The Diocese of Melbourne

Liturgical Committee

**Death and Dying**

**Prayers suitable for Memorial Services   
held some time after Death**

*Authorised by the Archbishop of Melbourne   
for use in the Diocese of Melbourne   
17 August 2021*

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*These resources are intended to be used in the context of a Memorial Service that follows the structure of the Funeral Service contained in* A Prayer Book for Australia*, pages* *70-76, especially where a Funeral can only be attended by a limited number of mourners due to Coronavirus public health restrictions*

*At ¶5 of the* ABPA *Funeral Service, the minister may use this introduction*

We gather together to celebrate the life of *Name* who died *on date*.  
  
Though time has passed,   
we come together to support one another as we remember and grieve.   
Trusting in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection that Christ has wrought   
for all who believe, we give thanks for *Name’s* life,   
pray for those who mourn *them*  
and recall the promise that all who die in Christ   
will share eternal life with him.

*At ¶7 of the* ABPA *Funeral Service, Romans 8.38-39 should be used as one of the sentences*

*The following prayer may be used in addition to the provision at ¶14 in* APBA *Funeral Service*

***For those who mourn***

Holy God,   
Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, Abiding Spirit,   
we pray for *Name’s* family and friends   
who continue to mourn and remember *them*:   
As they grieve, may they know your comfort and assurance,   
and as they feel the depth of loss,   
may they know they are loved by you, Lord God.   
May they know your mercy   
in times of sorrow and times of joy,   
for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Instead of the Prayer of Entrusting and The Committal at ¶20–21 of the Funeral Service, the following should be used*

Trusting *Name* to the eternal mercy of God, we pray.

Holy and loving God, by your loving power you gave us life,   
and in your mercy you have given us new life in Jesus Christ.   
Hold *Name* in your merciful keeping, we pray,  
in the faith of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to save us   
and now, with all the faithful departed, lives and reigns   
with you and the Holy Spirit   
in glory for ever. **Amen.**