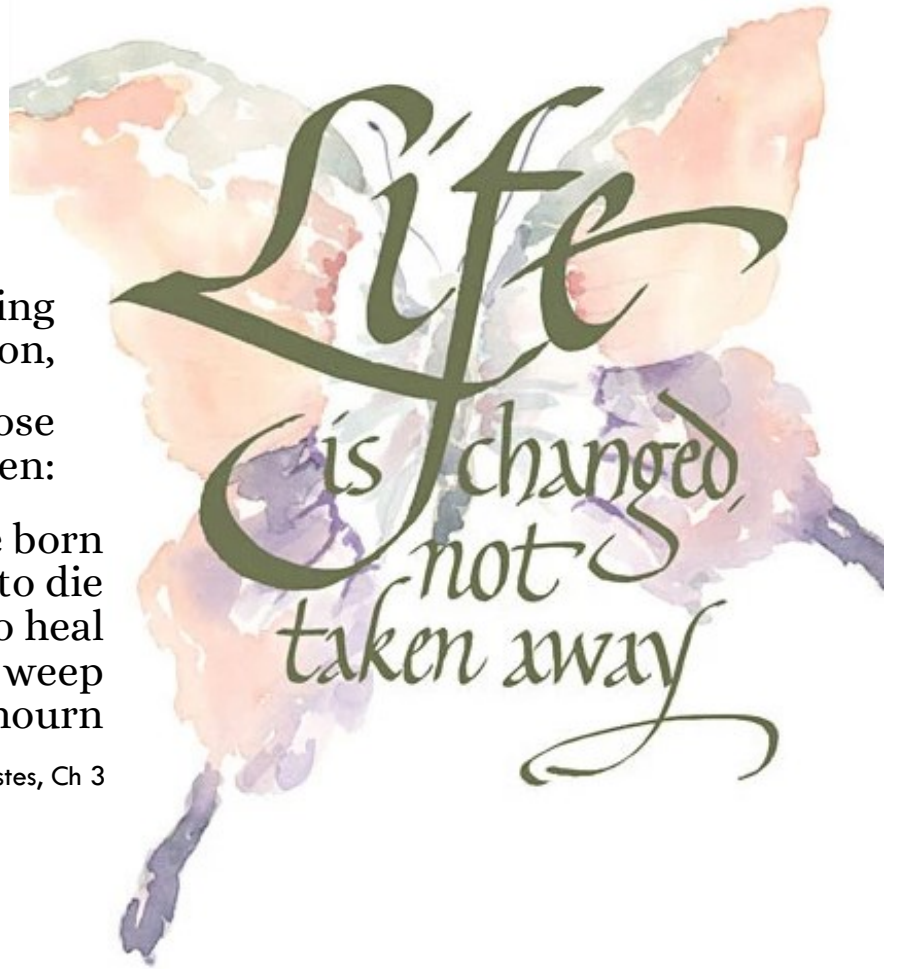


GUIDE FOR THE FUNERAL LITURGY

To everything
there is a season,
and a time to every purpose
under the heaven:

a time to be born
and a time to die
a time to heal
a time to weep
and a time to mourn

-Ecclesiastes, Ch 3



*With
Sympathy*

The Holy Rood Collaborative of Saint John the Evangelist, St. Margaret of Scotland and St. Mary Parish shares in your grief as you suffer the loss of a loved one. The prayers and support of the collaborative parishes are with you at this difficult time.

The Church's prayer in the Rite of Christian Burial focuses our attention on the mystery of the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the promise that we, too, and your loved one, are called to share in that gift of new and everlasting life. It is a time in which the Lord gives us comfort, healing, and peace.

In order to assist you in planning the Funeral Liturgy,
here are some thoughts and guidelines.



THE HOLY ROOD

COLLABORATIVE

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
115 MIDDLESEX STREET
NORTH CHELMSFORD, 01863

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND
374 STEVENS STREET
LOWELL, 01851

ST. MARY PARISH
25 NORTH ROAD
CHELMSFORD CENTER, 01824

PARISH OFFICES:

115 MIDDLESEX STREET
NORTH CHELMSFORD, MA 01863
(978) 256-2374

[REV. BRIAN MAHONEY](#), PASTOR | (978) 254-0560

[REV. FERNANDO AYALA](#), PAROCHIAL VICAR | (978) 401-9844

[REV. PATRICK O ALEMAYO, C.S.Sp.](#), PAROCHIAL VICAR | (978) 451-6767

Funeral Liturgy

The Funeral Liturgy is composed of the...

