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Editor's Note:

The reader is reminded that these texts have been written a long time ago. Consequently, they may use some terms or express sentiments which were current at the time, regardless of what we may think of them at the beginning of the 21st century. For reasons of historical accuracy they have been preserved in their original form.

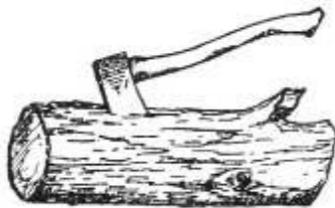
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"THE PATHFINDER"
By Ernest S. Carlos.

PRAYERS
FOR USE IN
THE BROTHERHOOD
OF SCOUTS



FOURTH EDITION

THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

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NOTE TO FOURTH EDITION

This collection of Prayers has grown gradually from small beginnings to its present proportions in accordance with the needs and demands of the Scout Movement.

The compiler desires specially to acknowledge his thanks to:

The Rev. T. Grigg-Smith for permission to reprint a number of prayers from *Prayers for Day and Sunday Schools and Children's Services* (172, 173, 174, 177, 178, 180, 185, 185, 205).

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Grateful use has been made of *The Church Scouts' Prayer Book* (22,60, 139, 144), *A Chain of Prayers Across the Ages*, *A Book of Prayers for Students*, *This Day*, *A Treasury of Prayers and Praise for Use in Toc H* (24, 47, 114, 206), and *Prayers for an Indian College* (7, 50, 240).

The compiler is also more than grateful to the many men and women workers in the Scout Brotherhood, who have helped him with material, advice, suggestions and encouragement, especially to one in particular.

If any copyrights have been inadvertently infringed, forgiveness is craved, in the hope that the purpose of the collection will be sufficient justification for the inclusion of such Prayers.

Gilwell Park,

St. George's Day, 1940.

HOW TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THIS COLLECTION OF PRAYERS

It is hoped that all Scouters and Scouts into whose hands this collection may come will regard it with the seeing eye that discerns the spirit in which it has been compiled. No one realises more than its compiler its many imperfections, both of arrangement and classification.

The religious policy of the Boy Scouts Association is clearly defined:

“It is expected that every *Scout* shall belong to some religious denomination and attend its services.

“Where a Group is composed of members of one particular form of religion, it is hoped that the G.S.M. will arrange such denominational religious observances and instructions as he, in consultation with its Chaplain or other religious authority, may consider best.

“Where a Group consists of *Scouts* of various religions, they should be encouraged to attend the services of their own denominations, and Group Church Parades should not be held. In camp any form of daily prayer and of weekly Divine Service should be of the simplest character, attendance being voluntary.” (Rule 10.)

In following out this policy it is obvious that a great obligation is placed on all Scouters.

The Chief Scout says: “An organisation of this kind would fail in its object if it did not bring its members to a knowledge of religion.” (*S. for B.*, p. 327.)

It is as a help to some of those Scouters who hold that belief in common with their Chief, that a layman is presumptuous enough to offer this collection of Prayers and, what is more, to ask them that they use this collection in the right way.

You can find the many imperfections alluded to by going right through the collection in a Spirit of Adventure.

Here is a sea of material: the routes through the sea have been charted by an inexperienced hand. You may be able to chart these routes better for yourself so as to serve the needs of your boys. In order to do so you must voyage with your eyes open and with your mind fixed on the haven to which you hope to attain.

Try and keep yourself from following the marked routes blindly; when at a loss for what to say, try and keep yourself from turning to page so-and-so and repeating meaninglessly whatever prayer or prayers you may find there.

The ship you are piloting needs a little handling if it is to keep a straight course. The handling differs according to the atmospheric conditions which exist at the time. You may have to crowd on full sail, or you may have to take in a reef; you may have to admonish the crew, or you may have to cheer them on to better their efforts.

Your piloting needs thought as well as care. So will you put some thought into your voyages through this collection?

The establishment of the right atmosphere must be the first endeavour of any of us who make use of prayer, either privately or collectively, and the establishment of the right atmosphere needs Thought and Belief.

Note. — Scouters will find invaluable help in the carrying out of their “Duty to God” in *Scouts’ Own*, by Rev. M. P. G. Leonard, D.S.O. (Pearson, 2s. 6d.), where also are many other Prayers specially suitable for *Scout* purposes. Some have been copied into this new edition (9, 25, 26, 27, 41, 55, 100, 123, 128, 129, 130, 154, 155, 166, 200, 221, 260, 261).

AN INTERCESSION

I pray for the people I live with, the people I work with, and the people with whom I play. For all my relations and friends. For the people whom I specially love (by name). For people whom I meet but do not like. For particular persons who are a trial to me. For the annoying, dull, bothersome people.

I pray for the institution in which I work — the home, the business, the school, the college, the church, the workshop, the warehouse, the office, the retail shop, etc.

I pray for the people who are in pain. People who are ill in body. People who are suffering in mind. All perplexed, lonely, and discouraged people. People who have been wounded in their hearts. People in special temptation. People in religious perplexity. People who are weak by nature. People who have always lived cramped lives.

I pray for sinners. For the victims of any special sin. For dishonest and cruel people. For the lovers of money.

I pray for the sufferers through social injustice and disorder. For the unemployed, the underpaid, the overworked. For all who live in unhealthy houses. For all who have no chance of full living.

I pray for all social workers, and all who are trying to relieve distress.

I pray for our nation. Its King, its rulers; its men and women of influence; its Press and its Wireless; and its whole corporate life.

I pray for all Nations. For the League of Nations, and for the cause of Peace.

I pray for the Christian Church. For my own church and all her congregations. For all ministers and teachers. For my own congregation and all the workers in it.

I pray for all who work with children.

I pray for the Brotherhood of Scouts throughout the world. For the Chief Scout and his Council. For Commissioners and Local Associations. For my own Group. For all other Groups. For all Scouters, Rover Scouts, Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs. For all those who are members of the Guide Movement.

(Adapted from *Private Prayer*, with the special permission of “Teachers and Taught,” London.)

THE SCOUT PROMISE

On my honour I promise that I will do my best —
TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD, AND THE KING,
TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES,
TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW.

THE WOLF CUB PROMISE

I promise to do my best —
TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD, AND THE KING,
TO KEEP THE LAW OF THE WOLF CUB PACK, AND
TO DO A GOOD TURN TO SOMEBODY EVERY DAY.

For all Scouters, Rover Scouts and Scouts

THE SCOUT LAW

The Scout Law is:

1. A SCOUT'S HONOUR IS TO BE TRUSTED.
2. A SCOUT IS LOYAL TO THE KING, HIS COUNTRY, HIS SCOUTERS, HIS PARENTS, HIS EMPLOYERS, AND TO THOSE UNDER HIM.
3. A SCOUT'S DUTY IS TO BE USEFUL AND TO HELP OTHERS.
4. A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ALL, AND A BROTHER TO EVERY OTHER SCOUT, NO MATTER TO WHAT COUNTRY, CLASS OR CREED THE OTHER BELONGS.
5. A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS.
6. A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ANIMALS.
7. A SCOUT OBEYS ORDERS OF HIS PARENTS, PATROL LEADER, OR SCOUTMASTER, WITHOUT QUESTION.
8. A SCOUT SMILES AND WHISTLES UNDER ALL DIFFICULTIES.
9. A SCOUT IS THRIFTY.
10. A SCOUT IS CLEAN IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED.

For Wolf Cubs

THE LAW OF THE WOLF CUB PACK

1. THE CUB GIVES IN TO THE OLD WOLF;
2. THE CUB DOES NOT GIVE IN TO HIMSELF.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded us and taught us, we are bold to say:

OUR FATHER, WHICH ART IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE THY NAME:
THY KINGDOM COME:
THY WILL BE DONE:
IN EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD:
AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES,
AS WE FORGIVE THEM THAT TRESPASS AGAINST US:
AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION:
BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM,
THE POWER AND THE GLORY,
FOR EVER AND EVER.

Amen.



Before using this book, do, please, read pages 6 and 7

OPENING PRAYERS AND SENTENCES

1 "THE LAW OF THE CAMP"

The Lord Thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, therefore shall they camp be holy, that He se no unclean thing in thee. *Amen.*

—*Deut. xxiii, 14, adapted.*

2 A PRAYER FOR DIVINE PROTECTION

Save us, O God, waking; guard us sleeping; that awake, we may watch with Christ, and asleep, we may rest in peace. *Amen.*

3 FOR GOD'S PRESENCE WITH US

Be Thou, O Lord, within us to strengthen us, above us to protect us, beneath us to uphold us, before us to guide us, behind us to recall us, round us to fortify us. *Amen.*

4 FOR COURAGE TO CARRY OUT GOD'S WILL

Grant us, of Lord to know Thy will for us, and, when we know it, the courage to carry it out; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

5 THINE IS THE DAY

Thine is the day, O Lord, and Thine is the night; grant that the Sun of Righteousness may abide in our hearts to drive away the darkness of wicked thoughts. *Amen.*

6 FOR STRENGTH TO PLEASE GOD

O Heavenly Father, mercifully grant Thy blessing on us who are assembled here, and enable us by Thy Holy Spirit to think and say only such things as are pleasing to Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

7 A PRAYER TO REMIND US OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Father, we thank Thee that, just as in the heat and dust of the town we may remember the coolness and cleanness, the silence and peace of the country, which lieth all around us unseen, with its birds and flowers, woods and streams — so in the turmoil of our hurrying lives, in the midst even of pain and failure, we may remember that beyond and all around us is Thyself, quiet and cool, trusty, beautiful and brave, in whom is our hope and our stay forever. *Amen.*

8 AT THE BEGINNING OF SCOUTS' OWN

Almighty God, from whom every good prayer cometh, deliver us now from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thought and kindled desire we may worship Thee in spirit and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

9

Thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us and we are called by Thy Name. Leave us not, O Lord our God. *Amen.*

Jeremiah, xiv, 9.

MORNING PRAYERS

10 A SIMPLE PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS FOR LIFE

We thank Thee for rest and health, for work to do, and strength to do it, and for all the surroundings of a life that make it desirable and enjoyable. Do Thou raise our thoughts and purify our aspirations; strengthen our wills on the side of what is right and good, and against what is wrong and evil. *Amen.*

11 "GRANT US SWEET REASONABLENESS"

O Lord, we beseech Thee to bless and prosper us, gathered here this day. Grant us sweet reasonableness in all our dealings with our fellow-men and with each other. Make us large hearted in helping and generous in criticizing. Keep us from unkind words and unkind silences. Make us quick to understand the needs and feelings of others, and grant that, living in brightness of Thy presence, we may bring Thy sunshine into cloudy places. *Amen.*

12 A PRAYER OF ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

The day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties. Help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces. Help us to play the man. Let cheerfulness abide with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all this day. Bring us to our resting beds weary and content and undishonoured; and grant us in the end the gift of sleep. *Amen.*

13 A PRAYER FOR DEFENCE FROM SIN

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any king of danger; but that all our words may be spoken and our thoughts and deeds directed according to Thy just commands. *Amen.*

14 TO DO OUR DUTY

O God our Father, we thank Thee for all Thy loving care, and for giving us so many good things to enjoy; send us on our way now to do our duty through this day. Grant that we may always stand firm on the side of right, and spread Thy Kingdom of goodness and happiness wherever we go, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

15 FOR GOD'S GOODNESS

We give Thee thanks, O Lord our God, for Thy goodness at all times and in all places; because Thou hast shielded, rescued, helped and guided us all the days of our lives, and brought us unto this hour. We

pray and beseech Thee, merciful God, of Thy goodness to grant that we may spend this day without sin, and in joyous reverence of Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

16 FOR PURITY

Grant us, O Lord, to pass this day in purity and peace; without stumbling and without stain; that reaching the eventide without being overcome by any temptation, we may praise Thee, the God of our Life, in whose mercy is our salvation and our hope for ever. *Amen.*

