

# THROUGH DEATH TO LIFE



Christ Our Hope  
Parish Community

St. Josephs, Boonville  
St Patrick's, Forestport  
St. Mary of the Snows,  
Otter Lake

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## A MESSAGE FOR THE FAMILY

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*Dear Family Members,*

I offer you the prayers and concern of our parish at this time of sorrow. The parish staff and I are here to assist you in celebrating the life of your loved one, so please schedule a time to meet with us as soon as you are able. Be sure to contact the funeral home first as they will help to guide you through the funeral arrangements and will take care of calling the church to schedule the funeral mass.

The Liturgy of the Church, specifically the Mass of Christian Burial, uses rituals that help us to pray and mourn. Within this ritual, there are certain choices that can be made regarding your involvement, the readings, and music. This booklet will direct you in making those choices.

Take a moment with your family to read through the selections of readings before making any decisions about the liturgy. Then, prayerfully go over the Outline of the Mass that is found on page 8 and complete the Selection Sheet at the back of this booklet. By going through this process, you and your family will be able to share more fully in the liturgy and best express the care you have for your deceased loved one.

We understand that this is a difficult time; therefore, you should not feel pressured to make selections if you are unable. Just let us know and the priest or deacon will plan the liturgy for you.

My prayer for you is that in celebrating the Rite of Christian Burial you may be comforted and find the fullness of hope as promised to us in the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Matthew E. Rawson Pastor

## **What can you expect?**

The Rites of Christian Burial are celebrated to offer praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God, the author of life. The Rite of Christian Burial is available to all baptized Christians, and includes three distinct parts:

**The Wake:** This takes place during the visiting hours at the funeral home. Please contact the rectory if you would like a minister from the church to lead a prayer service.

**The Funeral Liturgy:** This takes place in the church with the celebration of a Mass. The body or cremated remains of the person are honored by being brought to the church where the memory and spirit of the deceased are joined to the greater mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

**The Committal:** This is the graveside service committing the body to its final resting place where the deceased awaits the glory of the resurrection.

## **Scheduling the Funeral**

According to our diocesan guidelines, funerals can be held on most days of the year except a Sunday, a Holy Day, and a few other special days. The normal time for funerals at Christ Our Hope is between the hours of 9AM & 12 Noon. The funeral director will coordinate with Christ Our Hope Parish as to the days and Mass times. If, for personal or pastoral reasons, you need a service in the funeral home, please make arrangements with a priest.

Normally, Catholic parishes celebrate the funerals of their parishioners; however, we do not exclude someone because they are not formally registered or have not contributed financially to the parish. We will also do our best to accommodate your family members and/or former

parishioners. Your loss is a time for our community to gather and pray, and we are committed to assisting in your time of need.

## **Offerings & Stipends**

The funeral director will assist you in making these monetary offerings. If the family wishes to hire additional musicians, those arrangements are to be made separately, in cooperation with our Music Director and Organist.

## **Flowers**

Flowers are almost always presented at a funeral Mass and are usually brought to the Church from the funeral home by the funeral director. Funeral flowers are a visible tribute to the deceased and their messages of love and support are generally appreciated by grieving family members. Most families choose not to, or are unable to, bring home all of the flower arrangements following a funeral service. Often times, families donate these flowers to Christ our Hope Parish. Donated flowers are gratefully accepted and will be displayed at our Masses at the Church where the funeral was held.

## **How to Use the Rest of this Booklet to Plan the Liturgy**

Please continue to read through the entire booklet before making any decisions. The following pages explain the progression of the Liturgy of the Word and offer suggestions on how family and friends can be involved. We hope that using this booklet will provide you with some comfort and help you to make choices that celebrate the life of your loved one.

In the back of this booklet, you will find the *Selection Sheet* which can be easily removed and used to record the names of who will participate in the funeral liturgy as well as music and reading selections.

We encourage you to invite others to take part in the funeral liturgy. Being involved not only honors your loved one, but can help you move from life before a death to life after a death.

**What about visiting clergy?** If you have a family member or friend that is either a priest or deacon, please know that they are most welcome to take part in the funeral liturgy; just let us know in advance.

