

# Prayer of the Children (SSAA): A Heartfelt Communion with the Divine



## Prayer of the Children (SSAA)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3287 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 13 pages



## Origins and Composition

Prayer of the Children is a choral piece for four voices (SSAA) composed by renowned English composer John Rutter. It was first published in 1970 as part of the collection "A Choral Florilegium," which features a series of short sacred works for a cappella choir.

The inspiration for Prayer of the Children came to Rutter during a visit to an orphanage in the county of Somerset, England. Touched by the children's plight, he was moved to compose a piece that would express their hopes, fears, and aspirations.

## Musical Language and Form

Prayer of the Children is a relatively short piece, typically lasting between four and five minutes. However, its concise form is filled with intricate and evocative musical elements.

The piece begins with a gentle and flowing melody in the soprano voices, which is gradually joined by the alto, tenor, and bass voices. The music is characterized by its simplicity and accessibility, yet it also incorporates subtle dissonances and harmonic shifts that add depth and interest.

The piece is structured around a series of three verses, each of which is followed by a chorus. The verses are more reflective and subdued, while the chorus provides a more uplifting and celebratory contrast. The final chorus concludes the piece with a sense of hope and affirmation.

### **Emotional Resonance**

Prayer of the Children has become one of Rutter's most popular and enduring choral works. Its simple yet profound message of faith and hope has resonated with audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

The piece is particularly effective when performed by children's choirs. The innocence and vulnerability of young voices lend an added layer of authenticity to the text, creating a deeply moving and unforgettable experience.

### **Performance and Usage**

Prayer of the Children is a versatile piece that can be performed in a variety of settings, from churches and cathedrals to concert halls and schools. It is often included in choral festivals and competitions, and has been recorded by numerous choirs worldwide.

In addition to its liturgical use, Prayer of the Children has also been used in a variety of non-religious contexts. It has been performed at school assemblies, charity events, and even in TV and film soundtracks.

Prayer of the Children (SSAA) is a timeless choral masterpiece that has touched the hearts of millions. Its simple yet evocative musical language, combined with its profound message of hope and faith, make it an enduring work that continues to inspire and uplift audiences to this day.

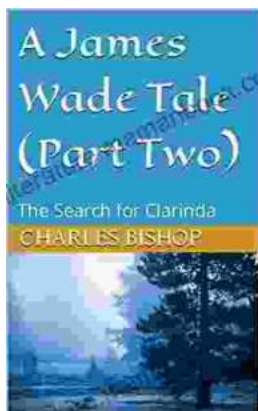
Whether performed by children's choirs or adult ensembles, Prayer of the Children remains a powerful testament to the human spirit and our innate longing for connection with the divine.



### Prayer of the Children (SSAA)

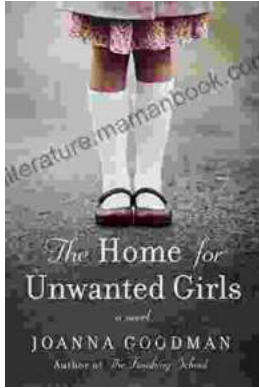
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