

Yizkor Service Prayers

Yizkor Reflections

May the memories of our loved ones inspire us
To seek in our lives those qualities of mind and heart
Which we recall with special gratitude.

May we help to bring closer to fulfillment
Their highest ideals and noblest strivings.
Their highest ideals and noblest strivings.

May the memories of our loved ones deepen our loyalty
To that which cannot die—
Our faith, our love, and devotion to our heritage.

As we ponder life's transience and frailty,
Help us, O God, to use each precious moment wisely,
To fill each day with all the compassion and kindness
Which You have placed within our reach.

Thus will the memories of our loved ones abide among us
As a source of undying inspiration and enduring blessing.

The Light of the Lord Is the Soul of the Person

נר ה' נשמת אדם

We Recall

Eternal God, we have come to sanctify our fleeting lives by linking them with Yours, O Life of all Ages. In You generations past, present, and future are united in one bond of life.

At this sacred hour, we are aware of those souls through whom we have come to know of Your grace and love. All the wisdom, beauty, and affection that have enriched our lives are the garnered fruits of our communion with others.

Many of those to whom we owe so much are alive with us today, and we pray that we may be able to reward their goodness and their devotion to us by acts of love and loyalty.

But others have passed forever from our midst, leaving us a heritage of tender memories which now fill our minds.

Some of us recall today beloved parents who watched over us, nursed us, guided us, and sacrificed for us.

Some of us lovingly call to mind a wife or a husband with whom we were truly united - in our hopes and our pains, in our failures and our achievements, in our joys and our sorrows.

Some of us remember brothers and sisters, who grew up together with us, sharing in the play of childhood, in the youthful adventure of discovering life's possibilities, bound to us by a heritage of family tradition and by years of comradeship and love.

Some of us call to mind children, entrusted to our care all too briefly, taken from us before they reached the years of maturity and fulfillment, to whom we gave our loving care and from whom we received a trust which enriched our lives.

O Lord, what are we human beings that You should know about us,

we children of the flesh that You should take account of us? A person is like a vapor, our days are as quickly passing as a shadow. In the morning we flourish and grow tall, in the evening we are cut down, dried up. You turn us to contrition saying, would that we were wise and understood what will happen to us in the end. For when we die we take nothing away, our glory will not descend along with us. Observe the innocent person, take notice of the upright, for the end of such a person is peace.

I have set the Eternal always before me. God is at my side; I shall not be moved. Therefore does my heart exult and my soul rejoice, my being is secure. For You will not abandon me to death nor let Your faithful ones see destruction. You show me the path of life. Your presence brings fullness of joy, enduring happiness is Your gift.

ה' מָה-אָדָם, וַתִּדְעֶהּ:

בֶּן-אָנוּשׁ, וַתַּחֲשִׁבֶהוּ.

אָדָם, לְהַבִּיל דָּמָה;

יָמָיו, כְּצֶל עוֹבֵר (תהילים קמד)

בַּבֶּקֶר יִצְיֵץ וְחָלָף

לְעָרֵב יְמוּלֵל וַיֵּבֶשׁ...

לְמָנוֹת יָמֵינוּ כֵּן הוֹדַע

וְנָבֵא לְבַב חֲכָמָה. (תהלים צ)

שָׁמַר תָּם וְרָאָה יֵשֶׁר

כִּי אַחֲרִית לְאִישׁ שְׁלוֹם. (תהלים לו)

שׁוֹיֵתִי ה' לְנִגְדֵי תָמִיד כִּי מִיַּמֵּינִי

בֵּל אָמוּט. לְכֵן שָׂמַח לִבִּי וַיִּגַּל

כְּבוֹדִי אֵף בְּשָׂרֵי יוֹשֵׁבֵי לְבַטָּח.

כִּי לֹא תַעֲזֹב נַפְשִׁי לְשָׂאוֹל לֹא

תִּתֵּן חֲסִידֶךָ לְרָאוֹת שָׁחַת.

תוֹדִיעֵנִי אֲרַח חַיִּים שְׁבַע

שְׂמֵחוֹת אֶת פְּנֵיךָ נְעֻמוֹת

בְּיַמֵּינֶךָ נִצַּח. (תהלים טז)

All of us recall beloved relatives and friends whose affection and devotion enhanced our lives, and whose visible presence will never return to cheer, encourage or support us.