17 FOR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WILL

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves this day. Give to each of us a watchful and diligent spirit, that we may seek to know Thy will, and, when we know it, may perform it perfectly and gladly, to the honour and glory of Thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

18 "UNTO GO THE THINGS WHICH BE GOD'S"

Almighty God, give Thy blessing to our work to-day, that we may do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not unto men. All our powers of body and mind are Thine; grant that we may always devote them to Thy service. Save us from negligence and indolence, from vanity and pride. While we increase in the knowledge of earthly things, may we also grow in the knowledge of Thee and of Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent. Give us this day Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be Thine in body and soul, serving Thee with quiet minds and thankful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

19 A SCOUT PRAYER

In the light of this day we come before Thee, O Father, bound in a common brotherhood. Give us such a vision of our Promise and Law that our actions may be pure and straight, and our Prayers may rise unruffled by any petty thoughts aroused by prejudice and intolerance. Help us to live as Scouts should live, that we may think no thought, and do no action, that shall mar the sanction of our Prayers and Promise. Give us a true sense of dedication in the cause for which we work. Forgive us our shortcomings this day and always. *Amen.*

20 THANKS FOR REST

O Lord and Heavenly Father, we offer our humble thanks to Thee for the sleep and rest of the past night, and for all the many other mercies granted to us. Give us grace so to use Thy blessings and the life which Thou hast preserved, that we may love and serve Thee ever more and more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

21 FOR SPIRITUAL LIGHT

Almighty God, in whom is no darkness at all, grant us Thy light perpetually, and when we cannot see the way before us, may we continue to put our trust in Thee, that so being guided and guarded, we may be kept from falling this day, and finally, by Thy mercy, enter into our rest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

22 THREE MORNING PRAYERS FOR USE IN CAMP

O God Almighty, who spreadest out the heavens as a tent to dwell in, graciously behold us Thy sons who stand at the dawn of another day. Gather our of this camp all things that offend, and unite us in service towards one another, that this day may be well spent in friendship and great gladness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

23

O Father, we thank Thee for the rest of the past night, and for all the joys of morning time. Be present in our camp throughout this day. Keep from us all evil things; make courage and loyalty, happiness and good comradeship to flourish among us, and help each one of us to think of the other's good: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

24

O Eternal Father, we beseech Thee to behold us, Thy sons, gathered together among the trees, under the wide expanse of Heaven. Grant us, O Lord, that our lives may be ever clean, frank and open as They Heavens, and that we may stand upright and patient wheresoever They Love may plant us, even as out brothers the trees. As They wind stirs them into song, so may They Holy Spirit quicken us into response, that with the music of love and fellowship we may ease the burden of a work-a-day world, and our own lives may be made a sweet melody unto Thee; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

25 A PRAYER OF R.L.S. FOR CHEERFUL WORK

O God, who sendest man forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening, help us, we pray Thee, to do the work that lies before us this day, well and cheerfully, and in the spirit of glad sacrifice, and bring us to our beds happy and tired and undishonoured; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

26 FOR CONTENTMENT

O Lord, help us, we pray Thee, always to trust in Thy goodness, that walking with Thee and following Thee in all simplicity, we may possess quiet and contented minds, and may cast all our care on Thee, for Thou carest for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

27 FOR GRATITUDE

Thou hast given so much to us; give us one thing more, a grateful heart, O Lord, for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYERS

28 FOR DEFENCE

Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and by Thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Thy only Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

29 FOR REPOSE

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are fatigued by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon Thy eternal changelessness: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

30 AN EVENING PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

We thank Thee for all the mercies of the past day, for the continuance of our many and great blessings, for any good examples we may have seen, for any good words we may have heard or read. We give Thee thanks for the world and all the good things which are therein, for the sky above us and the earth beneath our feet, for the changing seasons and for our homes and friends. *Amen.*

31 FOR DEFENCE FROM ADVERSITIES

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

32 PART OF ANOTHER OF R.L.S.'S PRAYERS

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to behold us with favour, folk of many families gathered together. Bless to us our extraordinary mercies; if the day comes when these must be taken, brace us to play the man under affliction. Be with our friends, be with ourselves. Go with each of us to rest; if any awake, temper to them the dark hours of watching; and when the day returns, return to us our sun and comforter, and call us up with morning faces and morning hearts, eager to labour, eager to be happy, if happiness should be our portion, and, if the day be marked with sorrow, strong to endure it. *Amen.*

33 FOR COMFORT AND PEACE

Under the shadow of Thy wings let us pass this night in comfort and peace. Keep us both in body and soul, and give us such rest as our bodies have need of, through the merits and intercession of Thy dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

34 FOR GOD'S GUIDANCE

We beseech Thee, O Blessed Spirit, abide with us this night and evermore; keep us continually under Thy guidance, and purify us from all stain of sin; strengthen us in resisting temptation, that, ever remembering Thy presence, we may advance more and more in true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

35 TO EVERLASTING LIFE

May the Almighty God have mercy upon us, give us true repentance, preserve and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

36 FOR PROTECTION

O Father, we thank Thee for the good things of the day now past. We pray Thee to guard us and all whom we love through the coming night. Preserve us from all dangers to body and soul; give us, we beseech Thee, quiet and refreshing sleep, and wake us in the morning, strong to serve Thee joyfully again; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

37 A CAMP PETITION

We thank Thee our Father for all the happiness which has been ours this day;

for the joys of the open air —
for the wonders of the sea and sky —
for the beauty of the countryside —
for our health and energy—

and above all for the good fellowship among us.

Help us to show the true spirit of thankfulness for these Thy benefits by a readiness to serve one another in all things, and, in our happiness, let us not be unmindful of others less fortunate than ourselves who must pass their lives in crowded streets and unhealthy places.

Grant us opportunities of helping all such so that the time may come when all men may enter into Thy great gifts of hills and sea.

Pardon all our offences this day; all unkind thoughts, words or deeds; all selfish actions; and strengthen our will so that we may ever strive to carry out the threefold promise we have taken upon us.

Grant us a quiet night and dreamless sleep, and let us waken refreshed in body and spirit.

We ask these things in the name of the great Scout, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

38 A CAMP PRAYER OF THE AUSTRIAN (ST. GEORGE) SCOUTS

O Lord, Thou hast said, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven have nests, but the Son of Man hath not where to lay his head." In the days of Thy life here on earth, Thou didst often rest under a tent or rough shelter. Abide with us when evening comes and the night falls. Visit this camp, O Jesus, and take from it all that is harmful. Let Thy hold angels watch over us, so that we may rest in peace beneath the stars which shine to Thy honour. Thy grace be upon us, our parents and our land, this night and for ever. *Amen.*

39 "LET OUR IDEALS BE EVER BEFORE US"

In the light of the camp fire we come before Thee, O Father, to thank Thee for the blessings of this day.

Like a blazing torch let our ideals be ever before us, lighting a straight and narrow path, the light not dimming and the pace not slackening. Grant unto us the gift of sleep that we may rise on the morrow refreshed and eager to be about Thy business. *Amen.*

40 FOR FORGIVENESS AND MERCY

Forgive us, O Lord, whatever has been wrong to-day, that we who sleep beneath the stars, may sleep in peace. Set Thy guards about this camp, and defend us from all the dangers of the night. Have mercy on each one of us, in our special sins of forgetfulness and lack of thought of Thee. Let us not be cast down, but support the stumbling on the way, and give at last rest to the weary; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

41 FOR SURE REPOSE

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent watches of this night, so that we, who are fatigued by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may ever repose upon Thy eternal changelessness. *Amen.*

42 PEACE AT LAST

O Lord, support us all day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in Thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

43 A COMMUNAL PRAYER FOR USE AFTER SILENT PERSONAL PRAYER

Hear the silent petitions of Thy children, we beseech Thee, O Father, and grant that in the twilight hours we may be conscious of a day complete in the service of others, a pure and hallowed thing. *Amen.*

44 A CAMP BLESSING

We pray Thee, O Lord, that Thy blessing may rest upon all who sleep in this camp to-night, and on all whom we love and are absent from us. Preserve them waking, guard them in their going out and thing coming in, free from sin and free from danger, and when they sleep, may they rest in peace. *Amen.*

Prayers should finish with a Blessing

THANKSGIVINGS

45 FOR CREATION

We bless Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for Thy wondrous love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. *Amen.*

46 FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS IN CREATION

We thank Thee for Thy blessings in creation, for the beauty of the earth and sea and sky, for the happiness of our lives, for peaceful homes and healthful days, for our powers of mind and body, for faithful friends, for the joy of loving and being loved. *Amen.*

47 FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS GOD HAS GIVEN US

We thank Thee, O Heavenly Father, for all the blessings Thou hast given; for the glory of the earth and the sky and the sea; for the sun's daily benediction; for the bright splendour of the moon and stars, and for the bird's joyful singing; for health and youth and strength; for good fellowship and clean laughter; for our prayers together, and Thy presence in our midst. Be with us still, O Lord; reveal to us Thy love and mercy in the days to come, and bring us all together at last in Thy heavenly kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

48 FOR FATHERLY CARE

O Almighty and Everlasting God, we praise Thy hold Name for all the blessings, known and unknown, which we have this day received from Thy bounty, beseeching Thee still to continue Thy fatherly care over us, and to give us such a sense of Thy mercies that we may show forth our thankfulness by a humble, holy and devout life, in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

49 FOR LIFE

Let us give thanks for the glory of the sun, for the stir of life, and for honest toil that wins food and rest; for the earth, the sustainer of life; for the hills and plains; and for the beauty of flowers and trees; for health, bringing wholesomeness of body and mind; for mirth, quickening the blood, uniting us with others and refreshing us for work; for joy that heightens all our life and doubles our powers. Help us, O Lord, to share these blessings with others, kindling their hearts by the gladness of our faces. *Amen.*

50 FOR THE DELIGHT OF FEELING ALIVE

Creator of life and light, we bless Thee this day for the beauty of Thy world, for sunshine and flowers, storm-cloud and starry night, for the first radiance of dawn and the last smouldering glow of sunset. We thank Thee for physical joy, for the ecstasy of swift motion, for deep water to swim in, for the goodly smell of rain on dry ground, for the hills to climb and the hard work to do, for all skill of hand and eye, for music that lifts our hearts in one breath to Heaven, for the hand-grasp of a friend, for the gracious loveliness of children. For all these Thy sacraments, of beauty and joy, we thank Thee, our Lord and God. *Amen.*

51 FOR THE GREAT OUT-OF-DOORS

For the health-giving life in the open air, for the sunshine and clouds, for the mists of early morning, the noontime heat and shadows of the night, for the hills and valleys, the woods and streams, for all Thy beautiful world and for all the joy of life, we give Thee, O God, our grateful thanks. *Amen.*

52 THIS IS THE THANKSGIVING OF A SCOUT WHO LIVED 700 YEARS AGO

O most high, Almighty, good Lord God, to Thee belong praise, glory, honour and all blessing!

Praised be my Lord God with all his creatures, and especially our brother the sun, who brings us the day and who brings us the light; fair is he and shines with a great splendour; O Lord, he signifies to us Thee.

Praised be my Lord for our sister the moon, and for the stars, the which he has set clear and lovely in the heaven.

Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind, and for the air and cloud, calms and all weather, by the which Thou upholdest life in all creatures.

Praised be my Lord for our sister water, who is very serviceable unto us and humble and precious and clean.

Praised by my Lord for our brother fire, through whom Thou givest us light in the darkness; and he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.

Praised be my Lord for our mother the earth, the which doth sustain us and keep us, and bringeth forth divers fruit, and flowers of many colours, and grass.

Praised be my Lord for all those who pardon one another for His love's sake, and who endure weakness and tribulation; blessed are they who peaceably shall endure, for Thou, O most Highest, shalt give them a crown.