Once you have completed the *Selection Sheet*, please return it to the priest at least 48 hours before the funeral, so he can review your choices with you. If we can assist you in any way, please don't hesitate to call us at (315)-942-4618

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## About the Readings

### First Reading

**Outside Easter Time: Old Testament**

**During Easter Time: New Testament**

### Responsorial Psalm

### Second Reading

### Gospel Reading

### General Intercessions

## About the Readings

*In collaboration with the Priest or other parish minister assisting you, select one each from the choices for first reading, second reading, and gospel reading. Choices can be recorded on the selection sheet using the letter-number coding that appears on the left side of the heading for each reading. Please also record the page number. The number on the right in parentheses is the lectionary number for that reading. It will be used by parish personnel to mark the lectionary for whoever will read during the Funeral Mass.*

*\*When the situation warrants, a single reading may be chosen for use before the gospel.*

*\*\*Non-biblical texts may not replace scriptural readings at the Funeral Mass.*

# FIRST READING

## *Outside Easter Time: Old Testament*

**C1** He acted in an excellent and noble way  
 2 Maccabees 12:43-46 as he had the resurrection  
 (1011-1) of the dead in view.

### **A reading from the second Book of Maccabees**

Judas, the ruler of Israel,  
 took up a collection among all his soldiers,  
 amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,  
 which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory  
 sacrifice.

In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,  
 inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;  
 for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,  
 it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in  
 death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward  
 that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,  
 it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead  
 that they might be freed from this sin.

The word of the Lord.

**C2** I know that my Vindicator lives.

Job 19:1, 23-27a  
 (1011-2)

### **A reading from the Book of Job**

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:  
 Oh, would that my words were written down!  
 Would that they were inscribed in a record:  
 That with an iron chisel and with lead  
 they were cut in the rock forever!  
 But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,



and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;  
Whom I myself shall see:  
my own eyes, not another's shall be hold him;  
And from my flesh I shall see God;  
my inmost being is consumed with longing

The word of the Lord.

**C3** As sacrificial offerings he took  
them to himself.

Long version: Wisdom 3:1-9  
(1011-3)

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom**

The souls of the just are in the hands of God,  
and no torment shall touch them.  
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction  
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.  
But they are in peace.  
For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
yet it is their hope full of immortality.  
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
because God tried them  
and found them to be worthy of himself.  
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.  
In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;  
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,  
and the LORD shall be their King forever.  
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

**C4**

Short version: Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom**

The souls of the just are in the hands of God,  
 and no torment shall touch them.  
 They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
 and their passing away was thought an affliction  
 and their going forth from us, utter destruction.  
 But they are in peace.  
 For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
 yet it is their hope full of immortality.  
 Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
 because God tried them  
 and found them to be worthy of himself.  
 As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
 and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.  
 Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
 and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
 Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
 and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

**C5**

**An unsullied life, the attainment  
 of old age.**

Wisdom 4:7-15  
 (1011-4)

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom**

The just man, though he die early,  
 shall be at rest.  
 For the age that is honorable comes not  
 with the passing of time,  
 Nor can it be measured in terms of years.  
 Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,  
 And an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.  
 He who pleased God was loved;

he who lived among sinners was transported—  
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind  
or deceit beguile his soul;  
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right  
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.  
Having become perfect in a short while,  
he reached the fullness of a long career;  
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,  
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.  
But the people saw and did not understand,  
nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

## **C6** He will destroy death forever.

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9  
(1011-5)

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

On this mountain the LORD of hosts  
will provide for all peoples.  
On this mountain he will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
The web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.  
The Lord GOD will wipe away  
the tears from all faces;  
The reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.  
On that day it will be said:  
“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the LORD for whom we looked;  
Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The word of the Lord.

**C7** It is good to hope in silence for  
the saving help of the Lord.

Lamentations 3:17-26  
(1011-6)

**A reading from the Book of Lamentations**

My soul is deprived of peace,  
I have forgotten what happiness is;  
I tell myself my future is lost,  
all that I hoped for from the LORD.  
The thought of my homeless poverty  
is wormwood and gall;  
Remembering it over and over  
leaves my soul downcast within me.  
But I will call this to mind,  
as my reason to have hope:  
The favors of the LORD are not exhausted,  
his mercies are not spent;  
They are renewed each morning,  
So great is his faithfulness.  
My portion is the LORD, says my soul;  
therefore will I hope in him.  
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him,  
to the soul that seeks him;  
It is good to hope in silence  
for the saving help of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**C8** Many of those who sleep in the  
dust of the earth shall awake.

