

Prayer for Chris

November 16, 2001

Lord God,

This is my prayer as I wait while Chris is in surgery.

From the depth of my heart I ask that first you preserve her life, her mind, her joy, her health, and her comfort. I ask this because she is the light of my life and I am selfish in loving her – I can't bear the thought of her in serious distress. But I also ask this because even were she not so dear to me, she is precious to you, precious to her family, precious to her friends, precious to herself, and precious to the world in which she lives for now. Although we who love her know that none of us deserves either good or ill fortune in this life, our love dictates that she, above most others, be preserved to continue to grace our lives. Preserve her through this surgery, Oh God-Our-Savior.

In trust that You will answer this prayer fully, I am bold to ask that in the days to come You will heal her quickly and comfortably. Let her rest be productive, her care loving and supportive, her body strong and well-nourished, her faith strong, her comforters many, and her trust constant. Give me wisdom to be her advocate when it is important and her defender as needed. Let her be encouraged and blessed by Your presence during this time. Be with her in her moments of suffering, and light up the lonely hours with Your Holy Spirit. I ask this as one who loves her more than my life. Heal her, Oh God-our-Healer.

Oh God, knowing that Your Grace is infinite and Your love for Chris is unbounded, I am even bold to ask that when she has recovered from this surgery that you will restore her health and life as she hopes. Give her, I pray, a life free from pain, free from unnecessary constraints in her activities, free from dependence on medications, free from worries about her strength. Let us both be mindful and careful of our mortal bodies, but not burdened by them. Let her realize the promise that our remaining years will be fruitful and good, full of joy, full of good work and play and love between us, of all that binds us together, and all that binds us to You. Restore to her this year of the locust, and let her life be more blessed than it was before. Restore her life, I ask, Oh God-Our-Restorer.

I come before you as her husband, who has pledged before you to love her for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and health, as long as we live. By these sacred vows, and in the name of Jesus Christ our mutual Lord and Savior, I ask these things.

Amen.