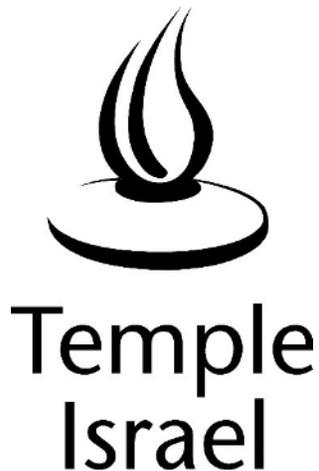


*We say to each other...*

May you be consoled  
With all who mourn  
In Zion and Jerusalem.



*Kever Avot*  
Reflections and Prayers to Recite  
when Visiting the Gravesites of Loved Ones



We thank You, O God of life and love,  
For the resurrecting gift of memory  
Which endows Your children,  
Fashioned in Your image,  
With the Godlike sovereign power  
To give immortality through love.  
Blessed are You, God,  
Who enables Your children to remember.

*-Rabbi Morris Adler (Yom Kippur Readings, p.201)*

We say shalom, and not goodbye,  
for shalom is goodbye and hello and wholeness and peace  
All threaded together in one breath,  
And in one breath we too  
Say goodbye ... to a hand to hold, a kiss and a tight  
embrace,  
And in the same breath of shalom  
We say hello to an ocean of memories and rush of  
emotion,  
Gratitude and sorrow,  
Tears and laughter and trembling and fatigue  
All in one breath.

*-Rabbi Zoe Klein*

## When 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 blueness of the skies 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 when it  
ends,  
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 decisions that are difficult to make,  
We remember them.

*When we have joys we yearn to share,  
We remember them.*

*For as long as we live, they too shall live, for they  
are now a part of us,  
as we remember them.*

*-Rabbi Sylvan Kamen and Rabbi Jack Reimer*

*Yit'gadal v'yit'kadash sh'mei raba b'al'ma di v'ra  
khir'utei v'yam'likh mal'khutei b'chayeikhon  
uv'yomeikhon uv'chayei d'khol beit yis'ra'eil ba'agala  
uviz'man kariv v'im'ru: Amein.*

*Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varakh l'alam ul'al'mei al'maya*

*Yit'barakh v'yish'tabach v'yit'pa'ar v'yit'romam  
v'yit'nasei v'yit'hadar v'yit'aleh v'yit'halal sh'mei  
d'kud'sha B'rikh hu. L'eila min kol bir'khata v'shirata  
toosh'b'chatah v'nechematah, da'ameeran b'al'mah,  
v'eemru: Amein*

*Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya v'chayim aleinu v'al  
kol yis'ra'eil v'im'ru Amein.*

*Oseh shalom bim'romav hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al  
kol Yis'ra'eil v'im'ru Amein.*

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
God makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
and leads me beside the still waters.  
God restores my soul and guides me  
in straight paths for the sake of God's name.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow  
of death, I will fear no evil for You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff comfort me. You prepare a  
table before me in the presence of my enemies,  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the  
days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of  
God forever.

## Mourner's Kaddish

תִּתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֻלְמָא דִּיבְרָא  
כְּרַעוּתֵיהּ, וְיִמְלִיךָ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ בְּחַיֵּינוּ וּבְיוֹמֵינוּ  
וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֻלְמָא וּבְזְמַן קָרִיב,  
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.  
יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעַלְמֵי עֻלְמֵיָא.  
יְתַבְרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמַם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא  
וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקֻדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ  
הוּא, לְעַלְמָא מִן כָּל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא  
וְנַחֲמָתָא, דְּאָמְרוּ בְּעֻלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.  
יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמֵיָא, וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל  
כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.  
עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ  
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

## To Serve You, O God

“Our God .... In our communion with You, we call to mind the lives of those through whom we have come to know of Your abounding grace and love. All the wisdom, beauty and tender affection that have enriched our lives are the garnered fruits of our communion with other souls. Many of those to whom we owe all the spiritual treasures that we most value 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 crowd into our minds .... No longer can we express by deeds, which might do them good, our appreciation of all that they have done for us or meant to us. Only by thinking of their lives as part of Your eternal life and of their love as part of Your infinite love can we express our gratitude for the blessings that we enjoyed in our communion with them. Only by shedding love about us as freely as love was bestowed upon us can we discharge the debt we owe them. We are sustained and comforted by the thought that the integrity, generosity and courage they displayed are an enduring blessing which we can bequeath to our descendants. We can still serve our dead by serving You, by bringing to fruition those holy purposes and pious intentions which they cherished in life but could not carry to completion. We can show our devotion to them by persevering in the pursuit of those ideals which they acknowledged but which they, being human like ourselves and, like us, subject to weakness, error and sin, could not in their brief lifetime achieve.”

-Machzor Chadeish Yameinu p.554-555

## **A Blessing Forever**

O God, this hour revives in us memories of loved ones who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us! What joy, when, loving and loved, we lived our lives together!

*Their memory is a blessing forever.*

Months or years may have passed, yet we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief has softened, a duller pain remains, for the place where they once stood is empty. The links of life are broken. But the links of love and longing cannot break.

*Their souls are bound up in ours forever.*

We see them now with the eye of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

*Their memory is a blessing forever.*

And we remember as well the men and women who but yesterday were a part of our congregation and community. To all who cared for us and labored for the well-being of our people and of humanity, we pay tribute. May we prove worthy of carrying on the tradition of our people and our faith, for now the task is ours.

