for these thine vnspeakeable mercies towardes mee: graunt mee good Lord, that I may haue a thankfull heart to render due honour, prayse, and thanksgiuing vnto thy Maiesty, acknowledging from the bottome of my heart, thy wonderfull workes in mee: and that hauing felt so effectually thy present helpe in my necessity, I may bee more strengthened to put my full trust and confidence in thee, in my more grieuous and daungerous assaults, although I see no way of deliuerance, looking still for the like help, which I haue before time tryed of thy goodnesse: knowing that thou hast taken mee into thy protection and keeping. And that I may heereof bee more assured I beseech thee good Lorde, that as thou hast begunne to deliuer mee, so let mee feele more and more dayly, thy good will and tender mercy towardes mee. Encrease in me true vnderstanding of thy heauenly will in thy blessing

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sed worde. Strengthen my faith in thy louing promises, that I may bee assured of thy protection, and mine election and saluation. Make me daily more and more to loue thee my deere Father and God vnfaignedly, for all thy goodnesse shewed vnto mee, to haue my full delight and ioy in thee, to walke before thee in sincerity of life and godly conuersation, that I may heere in earth glorifie thy holy name, and after this life with thy faithfull flocke, possesse that euerlasting inheritance, which thy Sonne hath purchased, Christ Iesu our Lord, to whome with thee and the holy Ghost, bee all honour and glory, now and for euer. Amen.

*A thanksgiving for the worde of God embraced,
and a Prayer for increase and continu-
ance in the same.*

O Eternall and most mercifull Father, I yeeld vnto thee most hearty thanks, for all thy benefites bestowed vppon mee, especially, for that it hath pleased thy heauenly goodnes to shine into my heart, through the light of thine holy spirite, in the mysteries of thy holy word, and that thou hast framed my heart and minde to take such vnspeakeable ioy and comfort, in thy most blessed and holy worde, and in the embracing of my saluation, therein offered vnto me. For this thine vnspeakeable mercies, I beseech thee O Lorde, make mee thankfull, that I may acknowledge the greate benefite thereof, and esteeme of so inestimable a treasure, aboue all earthly possessions or treasures. And O Lord my God, for so much as I wander in this present life, among many and infinite daungers, whereby I am euery moment
in

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in perill of sliding backe, and falling from this feruent zeale of thy euerlasting trueth, which thou hast kindled in my breast: if otherwise thou doe not stay me by thy mercifull hand: and for so much as I learne out of thy most blessed and holy worde, that it is not sufficient to haue begunne well, vnlesse I continue to the ende, not sufficient to holde my hand to the Plough, and looke backe, I craue at thy hande in the name of thy beloued Sonne, my Lorde and Saniour Iesus Christ, that this thy worke which thou hast begunne in mee, thou wilt in mercy encrease in mee more and more, and continue it euen vnto the ende of my life, that I doe not waxe cold, secure, dull, or faint, but continually encreasing in true zeale, I may still more and more bee delighted with reading, hearing, and meditating of thy holy word: I may thereby dayly also encrease in true knowledge of thy blessed will, from faith to faith, that I may euen from the bottoome of my hearte, so sincerely professe thy true Religion, that all hypocrisie, vaine glory, and faigned holinesse, vtterly through thy holy Spirite rooted out of my heart, I may onely holde my selfe contented, that I may haue the eyes of thy Maicsty, beholding my inward heart and minde, whereby I onely studying to bee allowed before thy Maicsty, may vtterly reiect al the vain praise of men, which might puffed vpe, or the scoffing iealetes, tauntes, or reproaches of the vngodly, which might else driue me downe.

To this ende, O Lorde my God, that I may encrease, and dayly more and more bee confirmed in thy mercies begunne in mee: I beseech thee stirre vp true and sincere Preachers and Messengers, who dayly may stirre vp my minde and hearte (otherwise of nature dull) to the ioyfull embracing of the glad tidinges of peace.

Leaue

for Christian Families.