- Vigil, (usually the afternoon before the Funeral)
- The Funeral Mass or (Funeral Liturgy of the Word only)
- Commendation at the cemetery

The normal context for the Rite of Christian Burial or Funeral Liturgy is within a Mass. Every Catholic person has a right to the Funeral Liturgy by the fact that they are baptized. The Funeral Liturgy is the prayer of the Church, the people of God, for the person who has died. The proper place for this to take place is in the church building, where the community gathers for prayer. During Holy Days of Obligation and the Easter Triduum, only the Liturgy of the Word is celebrated. A regular Mass is not permitted during these times. ***If you feel that the Funeral Mass is not proper at this time, arrangements may also be made for the Funeral Liturgy without a Mass to be celebrated at the church.***

Family members are encouraged to play an active role in the Funeral Liturgy.
This includes

- choosing the Scripture Readings and music
- placing the Pall on the casket*
- bringing forward the Gifts of Bread and Wine

*The funeral pall is a white cover draped over the casket at the beginning of the Funeral Mass. The immediate family usually unfolds the pall over the casket after the casket is blessed by the priest. The pall reminds us of the white garment given to us at our Baptism. It symbolizes our new life in Christ.

Scripture Reading & Masses for the Dead



The Word of God brings hope and consolation.

You may choose one or two scripture readings for the Funeral Mass from the selections offered in this book. Traditionally, if two scripture readings are chosen, one is from the Old Testament and the other from the New Testament. If there is only one reading, it can be chosen from either the Old or New Testament.

Family members and friends are encouraged to proclaim the readings (*proclaiming the Readings is done slowly and carefully from the ambo*). If no one from the family is available to proclaim the Readings, then a parish lector will be assigned.

Universal Prayer

The Church encourages family members or friends to read the petitions of the prayers of the faithful, following the homily. Two examples of these petitions are included in this guide

Presentation of the Gifts

The Church encourages a family members or friends to bring forward the Gifts of Bread and Wine that will be used in the celebration of Mass.

Music

Music in worship affects our feelings and our prayers. Often it gives expression to our inner thoughts and feelings. Music is an integral part of the Funeral Liturgy. We sing the Liturgy. It is important that the music for the Funeral Liturgy be sacred and taken from the standard repertoire of the Church. Popular non-religious songs are not appropriate at this time. The best time to use other music is at the Funeral Home during the Wake service or at the grave site. You are asked to choose music which reflects our faith and hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

While such songs as *Danny Boy* and *Wind Beneath My Wings* are beautiful and remind us our loved one, they do not fit into the Funeral Mass. If you have any questions regarding the appropriateness of a song, please feel free to speak with the person that will be assisting you in the planning the Funeral Liturgy.

***Outside musicians are welcomed to assist in the liturgy.
However, the resident music ministry will lead all aspects of the Funeral liturgy.
The outside musician can sing or play a meditation song.
This needs the approval of the Director of Music.***

Words of Remembrance

The guidelines for a WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE are set forth by the Archdiocese of Boston.

“One speaker who is chosen by the family may offer not more than a five minute remembrance of the deceased at the Funeral Liturgy.”

The remarks should be typed out and focus on the person's faith life and how it influenced the family. Individual personal stories about the person are shared during the Wake service, at the burial place, or afterwards at a meal or collation. Note that the Words of Remembrance are not required, nor is it expected that a family member or family friend speak at the Funeral Liturgy. The Words of Remembrance at the Funeral Mass or Funeral Liturgy are an option .

Cremation

It has long been the tradition of the Church to pray the Funeral Liturgy in the presence of the body and to bury the body in a cemetery to await the day of resurrection. The body, regarded as the temple of the Holy Spirit and the vessel through which God gives us life, is to be afforded respect even in death.

It is possible to bring the cremated remains into the Church for the Funeral Liturgy. While cremation is permitted for various reasons, it is preferable to wait until after the Funeral Liturgy to have the body cremated.

