**After a Traumatic Birth**

Life-giving Christ, be our faithful and loving companion in every

moment of our lives. Visit N. with your healing grace. Heal the

pain and trauma she has undergone through this birth. As you

labored in agony on the cross so she suffered in labor. Now bring

her the joy of new life that nothing can take away. Let your angels

watch over this mother and child as they heal and rest. In the days

to come, help N. know your promise that weeping may linger for

the night, but joy comes with the morning. So may this mother

and child rise to give you thanks tomorrow and always, secure in

you, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, reign throughout all

ages. Amen.

**When a Child Has Been Born with Special Needs**

God of creation, you made all peoples of the earth one family;

we thank you for N., a child created in your love and a precious

gift to his family. Bring N. fullness of joy. Make him a witness to

your compassion for all your creation and a blessing to those who

know him. Sustain his family and all those who care for him in

their anxieties and questions. Give them grace to love this child

with your love and increase their faith and knowledge of you.

Enable us who love them to provide support and comfort, through

the power of your holy and life-giving Spirit, through Christ who

loves all children. Amen.

God the creator of us all, we give you thanks for the life of this

child. Grant us accepting and understanding hearts, and the gifts

of courage and patience to face the challenge of caring for her. Let

your love for us be seen in our lives, that we may create an atmosphere

in which she will live a life of dignity and worth. We ask

this in the name of Jesus, the compassionate. Amen. (From A New

Zealand Prayer Book, page 756)