Leaue mee neuer destitute, O Lorde my GOD, of the meanes which thou hast appoynted for the increase of a liuely fayth, and true zeale, which meane is onely the Ministerie of thy blessed and holy worde, but make mee alwaies carefull for the seeking of it: and so prouide, O Lorde my GOD, that I may alwayes haue it, comfortably receiue, and sweetely digest it. Keepe mee by thy holy Spirit, O Lorde, that I neuer bee seduced by erronious doctrine, but that onely I may giue care vnto thy voyce, that cleauing onely vnto thee: I may in this present life which thou hast giuen mee, so occupie my selfe, and vse this good time which thou hast giuen mee, that I may still looke for the comming of thy deere Son, to receiue mee into the euerlasting rest, prepared for all the elect and chosē, where I shall for euer remayne, together with my Lord and Sauour Iesu Christ, to whome with thee and the ho'y Ghost, bee all honour and glory, world without end, Amen.

*A Prayer for the feeling of the sinne of hypocrisie,
that wee may direct our life according
to the prescript rule of the
word.*

O Lord God and heauenly Father, which art a iust Iudge, to punish all them, that doe continue to offend thee, as thou art a Father most pittifull to receaue to mercy all those, which giue ouer themselves to please thee: shewe mee thy grace and fauour, so that I may truly bee touched with inwarde displeasure of my sinnes: and that in the place of flattering my selfe, to sleepe in sinne: I may bee so cast downe in heart, that the rather I may truly with mouth confesse, most lumbly
to

Godly private prayers

to giue thee the honour, glory and praise, due vnto thy holy Name, and that as thou of thy great mercy doest instruct therunto by thy holy word, so (for thy names sake) make that the same may so lighten and cleere our conscience, that in due examination of our life, wee may truely learne to bee angry and displeas'd, with all our former and corrupt liuing. O that it may please thee to drawe neare vnto vs, in addresssing and guiding our foote-steps in the true and perfect way of obedience, to thy holy Lawes and commaundements. Send thy holy Angel to pitch his Tents rounde about vs, that Sathan and his infernal army neuer preuaile against vs, but that alwayes with strong faith, wee may through Iesus Christ, withstand all his crafty engines and snares, knowing vndoubtedly, that thou never forsakest them that put their trust in thee.

O let vs not be ledde by the infirmity of our outward flesh, but strengthen vs by the vertue of thy holy Spirite. Suffer vs not to lie vnder thy heauy wrath, and vengeance, thorough hypocrisie, but rather touch vs so inwardly, that wee may without ceasing sigh and groane vnto thee, by true and vnfaigned repentance. And although wee bee not alwayes so well disposed to aske and pray as wee ought to doe, yet (good Lord, for thy glorious Names sake) stretch out thy mighty hand, that by the gracious working of thy holy Spirit, our myndes and hearts, may be drawne from all earthly and corruptible things, so that our prayers vnto thee, may proceede of an inward, earnest, vehement affection, so that wee neuer presume to come before the throne of thy Maiestie with a double heart, knowing, that whosoever asketh and prayeth for any thing of thee, not asking in faith, cannot obtaine.

Increase

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Increase therefore sweet Lord our faith, that wee presently may liuely feele the benefite of remission, and pardon al our sinnes through the merits and death of Christ Iesus our Sauour: and so worke in vs for euer hereafter to liue in thy feare, and to stand in awe of thy displeasure, that thou mayest continue our mercifull Father, worlde without end, Amen.

Oli Sheeheard of sheepe, seeke out me thy wandring sheepe. And beeing founde, lay mee vppon thy blessed shoulders, and bring mee home to the very folde of thy flocke, heale my sicke soule: feede my hungry soule, yea, almost dying through hunger: watch ouer the same (Oh sweete Lord) least the rauening Wolfe doe inuade my soule, and so slay it to vtter destruction. Wherefore, O most deere GOD,) be mercifull to me a most wretched sinner, and graunt pardon to him that repenteth; giue not soorth the voice of thy sentence according to my demerits, but like as thy mercy before hath done in the beginning of my life, so let it conclude the ende thereof, to remaine with thee, world without end. Amen deere God, Amen.

