### DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

**FUNERAL MINISTRY RESOURCES**

***SAMPLE PRAYERS FOR THE BURIAL OF ASHES***

**WELCOME**

*The Celebrant greets the people in these or other suitable words:*

*Celebrant:* Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

Though we are dust and ashes,

God has prepared for those who love Him

a heavenly dwelling place.

At her / his funeral, we commended *N.*

into the Hands of almighty God.

As we prepare to commit the remains of *N.* to the earth,

we entrust ourselves, and all who love God, to His loving care.

*Appropriate sentences of Scripture may be used.*

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled,

and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

**THE COMMITTAL**

*Celebrant:* We have entrusted our sister / brother *N.*

to God’s mercy, and we now commit

her / his mortal remains to the ground:

Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life

through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies

that they may be conformed to his glorious body,

who died, was buried, and rose again for us.

To him be glory for ever.

*All:* Amen.

*OR*

*Celebrant:* God our Father, in loving care your hand has created us,

and as the potter fashions the clay,

you have formed us in your image.

Through the Holy Spirit you have breathed into us the gift of life.

In the sharing of love you have enriched our knowledge of you

and of one another.

We claim your love today,

as we return these ashes to the ground,

in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

*The congregation may join with the minister in saying:*

*All:* Thanks be to God who gives us the victory,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*All:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

*OR*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.

*Celebrant:* Heavenly Father,

we thank you for all those whom we love but see no longer.

As we remember *N.* in this place,

hold before us our beginning and our ending,

the dust from which we come and the death to which we move,

with a firm hope in your eternal love and purposes for us,

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

*Other prayers may be used, ending with:*

*Celebrant:* God of hope, grant that we, with all who have believed in you,

may be united in the full knowledge of your love

and the unclouded vision of your glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

*Celebrant:* The infinite and glorious Trinity,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

direct our life in good works,

and after our journey through this world,

grant us eternal rest with all the saints.

*All:* Amen.