

Nov. 20, 1994

Gracious God:

We come to you
to ask a blessing
for Cathy ... for Marjorie~~tt~~:
dear friends
of all of us, here.

Bless Cathy as she goes to the hospital
and bless Marjorie
as she embarks upon her journey.

Bless them
with hope, strength of will and a
peaceful heart.

May body and mind
work together for them
and aid their recovery.

May the pressures of the cure
reinforce bearable throughout.

May all their caretakers
and medical staff
be competent and kind.

Bless our friends also
with self-acceptance and
patience, that they may
discover insights and "situa-
limings" in the "inevitables"
associated with illness.

To family and friends
grant sensitivity and love,
so that Majorie and Cathy
may receive that special
support which each of them
requires-deserves.

To you, O God of life, ~~and~~ wholeness
we entrust Cathy and Majorie.
You, who are tender and merciful,
restore them to us
renewed and happy.

We ask all this, in Christ's name.

(SMT) Amen.

"May the spirit of Christ
be ~~our~~^{your} hope through the day,
be ~~our~~^{your} guard through the night,
your companion on the way."

A Healing Blessing

All: Gracious God

He are gathered in your presence
and as your family of faith
to ask a blessing upon Gil
as he embarks on a series of treatments
for his health.

Grant Gil a hopeful outlook, we pray,
strength of will
and a trusting heart.
May his body and mind
work together
for his complete recovery.
May the pressures of the cure
remain bearable throughout.
And, may all his caretakers
be competent and kind.

To you, O God of life and wholeness,
we entrust Gil,
now and always.

Be his friend and peace.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Deacon: Gil, NOVA blesses you
in the name of our God who creates, saves and makes holy. +
May God smile upon you,
protect you
and give you renewed health and length of years. Amen.

All (sing): May the spirit of Christ be your hope through the day
be your guard through the night,
your companion on the way. (x2)

Holy Communion

In closing, we ask your special blessing, dear God, upon Fran:

Guard her as the apple of your eye (*sign forehead*)

shelter her in the shadow of your wings. (*sign left palm*)

Let her remain close to all whom she loves (*sign right palm*)

And let her be whole and holy in your sight, forever. (*sign chest*)

Chant: May the long-time sun shine upon you

Amen.

An Experience of Soothing ^{friend}

Gathering

Everyone is offered a mug of hot chocolate, "mit Schlag".

When mugs are empty, sing "The more we get together".

Opening

"Dear friend, we are here to offer you our friendship, our support, our prayer... and to let you know you are not alone"

Prayer

And so we pray:

Dear God,

bless our dear friend

and let your embrace

sooth and comfort her

like a soft, light blanket. (Put mohair throw on ^M)

sooth her with

sunny days, satisfying work, 'phone calls
which cheer, restful sleep, good memories;

Also, protect M's compassionate heart
from nagging anger or guilt;

Free up her conscience

from useless "what-if" questions & self incrimination.

Give her the strength
to insist on justice.

Give her the strength
to be open to forgiveness.

Give M. the strength
to maintain her trust in you.

Give her the strength
to be truthful with herself.

Let her always feel safe
in your faithful love,
in the affection of her many well-wishers
and in her own common sense.

We ask all this in Jesus' name
who is our daily encouragement and peace. Amen.

Ritual

Play some soft music or have people hum
"Ubi Caritas"

Have friends take turn rubbing lotion on M's

- temples, "this is to dispel your worries"
- neck, "this is to take off the weight of tension"
- hands, "may this remind you of all the ways you
can help yourself"

Other friends

- can massage her scalp, "to ease your headaches"
- can rub her shoulders, "remember you'll be given
all the strength you need,
to carry any burden"

Yet other friends

may offer a good wish

- eg. - "I'm always good for Tea and sympathy"
- "I care for you and I can bear to be
your friend."

Remembrances

Place NOVA community statue in a central spot and near M. Pass everyone a few strands of colored ribbon or pass a basket with these. Ask each guest to tie a strand or two all about the sculpture, as a sign of our past and future bonds.

Meanwhile, share the Remembrances:

Dear M., you are not alone!

To call to mind

the many ties which hold us together,
let us remember our shared past
and then look to the future
with the imagination of hope.

We remember M. cutting many a NOVA agape cake

We remember M's service as NOVA "chair"

We remember M singing and demonstrating
the "12 years of NOVA"

We remember M's leadership when the Calling Forth
process gets stuck

We remember M's diplomacy through the twists and
turns of community life

We remember M's guidance and teaching of the
NOVA children

We remember M's 50th birthday party and
year-long celebration

We remember M playing St. Claus

We remember M's midnight shopping sprees
for Dunn Loring... Shernell... the Miss. family
We remember M's skits and beautiful proclamations
of scripture
We remember M's Mother-Daughter Tea

God willing
may we be granted
lots more time
to enjoy each other, work together, play together.
May we abide with each other
through liturgy plannings to come, through
pot lucks and meetings, future grandchildren
and many more personal affirmations
Do you wish to mention some specific ^{future} hopes?

≡

It is important to us
that we be there for each other.
We have laughed and celebrated together.
But each of us
may also come to face
tears... losses... pain... loneliness.

May we be there for each other!
May we be there for each other!
May we be there for each other!

Closing

In closing, we present to you, M.
a box of magic.
Use its contents
for your solace,
any day, any time.

Final Blessing

May your present heartache
make you wise and compassionate;
May it bring us closer to each other and to our God;
May good come of it for your daughters;
May it extend your good will to John.