Forasmuch as in this life, holy Scripture doeth promise troubles, penuries, oppressions, increase of griefe, and aboundance of temptations, vouchsafe (O most louing Lorde GOD) to prepare my heart to all possible patience, least I doe fainte in thy soote-path: compell (my sweete Lorde) this stubborne and rebellious flesh of mine; to bee subiect to thy ho'y Spirit, beyond all expectation, so that I may possesse my soule in patience, & keepe the same continually in thy euerlasting seruice, to the which purpose thou of thine infinite goodnesse and mercy hast created the same. Wherefore, (O Lorde GOD) shewe thine almighty power vnto mee most wretched

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wretched sinner, that so long as I fight in this wretched life, I may obtaine victorie against mine enemies, (thou being my defence) for there is none other that fighteth for mee, but onely thou oh God. Now I say, repress the violence of mine enemies, and vouchsafe with great effect to bring into bondage, my miserable flesh, that tormenteth my soule. So that obtaining victory, I may giue praise to thee my onely deliuerer, in perpetuall eternity. Amen.

A prayer to be said in trouble.

O Most gentle Redeemer, which art alwaies mercifull, alwayes a Saniour, whether thou sendest vs prosperity or aduersity: this is a token of greates mercy and louing kindnes, while by external afflictions, as by bitter plaisters or salues, thou dost heale the inward man, and by temporal paynes prepare vs to euerlasting ioyes. Forasmuch therefore as thou hast euen by thine owne steppes declared, that this is the way vnto true felicity, graunt I most humbly beseech thee, that I may patiently and obediently drinke of this Cup most willingly, which thou hast so mercifully reached vnto mee. Verily, these things are vnto fraile nature verie grieuous, but yet hast thou suffered more grieuous things for mee, and I haue deserued farre more grieuous thinges, which haue so often deserued hell. Notwithstanding, thou knowest the fraykie of mans condition; and therefore euen as that kinde and mercifull Samaritane, thou pourest into my woundes, Wine, that is to say, affliction and troubles, which fretteth and sharpely byteth out abominable vices: but in the meane time thou puttest to it also the precious Oyle, that is, of grace, into this our wounded

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wounded and troubled heart, through the which grace, if thou doe giue according to my want, then shall I with great quietnesse suffer these intollerable griefes. But if it bee thy pleasure to increase my griefe, giue mee then I most instantly beseech thee, the giift of patience, and graunt that these afflictions (which thou hast of thy Fatherly loue sent vnto mee) may by thy grace turne to the assurance, that I am thy Child: Or of thy Fatherly piety, be contented with this gentle chastisement, where-with thou doest nowe nurture mee (from lying stinking in my corruptions:) then let mee (by thy free grace and mercy) receiue at thy mercifull hande, ease and quietnesse againe, that I may by thy grace giue thee thanks for both: that is, because thou hast moste louingly in mercie chastened me, thine vnprofitable Seruant, and also taken away the bitterness of my affliction, with the sweetness of thy comfort, which is thy free grace, the Oyle of all consolation, which I beseech thee poure into my heart, that I may sensibly feele the aboundant riches of thy goodnesse poured vpon mee vnderseed, and (most vnworthy wretch) that I may bee the more strengthened thereby, and in the greatest conflict may hope against hope, that whatsoeuer my outward senses doe imagine, yet the inward feeling of thy mercy may superabound; to the increase of my more then weake faith, but especially for thy honour and glory sake: so that finally I may say with Saint Paule, that neyther death nor life, nor anguish, nor persecution, nor things present, nor to come, may remoue me from thy loue. in Iesus Christ: In whose name I pray, as he hath taught, Our Father: which art in heauen, &c.

