



Royal Navy Prayers

A prayer for all who go to sea

O God, we ask you to take into your care and protection all who sail in ships.
Make them alert and wise in their duties.
Make them faithful in times of routine,
prompt to decide and courageous to act in times of crisis.

Protect them in the dangers and the perils of the sea. Even in the storm grant that there may be peace and calm within their heart.

When they are far from home and far from loved ones, help them to be quite sure that, wherever they are, they can never drift beyond your care.

Take care of their loved ones in the days and weeks and months when they are separated, sometimes with half the world between them, and every time that they have to part, bring them together in safety and in loyalty again.

This we ask for your love's sake,
Amen.

A prayer of Sir Francis Drake

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity

And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wilder seas
Where storms will show Your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push back the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.
This we ask in the name of our Captain,
Who is Jesus Christ.



Army Prayers

A prayer for protection

Almighty and eternal God, the Captain of our salvation, those who take refuge in your promises will be glad and forever will declare your praises.

Protect soldiers as they go about their duties. Guide them with the sword of your word, protect them with the shield of faith, reassure them with the helmet of your salvation, and keep them safe from all evil and harm.

May the power of your love enable them to serve and to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care and faithfulness.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
Amen.

A prayer for our Armed Forces personnel deployed on Operations

God, our protector and guide,
Hold in your loving care all those of our Armed Forces serving on operations, whether on land, at sea, or in the air.

Let each one draw upon the strength that you alone give and know the comfort of your presence, wherever their duties take them and whatever perils they face.

Grant their loved ones a sense of your peace and the support of family, friends and the local community, and uphold them as they watch, wait and pray for the safe return of those they hold so dear.

May they all know the high esteem in which they are held as they give of themselves in the service of our nation.

In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.



RAF Prayers

A prayer for Chaplains

God of heaven and earth,
We thank you for the opportunities that Chaplains have to work and build relationships with trainees as they begin their military life. We recognise the many transitions that need to be made as trainees adjust to their 'new normal'. Bless them as they learn how to iron 'properly', learn how to respond to the staff overseeing their training, and cope with being away from home.

We praise you that the role of Chaplain allows them to work with the staff as well as trainees; we ask that these cross-overs can be useful to help each group see the perspective of the other.

As Chaplains teach, offer pastoral care and drop into coffee breaks, we pray that they are able to demonstrate in the lives they lead the ethics they are tasked with teaching.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

A prayer for international peace and reconciliation

God of Love, Prince of Peace,
Help us always to strive for international peace and reconciliation.
As a member of NATO may we always be mindful of the words of Lord Ismay, that: 'NATO exists for peace by collective security Peace first, peace last, peace all the time.'

God, we recognise that you love all people and offer forgiveness to everyone.

Help us to reflect what you are like, and echo what you have done for us, regardless of the cost.

Help us to be as committed to the welfare of those who call us their enemies, as we are to those whom we call our friends.

Help us willingly embrace the commitment to stand shoulder to shoulder with those we once called enemies, and live in a way that enables us to become friends; to build bridges across seemingly impossible divides, to be ministers of peace and reconciliation, and to allow your light to shine in the darkest of places.

Strengthen us to fight against the many tribulations in our world that cause hatred and division, and make our lives ones which promote peace and love, light and life.
Amen.