Praise ye and bless ye the Lord, and give thanks unto him, and serve him with great humility. *Amen.*

—*A Thanksgiving of St. Francis for all Created Things.*

53 FOR GOD'S GIFTS

Father, we would thank Thee for all the benefits that we have received from Thy goodness. It is to Thy blessing that we owe what success we have found. Every opportunity for doing good, every impulse in the right way, each victory we have gained over ourselves, every thought of Thy presence — all are alike Thy gifts to us. Give us strength and wisdom to walk faithfully and joyfully in the way of willing obedience to Thy laws, and cheerful trust in Thy love. The best thanksgiving we can offer to Thee is to live according to Thy holy will; grant us every day to offer it more perfectly, and to grow in the knowledge of Thy will and the love thereof evermore. *Amen.*

54 FOR THE BEAUTIES OF NATURE

We give Thee thanks, Almighty Father, Maker and Ruler both of heaven and earth, for the glory, grandeur and beauty of the world we live in; for mountains, hills and valleys; for far-reaching fenlands and forests; for rocks and streams and rivers; for lakes and seas and mighty oceans; for life-giving rains and gentle warmth of spring-time, the brightness and heat of summer suns, the golden harvest-tide, the winter frost and snow; for moon and stars; for light and shade; for calm and wind and storm; for the beauty and splendour of earth and sky; for the greenness of the grass, the ever-changing colouring of crops and flowers and fruits and trees. May we ever remember that all that is truly good and beautiful is Thy gift to us; and, so remembering, ever worship Thee in the beauty of holiness. And grant in Thine own time our eyes may behold the Kind in His beauty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

55 FOR GOD'S INFINITE GOODNESS

O Lord our God, Almighty and eternal Father, Who givest to Thy children liberally and grudgest not; we bless Thee for Thine infinite goodness to us and to all men. We thank Thee for the world and all the food things which are therein, for the sky above us and the earth beneath our feet; for the changing seasons (the sunshine and the summer), for our homes and for our friends. We bless Thee for Thy tender care which guards us, and for all Thy good creatures by which we are enriched. Most of all do we bless Thee for Jesus Christ our Saviour, and for all the means of grace and hope of glory which Thou hast given us through Him. In Thy service may we live, and in Thy favour may we die, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

56 "MADE IN FANATIC TIMES WHEN OUR SERVANTS WERE OF MANY DIFFERENT SECTS,
AND COMPOSED WITH THE DESIGN THAT ALL MIGHT JOIN IN."

—*Sir William Temple, 1660.*

Accept, O Lord, our humble thanks and praises for all Thy gracious dealing towards us even in temporal things; for the mercies of our lives past; for the continuance of our daily health, our strength, our senses, our reasons; for the daily repair of our wasting bodies. In Thee, O Lord, we live, and move, and have our being. We depend upon Thee for the rest and refreshment of this ensuing night, for the light of another day, for all the good we hope for in the remaining part of our lives. O Lord, we receive all from Thee; we desire to return all to Thee; and to leave all to Thee; for Thou alone art infinitely great, and good, and glorious, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

57 FOR THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

O God, we bless Thee for the memory of things past, for the use of things present, and for the hope of things to come. Thou makest the outgoings of the morning to rejoice over us, and Thou art loving unto every man. We remember Thy kindness of old, and Thy mercies which are new every morning. We rejoice that as high as heaven is above the earth, so great is Thy mercy toward us; and that as far as the east is from the west, so far dost Thou remove our sins from us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

58 THE SACRIFICE OF THANKSGIVING

Everlasting God, we offer unto Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving. We praise Thee for all the blessings of this life, for the uses of the world, for the privilege of friendship, for Thy revelations granted us in Nature and in Providence, for the memories of the past, and hopes for days to come. Make us fruitful in every good work to do Thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

59 THANKFULNESS FOR OUR SCOUT LIFE

O God, our heavenly Father, we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for all Thy mercies to us. We thank Thee for all knowledge gained of what is good and true and pure and lovely; for all encouragement in living our lives faithfully; for all opportunities of serving Thee and one another; for all joys of friendship and happiness that our Scout life has brought us. Help us to show forth our thankfulness by rendering to Thee glad and willing service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE SCOUT BROTHERHOOD

*Note: Two pages are missing from the original book from which this e-edition was transcribed. Prayer #s 60-65 have been transcribed from a later edition (1948) of *Prayers for use in the Brotherhood of Scouts*, and may not accurately reflect the content of the fourth edition.*

60

O God, bless all Scouts everywhere; teach them, as true men, to fear Thee and be fearless, to serve Thee and be Thy fellow-workers; and give us grace to keep our threefold vow; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

61 A NIGERIAN SCOUT PRAYER

O God, we thank Thee that Thou hast called us into this great Brotherhood of Scouts. Keep us true to our Promise; make us a blessing to our country; and help us in thought, word and deed, to live after the example of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

62 A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O Lord, in whose Son the perfection of Childhood, Youth and Man's estate are made manifest, and given unto us as a pattern and example for our own lives, we give Thee thanks for the gift of Scouting. We thank Thee for the wisdom and foresight of our Founders, whose first camp on Brownsea was the birthplace of our Brotherhood. We thank Thee for the enthusiasm and self-sacrifice of those, his immediate followers, to whom the early guidance of our Movement was entrusted. Above all, O Lord, we thank Thee for that Thou hast permitted us, Thy servants, to take our share in the service of boyhood of our country; and for all the inspiration and happiness that Scouting has brought into our own lives.

We ask for Thy blessing on our Chief, upon the boys whom we are privileged to lead, and upon the Brotherhood of Scouts throughout the world.

May we go forward re-dedicated to this, Thy service, and in humble gratitude for Thy manifold mercies.

Grant this, O Lord, for the sake of Thy son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Brownsea Island, April 1927.

63 THE GOOD TURN

O God, Who hast given Thy increase to the work of our Founder, in a Brotherhood of loyalty from shore to shore, we beseech Thee to confirm his good work among us, that by the blessing of the good turn the minds of men the world over may be peaceful, and by the power of the ready wit the people in every clime may be set in Thy spirit, who didst give grace unto Thy servant to see the vision of the boy that is eternal in Jesus Christ, our Hero and our King. *Amen.*

64 A PRAYER FOR OUR CHIEF AND OUR LEADERS

O God, we ask Thy blessing upon our Chief, whom Thou hast called to lead us in Thy service. May he be so guided and strengthened that he will always lead us in the path which Thou hast chosen, and if it be Thy will may he be long spared to inspire our work.

We ask too, that he may have the help of all others whom Thou hast charged with the direction of Scouting. Support them who serve with him; and grant Thy grace to all who are leaders in our Movement. We ask this for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

65 A PRAYER OF THANKS FOR THE LIFE OF OUR FOUNDER

We give Thee thanks, O Lord, for our Founder's life of service and for his gift of Scouting to the world. Strengthen us, we beseech Thee, to be worthy of his trust. Help us to hold firmly the Law which he gave for our guidance, and so to understand more fully Thy Will. Inspire us to find a way of life in which the youth of all nations may find unity and true brotherhood. We ask this in the Name of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

66 SO TO PRACTISE OUR GREAT IDEALS

Almighty God, we stand here to praise Thee because Thou hast united us in this great Brotherhood. We thank Thee for the glory of going on, for the ability to do more the more we do, for the vivid delight of occasional success, for the courage that comes from continued failure. Help us ever to remember how sacred is the charge which Thou hast placed upon us, and so to practise our great Ideals in our lives that the glory of Thy Peace may shine from sea to sea and from shore to shore throughout the world. *Amen.*

67 FOR OUR LEADERS

Inspire, O Lord, we beseech Thee, those whom Thou hast charged with the direction of Scouting; support those who serve with them. Watch over the soul of our Movement; strengthen and sustain the body of our Association; exalt its purposes; refine its aims; bless its undertakings; fulfill its prayers. Suggest to every Scouter deep thoughts concerning it; compose all discords among them that they may be truly of one heart and of one mind. May the Father's power govern and sustain them; the wisdom of the Son instruct them; the tides of the Spirit renew and quicken them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE SCOUT PROMISE

68

Grant us a keen sense of Honour; that we may never give ourselves the benefit of the doubt; that we may be specially just to those we find hard to like; and may own up manfully when we have done wrong. *Amen.*

69

Almighty God, Father of all, give us grace to keep the Promise which we as Scouts have solemnly made. Teach us to speak and do the truth, and to shun all that is false in speech and deed, so that the honour of our word may be trusted by everyone. Help us to carry out cheerfully our daily tasks, and to do the good that lies near at hand. Make us thoughtful for others and teach us the meaning of true brotherhood with every Scout. Forgive us all the times we have been disobedient and wrong, and give us strength to resist all temptation; and when troubles come and things go ill, grant that we may turn to Thee a trustful heart and to the world a smiling face. Help us to be true Scouts, and make us strong to follow Thee through all life's way; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

70

Almighty Father, who in Thy loving mercy hast called us to be Scouts, make us more worthy of our calling. Help us to be Scouts not only in our name and dress, but also in our daily lives. Grant that those whom we meet in our homes, in our work and in our play may be the better for our companionship. Help us to think not only of our own selfish desires but of the needs of our country, and especially of the place in which we live, that we may sacrifice our time and ease to the public good, and, however weary and disheartened we may be, keep a courageous heart and a smiling face before all the world. If we are able to do some good things in the world, teach us to take no credit to ourselves, but to give to Thee the glory, for without Thee we can do nothing. *Amen.*

71

Guide us, teach us and strengthen us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, until we become such as Thou wouldst have us be: pure, gentle, truthful, high-minded, courteous, generous, able, dutiful and useful; for Thy honour and glory. *Amen.*

CHARLES KINGSLEY.

72 “BOY SCOUT” HYMN

Now as I start upon my chosen way,
In all I do, my thoughts, my work, my play,
Grant, as I promise, courage new for me,
To be the best — the best that I can be. *Amen.*

(*See also* 19, 63, 141, 148.)

THE SCOUT LAW

73 A SCOUT’S HONOUR IS TO BE TRUSTED

Grant, O Lord, that our sense of Honour may increase daily, and that we may be emboldened by Thy Spirit to speak the truth, and to keep the faith at all times. Teach us to be faithful in a very little so that we also may be faithful in much. May we be quick to feel the least reflection not only upon our own honour, but upon the honour of our friends, so that we may be worthy of the trust of all men, even as we ourselves trust in the promises of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

(*See also* 69, 140, 235.)

74 A SCOUT IS LOYAL

Teach us, we pray, the meaning of loyalty to one another, and grant us grace to forgo our selfish desires so that we may be a strength and not a weakness to the community in which we work and play. Make us eager to show our gratitude to our Country by loyal adherence to its laws and by a spirit of willing service. Above all, inspire us with loyalty to Thyself so that we may prove what is Thy “good and acceptable and perfect will.” *Amen.*

(*See also* 148, 198, etc.)

75 A SCOUT’S DUTY IS TO BE USEFUL

Grant, Almighty Father, that we may be enabled to follow the example of Thy Son, who became the servant of all that He might be the friend of all. May we prove profitable servants ourselves in that we do more than our bare duty, and are every anxious for the needs of others. Let us not be boastful of our good deeds, but learn to say in all sincerity, “Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory,” for ever and ever. *Amen.*

(*See also* 127, 218.)

76 A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ALL

Fill us, O Lord, with Thy Spirit that we may observe Thy command, “Love one another, even as I loved you.” May we know the love that sees only the good and is patient and forbearing; that grows stronger when difficulties increase; and that overleaps the barriers of class, of creed, and of country. Help us to love the neighbour we know so that we may learn to love our fellow-men whom we have not seen. Strengthen the bond between Scout and Scout in our Group, in our land, and throughout the World. So may we further the coming of Thy Kingdom of goodwill and love; following the example of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

(*See also* 11, 108, 111, 206, etc., 230.)