Godly private prayers

*A forme of prayer dayly to be used of all faith-
full Christians.*

A Almighty God and most merciful Father, through Iesus Christ our Lorde, in whome, and by whome wee trust that thou art our God and Father, wee most humbly here prostrate our selues before the throne of thy Maiesty, beseeching thee first good Father and God, to pardon, and forgine vs all our sinnes, which we confesse and acknowledge against our selues; beseeching thy gracious Spirite to worke in vs the knowledge of them daily more and more, that thereby wee may come to true repentance for them: and together there-with, vnto the knowledge of the height, breadth, deapth, and fulnesse in all sortes of thy grace and mercy, whereby through Iesus Christ thou hast forgotten them, and remooued them as farre from vs, as the East is from the West. And although we know by them, too well alas good Lord, that wee haue (as much as in vs lay and lyeth) labored to prouoke thy wrath and anger against vs, heaping sinne vpon sinne, and multiplying of offences and transgressions against thy high grace and Maiesty, breaking thy holy word and commaundements; yet thou (O Lord) hast not beene as a man, nor thy affections as the affections of the sonnes of men, but hast continued gracious and mercifull, and bountifull vnto vs, in pardoning our sinnes, and daily renewing in vs with the morning, thy graces diuers and manifold. Therefore we beseech thee most mercifull Father, to giue vs thy holy Spirite, that wee prouoke thee no more, that thou rise not vp in thy wrath against vs, to destroy vs as wee haue iustly deserved; for we O Lord haue beene and are as dry as stubble, and yet thou hast not dispersed and consumed vs;

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we haue beene vnfruitful, and thou hast not cut vs downe: yea Lord, wee haue brought forth wilde and sowre fruit, corrupt and detestable, and yet thou lettest thy raine to fall, and Sun to shine vpon vs.

Make vs therefore we beseech thee sorry as it becometh thy Children, for that wee haue disobeyed thee, so merciful and louing a Father, and frame vs dayly, and fashion vs to the likenesse of thy wel beloued Sonne Iesus Christ our Lord: that in knowledge and true holinesse, wee may glorifie thee before the world, and by the fruits of godlines and righteousnesse, be assured and made certaine of thy Spirit, and of the loue wherewith thou louest vs. Make vs thankfull deere Father, for the infinite and vnspakeable benefites of our election to life and euerlasting glory before all time, and for our creation and redemption, and sanctification, in time to bring thy glorious counsell to passe.

Worke in vs certaine faith, and assured hope in thy promises, the true feare of thy Maiesty, a perfect hate and detestation of all disordered and sinful affections. Work in vs eternal loue of thy truth and Gospel, sincere affection and loue towards thy Children, & amongst our selues patience, knowledge, vertue, loue, compassion, with all graces of thy kingdome, that in all our behauiour, thou O God mayest be glorified in vs. Also we beseech thee most mercifull Father, for the benefites of this life. That as thou art not onely the God of our spirites and soules, but also of our bodies: so it would please thee, notwithstanding our sinnes, to graunt vs thy blessings of health, peace, and maintenance, of which (by thy gracious providence) some of vs doe feele the want, and some of vs haue for long time enioyed and vsed the same; that together with them, wee may haue thy Spirit to instruct vs, as

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well in the wants, as in the true and lawfull vse of them: that wee may more earnestly and seriously study and labour in these vocations wherein thou hast set vs, through thy great mercy, to the promoting and increasing of thy Kingdome, to the benefite and comfort of thy Children. And we pray not only for our selues, but beseech thee to make vs earnest and feruent in prayer vnto thy Maiestie, euen for others also, yea, for all men: that as thou art the Creator of all, so thou wouldest mercifully regard them, and continue thy gracious goodnes and mercy, in administering and ordering the worlde, so that by no Tyrants nor wicked men, that order which thou hast established bee ouerthrowne, but the spring and harvest; the rayne and fruitefull times, and the ioy which thou shewest and giuest by them, may prouoke all men continually to feare and loue thee, yea, to seeke thee and finde thee. That not in those outward blessings alone, but much more in thy spirite, they whome thou hast there-into ordayned, may reioyce in thy fatherly goodnes by Iesus Christ. And that to this ende, it may please thee to poure out thy graces vpon men, that they may bee instructed and framed meete instruments for the calling of all such as thou hast appointed to be of thy Church.