Remembering your Loved One

There are a number of ways in which you can remember and honor your loved one:

- A Spiritual Bouquet is an enrollment given to the family for Masses to be celebrated in memory of the deceased person. The Spiritual Bouquets of the Archdiocese of Boston are directed by The Society of [Propagation of the Faith](#). The loved one's name is enrolled as a member of the Society and for 10 years, a daily Mass is celebrated in the Vatican Basilica, Rome.
- The Holy Rood Collaborative also has their own Spiritual Bouquet. A loved one can be enrolled into the [Spiritual Society](#) of either St. John the Evangelist, St. Margaret of Scotland or St. Mary. A Mass is celebrated once a month for the number of years, and in the particular parish in which your loved one is enrolled. This Mass is for ALL members enrolled in the Spiritual Society.
- The parishes of Saint Mary and Saint John the Evangelist have established a combined [Sanctuary Fund](#). If you wish to remember a loved one with a gift for the parish, this is the fund that will allow you to do so. Monetary gifts will be used to purchase sacred vessels, vestments and other sacred furnishings, which will enhance the Sacred Liturgy and beautify the worship space. If you are interested in making a gift, please contact Fr. Brian Mahoney, at fr.brian@theholyrood.org.
- A Monthly [Community Mass](#) is celebrated for all the deceased whose funerals were celebrated the previous month. At this Mass, they will be remembered by name. The invitation to the Mass will be sent to the family member/friend who was the key contact during the funeral planning.
- Each November, the Parish recalls the names of those whose funerals were celebrated in the previous 12 months (October 1-September 30 of current year). The family contact for the funeral planning will receive a letter from the parish inviting all to this [Mass of Remembrance](#).
 - Lastly, we offer a weekly remembrance in the form of a [Memorial Mass](#) [all churches], [Altar Flowers](#) [St. Mary], the [Lighting of Lamps](#) [all churches], and the ringing of [Steeple Bells](#) (St. Margaret). For details on these, or any of the aforementioned options, please visit www.theholyrood.org/remember-a-loved-one.

First Readings

**OLD TESTAMENT (OT) READINGS FOR OUTSIDE THE EASTER SEASON.
IF IN EASTER SEASON, PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 6.**

(OT-1) He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees: 12: 43-46

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 their sin.

(OT-2) I know that my vindicator lives.

A reading from the Book of Job: 19: 1, 23-27

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 what he will at last stand forth upon the dust; whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him; And from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

(OT-3) As sacrificial offerings He took them to Himself.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom 3: 1-9

The souls of the just are in the hand 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 is their hope full of immortality. Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them 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.

(OT-4) An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom 4: 7-15

The just man, though he dies 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 perverts 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.

(OT-5) He will destroy death forever.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah 25: 6a, 7-9

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 will be removed 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!"

(OT-6) It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the LORD.

A reading from the Book of Lamentations 3: 17-26

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.

(OT-7) Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel 12: 1-3

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 wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

(OT-8) There is time for everything under the heavens.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for everything under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far away from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. What advantage has the worker from his toil? I have considered the task that God has appointed for the sons of men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without man's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

(OT-9) Who shall find a valiant woman?

A reading from the Book of Proverbs 31: 10, 12, 15, 17-18, 20-21, 24-31

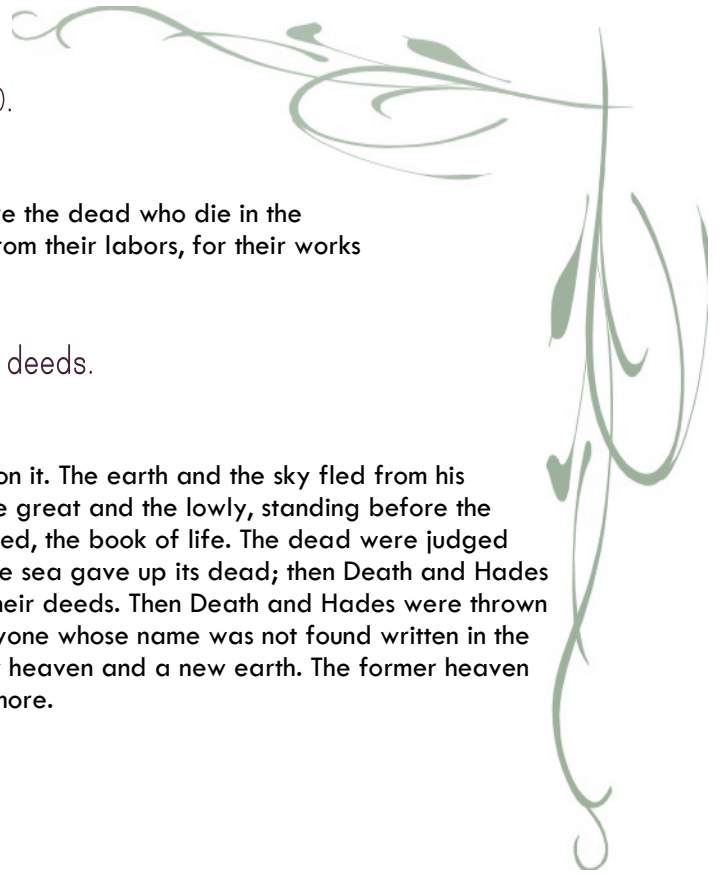
Who can find a woman of worth? Far beyond jewels is her value. She seeks out wool and flax and weaves with skillful hands. She rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household. She girds herself with strength; she exerts her arms with vigor. She enjoys profit from her dealings; her lamp is never extinguished at night. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. She is not concerned for her household when it snows—all her charges are doubly clothed. She makes garments and sells them, and stocks the merchants with belts. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom; kindly instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband, too, praises her: "Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates.