Though they are gone from us we are grateful for the blessings they brought and were to us. Now, by giving to others the love which our departed gave to us, we can partly repay the debt we owe them.

We are sustained and comforted by the thought that the goodness which they brought into our lives remains an enduring blessing which we can bequeath to our descendants.

We can still serve our departed by serving You. We can show our devotion to them by our devotion to those ideals which they cherished

O God of Love, make us worthy of the love we have received by teaching us to love You with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our might, and to spread the light of Your divine love on all whose lives touch ours.

Give us strength to live honorably and, when our time comes, to die serenely, cheered by the confidence that You will not permit our lives to be wasted, but will bring all our worthy strivings to fulfillment. Amen.

In Memory of departed congregants

In this memorial hour, we recall members of our congregation who have been taken from us.

Their memories are enshrined in this sanctuary, and are gratefully recorded upon the tablets of our hearts.

May the Source of all comfort send consolation and healing to those who mourn them. May their memories endure among us as a lasting benediction. And let us say: Amen.

We Remember Them

At the rising of the sun and at its going down,
We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,
We remember them.

At the shining of the sun and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and at its end,
we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now a part of us,
as we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart,
We remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share,
we remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make,
We remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs,
we remember them.

As long as we live they too will live; for they are now a part of us,
as we remember them.

-Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer

Yizkor - In remembrance of a female relative

Select from among the following and
add appropriate names as indicated

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְׁמַת

(for a mother) _____ אַמִּי מוֹרְתִי

(for a wife) _____ אִשְׁתִּי

(for a sister) _____ אַחֹתִי

(for a daughter) _____ בְּתִי הָאֶהוּבָה מִחֲמַד עֵינַי

שְׁהֶלְךָ לְעוֹלָמָהּ. אָנָּה תְּהִי נִפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצְרוּר הַחַיִּים. וְתִהְיֶה
מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד. שְׁבַע שְׂמֵחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נֹצֵחַ.
אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved
mother/wife/sister/daughter _____
(insert name here)

who has gone to her eternal rest. May the deeds I perform
and the prayers I offer help to keep her soul bound up in the
bond of life as an enduring source of blessing.

O God, source of life and memory, remember the soul of my
beloved mother/wife/sister/daughter whom I affectionately
recall in this solemn hour. May her soul be bound up in the
bonds of eternal life and her memory ever be for a blessing.
Amen.

Yizkor - In remembrance of a male relative

Select from among the following and
add appropriate names as indicated

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְׁמַת

(for a father) _____ אָבִי מוֹרִי

(for a husband) _____ בַּעְלִי

(for a brother) _____ אָחִי

(for a son) _____ בְּנִי הָאֶהוּב מִחֲמַד עֵינַי

שְׁהֶלְךָ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. אָנָּה תְּהִי נִפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצְרוּר הַחַיִּים. וְתִהְיֶה
מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד. שְׁבַע שְׂמֵחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ
נֹצֵחַ. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved
father/husband/brother/son _____
(insert name here)

who has gone to his eternal rest. May the deeds I perform
and the prayers I offer help to keep his soul bound up in
the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing.

O God, source of life and memory, remember the soul
of my beloved father/husband/brother/son whom I
affectionately recall in this solemn hour. May his soul be
bound up in the bonds of eternal life and his memory
ever be for a blessing. Amen.

Yizkor - In remembrance of relatives and friends

יְזַכֵּר אֱלֹהִים נַשְׁמוֹת קְרוֹבֵי וַיְדִידֵי _____
(insert name(s) here)

שְׁהַלְכוּ לְעוֹלָמָם. אָנָּה תִּהְיֶינָה נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בְּצָרוֹר
הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׂמֵחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיהֶ, נְעִימוֹת
בְּיַמֵּיךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the souls of my relatives and friends,

_____ (insert name(s) here)

who have gone to their eternal rest. In tribute to their memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep their souls bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing.

I recall the many hours we spent together in happy fellowship. I shall ever hold sacred the memory of your love and loyalty. May God grant that the recollections of your life stimulate me to noble thinking and righteous living. O Lord, I put my trust in Thee who

A Special Prayer for Those Not Saying Yizkor for Parents

The following prayer may be recited by worshippers who are blessed by honoring their parents still living while others are reciting Yizkor.

