### DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

**FUNERAL MINISTRY RESOURCES**

***SAMPLE GRAVESIDE PRAYERS FOR A CHILD / INFANT***

**RITE OF COMMITTAL**

*Celebrant:* The life which this child *N.* received from her / his parents

is not destroyed by death.

God has taken her / him into eternal life.

As we commit *N.*’s body to the earth,

let us comfort each other in our sorrow

with the assurance of our faith,

that one day we will be reunited with her / him.

**BLESSING OF GRAVE**

*Celebrant:* O God,

by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest,

bless this grave and send your holy angel to watch over it.

As we bury here the body of *N.*,

welcome her / him into your presence,

that she / he may rejoice in you with your saints for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

*Celebrant:* Lord God, ever caring and gentle,

we commit to your love this little one *N.*,

who brought joy to our lives for so short a time.

Enfold her / him in eternal life.

**COMMITTAL**

*Celebrant:* We pray for *N.*’s parents,

who are saddened by the loss of their daughter / son.

Give them courage and help them in their pain and grief.

May they all meet one day in the joy and peace of your kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

*Celebrant:* Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing.

O merciful Lord,

you know the anguish of the sorrowful,

you are attentive to the prayers of the humble.

Hear your people who cry out to you in their need,

and strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

*Celebrant:* Let us, as we remember *N.* with sorrow,

comfort each other with love, and build each other up in faith,

so that the flame of hope may continue to burn in our hearts.

May we always be ready to give and to love,

and let us trust God to give us the strength to do so.

*All:*  Amen.