DURING THE EASTER SEASON, YOUR SELECTION OF THE FIRST READING MUST BE MADE FROM THE FOLLOWING FOUR (4) NEW TESTAMENT (NT) READINGS.

(NT Easter-1) He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 10: 34-43

Peter proceeded to speak, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with Him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."



(NT Easter-2) Blessed are the dead who die in the LORD.

A reading from the Book of Revelation 14:13

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

(NT Easter-3) The dead were judged according to their deeds.

A reading from the Book of Revelation 20:11-21:1

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

(NT Easter-4) There shall be no more death.

A reading from the Book of Revelation 21: 1-5a, 6b-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

Second Readings

(NT-1) Since we are now justified by His blood, we will be saved through Him from the wrath.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 5: 5-11

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 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 also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

(NT-2) Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 5: 17-21

Brothers and sisters: If, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(NT-3) We too might live in newness of life.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 6: 3-9

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. 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 with 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.

(NT-4) We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 8: 14-23

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 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 first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

(NT-5) What will separate us from the love of Christ?

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 8: 31b-35, 37-39

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? 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 things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor 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.

(NT-6) Whether we live or die, we are the LORD'S.

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 14: 7-9, 10c-12

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 judgment seat of God; for it is written: 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 of himself to God.

(NT-7) So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15: 20-28

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have 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 first fruits; 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.

(NT-8) Death is swallowed up in victory.

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15: 51-57

Brothers and sisters: Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all 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, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

(NT-9) What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 4:14-5:1

Brothers and sisters: Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction 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.

(NT-10) We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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 judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

(NT-11) He will change our lowly bodies to conform to His glory

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians 3: 20-21

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.

(NT-12) Thus we shall always be with the LORD.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 4: 13-18

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 not 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.

(NT-13) If we have died with Him we shall also live with Him.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy 2: 18-30

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.

(NT-14) We shall see Him as He is.

A reading from the First Letter of Saint John 3: 1-2

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.

(NT-15) We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.

A reading from the First Letter of Saint John 3: 12-16

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.

Funeral Flowers in the Church

The Church encourages the family to adorn the church's sanctuary with flowers from the funeral home and to leave some when Mass or Liturgy of the Word has concluded. The immediate family or "next of kin" will need to inform the Funeral Home whether to bring flowers into the church and to leave them or not. Parishioners will see those floral arrangements at the coming weekend Masses.

Funeral Flowers in the Church

DURING LENT

During the season of Lent, flowers are not allowed in the Church. We appreciate your respect for this tradition and ask that flowers be arranged in the entrance of the Church only during this season.

Non-Catholic Readers

The norm is during a Eucharistic celebration in the Catholic Church, the readings are to be proclaimed by a Catholic person. However, on exceptional occasions and for a just cause, . . . a member of another church or ecclesial community may take on the task of reader with the permission of the local Bishop. During the Funeral Liturgies, a non-Catholic person may read the Universal Prayers with the permission of the local Bishop.

Universal Prayers

Option (A)

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:

Reader: Please respond, "Hear our prayer" to the following petitions:

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: *R. Hear our prayer.*

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: *R. Hear our prayer.*

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: *R. Hear our prayer.*

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: *R. Hear our prayer.*

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, in your mercy: *R. Hear our prayer.*

The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that comes from grief. