† J.M.J.

PRAYER TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE IN THE HOUR OF DEATH

—Saint Mechtilde



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We read in the book on spiritual graces, written by St. Mechtilde (iii., 88): "A person who thus recommends her faith to God, will at the end of her life obtain the grace to remain free from every temptation against the true faith."

O my sovereign, holy Mary, Mother of God, as God the Father in the greatness of His omnipotence hath exalted thee and given thee power above all creatures, be with me, I beseech thee, in the hour of my death, and drive far from me all the snares and craft of my enemies. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace!
The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

O my sovereign, holy Mary, Mother of God, as God the Son in the excellence of His unsearchable wisdom hath endowed thee with such great knowledge, and filled thee with such great light that thou knowest the Most Holy Trinity more truly and intimately than all the saints, do thou so enlighten my soul in the hour of my death with the knowledge of the faith, that no error or ignorance may lead it astray. Amen. Hail Mary, etc.

O my sovereign, holy Mary, Mother of God, as the Holy Spirit hath poured into thee the sweetness of His love with such abundance, that thou art after God the sweetest and most benign of beings, do thou pour into my soul at the hour of my death the sweetness of divine love, that all its bitterness may be rendered sweet to me. Amen.

Hail Mary, etc.

Short Aspirations for the Dying

—Father von Cochem

Jesus, Mary! Jesus, be gracious unto me! Jesus, be merciful unto me! Jesus, pardon me my sins!

O most bountiful Jesus, have mercy upon me for the sake of Thy bitter suffering; and through Thy bitter death grant me a happy end.

Jesus, for Thee I live! Jesus, for Thee I die! Jesus, Thine I am, living or dead!

Jesus, in Thee I believe! Jesus, in Thee I hope! Jesus, Thee do I love from the bottom of my heart!

Into Thy hands I commend my spirit; into Thy faithful Heart I consign my feeble heart; to Thy bitter death I unite my own death!

O Jesus, do not abandon me! O Jesus, do not reject me! O Jesus, do not condemn me, because Thou didst redeem me at the cost of such great pain! O heavenly Father, Thou hast created me for Thy greater glory! O Christ Jesus, Thou hast redeemed me through Thy bitter suffering!

O Holy Ghost, Thou hast sanctified me by Thy grace! Ah, do not permit my soul to fall a prey to the evil one.

I hope in Thy goodness, O benevolent Father! I hope in Thy suffering, O Christ Jesus! I hope in Thy mercy, O Holy Spirit!

I believe whatsoever the Catholic Church believeth, and in this faith will I live and die.

I firmly hope through Thy grace and my own co-operation to obtain everlasting bliss, and in this hope will I live and die.

I love Thee, O my God, from the bottom of my heart, and in this love will I live and die!

I repent of my sins from the bottom of my heart, and in this repentance will I live and die. I hide myself in the wounds of Jesus Christ, and in these wounds will I live and die.

Jesus, through Thy crimson blood, do not forsake me in my last hour! Through Thy bitter death, I beseech Thee to grant me a happy death! O Jesus, into Thy gentle Heart receive all my pains and bitter anguish!

Holy Mary, assist me! O Mary, do not forsake me! O Mary, pray for me.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for me, a poor sinner, now and at the hour of my death.

O my most beloved advocate, turn thy merciful eyes towards me, and after this exile show unto me Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb!

Through the bitter Passion of thy Son assist me in my suffering, and through His most bitter death obtain for me a blessed end.

Into thy hands I commend my spirit; into thy maternal heart, my parting soul!