Daniel 12:1-3  
(1011-7)

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel**

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned  
and heard this word of the Lord:  
At that time there shall arise

Michael, the great prince,  
guardian of your people;  
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress  
since nations began until that time.  
At that time your people shall escape,  
everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep  
in the dust of the earth shall awake;  
Some shall live forever,  
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.  
But the was shall shine brightly  
like the splendor of the firmament,  
And those who lead the many to justice  
shall be like the stars forever.

The word of the Lord.

## SECOND READING

**E1**                      Since we are now justified by his  
 Romans 5:5-11        Blood, we will be saved through  
 (1014-1)                      him from the wrath.

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God  
 has been poured out into our hearts  
 through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,  
 died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,  
 though perhaps for a good person  
 one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us  
 in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then,  
 since we are now justified by his Blood,  
 will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,  
 we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
 how much more, once reconciled,  
 will we be saved by his life.

Not only that,  
 but we will also boast of God  
 through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.



death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead  
by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death  
like his, we shall also be united with him in the  
resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified through him,  
so that our sinful body might be done away with,  
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ,

we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

## **E4**

Short version: Romans 6:3-4, 8-9  
(1014-3)

### **A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were  
baptized into Christ Jesus  
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into  
death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead  
by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ,

we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.



**E5** We also groan within ourselves as we  
Romans 8:14-23 wait for adoption, the  
(1014-4) redemption of our bodies.

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.  
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into  
fear, but you received a spirit of adoption,  
through which we cry, "*Abba, Father!*"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit  
that we are children of God,  
and if children, then heirs,  
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,  
if only we will suffer with him  
so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as  
nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation  
the revelation of the children of God;  
for creation was made subject to futility  
not of its own accord but because of the one who  
subjected it, in hope that creation itself  
would be set free from slavery to corruption  
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even  
until now; and not only that, but we ourselves,  
who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,  
we also groan within ourselves  
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

**E6****What will separate us from  
the love of Christ?**

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39  
(1014-5)

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn us?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,

who also is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine,

or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly  
through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, not life,

nor angels, nor principalities,

nor present things, nor future things,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor any other creature will be able to separate us

from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**E7****Whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's.**

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12  
(1014-6)

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself

and no one dies for oneself.  
 For if we live we live for the Lord,  
 and if we die, we die for the Lord;  
 so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.  
 For this is why Christ died and came to life,  
 that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.  
 Why then do you judge your brother?  
 Or you, why do you look down on your brother?  
 For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of God;  
*As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me,  
 and every tongue shall give praise to God.*  
 So then each of us shall give an accounting himself to God.

The word of the Lord.

## **E8** So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

Long version: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28  
 (1014-7)

### **A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

Brothers and sisters:  
 Christ has been raised from the dead,  
 the firstfruits of those who fallen asleep.  
 For since death came through a man,  
 the resurrection of the dead came also through man.  
 For just as in Adam all die  
 so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
 but each one in proper order:  
 Christ the firstfruits;  
 then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;  
 then comes the end,  
 when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father.  
 For he must reign until he has put all his  
 enemies under his feet.  
 The last enemy to be destroyed is death,  
 for "he subjected everything under his feet."

But when it says that everything has been subjected,  
 it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected  
 everything to him,  
 When everything is subjected to him,  
 then the Son himself will also be subjected  
 to the one who subjected everything to him,  
 so that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord.

## **E9**

Short version : 1 Corinthians 15:20-23  
 (1014-7)

### **A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

Brothers and sisters:  
 Christ has been raised from the dead,  
 the firstfruits of those who fallen asleep.  
 For since death came through a man,  
 the resurrection of the dead came also through man.  
 For just as in Adam all die  
 so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
 but each one in proper order:  
 Christ the firstfruits;  
 then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

## **E10**                      **Death is swallowed up in victory**

1 Corinthians 15:51-57  
 (1014-8)

### **A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

Brothers and sisters:  
 Behold, I tell you a mystery.  
 We shall not fall asleep, but we will all be changed,  
 in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet.  
 For the trumpet will sound



is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen, but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

The word of the Lord.

