

Buddhist Bardo Prayer for Victims of the Mother Emanuel Episcopal Baptist Church, June 23, 2015

O compassionate ones, saints, and heavenly beings, abiding in all directions,
Endowed with all-knowing wisdom and loving compassion,
Giving protection and guidance to all sentient beings,
We invoke your presence and ask that you hear our prayer.

O compassionate ones, saints, and heavenly beings, the nine victims of Mother Emanuel Church are passing from this world to the next. They have entered the great mystery of death and rebirth.

O compassionate ones, saints, and heavenly beings, protect these nine victims, who are now defenseless.
Be to them like a father and mother.

O compassionate ones, saints, and heavenly beings, give guidance to these nine victims, who are now alone with the joys and sorrows of their past lives.
Guide them to see beyond their blindness and to let go of attachments,
So that they may move freely through the passage between lives.
May the power of unconditional forgiveness embrace them
May they be clear and unafraid amid the karmic winds that may surround them.
May they know all sounds as their own sound.
May they know all lights as their own light.
May they know all pain and pleasure to be transient.

O compassionate ones, saints, and heavenly beings, help their hearts to be open
And may the thought of loving kindness guide them to choose a new life,
That will benefit themselves and others.

May the sound of this prayer emanate in all directions.

May these thoughts become their thoughts.
May all doubts dissolve.
May the power of our love be strong and clear.

O Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, Compassionate Ones, saints, and heavenly beings,
Manifest now your ancient vows.
May all beings awaken to the unborn and undying Buddha-mind,
The source and substance of all there is!

Ga-te, Ga-te,
Para Ga-te,
Para Sam Ga-te,
Bodhi Svaha!