THE PRIEST BEGINS: **The Lord Jesus is the lover of his people and our only sure hope. Let us ask him to deepen our faith and sustain us in this dark hour. You became a little child for our sake, sharing our human life.**

To you we pray: R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

Assisting minister: **You grew is wisdom, age, and grace, and learned obedience through suffering.**

To you we pray: R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

You welcomed children, promising them your kingdom.

To you we pray: R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

You comforted those who mourned the loss of children and friends.

To you we pray: R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

You took upon yourself the suffering and death of us all.

To you we pray. R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

You promised to raise up those who believe in you just as you were raised up in glory by the Father.

To you we pray: R. Bless us and keep us, o Lord.

THE PRIEST THEN CONCLUDES: **Lord God, you entrusted _____to our care and now you embrace him (her) in your love. Take _____into your keeping together with all children who have died. Comfort us, your sorrowing servants, who seek to do your will and to know your saving peace.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.