77 A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS

Give us grace, O Lord, that we may ever be courteous one to another, especially to those who are weaker than we are, or less able to care for themselves. Help us to avoid any deed, or word, or thought that may cause pain. Let us not be overbearing, mean, or unjust in our dealings, but ever ready to smooth the way of life by thoughtfulness for the feelings of others; for the sake of Him who had no thought for Himself, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

(See also 89, 109.)

78 A SCOUT IS A FRIEND TO ANIMALS

O God, source of life and power, who feedeth the birds of the Heavens, increase our tenderness towards all the creatures of Thy hand. Help us to refrain from petty acts of cruelty, or thoughtless deeds of harm to any living animal. May we care for them at all times, especially during hard weather, and protect them from injury so that they learn to trust us as friends. Let our sympathy grow with knowledge, so that the whole creation may rejoice in Thy presence. *Amen.*

(See also 242, etc.)

79 A SCOUT OBEYS ORDERS

Teach us, O Lord, to render willing obedience to those under whose authority we are placed that with a cheerful mind we may do those things that are required of us. Give us strength to control our wayward impulses and our selfish desires. And when we are called to authority may we be considerate for those placed under us, so that he who leads may have a willing following. Above all, inspire us to yield obedience to Thy will in all things, even as Thy Son, Jesus Christ, was obedient unto death. *Amen.*

(See also 234.)

80 A SCOUT SMILES AND WHISTLES

Help us, O God, to be bringers of joy to all we meet: give us the spirit of cheerfulness that makes difficulties less hard, and eases the burdens of others. May we find opportunities of making glad those who are unhappy. Keep us from grumbling, from the use of spiteful words, and from all that may bring shadow in place of light. May we be ever ready to praise where praise is due, to cheer on our fellows as they pass us in the race, or, smilingly, to give a helping hand to those who have stumbled by the way. Grant us these things for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, who told us of the Joy in Heaven. *Amen.*

(See also 12, 25, 226, 227.)

81 A SCOUT IS THRIFTY

Cultivate in us, O Lord, the wisdom to employ Thy gifts profitably and not to waste them. Make us mindful of how our time is spent, and careful in the use of the things of this world, above all of the things provided by, or belonging to, other people. Let us not be miserly of our talents, but use them to Thy glory. Help us to be provident, but not over-anxious for the morrow, so that in time of their need we may be enabled to help others generously, and to share with them the good things Thou hast showered upon us of Thy bounty. *Amen.*

82 A SCOUT IS CLEAN IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED

May ours, O Almighty and Loving Father, be the blessedness of the pure in heart who see Thee. Grant us the strength to resist the temptation to talk of unclean things, to read and listen to unclean words, to picture or thing of unclean deeds, and make us resolute to strive for the highest that we know. As Thy servant Paul bade us, give us grace to direct our minds and aspirations to whatsoever things are true, honourable, just, pure, lovely, of good report. So shalt Thou fulfil our every need according to Thy compassion and loving kindness made plain to us in the life and glory of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

(See also 16, 126, 142, 143, 161.)

83 A PRAYER OF THE ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE, DARTMOUTH

Most merciful God, grant we pray Thee that we may never forget that as followers of Christ we are observed of all men, that our failures may cause others to stumble, that in a measure God places His honour in our hands. Help us that we may be true and loyal to the best and highest that we know, and that we may show this truth and loyalty in every activity of our common life. Grant unto us the royal gift of courage, that we may do each disagreeable duty at once. Give unto us a keen sense of honour that we may never give ourselves the benefit of the doubt, and that we may be specially just to those we find it hard to like. And finally we pray Thee for a true sense of humour; may its kindly light and its healing power relax life's tension. All this, O God, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

84 ST. PAUL'S ADVICE

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honourable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, thing on these things.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

(Philippians iv, 8, 7.)

SCOUTERS

85 FOR INSPIRATION AND VISION IN OUR WORK

May the Holy Spirit, O Heavenly Father, guide and inspire us. Give us a vision which will open to us a clearer prospect of our work, the courage which conquers disappointment and the love which never fails. Save us from all lack of discipline in mind or will, from sloth and selfishness, from petulance and despair, and from all else that hinders our hearing and obeying Thy call. Show us how best we may minister to the many needs of Thy children. Above all we ask that we may be one in purpose, in thanksgiving, in hope; waiting always on Thy guidance. *Amen.*

86 FOR LOVE

May we have the love of parents and the wisdom of teachers; may our lives be ruled by simplicity, gladness and sympathy; may we guide by the constraining influence of love, rather than by the restraint of fear; may we foster in our boys a love of Goodness, Truth, Beauty; and may we lead the splendid energy of youth to find its outlet and satisfaction in Fellowship and Service. *Amen.*

87 THANKS FOR THE BEAUTY OF CHILDREN

We give thanks for the beauty of children and their joy in all beautiful things, for their mirth and laughter, and for the joy and light they bring into the world, for their enthusiasm, their abounding energy and their love of the heroic and adventurous, for their candid generous trust in those around them, and for their quick response to calls of love and service. *Amen.*

88 FOR HARMONY AMONGST OURSELVES

Father, we pray for harmony; as we seek to preserve in our Scout the natural spirit of mutual goodwill, help us to show them a true example. Grant that the relations between all Scouters may ever be those of hearty co-operation and true affection. Let no class, race or policy divide us. Let personal ambition be far from us, and may we ever regard it as our chief privilege to serve Thee in this holy labour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

89 FOR COURTESY

Almighty God, who makest us to will and to do of Thy good will, grant unto us a courteous spirit, a forgiving temper and an unselfish heart. Bestow upon us the spirit of self-sacrifice and cheerfulness, of

hope and endurance. Increase in us the love of truth, of candour and of honour. Grant us courage to do what is right, and to persevere unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

90 THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

O God, Gracious and Merciful, we thank Thee for the blessings granted us in the past and ask for the continuance of them in the days to come. We bless Thee for health bestowed, for opportunities given, for help received, and for all the happiness we have enjoyed. Forgive all that has been displeasing in Thy sight; deepen our repentance; strengthen our purpose of good. Let the good seed that has been sown in our hearts bring forth fruit abundantly. And may Thy Holy Spirit shield and direct us all in our several ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

91 FOR FAITHFULNESS

O God; of unchanging faithfulness and truth, in whom none ever trusted and was confounded, give to each of us, we pray Thee, of Thy Spirit; and make us so steadfast in right endeavour and so faithful to the trust placed in us, that we may be a firm foundation upon which this Brotherhood may be built up in righteousness, to the praise of Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

92 LEADERSHIP

O Lord, grant that we may so carry out in our lives the spirit of the Scout Law that we may teach it to others by living it ourselves. Grant also, O Lord, that we may understand the true meaning of Service for others, and humbly follow the great example of Our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

93 EXAMPLE

O Heavenly Father, hear the petitions of Thy servants, whose desire it is to help the boys committed to their care to grow into good men. Give us strength to be worthy examples to our Scouts. Make us apt to learn, so that we may be able to teach. Grant to each of us that we may be enabled by the help of our Lord Jesus Christ to enlarge Thy Kingdom on earth. *Amen.*

94 FOR ILLUMINATION

Grant us, O Lord, to know that which is worth knowing, to love that which is worth loving, to praise that which pleaseth Thee most, to esteem that highly which to Thee is precious, to abhor that which in Thy sight is unworthy. Give us the right judgement to discern between things visible and spiritual, and above all to be ever seeking after the good pleasure of Thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

95 FOR BLESSINGS ON OUR WORK

Almighty Father, we ask Thy blessing on our work; inspire us in our enterprises; help us on our endeavours; promote our designs; purify our minds; be present with us and direct such work as we undertake; give us discernment to know the truth; give us courage to uphold what we know to be true; help us to bear each other's burden and to do good to all men as we have opportunity. *Amen.*

96 FOR HELP IN OUR WORK

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, by whose Spirit man is taught knowledge, who givest wisdom to all them that ask Thee, grant Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, and help us in the work Thou hast given us to do. Enable all of us to labour diligently and faithfully, not with eye-service, but in singleness of heart, remembering that without Thee we can do nothing. Open Thou our eyes to know Thy marvellous works, to search out our own spirits, and to understand the wondrous things of Thy Law. Of Thy great goodness pour into our hearts the excellent gift of charity, and grant that in meekness and truth and purity, we may glorify Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

97 "THAT WE MAY REFLECT THEE TO OUR SCOUTS"

O God, our Heavenly Leader, hear us as we pray to Thee and ask Thy blessing on the work Thou hast given us to do. Keep each one of us near to Thee, living always in Thy presence, that we may reflect Thee to our Scouts. Make us loyal and faithful in every detail, knowing that in our difficulties, and in

every decision which we have to make, Thou art by our side as our Adviser, Helper and Friend. May all that we do be done to Thy Honour and Glory, and for the furtherance of Thy Kingdom. *Amen.*

98 FOR AN ASSOCIATION MEETING

We ask Thy blessing, O Lord, on us Thy servants met together in the Scout Brotherhood. Make true godliness and friendship to flourish amongst us. Grant wisdom and understanding to those in authority, and courage and loyalty to all, that we may be a blessing to those among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

99 KING ALFRED'S PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, shaper and ruler of all creatures, we pray Thee for Thy great mercy, that Thou guide us better than we have done toward Thee. Guide us to Thy will, to the need of our souls, better than we can ourselves. Steadfast our minds towards Thy will, and to our souls' need. Strengthen us against the temptations of the devil, and put from us every unrighteousness. Shield us against our foes, seen and unseen; and teach us to do Thy will so that we may inwardly love Thee before all things with a clean mind and a clean body. For Thou art our maker and redeemer, our help, our comfort, our trust and our hope. Praise and glory be to Thee, now, and ever and ever, world without end. *Amen.*

100 FOR AN ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT

Almighty Father, help us to keep alive in our hearts that adventurous spirit that makes men scorn the way of safety so that Thy will be done; for so only, O Lord, shall we be worthy of those courageous souls who in every age have ventured all in obedience to Thy call, and for whom the trumpets sounded on the other side; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

SCOUTERS' TRAINING CAMPS

101 FOR THE TRUE SCOUT SPIRIT

Look down, O Father, upon the Scouters assembled in this camp, and give to each man the true Scout Spirit. Sanctify all our efforts, so that we may be able to do our duty to the boys who are entrusted to us, to help to mould for good or ill. Grant us the blessing of seeing the fruits of our labours among the growing citizens of this great Empire. We ask this for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

102 A MORNING PRAYER

O God, we thank Thee for the sweet refreshment of sleep and for the glory and vigour of the new day. As we set our faces once more toward our daily work, we pray Thee for the strength sufficient for our tasks. Uphold us by the consciousness that our work is useful work and a blessing to all. If there has been anything in our work harmful to others and dishonourable to ourselves, reveal it to our inner eye with such clearness that we shall hate it and put it away, though it be at a loss to ourselves. When we work with others, help us to regard them, not as servants to our will, but as brothers equal to us in human dignity, and equally worthy of their full reward. May there be nothing in this day's work of which we shall be ashamed when the sun has set, not in the eventide of our life when our task is done and we go to our long home to meet Thy face. *Amen.*

103 AT EVENTIDE

O God, the day Thou hast given us is at an end. Strengthen the friendships growing up between us, and help us to realise the tremendous responsibilities of our work. Give us the will and the strength to equip ourselves for it, pluck to fight successfully our many difficulties, humour to help us when things look dark, humanity that, remembering our own boyhood, we may sympathise with the boyishness of our *Scouts*. And give us a faithful persistence and a great loyalty, so that our work may become a very special part of our lives, which we would not willingly lose. This we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

104 THREE PRAYERS TO MARK THE END OF CAMP

We come near to Thee as this camp draws to an end to ask that Thy blessing may continue to rest upon the work that has been done in this spot. Perpetuate what in it has been sound and good, that it may bear fruit in the characters and lives of the boys entrusted to our care. Keep us in continual memory of the high responsibilities which our Scout Promise and Law impose upon us, and help us to live as Scouts should live, that the world, in however small a measure, may be better for our sojourn in it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

105

O Lord, we thank Thee for all the happiness of the camp which now draws to an end; for all the fine weather and good health which have been ours; for the chance that has been given us of living together as *Scouts*, and for the opportunities we have had of helping others to enjoy the camp. Let the happy memories of this time and the friendships we have made remain with us, to be an encouragement to us in all our work, and in Thy great mercy bring us safe home again. *Amen.*

106

Our Father, as we come to the parting, we humbly give Thee thanks for the days of our gathering. We thank Thee for the real work accomplished, for the plans laid, and we beseech Thee to set Thy seal beneath what we have done and make it valid.