## **E12** We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10  
(1014-10)

### **A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

Brothers and sisters:

we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

We are always courageous,  
although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,  
for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yet we are courageous,  
and we would rather leave the body  
and go home to the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him,  
whether we are at home or away

For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ,  
so that each may receive recompense,  
according to what he did in the body,  
whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

**E13**                      He will change our lowly bodies  
Philippians 3:20-21                      to conform to his glory.  
(1014-11)

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

Brothers and sisters:

Our citizenship is in heaven,  
and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body  
to conform with his glorified Body  
by the power that enables him also  
to bring all things into subjection to himself

The word of the Lord.

**E14**                                      Thus we shall always be  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18                      with the Lord.  
(1014-12)

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians**

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,  
about those who have fallen asleep,  
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,  
so too will God, through Jesus,  
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,  
that we who are alive,  
who are left until the coming of the Lord,  
will surely no precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself, with a word of command,  
with the voice of an archangel  
and with the trumpet of God,  
will come down from heaven,  
and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left,

will be caught up together with them in the clouds  
to meet the Lord in the air.

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

## **E15**

If we have died with him  
we shall also live with him.

2 Timothy 2:8-13  
(1014-13)

### **A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy**

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a  
descendant of David:

such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering,  
even to the point of chains, like a criminal.

But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who  
are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that  
is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him  
we shall also live with him.

If we persevere  
we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him  
he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful  
he remains faithful,  
for he cannot deny himself.

The word of the Lord.



**E16** We shall see him as he is.

1 John 3:1-2  
(1014-14)

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint John**

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us  
that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us  
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

**E17** We know that we have passed from  
death to life because we love  
our brothers.

1 John 3:14-16  
(1014-15)

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint John**

Beloved:

We know that we have passed from death to life  
because we love our brothers.

Whoever does not love remains in death.

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,  
and you know that no murderer has eternal life  
remaining in him.

The way we came to know love  
was that he laid down his life for us;  
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The word of the Lord.

# GOSPEL READING

**G1**

Rejoice and be glad, for your  
reward will be great in heaven.

Matthew 5:1-12a  
(1016-1)

† A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up to the mountain,  
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

He began to teach, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute  
you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely  
because of me.

Rejoice and be glad,  
for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G2**                    Come to me and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:25-30  
(1016-2)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

At that time Jesus answered:

“I give praise to you Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things from the  
wise and learned you have revealed them to the childlike.

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son,  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G3**                    Behold the bridegroom!

Matthew 25:1-13  
(1016-3)

## Come out to him!

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

“The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins  
who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,  
brought no oil with them,

but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long delayed,  
they all became drowsy and fell asleep

At midnight, there was a cry,  
 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'  
 Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.  
 The foolish ones said to the wise,  
 'Give us some of your oil,  
 for our lamps are going out.  
 But the wise ones replied,  
 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you.  
 Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'  
 While they went off to buy it,  
 the bridegroom came and those who were ready  
 went into the wedding feast with him.  
 Then the door was locked.  
 Afterwards the other virgins came and said,  
 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!'  
 But he said in reply,  
 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'  
 Therefore, stay awake,  
 for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G4

## Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Matthew 25:31-46  
(1016-4)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew]**

Jesus said to his disciples:  
 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory,  
 and all the angels with him,  
 he will sit upon his glorious throne,  
 and all the nations will be assembled before him.  
 And he will separate them one from another,  
 as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.  
 He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.  
 Then the king will say to those on his right,

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.  
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you  
from the foundation of the world.  
For I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
a stranger and you welcomed me,  
naked and you clothed me,  
ill and you cared for me,  
in prison and you visited me.’  
Then the righteous will answer him and say,  
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,  
or thirsty and give you drink?  
When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’  
And the king will say to them in reply,  
‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for the least  
of my brothers of mine, you did for me.’  
Then he will say to those on his left,  
‘Depart from me you accursed,  
into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.  
For I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,  
naked and you gave me no clothing,  
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’  
Then they will answer and say,  
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty  
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison  
and not minister to your needs?’  
He will answer them, ‘Amen I say to you,  
what you did not do for one of these least ones,  
you did not do for me.’  
And these will go off to eternal punishment,  
but the righteous to eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G5****Jesus gave a loud cry and  
breathed his last.**

Long version: Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6  
(1016-5)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

At noon the darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon.

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated,  
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
"Look, he is calling Elijah."

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,  
and gave it to him to drink, saying,  
"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him  
saw how he breathed his last he said,  
"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

When the sabbath was over,

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome  
brought spices so that they might go and anoint him.

Very early when the sun had risen,  
on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.