Song

Weave, weave, weave me the sunshine
out of the falling rain
Weave me the hope of a new tomorrow
and fill my cup again.

Peter Yarrow

Refreshment

each person is offered a piece of
chocolate cake and wine for those who wish it

HAPPY 2001, EVERYBODY !!!

Sonja

May I, may you, may we
Not die unlived lives.

May none of us live in fear
Of falling or catching fire.

May we choose to inhabit our days,
To allow our living to open us,
To make us less afraid,
More accessible,
To loosen our hearts
Until they become wings,
Torches, promises.

May each of us choose to risk
Our significance;
To live so that which comes to us
As seed
Goes to the next as blossom
And that which comes to us as blossom,
Goes on as fruit.

Dawna Markova
Author and Editor, Utah

Simple Anointing and Blessing

Dear God:

We ask a blessing upon "X"

guard her as the apple of your eye (sign forehead)

shelter her in the shadow of your wings (sign left palm)

let her feel close to all whom she loves (sign right palm)

and let her be whole and holy in your sight, forever
(sign chest).

May God bless you and keep you:

May God's face shine upon you and be
gracious to you:

May God look upon you kindly and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24

THE EASTER VIGIL
Nova Community

5 a.m., April 22, 1973, Joyce Kilmer School, Vienna, Va.

Deacon: Bill?

[1] JESUS CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT

[After picking up a candle and a program, everyone gathers around the fire in the parking lot; in case of rain, on the school porch and just inside the doors]

Meditative Reading: Psalm 69:1-22 [John Tuccillo, with musicians' background]

Save me, O God, for the waters threaten my life;

I am sunk in the abysmal swamp where there is no foothold;

I have reached the watery depths; the flood overwhelms me.

I am wearied with calling, my throat is parched;

My eyes have failed with looking for my God.

Those outnumber the hairs of my head who hate me without cause.

Too many for my strength are they who wrongfully are my enemies. . .

O God, you know my folly, and my faults are not hid from you.

Let not those who wait for you be put to shame through me, O Lord, God of hosts.

Let not those who seek you blush for me, O God of Israel,

Since for your sake I bear insult, and shame covers my face.

I have become an outcast to my brothers, a stranger to my mother's sons,

Because zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults

of those who blaspheme you fall upon me. . .'

But I pray to you, O Lord, for the time of your favor, O God!

In your great kindness answer me with your constant help.

Rescue me out of the mire; may I not sink!

May I be rescued from my goes, and from the watery depths.

Let not the flood-waters overwhelm me, nor the abyss swallow me up,

nor the pit close its mouth over me.

Answer me, O Lord, for bounteous is your kindness;

in your great mercy turn toward me.

Hide not your face from your servant; in my distress, make haste to answer me.

Come and ransom my life; as an answer for my enemies, redeem me.

Prayers
Healing

Caring Circle Prayer

Sustained by faith, inspired by hope, and enlivened by love, we form a caring circle to embrace all those in our community who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Yet the circle and the space within are one, as each of us, in every moment, is both lover and beloved. And so, gracious and loving God, we pray for those in need of care and for the caregivers.

Heal our broken bodies; send peace to our troubled hearts. Make us whole and holy. Grant us the wisdom and courage to trust in the often hidden work of God. Make us a community of listening hearts able to discern when to act and when to let go. As we hold the light and the darkness, the joy and the suffering, may we draw closer to one another and to the source of all light, all life, and all love.

For this we humbly pray to the Lord.

~Anne Passin

NOVA EUCHARIST FOR THE SICK

Note: Observe the person's condition; check to see if they can receive Communion; When in doubt, do less, say less;

If the person can not receive Communion, bless them only, maybe with the song refrain,

“May the spirit of Christ
Be your hope through the day
Be your guide through the night
Your companion on the way.”

Use your common sense and good taste to make adjustments in the ritual.

Light candle and place on a stand with a cross, lotion and the basket containing Eucharist. Reminder: NO CANDLE if there is OXYGEN nearby.)

Holding open basket containing open napkin and host:)

Name(s), I bring this Eucharist to you from the members of the NOVA Community with our love and prayers.

Dear Jesus, Healer, be with *(Name)* and all who are sick or suffering in any way today.
Amen.

While administering Eucharist:)

Name(s) receive the Body of Christ in communion with NOVA.

(silence)

*together) The Lord's Prayer (holding hands)
“Our Father and Mother....etc.”*

Sign of the cross with lotion on the forehead while saying:)

May God, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier bless you with good health, strength, comfort, and peace now and in the days to come.
Amen.

Prayer Service for 2016
Anne Passin
passing of Glen

Song – Blessings recorded

Lighting the Candle - D

Kate - Rejoice in the Lord always. Rejoice! God is near. Do not be anxious about anything. The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your mind.

Song -Blessings sung by all

Hearing from Anne

Anointing - Even in sadness, may your heart be filled with love.

May you be gentle and patient with yourself.

May your eyes be open to the grace at work all around you.

May your heart be at peace, in the sure knowledge you are loved.

May God bless you and keep you all the days of your life.

Blessing (John O'Donohue)

On the day when the weight deadens

On your shoulders and you stumble,

May the clay dance to balance you.

And when your eyes freeze behind the grey window

And the ghost of loss gets in to you,

May a flock of colours, indigo, red, green, and azure blue

Come to awaken in you a meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays in the currach of thought

And a stain of ocean blackens beneath you,

May there come across the waters a path of yellow sunlight to bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours, may the clarity of light be yours,

May the fluency of the ocean be yours, may the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you, an invisible cloak to mind your life.