We thank Thee for the quickening of old friendships, for new and fruitful contacts, and for the broadened understanding of our common work. We pray Thee for fresh devotion to the great aims and possibilities of our Movement, and for unfeigned love for our fellow-workers.

And now, as we turn our faces homeward towards the toil and care, the trials and temptations of our work, we feel our utter need of Thee, Thou great companion of our soul. Be Thou the strength of our weakness, the wisdom of our foolishness, the triumph of our failure, the changeless unity in our changing days. Knowing the brevity of our years, help us to work resolutely while it is day. Shine upon us, Thou sun of our life, even in the valley of the shadow, and may the song of faith never die in our hearts. We make our petition through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. *Amen.*

107 RE-UNION

We thank Thee, O Father, for having brought us together again; grant that our renewed fellowship may bring with it an increase of fervour for the cause for which we work. May the sense of unity among us be strengthened by the memory of past days in camp when we worked and played together, intent on making ourselves more worthy of the trust committed to us. And in the days to come, when we may feel discouraged or disheartened, may the memory of this gathering stiffen our resolution so that with a cheerful mind we may continue even to the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE SCOUT GROUP

108 FOR THE GROUP COUNCIL

O God of Love, Father of us all, help us to banish from amongst us all jealousy, suspicion, quarrels and pride; give us the spirit of comradeship and teach us the joy that lies in helping one another; enable us to take a pleasure in the success of others: to be generous of praise and slow to criticise, to frame our actions and thought in conformity of those we learn of Him, in whom we all, though many, are called to be one body, even Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

109 "DO THOU SO GUIDE AND DIRECT US"

O God, who hast taught us to do unto others as we would that they should do unto us, do Thou so guide and direct us that we injure no one by thought or word or deed; that we are considerate in judgement, gracious in speech, and merciful in all our acts. Grant, we beseech Thee, that by always being

just and true, and by taking heed to the thing that is right, ours may be the peace that endureth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

110 GLORIFY THE FATHER

O Thou, who art the Lord of our lives, help us to glorify Thee in all the thoughts of our minds, in all the desires of our hearts, in all the words of our lips, in all the work of our hands, and in all the ways of our feet, as becometh followers of Jesus Christ, in whose faith and spirit we offer our prayers. *Amen.*

111 FOR BROTHERLINESS

O merciful Father, whose will it is that we should love one another, give us grace that we may fulfil it. Make us gentle, courteous and forbearing. Direct our lives so that we may each look to the good of the other in word and deed; and hallow all our friendships by the blessing of Thy Spirit, for His sake who loved us and gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

112 FOR OLD SCOUTS

O God, who art everywhere present, look down with Thy mercy upon all who have gone forth from this Group. Give Thy Hold Angels charge concerning them, and grant that by the light of Thy Divine Inspiration and the gifts of Thy Bountiful Providence, they may fulfil Thy purpose for them here on earth, and may attain at length to that Blessed Home where they shall serve and praise Thee continually in Thy Temple; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

113 A GROUP RE-UNION

Almighty God, look graciously upon this Group as we are now gathered together in Thy name. Give them whom Thou hast set over it wisdom to direct those committed to their charge; give to all its members strength to fulfil Thy will in the daily work to which Thou hast appointed them. Grant that love and peace with all other graces may live and grow among us, and that finally we may meet before Thy throne in heaven, and be united in Thy love for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ROVER SCOUTS

114 THE ROVERS' PRAYER

O Almighty Father, we pray for Thy blessing on those whom Thou hast joined together as Rovers in the Scout Brotherhood. Grant that they may so work and play, think and pray together that they may be more perfectly fitted to serve Thee and their younger brothers in the work to which Thou hast called them. Help them to look wide, fill them with high ideals, inspire them with love and goodwill to all mankind, that they may rightly lead their brother Scouts in the paths of chivalry and honour, themselves following in the steps of Him Who died in the service of man, Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

115 FOR THE CREW

Bless, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this our Rover Scout Crew, that in love and fellowship we may serve our fellow-men. Give us courage, wisdom and love. Make us read and quick to help others, and grant that at all times we may be worthy of our Promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

116 AFTER INVESTITURE

Teach us, Almighty Father, to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will. *Amen.*

—*Ignatius Loyola*

117 FOR WORTHINESS

Remember, O Lord, what Thou hast wrought in us, and not what we deserve; and, as Thou hast called us to Thy service, make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

118 FOR WIDE VISION

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to set our feet in a large place, where hearts are made pure from sin by faith in Thee, where faces are turned to the light, where all are one in Thee, and no narrow domestic walls between man and man destroy the unity which Thou hast made in the Spirit of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

119 FOR COURAGE TO MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE

O Thou who givest visions unto them that praise Thee, help us to know that the ideal cannot evade us for ever; that it is knocking at the door of life, wondrously fair, wondrously practical, and is an urgent pressure upon life, hungering to become actual; give us also the courage to make our dreams come true. *Amen.*

120 THE QUEST OF BEAUTY

O God, who hast made the world so full of beauty, keep us, we beseech Thee, from the evil which the sin of man has brought into it. Teach us to love whatsoever is beautiful and true and good in nature, in art and in the lives of men; strengthen us that we may accept all the activity of life as a gift from Thee and enable us to be fellow-workers with Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

121 FOR THOSE WHO SERVE THEIR FELLOW-MEN

O God of Love, we bless Thee for all who give themselves to Thee in service to their fellow-men. Grant unto them clear vision, true judgement, with great daring as they seek to right the wrong; and so endue them with cheerful love that they minister to the suffering and forlorn, even as Thou wouldest, O Jesu Lover of Souls. *Amen.*

122 FOR LOYAL SERVICE

O Eternal God, who hast made all things for man, and man for Thy glory: sanctify our bodies and souls, our thoughts and our intentions, our words and actions, that whatsoever we shall think, or speak, or do may be by us designed to the glorification of Thy Name, and by Thy blessing it may be effective and successful in the work of God, according as it can be capable. Let our body be a servant of our mind, and both body and spirit servants of Jesus Christ, that doing all things for Thy glory here we may be partakers of Thy glory hereafter; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

123 AMBASSADORS OF GOD'S KINGDOM

O Lord God, Who didst touch the heart and light the flame of wonder in those adventurous souls who, in every age, have gone forth over wide, uncharted wastes to be ambassadors of Thy kingdom, hear us and help us as we now set forth upon our quest. Kindle in us the vision of high emprise; teach us the highest thought; keep us lowly in heart; make us to serve all that are lonely and desolate; to strike at discord, and to abound in cheerfulness; for Jesus' sake, our Pattern and our Guide. *Amen.*

124 ST. PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

May the strength of God pilot us.
May the power of God preserve us.
May the wisdom of God instruct us.
May the hand of God protect us.
May the way of God direct us.
May the shield of God defend us.
May the host of God guard us against the snare of the Evil One and the temptations of the world.
May Christ be with us.
Christ before us.
Christ in us.
Christ over us.
May Thy salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and evermore. *Amen.*

125 GOD IS IN EVERYTHING

God be in my head, and in my understanding.
God be in my eyes, and in my looking.
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.
God be at my end, and at my departing. *Amen.*

126 THE TENTH SCOUT LAW

Most merciful Lord, who hast taught us that the pure in heart shall see God, cleanse our hearts from all impurity. Give us such hatred of all that is evil and such love for all that is beautiful and strong that we may be delivered from temptation and become a strength to others who are tempted; this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

127 FOR STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Almighty God, grant to us, we beseech Thee, strength to do what is right, courage to do what is difficult, and grace to deny ourselves for the sake of others. May we be more willing to follow in the steps of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who steadfastly endured the Cross, giving His life for the world, and Who now liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. *Amen.*

128 TWO PRAYERS OF DEDICATION

Make Thy way plain before our face, O Lord, this day, and support us under all difficulties. We offer ourselves to Thee, O God, this day, to do in us and with us as to Thee seems most meet; for Thou art our God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

—*Bishop Wilson, 1663.*

129

Grant us, O Lord of life, that we may remember Thee in the days of our youth. Deepen our love and strengthen our purposes, that in difficulty and ease, in joy and sorrow, we may dedicate our lives to Thee, and in Thy service play the part of men both good and true; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

130 THE NEW COMMANDMENT

O Lord God our Father, Who hast gathered all Thy commandments in one, so that except we love one another as Thou lovest us, we cannot fulfil Thy law, grant that Thy Holy Spirit may lead us in the way of love, joy, and peace even unto eternal life; through Thy Son, who loved us and gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

SEA SCOUTS AND DEEP-SEA SCOUTS

131 SEA SCOUTS

Almighty Father, Lord of both land and water, grant that we who seek our activities on the waters are not forgetful of the good that we can do on land, for each other, for our brother Scouts, and for those around us. Enable us to follow the example of courage and determination that our fellow-countrymen in former years have set us. Grant us strength, remembering the boyhood of our Lord Jesus Christ and His voyages on the Sea of Galilee, to steer a straight course in our Scouting and in our lives, so that we may be counted worthy to share His work. *Amen.*

132 FOR THE SPIRIT OF ALL TRUE SEAMEN

O Lord, help us as Sea Scouts to take to ourselves the spirit of courage and endurance that has been handed on to us by those old seamen of other days. May the great traditions built up by them be ours to-day, that this blessed land may still be famed for her spirit of bravery, and that her seamen may still be known as upright and God-fearing men. Help us to take all this is best of the spirit and traditions of our seamen and to carry them on in our lives as Scouts. *Amen.*

133 A PART OF NELSON'S PRAYER ON THE EVE OF TRAFALGAR

For myself individually I commit my life to Him that made me, and may His blessing alight on my endeavours for serving my country faithfully. To Him I resign myself, and the just cause which it is entrusted to me to defend. *Amen. Amen. Amen.*

134 A SEA SCOUT THANKSGIVING

O Lord, who rulest the tides and the great clouds that are mirrored in the deep, we give Thee thanks for the splendour and beauty of the sea. We thank Thee for its strength and its joyous movement. We thank Thee for its breadth and depth. We thank Thee that there are those weary souls who can find rest and peace, in the midst of their busy lives, on the shores of the sea, or rocked upon its bosom on some graceful ship. We thank Thee for the adventure and fun and joy which the sea and other waters bring to us in our Scouting and in our lives. May Thy eternal blessing and everlasting love be in the hearts and minds of all those who love the sea and who go upon it in their work and in their travels. We thank Thee, O Lord, for the beauty of colour, of motion, of smell and of sound with which Thou hast blessed the sea and all waters of the earth. *Amen.*

135 DEEP-SEA SCOUTS

Our Father, who lookest down in love upon all Thy children, give us ever to be mindful of our threefold Promise. May we as Scouts never fail in our duties of Seamanship when on board, and may we be the more loyal and manly because of our Scouthood. When we are on shore may we ever be ready to give what service we can to the Scouts in port, helping always to spread the spirit of the worldwide Brotherhood. We thank Thee that Thou hast called us to the responsibility of being Adventurers and Deep-Sea Scouts. Grant that we may be worthy of our calling; through our Captain and Leader, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

