

**PRIVATE DEVOTION. A
SELECTION OF
PRAYERS BY A LADY OF
THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH**

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Private devotion. A selection of prayers by a lady of the Established church by Various

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VARIOUS

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PRIVATE DEVOTION.

A Selection of Prayers

BY

A LADY OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

*To be Sold for the Benefit of the Poor of a Parish
in Suffolk.*



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SUNDAY EVENING.

MOST glorious God! Blessed be Thy name for the renewed opportunities I have this day had of waiting upon Thee in Thy house; of joining in the public services of Thy sanctuary; and of being instructed and encouraged in those ways of righteousness that lead to life eternal. Help me, good Lord, to make a proper improvement of these religious advantages and means of grace that Thou affordest me. Enable me to live in a manner suitable to the profession I make, to the privileges I enjoy, and to the obligations and engagements I am under to Thee. Pardon, most merciful Father, those imperfections which have attended my religious duties this day, in Thy house, or my own. Forgive the deadness of my devotion, the wanderings of my thoughts, and the distractions of my mind.

For the many temporal mercies Thou art bestowing upon me from day to day, and particularly for the supplies of the day past, I would likewise offer Thee my unfeigned tribute of gratitude and praise.

And now be pleased to take me, O Lord, into Thy care and protection this night. Defend me from all evils and dangers; and refresh me, I beseech Thee, with sweet and comfortable repose. Let me lie down with holy thoughts of Thee, and when I awake let me be still with Thee. I would commend to Thy kind and gracious regards all my relatives and friends. Do them good, I pray Thee, and bless them with all such spiritual and temporal blessings as Thou knowest to be most proper and needful for them. Visit in mercy such as are under affliction. Give them patience and submission to Thy will; relieve their distresses, and afford them all necessary supports, and those Divine consolations which are neither few nor small.

Extend, O Thou God and Father of all, Thy loving-kindness and compassion to the whole human race. Send the light of Thy glorious

Gospel all over the world, and wheresoever it shines may it be the means of spreading righteousness and peace amongst men.

Hear me, good Lord, in these my imperfect petitions, and manifestly accept of my evening sacrifice of prayer and praise. Keep me in Thy fear and in Thy favour through the remainder of my short and uncertain life; support and comfort me in my dying moments; and after death be Thou my portion and exceeding great reward; through Jesus Christ the Son of Thy love, in whom I desire to be found, living and dying, and through whom I would ascribe to Thee, O Heavenly Father, all honour, glory, and dominion, now and for ever. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

O MOST great, most gracious, and most glorious God, the Almighty Maker and All-wise Governor of the universe, the Father, the Friend, and Saviour of mankind! all possible excellence is centered in Thee; all real and substantial good streams forth from Thee; and under a lively sense of Thine adorable perfections, Thine unlimited bounty, would I this morning come before Thee, to offer Thee my tribute of prayer and thanksgiving, and to present my prayers and supplications at the throne of Thy grace. Adored be that power and goodness which at first brought me into being, and whereby I have been constantly supported and liberally supplied with all things needful to my comfortable subsistence in this present state. I thank Thee particularly for the safety and repose of the last night; that I then laid me down and slept, and have awaked

this morning in health and peace, because Thou hast sustained me. Thus far, O Thou Preserver of man, hast Thou been pleased to spare my forfeited life; and numberless as my sins and provocations against Thee have been, Thou art still following me with Thy mercies and favours. O let me not despise the riches of Thy goodness, and forbearance, and long-suffering, nor forget that it is the design of all to lead me to repentance.

Blessed be Thy name for the encouragement Thou hast given me to repent of my sins, by the kind assurance of Thy readiness to pardon and accept of all who are truly penitent. Blessed be Thy name that, unworthy as I am of the common bounties of Thy providence, Thou hast freely offered to my acceptance a share in the far richer treasures of Thy grace.

Keep me this day in innocence and uprightness. In all my ways let me acknowledge Thee, and do Thou direct my paths. Teach me to guide my affairs with discretion, and in every respect to act in a manner suitable to the station wherein Thy providence has placed me, and to the general relations which I sustain.

Bless the family to which I belong, and all my dear relatives and friends, whether near or at a distance. May we be all interested in Thy peculiar favour and friendship, faithful in our duty to Thee here on earth, and happy in the enjoyment of Thee hereafter in heaven. All which, and whatever else thou seest needful and proper for me, for them, and for all mankind, I humbly entreat for Thy goodness' sake, in and through Christ Jesus Thy Son, who has taught us to address Thee under the endearing character of our Heavenly Father.

Our Father who art in heaven, &c.