*Their souls are bound up in our forever.*

In gratitude for all the blessings our loved ones--family, friends, teachers, and the martyrs of our people--have brought to us, to our people Israel and to all humanity, we dedicate ourselves anew to the

May God bless you, may God preserve your soul and grant you eternal peace. Amen.

## **For those whose parents are still living**

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 the 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 (*Y. K.Readings*, p. 190)

### **In Memory of a Husband or Wife**

I remember you in this solemn hour, dear companion of my life. I remember the happy days we lived together; I remember your tender affection and sacrifice, while hand in hand we walked the path of life together, when your love and fidelity were my comfort and your counsel and aid were my support. Though death has summoned you from my side, your image still lives within me and continues to be an inspiration to me. May God preserve your soul and grant you peace eternal! Amen

### **In Memory of a Child**

I remember you in this solemn hour, my beloved child. I remember the days, when I watched your body and mind unfold and I fostered beautiful hopes for your future. God has taken you from me, yet in my heart my loving remembrance of you can never die. May I honor your memory by helping to perpetuate all that was good and worthy in your life. God has called you home. God will be your shelter and support. As a parent loves his children, so may God look with compassion upon you and grant you eternal peace. Amen.

### **In Memory of a Brother, a Sister, or a Friend**

I remember you in this solemn hour, my beloved (brother, sister, friend). I remember the days when we lived together in happy companionship and your loving friendship was/were my delight and support. Though you have gone from me, your image abides with me. I think of you with gratitude and bless your memory for all the devotion you bestowed upon me.

sacred faith for which they lived and died, and to the tasks they have bequeathed to us. Let them be remembered for blessing, O God, together with the righteous of all peoples, and let us say: Amen.

*-Maaglei Tzedek, CCAR Press (pp 183-185)*

### **Please Take a Moment for Private Meditation and Reflection**

#### **You are a Part of Me Forever**

To this sacred place I come, drawn by the eternal ties that bind my soul to yours. Death has separated us. You are no longer at my side to share the beauty of the passing moment. I cannot look to you to lighten my burdens, to lend me your strength, your counsel, your faith. And yet what you mean to me neither withers nor fades. For a time we touched hands and hearts; still your voice abides within me, still your tender glance remains a joy to me. For you are part of me forever; something of you has become a deathless song on my lips. And so beyond the ache that tells how much I miss you, a deeper thought compels: we were together. I hold you still in mind, and give thanks for life and love. The happiness that was, the memories that do not fade, are a gift that cannot be lost. You continue to bless my days and years. I will always give thanks for you.

*-from On the Doorposts of Your House*

## El Malay Rachamim - The Memorial Prayer

אֵל מֶלֶךְ רַחֲמִים, שׁוֹכֵן בְּמְרוֹמִים, הַמְצַא  
מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כְּנָפֵי הַשְּׂכָנָה, עִם קְדוּשֵׁים  
וְטְהוּרִים כְּזֶהר הַרְקִיעַ מְזֵהִירִים, אֶת נַשְׁמֹת  
הָאֲהוּבִים שְׁלָנוּ שֶׁהִלְכוּ לְעוֹלָמָם. בְּעַל  
הַרְחָמִים יִסְתַּרְם בִּסְתֵר כְּנִפְיוֹ לְעוֹלָמִים,  
וְיִצְרֹר בְּצִרּוֹר הַחַיִּים אֶת- נַשְׁמָתָם.  
יְיָ הוּא נִחְלָתָם. וְיִנּוּחוּ בְּשָׁלוֹם מְשֻׁכָּבִים,  
וְנֹאמַר: אָמֵן .

Compassionate One, eternal Source of the universe, grant perfect rest in Your sheltering presence to our loved ones, who have entered eternity. O God of mercy, let them find refuge in the shadow of Your wings, and let their souls be bound up in the bond of everlasting life. Eternity is their inheritance. May they rest in peace, and let us say: Amen.

*Feel free to recite any of these following reflections before Kaddish:*

### El Malei In Memory of Victims of the Shoah

May God remember our brothers and sisters of the House of Israel who gave their lives for the sanctification of the Divine Name. Here we remind ourselves again that no earth, covered multitudes of murdered Jews, that no *Kaddish* was recited, that no kin was left to remember them. Now, on this hallowed ground, we pledge to remember. We pledge to bear witness.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace in Your Sheltering Presence among the holy and pure, to the souls of all our brethren--men, women and children of the House of Israel--who were slaughtered and burned in the ghettos and concentration camps. May their memory endure, inspiring faith and loyalty in our lives. May their souls be bound up in the bond of life eternal. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

*-Maaglei Tzedek, CCAR Press (pp.186-187)*

### In Memory of a Father

Your memory, my dear father, fills my soul at this solemn hour. It revives in me remembrance of the love and care which you bestowed upon me. The thought of you inspires me to a life of virtue: and when my pilgrimage on earth is ended and I shall arrive at the throne of mercy, may I be worthy of you in the sight of God and humankind. May God reward you for the faithfulness and kindness you have ever shown. May God grant you eternal peace. Amen

### In Memory of a Mother

I remember you in this solemn hour, my dear mother. I remember the days when we were together, and your tender love watched over me like a guardian angel. You have gone from me, but the bond which unites our souls can never be severed; your image lives within my heart. May the love and kindness with which you touched my life help me to share those qualities with others. May God lift up the light of Divine countenance upon you and grant you eternal peace Amen.