136 FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL BY SEA

O Almighty God, whose way is in the sea, and whose paths are in the great waters: be present, we beseech Thee, with our brethren in the manifold dangers of the deep; protect them from all its perils; prosper them in their course; and bring them in safety to the haven where they would be, with a graceful sense of Thy mercies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

137 FOR THOSE WHO GO DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS

O Eternal Lord God, who spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea: be please to receive into Thy protection all those who go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters. Make Thou their voyages safe to their persons and their goods; and be Thou Thyself their way and light till journeyings shall end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

138 FOR A BLESSING ON FISHERIES

O Almighty God, who madest the sea, and gavest all that moveth therein for the use of man: bestow Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, on the harvest of the waters that it may be abundant in its season; protect from every peril of the deep all fishermen and mariners, and grant that they may with thankful hearts acknowledge Thee, who art the Lord of the sea and of the dry land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE TROOP

139 FOR GRACE TO FOLLOW GOD

Almighty God, who hast joined us together in the fellowship of this Troop, and hast called and appointed us, some to be Scouters, some Patrol Leaders and some Scouts, according to Thy will: grant that we may so faithfully serve and follow Thee in this life as good soldiers to the glory of Thy name, that in the world to come we may be found worthy to stand before Thee in Thy Kingdom, where he that soweth and he that reapeth shall rejoice together; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

140 “LIVE TOGETHER IN LOVE AND JOY AND PEACE”

O God, who has joined us together in the fellowship of our Troop, teach us to live together in love and joy and peace. Help us to guard our Honour and to live loyal to Thee, our leaders and all our friends; that, with gallant and high-hearted happiness, we may strive for the setting up of Thy Kingdom in the world; through Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

141 TO BE SCOUTLIKE

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech Thee, the spirit to think and to do always such things as be Scoutlike; that we, who cannot do any good thing without Thee, may by Thee be enabled to live according to our Promise and Law; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

142 TWO PRAYERS FOR HELP TO KEEP THE TENTH SCOUT LAW

O Father, help us, Thy sons, to be pure in thought, word and deed. Thou knowest the temptations which beset us and how hard it is often to overcome them. We know we cannot overcome them in our own strength. Grant us, therefore, we beseech Thee, Thy grace to persevere and to disown discouragement; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

143

O God, give us clean thoughts, clean words, and clean hands. Help us to stand for the hard fight against the easy wrong. Save us from habits that harm; teach us to work as hard and play as fair in Thy sight alone as if all the world saw. Forgive us when we are unkind, and help us to forgive them who are unkind to us. Keep us ready to help others at some cost to ourselves; send us chances to do a little good every day, and to grow more like Thee. *Amen.*

144 FOR HELP AND STRENGTH

Almighty and Everlasting God, by whose grace Thy servants are enabled to fight the good fight of faith and ever prove victorious: we humbly beseech Thee so to inspire us Scouts, that we may yield our hearts to Thine obedience and exercise our will on Thy behalf. Help us to think wisely, to speak rightly, to resolve bravely, to act kindly, to live purely. Bless us in body and in soul, and make us a blessing to our comrades. Whether at home or abroad, may we ever seek the extension of Thy Kingdom. Let the assurance of Thy presence save us from sinning; strengthen us in life, and comfort us in death. O Lord our God, accept this prayer, For Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

145 FOR SPIRIT TO FOLLOW CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

O Christ, our King and Captain, we, Thy followers, the members of this Troop, humbly pray Thee to send Thy noble and unselfish spirit into our hearts, so that we may strive day by day to copy Thy example, and to follow in Thy footsteps until we meet Thee face to face. *Amen.*

146 FOR GOD'S BLESSING

O God and Father of us all, who givest Thy children light and life and happiness, we pray Thee for Thy blessing on this day. In labours let us always work to Thee; in leisure let us never grieve Thy Holy Spirit; control our affections, hallow our thoughts, inspire our hopes, quicken our prayers and praises. Bless, we beseech Thee, this our Troop; take away whatsoever is unworthy, cherish and strengthen whatsoever is best in it. And grant that all who go forth hence may manfully fight Thy battles in the world, and conquer through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

147 FOR PROTECTION AND REST

O Lord, pour down Thy blessing, we pray Thee, upon our Troop. Direct and prosper us in our work and in our play. Protect us, we beseech Thee, from all things hurtful to our bodies or our souls. Preserve us by Thy Holy Spirit from sin and selfishness. Make us generous and brave, pure and true, that when our work on earth is over, we may find our rest in Thine eternal service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

148 FOR LOYALTY

O God our Father, we thank Thee that Thou hast called us into the Brotherhood of Scouts. Bless this our Troop and all its members. Make us loyal to all those set over us. Help us to keep our Promise, and in all things to be live our Saviour Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

149 A CAMP PRAYER

Bless, we beseech Thee, O Father, us Thy children gathered together in this camp. Grant that no evil may spoil our Brotherhood. Make us to live together in courage, love and good fellowship, ever mindful of our Promise, and the example of Him whose servants we are. *Amen.*

150 FOR THE END OF CAMP

O God, Thou hast taught us that we have no abiding place. Thou canst take our lives back to Thyself as easily as a tent can be rolled up. We thank Thee for all the benefits we have received from Thy hands while we have been in camp here. We pray Thee that as we return to our homes with all joy, so may we find peace at the end in the house of our Heavenly Father. *Amen.*

151 TWO PRAYERS FOR OUR PATROL LEADERS

Give unto our Patrol Leaders, O Lord, the spirit of brightness and courage. Help them to play the man, and so to help others to face courageously whatsoever to-morrow may bring. Let not any shadow oppress their spirits, lest their gloom should darken the light by which others have to live. *Amen.*

152

O Heavenly Father, bless with Thy Holy Spirit the Patrol Leaders of this Troop. Give to them a clear understanding of what is true, honourable and right; a willing heart to serve the Troop faithfully; and courage and love in fulfilling their duty. May all the members of this Troop be drawn into a closer unity of good purpose, and of love one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

153 THE COURT OF HONOUR

Lord Jesus, who many years ago didst lead Thy disciples by the Sea of Galilee, give Thy grace to us who are the leaders of our Troop. Grant that in all things we may put ourselves last and the Troop first, and help us to be Scouts worth following at all times. *Amen.*

154 FOR SYMPATHY

O Thou to whom the glad and sorrowful alike did come for comfort, kindle the light of human sympathy within our hearts; help us to understand our friends and those around us, that sharing in their griefs and joys, we may draw ever nearer to them and they to us, ready to stand by one another in our hour of need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

155 A PATHFINDER'S PRAYER

Lord, grant us to see the right path and steadfastly to follow whither it leads; for the sake of Him Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, even Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR SCOUTS

156 A PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Forgive, Lord, all my sins to-day. Take away from me all weakness in resisting the wrong, and give me courage to stand for all that is true, pure, loyal and unselfish. Guard me while I sleep, be with me when I wake, and walk with me the day through in close companionship. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

157 FOR STRENGTH TO BE A HUMBLE FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST

Almighty Father, help me to remember that Thy only Son our Lord Jesus Christ was once a boy as old as I am to-day, full of life and eagerness, happy, content, obedient. Grant that I may try to follow His example, so that I may be a blessing to all around me. Help me to overcome temptation as He overcame

it, to be unselfish and willing to help others as He was. Give me strength to be a humble follower in His heroic path so that I may finally live with Him in Heaven. Grant this to me for His sake. *Amen.*

158 A MORNING PRAYER

Thou knowest, O Lord, the duties that lie before me this day; the dangers that may confront me; the sins that most beset me. Guide me; strengthen me; protect me. *Amen.*

159 A PRAYER IN A SANDRINGHAM BEDROOM

Teach me to observe the rules of the game; teach me neither to cry for the moon nor for spilt milk; help me to distinguish between sentiment and sentimentality, cleaving to the one and despising the other.

Help me neither to proffer nor to receive cheap praise.

If I am called upon to suffer let me be like the well-bred beast who goes away and suffers in silence.

Teach me to win when I may, and if I may not win, then above all, I pray, make me a good loser. *Amen.*

160 FOR GUIDANCE

I beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thy goodness and mercy may follow me all the days of my life. In perplexing paths keep Thou my feet; in darkened ways be Thou my light, and so guided and guarded by Thee may I do well upon the earth and come at last to the perfect and eternal rest of God. *Amen.*

161 THE TENTH SCOUT LAW

Almighty God, who art about our path and about our bed, make our hearts Thy dwelling-place and fit for Thee; keep us every pure in thought, word and deed; make us always to seek the truth earnestly, and to speak it bravely; enable us ever to fight the good fight manfully, and to help our brothers, and grant us ever to increase in Thy Holy Spirit until we come to Thy everlasting Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

162 PRAYER OF ST. ISIDORE

O God, great and wonderful, who hast created the heavens, dwelling in the light thereof; who hast made the earth, revealing Thyself in ever flower that opens; let not mine eyes be blind to Thee, neither let mine heart be dead, but teach me to praise Thee even as the lark which offereth her song at daybreak. *Amen.*

163 A PRAYER USED BY ST. RICHARD OF CHICHESTER

Thanks be to Thee, My Lord, Jesus Christ, for all the benefits Thou hast procured for me, for all the pains and insults Thou hast endured for me.

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother,

May we know Thee more clearly,

Follow Thee more nearly,

Love Thee more dearly. *Amen.*

164 GENERAL LORD ASTLEY USED THIS PRAYER BEFORE THE BATTLE OF EDGEHILL

Lord, Thou knowest how busy I must be to-day; if I forget Thee, do not Thou forget me. *Amen.*

165 HOWEVER TIRED WE MAY BE, WE CAN ALWAYS SAY THIS PRAYER

O Heavenly Father, give me Thy Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

166

Remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, how He said: "Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you."

—*St. John xv, 16.*

THE PACK

167 FOR HELP TO BE TRUE CUBS

Our Father in Heaven, who canst see into all our hearts, help us to be true Cubs and never to forget that we must help other people before we please ourselves. Teach us, we pray Thee, to forget ourselves and our own wishes, and, like Thy Son, to go about doing good to others. Give us very faithful loving hearts and busy hands and feet, so that our days may be full of the happiness of making other people happy, especially in our own houses and with the Pack. We ask this in the name of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

168 FOR LORD JESUS' PRESENCE

Dear Lord Jesus, come and stand among us as we gather round our Council Rock. Comfort us and bless us as Thou didst the little children who were brought to Thee by their mothers. Tell our Cubmaster what to say to us and help us to listen well. May we learn more about Thee and Thy great love; so that we too may love Thee as do Thy holy Angels, now and for ever and ever. *Amen.*

169 OUR GOOD TURN

O God, the Leader and Protector of all Cubs, lead us straight in the daytime and protect us at night. Keep us pure and strong and true, and help us to do our good turn every day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

170 FOR HELP TO DO OUR DUTY

O God our Father, we thank Thee for our happy minds and healthy bodies. Help us to keep them clean and strong. Bless our King, our parents and leaders, and our brothers and sisters of the Scouts and Guides. Help us to do our duty. Show us what good turns we can do, and help us always to do our best, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

171 AN EVENING PRAYER

O Loving Father, listen to our prayer, and, if it is good for us, give us the things we pray for. We thank Thee for another day of work and play and for all Thy love to us. Forgive all that has not pleased Thee to-day, and please help us to do better to-morrow. Bless . . . and all the people who are ill and unhappy. May everyone learn to love Thee more and more. Let the holy Angels watch over us through the night, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

172 AN EVENING PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

O God, our Father, we thank Thee for all Thy love has given us to-day. Forgive us everything we have thought, or said, or done, that has made Thee sad or hurt others. May the lessons we have learnt at school and all the fun and joy we have had in our Pack help us to love Thee more, and may we take happiness into our homes and wherever we go. Bless and keep us all safe through the coming night, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

173 AN EVENING PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for watching over us through the past day and for all Thy love and care. Keep us and all other Cubs, we pray Thee, from sin and danger, and be with us in our lessons, our work, our games and our play. Bless Akela, . . . all Cubs everywhere, and all at home. Teach us all to love Thee and to serve Thee better, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

