

# Addiction



## Scripture

Luke 12:13-21

### The Parable of the Rich Fool

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich towards God."

What happened is what I ask myself everyday.  
What was she thinking knowing she'd be putting her life to waste.  
This is my sister and I love her with all my heart,  
But doing drugs has only kept us far apart.  
I never thought she would end up this way,  
It hurts me knowing I can't help her, so all I do is pray,  
I pray for her to open her eyes before it's too late.  
Dealing drugs and stealing became her hobby,  
I guess she doesn't care if her kids end up without a mummy.  
Why can't she be the way she was before?  
Now that was my sister, the one that always loved me more.  
She was my best friend, we were always together,  
Nothing ever kept us apart because we promised we'd be sisters forever.  
I guess forever finally came to an end.  
She don't love me anymore now, Heroin became her new friend.  
I cry every time something reminds me of my sister,  
I feel anger and pain inside knowing I can't help her.  
But I won't lose faith,  
Every night I will pray,  
Cause I know someday God will show her the way.  
So now I put this poem to an end and wish only for the best,  
I pray it's never my sister who will someday be laid to rest!

Focus on  
one each

### **Prayer to St Julie Billiart**

Saint Julie, through your great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, you were miraculously cured and favoured by many graces.

By your powerful intercession, obtain for us above all, a great trust in God in all the difficulties of life, the strength to accomplish in all things the adorable will of God, and the special grace we now ardently ask of you.

"We must have courage in the times we live in. Great souls are needed, souls having the interest of God at heart"

### Celebrities who have suffered with addictions and who are trying to overcome them.

#### Mary-Kate Olsen

Mary-Kate Olsen "Full House" actress Mary-Kate Olsen suffered with anorexia and a related cocaine addiction that led her to rehab.

#### Lindsay Lohan

Once the adorable child star in the original film, The Parent Trap, Lindsay Lohan has since lost control of her life, including cocaine and alcohol abuse, she is now spending sometime in rehab.

#### Johnny Depp

Johnny Depp became a heavy drinker simply because of his claim to fame. He couldn't speak at ceremonies without the help of alcohol.

### **Pray For:**

- People who are struggling with an addiction
- Those who are feeling sad or who are struggling with personal issues.
- Pray for families and those affected by addictions.
- Those you know who have died and those grieving for loved ones.

### **Prayer in action this week:**

- Have the courage to make a positive difference.
- SERVE others, giving time, love, a helping hand.
  - Support someone who is feeling sad.
  - Be a role model to others.

God of life, you made me in your perfect image, to live in your love and to give you glory, honor and praise. Open my heart to Your healing power. Come, Lord Jesus, calm my soul just as you whispered "Peace" to the stormy sea. St. Jude, most holy Apostle, in my need I reach out to you. I beg you to intercede for me that I may find strength to overcome my illness. Bless all those who struggle with addiction. Touch them, heal them, reassure them of the Father's constant love. Remain at my side, St. Jude, to chase away all evil temptations, fears, and doubts. May the quiet assurance of your loving presence illuminate the darkness in my heart and bring lasting peace.

Amen.

Lord, look with compassion on all those who have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy, strengthen them in the work of recovery, and help them to resist all temptation.

To those who care for them, grant patient understanding and a love that perseveres.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



O blessed Lord, You ministered to all who came to You. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of Your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. Amen.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS is a charity made up of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to do the same.

Gambling is a very common addiction and can create debt and problems in the family. There are lots of people who can help someone you know to stop.

This is the prayer used by Catholic people when they pray for someone who has died:

Eternal rest grant unto them (her/him) O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them (her/him).  
May they (s/he) rest in peace.  
**Amen**

Lord, we ask that you comfort those who are grieving at this time.  
Be with them as they come to terms with the loss of their loved one.  
May they soon be comforted by the knowledge that death is not the end and that you are waiting to welcome your children into your Kingdom to live with you forever.  
Give us the patience and understanding to support those who mourn.  
**Amen**

If you have a problem with drugs or alcohol, Addaction is a service you can use

Many young people feel that adult services aren't for them. Sometimes they can even feel intimidated by the idea of visiting a service for people over 18. That's why there is a specialist services just for young people, known as Young Addaction.

If you're a young person and you have questions about drugs and alcohol, you can speak in complete confidence. It won't cost you anything, either, as support is free of charge. Go to [www.addaction.org.uk](http://www.addaction.org.uk).