



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH  
ENNISKILLEN  
CO. FERMANAGH

## BLESSING OF GRAVES

We thank you, Father, for the gift of Christ who suffered and rose again for our salvation. He has commanded that we keep watch for his coming and has promised to meet us when we rise again.

### Let us pray.

Lord, you have made your people a pilgrim Church, to be welcomed by you into its eternal home. Bless us as we honour the places where our loved ones lie.

May they rest in peace.

Make this ground holy and send your holy angels to watch over it.

May we never forget that your son, Jesus Christ, has made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection, even as it claims our mortal bodies.

Grant that this place may never cease to remind us of the life that we are to share in Christ, who, in the resurrection which we long for, will transform our earthly bodies to be like his in glory, for he is Lord forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*(Bless Graves with Holy Water as you say:*

*"Eternal rest, grant unto him/her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him/her.*

*May s/he rest in peace.*

*May his/her soul and the souls of all the Faithful Departed rest in peace.*

*Amen")*

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty and ever-living God, source of all life and mercy, in you we place our trust and hope, in you the dead, whose bodies were temples of the Spirit, find everlasting peace.

As we take leave of our brothers and sisters, give our hearts peace in the firm hope that one day they will live in the mansion you have prepared for them in heaven.

As we renew our faith in your Son, whom you raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in his resurrection.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord of Life, in faith we mark this holy ground, this resting place of our loved ones with the waters of Baptism.

As we do so, we give thanks for all that they have been to us while living among us.

We give thanks too for the life you have promised them in their Baptism.

We pray that you may fill them with that life and hold them safe in your love until we meet again.

Keep us faithful to you and to your son, Jesus Christ, the author of life.

Unite us to those who have gone before us in the bonds of our faith, through Christ, our Lord. Amen

*Please return to collection point on way out of the Cemetery*