174 A CUB'S THANKSGIVING

O God our Father, we thank Thee for our homes and for our Pack, for our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, our teachers, our fellow Cubs and our friends. We thank Thee for our food and clothing; for the pleasant sunshine and fresh air; for the beautiful flowers, the trees and the birds. We thank Thee for all Thy loving gifts to us, and most of all for sending Thy Dear Son to live and die for us. Help us to grow like Him, and to be kind and gentle and loving, for His sake. *Amen.*

175 FOR ALL GOD’S GOODNESS

O God, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the beauty of the world around us. We thank Thee for the love of our parents and our friends, for work and play, for food and clothing, and for all the happiness of life. But most of all we thank Thee for the birth of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, for the example of His Life and for the love which made Him die for us. And we pray that we may ever serve Him faithfully and fight His battle, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

176 BY CANDLELIGHT

Open Thou, O Lord, our mouths to bless Thy Holy Name; cleanse also our hearts from wandering thoughts, so that we may worthily, devoutly, and attentively say these prayers, and deserve to be heard in the sight of Thy Divine Majesty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

177 FOR GOD’S MERCIES

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, we praise and bless Thy Holy Name for all Thy mercies to us; for life and health; for the love of dear ones and for our homes; for our powers of mind and body; and for our increasing knowledge of Thee; for all that is good and beautiful and true; and above all for Thy great love for us in Christ Jesus our Saviour. Help us to use all Thy gifts to Thy glory, that we may shine as lights amid the darkness through Him who is the Light of the World, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

178 FOR A SICK CUB

O Loving Father, bless and take care of . . . Comfort him and take his pain away, and, if it be Thy will, make him well again. Grant that he may know that Thou art always with him, loving and caring for him; through Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

179 ST. GEORGE

O dear Lord Jesus, help us to be Thy brave knights, and to do our best to fight and conquer all those dragons who try to tempt us. Be near us to make us brave. *Amen.*

180 A MORNING PRAYER IN CAMP

Dear Heavenly Father, “Thank You” for taking care of us through the night. Help us to please You all day long. May we learn to love one another, and to love You most of all. Bless our fathers, mothers, our Cubmaster and Cubs all over the world, for Jesus Christ’s sake. *Amen.*

181 A PACK PRAYER

O God, our Heavenly Father, bless us, we pray Thee, our Pack, and all who are Wolf Cubs; give us grace always to obey Thy will; and may we ever do our best to help and to serve other people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

182 FOR CHEERFULNESS

Lord Jesus, at Whose coming the hearts of Thy friends were made glad and strong again, give us the grace of cheerfulness. Put far from us ill temper and sulkiness, and help us to be happy, that those we meet may feel happier for having seen us. *Amen.*

183 THANKSGIVING AT EVENING

Heavenly Father, we praise Thee for all our everyday blessings — the light, the sun and rain, the air we breathe, the kind things people do for each other, the cleverness that built our homes — all are part of Thy plan and filled with Thy life. We want to thank Thee specially for our Cubbing, and for the happiness and help we get from it. May we offer it to Thee to be used for Thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR CUBS

184 "FORGIVE ME"

O Lord, I thank Thee for all Thy love to me ever since I was born. I pray Thee to forgive all my sins. Grant that I may help all around me and make them happy, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

185 "THANK YOU"

Dear Father, "Thank You" for all the good things You have given me to-day. Bless me and all other Cubs and children. Please send the Angels to take care of us all while we sleep, and keep us safe till morning comes, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

186 "HELP ME"

Dear Jesus, thank you for letting me be a Cub. Bless my Pack and all Cubs. I want to love You more every day. Help me to please You by doing good turns to other people always. *Amen.*

187 A CUB'S BIRTHDAY

O loving Father, I thank Thee for my birthday. I thank Thee for everyone who has help to make it a happy day. Now that I am a year older help me to be truer than ever to my Cub Promise, and more ready to help other people with good turns; for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

188 "ACCEPT ME"

O God, I thank Thee for all the blessings of the day. Accept all in me that has please Thee, and forgive all that has grieved Thee. Grant me Thy grace to serve Thee better to-morrow. Bless, in mercy, my Pack, Troop, Akela, sick Cubs and everybody. Comfort all who are sick and sad, and grant me a quiet rest this night, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

189 "TEACH ME"

O good Jesu, teach me to be a true Cub; to love and to serve Thee with all my heart; and give me Thy grace always to do the right, and not to give in to myself; grant this for Thy Name's sake. *Amen.*

190 "TO DO OUR BEST"

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, whose Blessed Son, our Saviour, went about doing good, help us day by day to try to be like Him; that being always ready to do our best for those whom we can help, we may, by our good turns to others, make the world a better place for Thee; for love of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

191 FOR PEACE

O God, bless all who are working to make the world more peaceful. Show us how to live without fighting each other, and make the world brave enough for peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE SAINTS OF OUR COUNTRY

192 ST. GEORGE, APRIL 23RD, 303, PATRON SAINT OF SCOUTS

O Lord God of Hosts, who didst give grace to Thy servant George to lay aside the fear of man, and to confess Thee even unto death, grant that we and all our countrymen who bear office in the world, may think lightly of earthly place and honour, and seek rather to please the Captain of our Salvation who has chosen us to be His soldiers, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be thanks and praise for all the armies of Thy saints now and for evermore. *Amen.*

193

O God, who makest us to rejoice in the glorious victory of Thy holy martyr George, give us who claim him as our patron the grace to follow the example of his courage; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

194 ST. PATRICK, MARCH 17TH, 465

O God, who didst teach Thy servant Patrick to love the land of his captivity and to spend willingly and be spent that he might bring its people unto Thee, grant that in all our troubles we might hear Thy voice, and gladly learn what Thou wouldst have us to do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

195 ST. ANDREW, NOVEMBER 30TH

Almighty God, who didst give such grace unto Thy holy Apostle Saint Andrew, that he readily obeyed the calling of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed Him without delay: grant unto us all, that we, being called to Thy holy word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil Thy holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

196 ST. DAVID, MARCH 1ST

O God, who by the preaching of Thy blessed servant, Saint David, didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in this our land, grant, we beseech Thee, that having his life and his labours in remembrance, we may show forth our thankfulness unto Thee for the same by following the example of his zeal and patience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

197 THE EXAMPLE OF THE SAINTS

O King, Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, who in the righteousness of Thy saints hast given us an example of godly life, and in their blessedness a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling, we beseech Thee that, being compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, we may run with patience the race that is set before us, and with them receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OUR KING AND COMMONWEALTH

198

We pray to Thee, Father of all, for our native land, and for Thy servant, our Sovereign, King George, that his throne may be established in righteousness, and in the hearts and affections of a free, loyal and religious people; and that finally he may receive of Thee the crown of life which fadeth not away. *Amen.*

199

Remember, O Lord, George, our most gracious King and Governor, our gracious Queen Elizabeth, Mary the Queen Mother, Princess Elizabeth, and all the Royal Family. Let Thy servant, our Sovereign, rule in Thy fear, and live for the welfare of his people. Preserve his throne in peace. Prolong his days on earth; and finally bring him to the glory of Thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

200 FOR THE COUNTRY'S RULERS AND LEADERS

Raise up, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to be rulers of this people, able men such as fear Thee, men of truth and hating covetousness, not regarding persons nor seeking rewards; and strengthen them that, being leaders of the people, by their counsels they may endeavour always in singleness of heart to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, that the nation may be ordered in equity and righteousness according to Thy Will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

201

O God, we pray Thee, bless our King and all those set in authority, that under him this great Commonwealth may serve Thee in godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

202 MAY 24TH

O Lord God of our Fathers, who in Thy goodness hast led this people hitherto by wondrous ways, we beseech Thee to pout Thy blessing on the Commonwealth over which Thou has called Thy servant George to be King. Grant that all, of whatever race or tongue, may, in prosperity and peace, be united in

the bond of brotherhood and in the one fellowship of the Faith, so that we may be found a people acceptable unto Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

203

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, bless our Country and Commonwealth that it may be a blessing to the world. Grant that our ideals and aspirations may be in accordance with Thy will, and help us to see ourselves as others see us. Keep us from hypocrisy in feeling or action. Grant us sound government and just laws, good education and clean lives, justice in our relations with one another, and, above all, a spirit of service which will abolish pride of place and inequality of opportunity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

204

O God, who hast made us members of the British Commonwealth, and hast bound us together by one King and one Flag, may we ever live in remembrance of our great responsibilities, and be mindful that “righteousness exalteth a nation.” Help us to seek to excel in the practice of faith, courage, duty, self-discipline, fair dealing, even justice, and true sympathy, that, as loyal patriots and good citizens, we may each individually aid in elevating the British character, and as a God-fearing and a God-loving people glorify Thee, the King of kings and Lord of lords; through Jesus Christ Thy Son. *Amen.*

—*The late Earl of Meath*

205 ARMISTICE DAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 1916

Almighty God, in whose over-ruling providence nations rise and nations fall, we give Thee hearty thanks that Thou hast called us to Thy service. Make us worthy of our calling. Keep us ever mindful of those who have laid down their lives for righteousness’ sake, and of all who have patiently borne the wounds and sufferings of war. We praise and bless Thy Holy Name for their examples. Help us to be like them in bravery, devotion and endurance in the battle against sin and wrong. Raise us from a life of sin to a life of righteousness, and teach all the nations so to love Thee that war and bloodshed may be abolished from the earth; through Him Who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

FRIENDS AND FRIENDSHIP

206

O Eternal God, who watchest over us all, grant that the friendships formed between us here may neither through sin be broken, nor hereafter through worldly cares be forgotten; but that, bound together across the world by the unseen chain of Thy love, we may be drawn nearer to Thee and nearer to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

207 FOR ABSENT FRIENDS

We thank Thee, O Lord our God, that Thou art in every place, and that no space or distance can ever separate us from Thee, that those who are absent from each other are still present with Thee. Have in Thy holy keeping those from whom we are now separated, and grant that both they and we, by drawing nearer unto Thee, may be drawn nearer to one another in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

208 FOR OUR FARTHEST KINDRED

Our Heavenly Father, who has bestowed upon us the dear comfort of earthly friends, look down in love upon our farthest kindred. Protect and keep them from all harm; prosper and bless them in all things good; suffer them never to be lonely, desolate or afraid, and let no shadow come between them and us to divide our hearts, but in Thine own good time may we renew the fellowship of sight and hand; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

209 FOR KINSFOLK AND FRIENDS

Stretch forth, O Lord, the right hand of Thy mercy upon all our kinsfolk and friends both near and far, that seeking Thee with their whole heart, they may find their needs supplied both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

210 "KEEP US FROM WANT OF SYMPATHY"

Keep us from want of sympathy with friends and neighbours; from harsh judgements and ill-feelings towards any; from want of love for our country, and unwillingness to seek the common good. Grant that to live in such glorious times may cleanse us from all pettiness and self-seeking, filling us with a gallant and undaunted spirit, that we may be diffusers of life, invigorating all we meet. *Amen.*

211 FOR LOVE TO ALL

Enable us, O Lord, to love Thee, with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and our neighbours as ourselves, that so the grace of Thy love may dwell in us for ever. Grant that all envy and mistrust may die in us; that all suspicion and harsh judgement may be put away from us, while we live in daily fellowship with Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

212 FOR OUR HOMES

O God, our Father, Whose wish it is that we dwell together in families, let Thy blessing rest upon our homes. Bless our fathers and mothers and all the members of our families. Give them health and strength of soul and body, and unite us all together in love with Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING

213 FOUR PRAYERS FOR WORLD PEACE

O God, our Father, give to the nations of the world a new heart of comradeship, that every people may bring its tribute of excellence to the common treasury, and all the world may go forward in the new and living way which He hath consecrated for us; who now liveth and reigneth with The and the Spirit of Truth, One God, world without end. *Amen.*

214

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed, kindle, we pray Thee, in the hearts of all men the true love of peace, and guide with Thy pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility Thy kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of Thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

215

Almighty God, give to every State the dawning spirit of human brotherhood, a new respect for man and for woman, new loyalty in service and charity, new happiness in work and justice in reward, that our homes may be restored in Thee, our cities rebuilt, and all the world may reflect Thy light and Thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

216

O Almighty God, Who canst bring good out of evil, and makest even the wrath of man to turn to Thy praise; teach Thy children to live together in charity and peace; and grant, we beseech Thee, that the nations of the world may henceforth be united in a firmer fellowship for the promotion of Thy glory and the food of all mankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

217 INDUSTRIAL PEACE

O God our Father, we pray Thee to send Thy Holy Spirit into the hearts of both those who employ and are employed, so that they may look at matters from each other's point of view and may put the common good before their own desires; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

218 FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED

O God, who art the Father of us all, we pray Thee to have mercy on all who are cold or hungry or ill-clothed, and upon those who have no home. Show us what we can do to help them, and may we never rest until poverty and want are driven from our land; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

219 THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

Eternal God, in whose perfect Kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and no strength know by the strength of love: we pray Thee so mightily to shed and spread abroad Thy spirit that all peoples and ranks may be gathered under one banner of the Prince of Peace; as children of one Father, Lord of Love; to whom alone be dominion and glory now and for ever. *Amen.*

220 UNEMPLOYMENT

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, we commend to Thy protection care and compassion the boys and girls, the men and women of our land now suffering distress and anxiety through lack of work. Support and strengthen them, we beseech Thee; and so prosper the counsels of those who are engaged in the ordering of our industrial life that Thy people may be set free from want and fear, and be enabled to work in security and peace, for the relief of their necessities and for the well-being of this realm; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

—S.P.C.K.

221 FOR VISION

Father in heaven, Who didst love and suffer with all Thy children, help us sometimes in the midst of our health and happiness to remember the slums, the suffering and the sin of our great towns. Inspire us with a vision of a new country, where all these things shall be swept away, and Thy kingdom upon earth brought a little nearer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

222 PEACE FOR ALL TIME

Give us peace for all time, O Lord, and fill our hearts and the hearts of all men everywhere with the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR USE ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS

223 TO LIVE MORE BRAVELY

O Lord, we pray to Thee, give us of Thy strength that we may live more bravely and faithfully for the sake of those who are no longer with us here on earth; and grant us to serve Thee day by day that we may find eternal fellowship with them; through Him who died and rose again for us all, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

224 TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF OTHERS

We bless Thy holy Name, O God, for all Thy servants who, having finished their course, do now rest from their labours. Give us grace, we beseech Thee, to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to Thy honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

225 FOR THE WORK WE DO

O God, who hast ordained that whatever is to be desired should be sought by labour, and who by Thy blessing bringest honest labour to good effect, look with mercy on all our work and endeavours. Grant us, O Lord, to design only what is lawful and right. Afford us calmness of mind and steadiness of purpose, that we may so do Thy will in this short life as to obtain happiness in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

226 A PRAYER OF R.L.S. FOR INWARD HAPPINESS

Grant us, O Lord, the royalty of inward happiness, and the serenity which comes from living close to Thee. Daily renew in us the sense of joy, and let the eternal spirit of the Father dwell in our souls and

bodies, filling every corner of our hearts with light and grace, so that, bearing about with us the infection of a good courage, we may be diffusers of life, and may meet all ills and cross accidents with gallant and high-hearted happiness, giving Thee thanks always for all things. *Amen.*

227 FOR CHEERFULNESS

Animate us to cheerfulness; may we have a joyful sense of our blessings, and learn to look on the bright circumstance of our lot, and maintain a perpetual contentedness; fortify our minds against disappointments and calamity; preserve us from despondency and from yielding to dejection. *Amen.*

228 R. N. TAGORE'S PRAYER FOR STRENGTH

This is my prayer to Thee, my Lord. Give me the strength to make my love faithful in service. Give me the strength never to disown the poor or bend my knees before insolent might. Give me the strength to raise my mind high above daily trifles; and give me the strength to surrender my strength to Thy will with love. *Amen.*

229 DELIGHT IN SIMPLE THINGS

O God, who hast made the heaven and the earth and all that is good and lovely therein, and hast shown us through Jesus, our Lord, that the secret of joy is a heart freed from selfish desires; help us to find delight in simple things and ever to rejoice in the richness of Thy bounty; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

230 "MAY WE BE SAVED FROM ENVY AND JEALOUSY"

O Heavenly Father, strengthen us, we beseech Thee, in love one to another by drawing us to an increasing love of Thyself; keep us from all envy and jealousy in little things or in great, and teach us to rejoice in seeing Thy work done by others as much as by ourselves; and, we pray Thee, grant us grace so faithfully to serve Thee with one heart and soul in this life, that the brotherhood which has begun on earth may be perfected in Heaven; through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

231 FOR COURAGE AND STRENGTH

O God, our heavenly Father, help us always to be of good cheer. Let us not be disheartened by our difficulties. Let us never doubt Thy love or any of Thy promises. Give us grace to be encouragers of others, never discouragers. Let us not go about with sadness or fear among men, but let us always make life easier, never harder, for those who come within our influence; for the sake of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

232 "FLOOD THE PATH WITH LIGHT"

O God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies grey and threatening; when our lives have no music in them and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, we beseech Thee; turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to Thy Honour and Glory. *Amen.*

—*Service Book, Norwich Cathedral.*

233 FOR REFRESHING GRACE

O God, Who hast promised that they that wait upon Thee shall renew their strength, look mercifully upon all who are tired and worn out by the long strain of the present difficult days. Grant them the refreshing grace of Thy holy comfort. Open their eyes anew to the spiritual goal of their efforts, that faith may hearten labour and patience have her perfect work; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

—*Service Book, Norwich Cathedral.*

234 SELF-DISCIPLINE

O Thou, in whom there is eternal peace and harmony, silence the discords of our lives, rebuke and destroy our selfish passions and aims, and win us and all men to the obedience of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

235 FOR TRUTH

Almighty God, who hast sent the Spirit of Truth unto us to guide us into all truth, so rule our lives by Thy power that we may be truthful in word and deed and thought. O keep us with Thy gracious protection, that no fear or hope may ever make us false in act or speech. Cast out from us whatsoever loveth or maketh a lie, and bring us all into the perfect freedom of Thy truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

236 AS JESUS

Grant that we may walk as Jesus walked; grant that what the Spirit was in Him, such He may also be in us; grant that our lives may be re-fashioned after the pattern of His life; grant that we may do to-day, here, on earth, what Jesus would have done, and in the way He would have done it. *Amen.*

237 FOR LOVE OF GOD

O God, the God of all goodness and of all grace, who art worthy of a greater love than we can either give or understand, fill our hearts, we beseech Thee, with such love toward Thee that nothing may seem too hard for us to do or suffer in obedience to Thy will; and grant that, thus loving Thee, we may become daily more like unto Thee, and finally obtain the crown of life which Thou hast promised to those that love Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

238 FOR THE LOVE OF THE SAVIOUR

O Good Jesus, we pray Thee to watch over us always. Put good thoughts into our hearts and make us do the things which are noble, generous and loving. Keep us from forgetting Thee or from thinking that any other life is grander than Thy life. May we love others as Thou didst love them. May we be brave as Thou wast brave. Help us to live that all men and boys may give Thee glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

239 FOR HIGH ASPIRATIONS

Almighty and all-merciful God, our Father in Heaven, grant that we may desire and will, both now and in our prayers and at all times in our lives, what is pleasing to Thee. Give us grace that we may never have any wish which we cannot bring to Thee, nor any purpose in which we cannot seek Thy help. So may our spirits be ever at one with Thee, and our prayers such as Thou wilt ear and answer, according to Thy loving kindness declared unto us through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

240 FOR THE BUILDING-UP OF GOD'S NATURE IN US

Lord of truth and purity, we beseech Thee to build up in us Thy own nature. Found our souls upon the rock, that we may be content with no transient happiness bought at the cost of compromise and unfaithfulness. Teach us the bitterness of forsaking noble ideals, teach us the glory and warmth of the loneliness that comes from the fearless following of the highest that we know. Give us Thine own vision of the eternal values, Thine own resolute disregard of the second best, Thine own unflinching loyalty to duty and honour. *Amen.*

241 FOR PURITY OF HEART

Almighty and Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, who hast created us for Thyself, so that we can find rest only in Thee: grant unto us purity of heart and strength of purpose, so that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing Thy will, no weakness from doing it; but in Thy light may we see light clearly, and in Thy service find perfect freedom, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

242 THREE PRAYERS FOR OUR BROTHERS THE ANIMALS

O Lord Jesus Christ, who hast taught us that without our Father in Heaven no sparrow falls to the ground, help us to be very kind to all animals, and our pets. May we remember that Thou wilt one day ask us if we have been good to them. Bless us as we take care of them; for Thy sake. *Amen.*

243

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals, especially for animals who are suffering; for all that are overworked and underfed and cruelly treated; for all wistful creatures in captivity that beat against their bars; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry; for all that are in pain or dying; for all that must be put to death. We entreat for them all Thy mercy and pity, and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands and kindly words. Make us ourselves to be true friends to animals and so to share the blessing of the merciful; for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

244

O Eternal Father, who hast made man to have dominion over Thy works, touch our hearts with pity for all dumb animals, especially those which minister to our comfort or sport, that we may treat them with tenderness and consideration, and that we may see Thee, the Creator, in all created things, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

245 FOR THE GUARDIANSHIP OF GOD'S LOVE

Grant unto us, Almighty God, Thy peace that passeth understanding, that we, amidst the storms and troubles of this our life, may rest in Thee, under Thy care, guarded by Thy love; so that with a quiet heart we may see the storms of life, the cloud and thick darkness, ever rejoicing to know that the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee; through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. *Amen.*

CLOSING PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

246

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and deliver us from evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

247

Unto the King, eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

248

O Lord, forgive what we have been, sanctify what we are, and order what we shall be. *Amen.*

249

The power of the Father, the wisdom of the Son, the love of the Holy Spirit, keep, teach, and guide us for ever. *Amen.*

250

May God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with us all this day (or night) and evermore. *Amen.*

251

May the blessing of Almighty God rest upon us and upon all our work; may He give us Light to guide us, Courage to support us, and Love to unite us, now and evermore. *Amen.*

252

Now the God of peace make you perfect in every good thing to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

253

May the merciful loving-kindness of the Most High and His Holy Protection be with the sick, the suffering and the sorrowful; be with us and with all whom we love, now in every time of need. *Amen.*

254

May the Lord grant us His blessing and fill our hearts with the spirit of truth and peace, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

255

May the grace of courage, gaiety and the quiet mind, with all such blessedness as belongeth to the children of the Father in Heaven, be ours to the praise of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. *Amen.*

256

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Spirit of the Lord cleanse and purify our inmost hearts, and enable us to shun all evil. The Lord enlighten our understanding and cause the light of His Truth to shine in our hearts. The Lord fill us with faith and love towards Him. The Lord be with us day and night, in our coming in and going out, in our sorrow and in our joy; and bring us at length into His Eternal Rest. *Amen.*

257

May the Lord lead us when we go, and keep us when we sleep, and talk with us when we wake; and may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

258

May the Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and give us peace, this day (or night) and for evermore. *Amen.*

(Adapted from the Aaronic Blessings, Numbers vi, 24.)

259

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

—*II Cor. xiii, 14.*

260

May the Almighty Lord bless us with the courage of the spirit of youth. May he give us firm faith, eager hope and unconquerable charity; that being fortified with such defences of His grace we may be partners with the pioneer of universal peace, even the young Prince of Glory, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

261

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*