That these builders may be cunning and expert. That these Gardiners may bee wise to plant and water, with iudgement and discretion; that these Stewardes of thy mysteries may so behaue themselves in thy Church, that they knowing howe and wherewith to feede thy house, the glory and beauty thereof may appeare in the eyes of all the worlde, which thou hast before so long promised, and which to see the eyes dazell and faint with looking for. And although wee knowe well, O Lorde, that the cause of all miserable disorders, deformities, and bre-

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ches nowe adayes, is in our selues, which shutte vp thine hand, and (as it were) binde thine armes from reaching them out vnto vs, for our saluation and comfort, yet let the Lorde arise and bee mercifull vnto Sion, and haue pittie on the ruines thereof. For the time is come, our owne Country and people are before our eyes continually, whose sinne and disorder, whose ignorance and stubbernesse, whose negligence and contempt of thy worde, thou hast now long time punished, withdrawing thy hand from dooing them good. For by thy iust iudgement now many yeates thou hast plagued them, and vs with idle, prophane, vnlearned & vnskillfull Pastors: guides thou hast giuen them but to their ruine: Feeders, but of themselues, not of thy flocke: Teachers and Doctours, who haue mouthes but speake not, eyes but see not, neither the iudgements vppon thy people, nor how to goe out and in before them; and that which is most fearefull, thy good hand is not with those Prophets which are amongst them, who doe sow indeede, but the earth giueth not her encrease. They water, but thy plants rise not in any number. They feed, but thy flocke is poore, not fat nor beautifull. Oh let the Lord forget the sinnes of his people. Why hath hee bound them vppon his hand to looke vpon them for euer? Why hath hee set them day and night in the sight of his countenance? We confesse and acknowledge against our selues, O Lord, al our sins, we iudge & condemne our selues, yea we testifie against our selues, that wee haue deserued that euen those sparks of thy fire & heavenly light which are amongst vs, should bee quenched and put out, that the smoake of thy glory, which is still in thy Church amongst vs, should rise vp & vanish away from amongst vs as the dew of the morning; that the same building which as yet standeth, were to bee

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throwne downe, that the Lord should mount vpon his chariot, and flee from vs. But shall the Lord deale with his people by waight and measure? shall hee vse iudgement and not mercy? shal our Father forget his children, although we prouoke him? shal not the sighes & grones of them that bewayle Syon, come before him and enter into his eares? O Lord let the iudgement and seuerity which wee haue deserued, bee stayed: let Chariots and Horses bee vnloosed, let the Armies of the Lord be discharged, and let the Lord vngird himselfe, and forgette his counsell, and turne and be gracious and merciful vnto them that knowledge and confesse their sinnes. Let the Angels that bee the destroyers, goe from before thy face, to ouerthrowe and cast downe all that standeth to hinder thy glory, and to maintaine sinne and ignorance, pride, and vanity. That thy good Angels may followe to mete out and describe all thinges that pertaine to the building of thy Temple. Let them lay to it the square and plummet, and let all thy people stand and shoute and sing glory, at the laying of this foundation. Let thy Spirite guide all those good Lord, that in feare and reuerence before thee, walke in their vocation: In the Vniuersities and in all parts of the Realme, yea, of the earth, looking and labouring for this worke, and encrease the little number, as the thousands of Ephraim, and the tenne thousands of Manasses; and those that laugh at, and hinder, and drawe backe this worke, let them bee ashamed and confounded, and all thy meruailous blessings bee shewed in the successs thereof. But let them haue no force nor strength to hinder it: so shall Iacob reioyce in thy mercy, and Israel in thy euerlasting trueth. So shall our eyes see thy glory, O Lord, and we sing perpetually to thy prayse. So shall Iesus Christ delight in the beauty