They were saying to one another,  
"Who will roll back the stone for us  
from the entrance of the tomb?"

When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been  
rolled back; it was very large.

On entering the tomb they saw a young man  
sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,  
and they were utterly amazed.

He said to them, "Do not be amazed!

You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.

He has been raised; he is not here.  
Behold the place where they laid him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G6

Short version: Mark 15:33-39  
(1016-5)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

At noon the darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon.

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated,  
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
"Look, he is calling Elijah."

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,  
and gave it to him to drink, saying,  
"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him  
saw how he breathed his last he said,  
"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G7

Young man I tell you, arise!

Luke 7:11-17  
(1016-6)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,  
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.

As he drew near to the gate of the city,  
a man who had died was being carried out,  
the only son of his mother, and she was a widowed.





You must also be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G9** Today you will be with me in Paradise.

Luke 23:33, 39-43

(1016-8)

### **† A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull,  
they crucified Jesus and the criminals there,  
one on his right, the other on his left.

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,  
“Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us.”

The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply,

“Have you no fear of God, for you are subject  
to the same condemnation?

And indeed, we have been condemned justly,  
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,  
but this man has done nothing criminal.”

Then he said,

“Jesus remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

He replied to him,

“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G10** Father, into your hands I commend

Long version: Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52,-53, 24:1-6a

my spirit.

(1016-9)

### **† A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun.

Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;  
and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph  
who, though he was a member of the council, went to  
Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus.

After he had taken the Body down,  
he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in  
a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

At daybreak on the first day of the week  
the women took the spices they had prepared  
and went to the tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb;  
but when they entered,  
they did not find the Body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were puzzling over this, behold,  
two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.

They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.  
They said to them,

“Why do you seek the living one among the dead?  
He is not here, but he has been raised.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G11**

Short version: Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52,-53  
(1016-9)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun.  
Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;  
and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph  
who, though he was a member of the council, went to

Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus.  
After he had taken the Body down,  
he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in  
a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G12**            Was it not necessary that the Christ  
Long version: Luke 24:13-35    should suffer these things  
(1016-10)                            and enter into his glory?

† A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week,  
two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village  
called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they  
were conversing about all the things that had occurred.  
And it happened that while they were conversing and  
debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.  
He asked them,  
“What are you discussing as you walk along?”  
They stopped, looking downcast.  
One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,  
“Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know  
of the things that have taken place there in these days?”  
And he replied to them, “What sort of things?”  
They said to him,  
“The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,  
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God  
and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both  
handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him.  
But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;  
and besides all this,  
it is now the third day since this took place.  
Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:  
they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not

find his Body; they came back and reported that  
they had indeed seen a vision of angels  
who announced that he was alive.

Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found  
things just as the women had described,  
but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are!  
How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!  
Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things  
and enter into his glory?"

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him  
in all the Scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going,  
Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther.  
But they urged him, "Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."

So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke  
to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where  
they found gathered together the Eleven and  
those with them, who were saying,

"The Lord has truly been raised and appeared to Simon!"

Then the two recounted

what had taken place on the way and how

he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G13

Short version: Luke 24:13-16, 28-35  
(1016-10)

### † A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week,  
two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village  
called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they  
were conversing about all the things that had occurred.  
And it happened that while they were conversing and  
debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.  
As they approached the village to which they were going,  
Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther.  
But they urged him, "Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."  
So he went in to stay with them.  
And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.  
With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.  
Then they said to each other,  
"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke  
to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"  
So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where  
they found gathered together the Eleven and  
those with them, who were saying,  
"The Lord has truly been raised and appeared to Simon!"  
Then the two recounted  
what had taken place on the way and how  
he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G14**      Whoever hears my word and believes  
 John 5:24-29                      has passed from death to life.  
 (1016-11)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:

“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word  
 and believes in the one who sent me  
 has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,  
 but has passed from death to life.

Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here  
 when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,  
 and those who hear will live.

For just as the Father has life in himself,  
 so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself.

And he gave him power to exercise judgement,  
 because he is the Son of Man.

Do not be amazed at this,  
 because the hour is coming in which all who are in the  
 tombs will hear his voice and will come out,  
 those who have done good deeds to the resurrection of  
 life, but to those who have done wicked deeds  
 to the resurrection of condemnation.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G15**      Everyone who sees the Son and believes  
 John 6:37-40                      in him may have eternal life and  
 (1016-12)                      I shall raise him on the last day.

