

FOR AN INFANT

Psalms 23

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "who is the *greatest* in the kingdom of heaven? And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them, and said, Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

NAME OF CHILD

PRAYER : Our Father, <sup>Alone</sup> whose Son, Jesus, took little children in His arms and blessed them, enable us, now, to entrust ~~the~~ this little one to thy never-failing care and love, and bring us all to thy heavenly home, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.

In the most beautiful gardens, though carefully tended by the most skillful hands, there is an occasional rose that buds, but never opens. In all respects the rose is like all the others but some unseen cause keeps it from blooming. It wilts and fades away without coming to its radiant unfolding.

What happens in nature's garden occasionally happens also in the garden of God's human family. A baby is born, but with some unseen, mysterious band sealing that life so that it can never come to its rightful unfolding. This child, like the bud that never fully opens, gradually fades away ~~to~~ to be gathered back into God's heavenly garden ~~of~~ where all imperfections are made perfect; all injustices are made right; all mysteries are explained; and all sorrows turned to happiness. Confident of the blissful abode of the innocent, we commit this infant into God's everlasting arms.