Almighty God, while those who have lost their parents and their dear ones call to mind those who have gone to their eternal rest, I at this solemn moment raise my eyes unto You, the Giver of Life, and from a grateful heart thank You for Your mercies in having preserved the life of my beloved father and mother.

May it be Your will, Adonai my God and the God of my ancestors, to bless them with health and strength, so that they may be with me for many years to come. Bless them even as they have blessed me and guard them even as they have guarded me.

In return for all their affection and the sacrifices which they have made for me, may I bring them joy and lighten their cares. May it be my privilege to help them in every way that lies within my power, may I learn to understand and recognize the duty I owe unto them, that I may never have cause to reproach myself when it is too late.

Shield my home from all sorrow. May peace and harmony and Your spirit ever reign within its walls. Keep me true to You and to all with whom I come in contact so that I may do Your will with a perfect heart, my Creator in Heaven.

Amen.

-Adapted from the South African Mahzor

Silent Memorial Prayers

For A Man

אל מלא רחמים, שוכן במרומים, המצא מנוחה נכונה תחת כנפיו
השכינה, במעלות קדושים וטהורים פזר הרקיע מזהירים, את
נשמת _____ שהלך לעולמו,
(insert name here)

בגן עדן תהא מנוחתו, לכן בעל הרחמים יסתירה בסתר כנפיו
לעולמים, ויצרור בצרור החיים את נשמתו, ה' הוא נחלתו, ויגונח
על משכבו בשלום. ונאמר אמן.

Merciful God in heaven, grant perfect repose to the soul of
_____ who has passed to his eternal habitation;
(insert name here)

may he be under Thy Divine wings among the holy and pure who
shine bright as the sky; may his place of rest be in paradise. Merciful
One, O keep his soul forever alive under Thy protective wings. The
Lord being his heritage, may he rest in peace, and
let us say, Amen.

For A Woman

אל מלא רחמים, שוכן במרומים, המצא מנוחה נכונה תחת כנפיו
השכינה, במעלות קדושים וטהורים פזר הרקיע מזהירים, את
נשמת _____ שהלכה לעולמה,
(insert name here)

בגן עדן תהא מנוחתה, לכן בעל הרחמים יסתירה בסתר כנפיו
לעולמים, ויצרור בצרור החיים את נשמתה, ה' הוא נחלתה, ותגונח
בשלום על משכבה. ונאמר אמן.

Merciful God in heaven, grant perfect repose to the soul of
_____ who has passed to her eternal habitation;
(insert name here)

may she be under Thy Divine wings among the holy and
pure who shine bright as the sky; may her place of rest be
in paradise. Merciful One, O keep her soul forever alive under
Thy protective wings. The Lord being her heritage, may she
rest in peace, and let us say, Amen.

Yizkor - In remembrance of the martyrs

אל מלא רחמים, שוכן במרומים המצא מנוחה נכונה,
תחת כנפיו השכינה במעלות קדושים וטהורים,
פזר הרקיע מזהירים, את נשמות כל אחינו בני ישראל,
אנשים נשים וטף, שנטבחו ושנחנקו ושנשרפו ושנהרגו,
בגן עדן תהא מנוחתם.

אנא בעל הרחמים, הסתירם בסתר כנפיה לעולמים וצרור
בצרור החיים את נשמותיהם. ה' הוא נחלתם, ויגונחו בשלום
על משכבותיהם.

ונאמר אמן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace in Your sheltering
Presence, among the holy and the pure to the
souls of all our brethren, men, women and children of the House of
Israel who were slaughtered and suffocated and burned to ashes.

May their memory endure, inspiring truth and loyalty in
our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life.
May they rest in peace.

And let us say: Amen.

Eyl Maley Rahamim Prayer for the departed

אל מלא רחמים שוכן במרומים, המצא מנוחה נכונה תחת
כנפי השכינה במעלות קדושים וטהורים כזוהר הרקיע מזהירים
את נשמות כל־אלה שהזכרנו היום לברכה שהלכו לעולמם.
בגן עדן תהא מנוחתם, אָנָּא בעל הרחמים הסתירם בסתר
כנפיך לעולמים, וצָרוּר בצָרוּר החיים את נשמותיהם, ה' הוא
נחלתם, ויגוּחוּ בשָׁלוֹם על משכֹּותיהם. ונאמר אָמֵן.