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beauty of his Church, and his people bee a people meeete to serue him, decked and adorned with his gifts, labouring and studying to please him, that in them his loue may rest. To this end good Lord, shewe mercy vppon all Princes and Magistrates of the earth, that belong to thy election: turning the hearts of all those that hitherto haue not knowne thy trueth, but lent their power and might to Sathan and Antichrist to persecute thy people, to the great dishonour of thy name. That yet nowe at the last, they may bee brought home into thy sheepfold, and in stead of persecutors, become Nurse-fathers, and Nurse-mothers to thy Church. But especially we most humbly beseech thee for al such Princes and Magistrates as haue receiued thy truth. And namely, for our deere Soueraigne Lorde, the Kings Maiestie, whome thou hast placed ouer vs in this Realme, and for his most honourable Councel, and all Magistrates therein, that thou wouldest augment the graces of thy holy Spirite in him, and in them: especially, the spirite of wisdome, counsell, and power: that hee and they may goe forwarde in the worke of the building vp of thy Church, in all obedience to thy will, speedily, and constantly, and perseuerantly, that thy people the Sheepe of thy pasture, whom thou hast committed vnto him and their gouernment, may godly and peaceably liue and dye to thee, and with them and for them, glorific thy most holy name for euer and euer. We beseech thee also good Lord our God, for all our brethren wheresoeuer, that those which are in thy Church in peace and safety, may prosper and goe forward, and stand in thy trueth for euer, that thy goodness may be assured vnto them, & that thou wouldest keep their place, and maintaine their cause against all that labour to trouble them. And for such as doe yet labour vnder

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der tyranny and affliction, whose sufferings thou knowest, O Lord, better then wee can declare: It may please thee to breake the rodde of their oppressours, to quench the fire of their aduersaries, and to lighten or rather cleane take away that burthen which thou doest so presse, that they together with vs, may ioyne in thy congregation, and feede safely. So that there may bee none to scare vs. Let thy Spirit of comfort possesse our hearts, that all trouble may seeme lesse then thy trueth and glory, and so lighten our eyes, that in our darknes we may haue such sight of thy glory, and of Iesus Christ, who is in that high Mountaine where he is now so glorious, that our griefes may be swallowed vp.

An addition in the Morning.

Last of all, most louing Father, we render humble and speciall praise vnto thy Maiesty, that it pleased thee amongst the rest of thine infinite benefits, graces, and mercies bestowed vpon vs, to take care of vs from our conception, and hauing drawne vs out of our Mothers wombes, to preserue vs from all dangers both of bodie and soule, whereunto wee are subiect, and namely this night passed, so to keepe vs and defend vs, vnder the shadow of thy wings, that wee are come to this present day, according to thy good pleasure and ordinance: beseeching thee to giue vs all such grace, as wee may imploy it wholly in thy seruice. And for the doing hereof, good Father, reforme our vnderstanding, keepe the watch of our tongues, and the doores of our lippes in such sort, that no ill word be vttered by, or through the same. Rule and gouerne our hearts, that they thinke not, our hands that they touch not, our feete that they goe not to, our eyes that they see not, our eares that they heare not, any thing

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thing but that which is to thy glory. That thereby we may bee confirmed in thy infinite and Fatherly loue towards vs, and walk cheerefully in our vocations, and waiting for that full redemption, and that crowne of glorie which remaineth for all such as holde this course to the end. These things we craue, and all other which thou knowest needfull for vs, and thy whole Church; for thy deere Sonne, Iesus Christ his sake, as hee hath taught vs, saying, Our Father, &c.

An addition in the Euening.

Last of all, we beseech thee most merciful and louing Father, that as this day thou hast graciously ministered strength vnto vs, to walke in our vocations, and blessed our studies and labours: so we may bee thankfull therefore, and haue alwayes thy good hand with vs, to bring to fruite and effect, those counsels which we follow for thy glory. And wee pray thee to keepe vs this night in tuition and safe-guard, that we may rest in thy protection: and receiue that comfort and strength of thy blessing, which thou hast graunted to our weake nature, thorough Iesus Christ our Lorde and Sauour. In whose name wee pray as hee hath taught vs, saying. Our Father which art in heauen, &c.

FINIS.

**M. Derings words, spoken on his
death-bed at Toby, The 26.
of Iune. 1576.**

GOD forgive me my negligence, that I have not used the
precious gifts of God laid up within mee, more to his
glory in my time: yet I thank God that I have not used
them in vaine glory, or to please the vaine affections of men.

After my death, my enemies wil become my friends, except
some that know me not, & those which haue no feeling of the
truth: For I haue faithfully serued the Lord & my Prince in
a good conscience.

A Preacher saying vnto him: It is for thee a great blessing
that thou shalt depart in peace, and go from many troubles
that our Brethren shall beare and see: Hee answered, I
shall go from many troubles, and leaue many behinde me. If
the Lord hath appointed that his Saintes shall suppe together,
why go I not to them? but if there be any doubting or staggering,
our Lord reueale the truth.

Hearing one say, Hee hoped that in his silence, his minde
was neuerthelessse exercised in Godly meditation: He answered:
As a poore fraile man, and the least of all the elect saints,
yet beleeuing and looking on Christ my saluation. Wee shall
all meete together with the sweete harmony of the Lord God
of hostes. What a cloude of witnesses is heere? yet a little
while, and wee shall see our hope. Wee haue ouer-taken the
ends of the world which is come vpon vs, and we shall quickly
receiue the end of our hope which we haue waited for. Afflic-
tions, sicknes, and paine, are but the worlds portions from the
Lord. It is not to begin for a moment, but to continue in the
feare of God all our dayes: for in the twinkling of an eye wee
shall be taken away. Dally not with the word of God, make not
light of it: Blessed are they that use their tongues well when
they haue it.

E. D.



To the Reader.

Gentle Reader, I thought good, to set downe an excellent speech, vttered by the Authour of this Booke a little before his death: whereby thou mayest cleerely see and learne, that there is a sweete peace in death, to all such as painfully serue the Lorde in life. For hee being raised vp in his bed, and his friend requesting him to speake, the Sunne shone on his face, and thereby he tooke occasion thus to say.



Here is but one Sunne that giveth light to the world: there is but one righteousnesse: there is but one communion of Saints. If I were the excellentest Creature in the world: If I were as righteous as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (for they were excellent men in the world) yet we must all confesse that wee are great sinners, and that there is no saluation but in the righteousnes of Iesus Christ. And we haue all neede of the grace of God. And for my part, as concerning death, I feele such ioy of spirite, that if I shou'd haue the sentence of life on the one side, and the sentence of death on the other side, I had rather chöose a thousand times (seeing God hath appointed the separation) the sentence of death, than the sentence of life.

The Prayer which M. Dering vsed *before his Lectures.*



Lord God, which hast left vnto vs
thy holy word to be a lanterne vn-
to our feete, and a light vnto our
steps, giue vnto vs all, thy holy Spi-
rit: that out of the same word wee may learne
what is thy eternall will, and frame our liues
in all holy obedience to the same, to thy ho-
nour and glory, and increase of our faith, thro-
rough Iesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

T. N. On Edward *Dering.*

Dering, in earthly life thy heavenly voyce did teach
the ruche of sinnes, the truth of endlesse grace:
And with thy voyce thy life conspired to preach
The praise of God, with longing to embrace
The sweet delights wherein his Saints abound:
O blessed Organ of so noble sound.

When thou didst cry repentant grieve for sinne,
When with inspired breath from Ghost diuine
Thy mouth pour'd forth what heart did feele within,
Thy deepe desire to draw men to incline
Their listning soules vnto the healthfull word:
O happy they that turnd vnto the Lord.

And

T. N. On Edward Dering.

And when thou didst his mercy sweet proclaime,
And didst with thankfull and delightfull voyce
Set forth the honour of his sauing name,
To quench despaire and make the heart reioyce :
O happy hearers of so ioyfull newes,
Vnhappy wretches that such ioyes refuse.

O happy thou, and all that shall with thee
Well follow him that led, and is the way :
They follow well whome he hath blest to see
The path, and trust the guide that cannot stray.
Oh, well he liued whome God did so apply :
Oh well he dyed that liues eternally.

We thanke our God for thee and for thy life,
And for the good that hee by thee hath wrought;
Thy speech, thy trauaile in his seruice rise,
Thy writings left whereby we still be taught.
And in thy death Gods holy name be blest :
O blessed dead that in the Lord doe rest.

FINIS.