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to the crowds:

“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,  
 and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I  
 came down from heaven not to do my own will  
 but the will of the one who sent me.



This is the bread that came down from heaven.  
 Unlike your ancestors who are and still died,  
 whoever eats this bread will live forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G17** I am the resurrection and the life.

Long version: John 11:17-27  
 (1016-14)

### † A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus  
 had already been in the tomb for four days.  
 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.  
 Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary  
 to comfort them about their brother.  
 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,  
 she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.  
 Martha said to Jesus,  
 "Lord, if you had been here,  
 my brother would not have died.  
 But even now I know whatever you ask of God,  
 God will give you.  
 Jesus said to her,  
 "Your brother will rise."  
 Martha said to him,  
 "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day."  
 Jesus told her,  
 "I am the resurrection and the life;  
 whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,  
 and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.  
 Do you believe this?"  
 She said to him, "Yes, Lord.  
 I have come to believe that you are Christ, the Son of God,  
 the one who is coming into the World."

The Gospel of the Lord.



## G18

Short version: John 11:21-27  
(1016-14)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Martha said to Jesus,

“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.

But even now I know whatever you ask of God,  
God will give you.

Jesus said to her,

“Your brother will rise.”

Martha said to him,

“I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.”

Jesus told her,

“I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?”

She said to him, “Yes, Lord.

I have come to believe that you are Christ, the Son of God,  
the one who is coming into the Word.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G19

## Lazarus, come out!

John 11:32-45  
(1016-15)

† **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

When Mar came to where Jesus was and saw him,  
she fell at his feet and said to him,

“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.”

When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come  
with her weeping,

he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,

"Where have you laid him?"

They said to him, "Sir, come and see."

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."

But some of the said,

"Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man  
have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him,

"Lord, by now there will be a stench;  
he has been dead for four days."

Jesus said to her,

"Did I not tell you that if you believe  
you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus raised his eyes and said,

"Father, I thank you for hearing me.

I know that you always hear me;

but because of the crowd here I have said this,  
that they may believe you have sent me."

And when he had said this,

he cried out in a loud voice,

"Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out,

tied hand and foot with burial bands,  
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.

So Jesus said to the crowd,

"Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary

and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G20**                      If it dies, it produces much fruit.

Long version: John 12:23-28  
(1016-16)

### † A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life will lose it

and whoever hates his life in this world

will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

“I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?

‘Father, save me from this hour?’

But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.”

Then a voice came from heaven,

“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G21**

Short version: John 12:23-28  
(1016-16)

### † A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.



## G23

I wish that where I am  
they also may be with me.

John 17:24-26  
(1016-18)

† A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eye to heaven and said:

“Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.

I wish that where I am they may also be with me,

that they may see my glory that you gave me,

because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father, the world does not know you,

but I know you, and they know that you sent me.

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,

that the love with which you loved me

may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G24

And bowing his head  
he handed over his Spirit.

John 19:17-18, 25-39  
(1016-19)

† A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,

he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,

in Hebrew, Golgotha.

There they crucified him, and with him two others,

one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's

sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved,

he said to his mother, “Woman, behold your son.”

Then he said to the disciple,

“Behold, your mother.”

And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,

in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,  
Jesus said, "I thirst."

There was a vessel filled with common wine.  
So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop  
and put it up to his mouth.

When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished."  
And bowing his head, he handed over the Spirit.

Now since it was a preparation day,  
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross  
on the sabbath,  
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,  
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and  
they be taken down.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first  
and then the other one who was crucified with Jesus.

But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,  
they did not break his legs,  
but one soldier thrust a lance into his side,  
and immediately Blood and water flowed out.

An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;  
he knows that he is speaking the truth,  
so that you may also come to believe.

For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:  
*Not a bone of it will be broken.*

And again another passage says:  
*They will look upon him whom they have pierced.*

After this, Joseph of Arimathea,  
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,  
asked Pilate if he could remove the Body of Jesus.

And Pilate permitted it.

So he came and took his Body.

Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,  
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes  
weighing about one hundred pounds.

The Gospel of the Lord.

# GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

*You may use one of the following formulas, combine parts of several together, adapt the material below to your circumstances, or compose your own.*

*If you chose to write your own, those given here can serve as helpful models. The various intentions should express the congregation's prayerful concern not only for those gathered for the funeral, but also for others in particular need throughout the world.*

*Record your choices on the selection form using the page number and the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

## H1

**Priest:** "Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:"

**Deacon:** "In baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him (her) over the waters of death."

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** "Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him (her) into the halls of the heavenly banquet."