Ayl ma-lay ra-cha-mim sho-chayn bam-ro-mim ham'tzay
m'nu-cha n'cho-nah al kan-fay ha-sh'chi-nah. B'ma-a-lot
k'do-shim ut'ho-rim k'zo-har ha-ra-ki-a maz-hi-rim et
nish-mot ha-y'sha-rim v'hay'sha-rot she'hal-chu lo-la-mam. Ba-a-
vur she-a-nu nod-rim li-tz'da-ka b'ad haz-ka-rat
nish-mo-tay-hem. B'gan ay-den t'hay m'nu-cha-tam. La-chayn ba-
al ha-ra-cha-mim yas-ti-raym b'say-ter k'na-fav lo-la-mim v'ytiz-
ror bitz-ror ha-cha-yim et nish-mo-tay-hem. Ado-nai
Hu na-cha-la-tam. V'ya-nu-chu b'sha-lom al mish-k'vo-tam. V'no-
mar. A-mein.

Merciful God, who dwells on high and in our hearts, grant perfect
peace to the souls of our dearly beloved who have gone to their
eternal rest. Shelter them in Your Divine Presence among the holy
and pure whose radiance is like the brightness of the firmament.
May their memory inspire us to live justly and kindly. May their
souls be at peace; and may they be bound up in the bond of eternal
life. Let us say: Amen.

Psalm 23

מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד ה' רֹעִי לֹא אֶחָסֵר:
בְּנֵאוֹת דְּשָׂא יִרְבִּיצֵנִי עַל־מֵי מְנַחֹת יְנַהֲלֵנִי:
נִפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבֵב יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְלֵי־צֶדֶק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ:
גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶף בְּגִיא צִלְמוֹת לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אַתָּה עִמָּדִי שְׁבָטָךְ
וּמִשְׁעֲנֵתְךָ הַמָּה יְנַחֲמֵנִי:
תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי שְׁלֹחַן נֹגֵד צִרְיִי דִשְׁנֵת בְּשִׁמּוֹן רֹאשִׁי כּוֹסֵי רוּיָה:
אֵךְ טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית־ה' לְאָרְךָ יָמִים:

A psalm of david. Adonai is my shepherd, I shall not want.

God gives me repose in green meadows, and guides me over calm
waters.

God will revive my spirit and direct me on the right path—
for that is God's way.

Though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no harm, for You are at my side.

Your staff and Your rod comfort me.

You prepare a banquet for me in the presence of my foes:

You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and kindness shall be my portion
all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of Adonai in the fullness of time.

Mourners Kaddish

Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'mei raba.
B'alma di v'ra chirutei, v'yamlich malchutei,
b'chayeichon uv'yomeichon uv'chayei d'chol beit Yisrael,
baagala uviz'man kariv. V'im'ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam ul'almei almaya.

Yitbarach v'yishtabach v'yitpaar v'yitromam v'yitnasei,
v'yit'hadar v'yitaleh v'yit'halal sh'mei d'kud'sha b'rich hu,

l'eila (l'eila) min kol birchata v'shirata,
tushb'chata v'nechemata, daamiran b'alma. V'imru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya, v'chayim aleinu v'al kol Yisrael.
V'imru: Amen.

Oseh shalom bimromav, Hu yaaseh shalom aleinu, v'al kol Yisrael.
V'imru: Amen.

יִתְגַּדֵּל וַיִּתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ וַיְמַלִּיף
מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיֵּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעֵגְלָא
וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעֵלְמֵי עֵלְמַיָּא:

יִתְבָּרַךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּבַּח וַיִּתְפָּאֵר וַיְתַרְוֶמֶם וַיִּתְנַשֵּׂא
וַיִּתְהַדָּר וַיִּתְעַלֶּה וַיִּתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא.
בְּרִיף הוּא.

לְעֵלָא (לְעֵלָא) מְכַלְבְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא
תְּשֻׁבְחָתָא וְנַחֲמָתָא דְאִמְרוּן בְּעֵלְמָא.
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל.
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

עוֹשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן: