

SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

John 11:25, 26

We brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

1 Timothy 6:7, Job 1:21

The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.
Deuteronomy 33:27

I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38, 39

Christ has risen from the dead,
by death he has trampled on death
and to those in the graves he has given life.

Orthodox Easter hymn

Minister: In the name of Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father, grace, mercy and peace be with you.

The minister may introduce the service with these or other words.

We remember before God His Royal Highness PHILIP, Duke of Edinburgh, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our prayers and praises to the Father.

Then the minister says

O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls: you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever! For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life. As you give light to those in darkness, who walk in the shadow of death, so remember in your kingdom your faithful servant PHILIP, Duke of Edinburgh, that death may be for him the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign, one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever. Amen.

All: **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Revelation 21:1–7

Minister: Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Minister: The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,

People: **And there shall no torment touch them.**

Minister: You, Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

People: **My eyes from tears and my feet from falling.**

Minister: I will walk before the Lord

People: **In the land of the living.**

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life of His Royal Highness PHILIP, Duke of Edinburgh, for the love he received from you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant Philip that clearer vision, promised to us in the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn, the members of the Royal Family, this Nation and all the Nations of the Commonwealth, that casting all our care on you, we may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of the same, until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through him who, for the finishing of thy work, laid down his life for us, even our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

based on the prayer of Sir Francis Drake (c. 1540–1596)

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end. Amen.

after John Donne (1571–1631)

COMMENDATION

Into your hands, O Father and Lord, we commend your servant, PHILIP, Duke of Edinburgh. Enlighten him with your holy grace and suffer him never to be separated from you, O Lord in Trinity, God everlasting.

after St Edmund of Abingdon (1170–1240)

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of man:
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of earth,
and unto earth shall we return.
For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying,
‘Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.’
All we go down to the dust;
and weeping o’er the grave we make our song:
Alleluya, alleluya, alleluya.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Orthodox Kontakion for the Departed

William Laud (1573–1645)

May God in his mercy grant us, with all the faithful departed, rest and peace.
Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,

God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.