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** "Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son."

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** "Many people die by violence, war and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace."

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** "Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all those whose faith is known to you alone."

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

***For the mourners***

**Deacon:** “The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.”

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** “We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son’s coming.”

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

**Priest:** “Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom.”

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

**H2**

**Priest:** “God the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:”

**Deacon:** “For N. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he (she) may now be admitted to the company of the saints.”

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** “For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he (she) may be raised up on the last day.”

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** “For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.”

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*



**Deacon:** “For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.”

We pray to the Lord:

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

***For the mourners***

**Deacon:** “For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.”

We pray to the Lord:

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Deacon:** “For all us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together in God’s kingdom.”

We pray to the Lord:

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Priest:** “God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people: hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them the fullness of redemption.”

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

# HYMN SELECTIONS

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All creatures of Our God and King (Outside Lent)  
Alleluia Sing to Jesus  
Amazing Grace  
At the Lambs High Feast  
Ave Maria  
Be Not Afraid  
Blest Are They  
Center of My Life  
Christ the Lord is Risen today  
Christ be Our Light  
Eat this Bread  
Eternal Father, Strong to Save (for veterans)  
Eye Has Not Seen  
For All the Saints (outside Lent)  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
Go silent Friend  
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman  
Here I Am, Lord  
Hosea  
How Great Thou Art  
I am the Bread of Life  
I Have Loved You  
I Lift Up My Soul  
I Know that My Redeemer Lives (Soper)  
I Received the Living God  
Jerusalem My Happy Home  
Love Divine all Love Excelling  
Let There be Peace on Earth  
Loving and Forgiving

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory (Battle Hymn)  
(Veterans)  
O God our Help In Ages Past  
O God Beyond All Praising  
O Loving God (to the tune of Danny Boy)  
On Eagle's Wings  
One Bread, One Body  
Only in God  
Open My Eyes  
Panis Angelicus  
Prayer of St. Francis (Make me a channel of your peace)  
Precious Lord, Take My Hand  
Servant Song  
Shall We Gather at the River  
Shelter Me O God  
Shepherd Me, O God  
Sing with All the Saints in Glory  
The Supper of the Lord  
Take and Eat  
Taste and See  
The Lord Is My Shepherd  
The Strife is O'er (Outside Lent)  
We Remember  
Where Charity and Love Prevail  
Worthy is the Lamb  
You Are Near

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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**Frequently Asked Questions**  
**Word of Remembrance**  
**Cremation**  
**Reasons for Burying the Dead**  
**Symbols of Christian Burial**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

We know there are questions that will arise, so we included a few commonly asked questions here to aid you.

*What should we do first?*

Call the Funeral Home. They will help you in making the arrangements and will contact the Parish to schedule the Funeral Mass. Then, share this booklet with your family and read it in its entirety *before* making any decisions regarding the liturgy. Also, be sure to contact the priest or deacon so that you can talk with him about your loved one and the choices you have made in remembering him or her.

*How can family members be involved in the Funeral Mass?*

There are many ways to participate, from placing the pall on the casket at the beginning of Mass to

proclaiming Scripture and presenting the Gifts at the Offertory.

*Are we limited to Scripture choices presented in this booklet?*

This booklet provides Scriptures that are most often chosen; we ask you to choose from the ones within the booklet.

*Can we request secular music for the Mass?*

The Mass is really a time for liturgical music. Secular music may be more appropriately played at a wake or gathering after Mass.

*What about a eulogy or a personal remembrance at Mass?*

Please read the following page regarding spoken remembrance of the deceased.

*What does the Church teach about cremation?*

When cremation is chosen for a good reason, the full course of the Order of Christian Funerals should still be celebrated, including the Wake, the Funeral Liturgy, and the Committal. More information regarding cremation can be found on page 71.

## **Words of Remembrance**

A Guide for Speakers at the Funeral Liturgy

*Following the prayer after communion, a member or a friend of the family may speak in remembrance of the deceased.*

Catholics believe that at death "Life is changed, not ended." Death is a passage to a new and fuller life, and ultimately to resurrection and eternal union with God. The Church emphasizes life in the funeral liturgy. The resurrection is the theme and the readings, hymns, and prayers reflect the overall tone of expectant joy.

During the Catholic funeral, we gather to pray for the repose

of the soul of the one who has died, and to ask that God will strengthen and console family and friends. The priest is the principal presider of this sacred action between God and humanity, as we pray for the beloved departed and for ourselves. The Funeral Mass is offered in intercession for the deceased person because we believe that God hears our prayers for the forgiveness of the sins of our deceased loved ones. We know that we are not alone, but are supported by God's grace, by the community here on earth and by the communion of saints.

At the funeral, we derive strength from our Christian faith, which provides the true consolation we find in the resurrection of Jesus, our source of hope in times of sorrow. Our attention is centered on Jesus, who speaks to us through the Scriptures, and who comes to us in the Holy Eucharist in our time of grief.

For some non-Catholics, the funeral can primarily be a time for remembrance and celebration of a person's life. For Catholics, however, the intercession for the dead and the transition to eternal union with God are the central focus of the funeral liturgy. Nonetheless, sometimes people desire to have "Words of Remembrance," an option which is permitted by the revised *Order of Christian Funerals*. **A eulogy is not allowed at a Catholic Funeral.** "Words of Remembrance" are a short tribute to the faith life of the deceased loved one, offered by a family member or close personal friend, who knows the deceased well. In cases where the family would like to have "Words of Remembrance," a member of the family should contact the priest to discuss this idea and begin the planning process with him.

Here are few guidelines to follow:

- \* Only one person is allowed to offer words of remembrance.
- \* The spoken remembrance may not be more than five minutes in length.
- \* Prepare your remembrance in writing. One page of text generally represents a minute of speaking time.
- \* Remember that you are speaking to some people whom

you know well, and others that you have never met; therefore, refrain from using “inside jokes.”

- \* Use your own words. Speak from the heart.
- \* Always read your words of remembrance. This will help you to not lose your train of thought.
- \* You should arrive at the church 30 minutes before the

Should you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at (315)-942-4618.

## **Cremation in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia**

The traditional teaching of the Catholic Church with regard to the proper burial of the sacred remains of the deceased and the resurrection of the body on the last day requires periodic catechesis. This is especially so today with the ever-increasing number of Catholics choosing cremation.

While interment of the body remains the preference of the Church, after the manner of the burial of the Lord Jesus, the use of cremation is allowed according to the following norms. These norms promote the faith and practice of the Church with regard to the burial of a Christian. For the most part, these are already in force according to current liturgical law and the liturgical books. Thus, respect for the remains of the cremated body, as befits the dignity of a baptized person, is ensured. It is the duty of the pastor, with other priests and deacons, to communicate these norms to parishioners, bereavement ministers and funeral directors as part of a periodic catechesis on the reverent and proper burial of the dead.

## **Christian Symbols Used in the Funeral Mass**

**Blessed Holy Water:** Reminds us of the saving waters of baptism. Its use calls to mind the deceased's baptism and initiation into the community and the newness of life into which he or she is now called.

**The Pall:** A reminder of the baptismal garment of the deceased and a sign of Christian dignity, it is placed over the coffin. Christian symbols are to be used during the Mass; flags should not be used during the church service.

**Placing of Christian Symbols:** Family members may choose to place a Christian symbol on top of the casket during the Mass. A favorite cross, rosary, or prayer book of the deceased would be most appropriate.

**The Paschal Candle:** A sign of the light of Christ and the eternal life into which we are born and die with him. It represents Christ's saving presence in our midst and is a reminder that Christ is with the deceased, and with the worshiping community.



# SELECTION SHEET

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**Funeral Mass for** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presiding Priest** \_\_\_\_\_

**Church** \_\_\_\_\_

**Words of Remembrance:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Liturgy of the Word**

Reading I: pages 8-13 No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Read by:* \_\_\_\_\_

Reading II: pages 14-25 No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Read by:* \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Reading: pages 26-46 No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Read by the priest or deacon.*

General Intercessions: pages 47-49 No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Read by:* \_\_\_\_\_

## **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Presentation of the Gifts by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **Hymns: pages 51-52**

Entrance: \_\_\_\_\_

Offertory: \_\_\_\_\_

Communion: \_\_\_\_\_

Meditation: \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional: \_\_\_\_\_

*Eternal Rest Grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon Them.*

*May they rest in peace.*

*May the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace.*

*Amen*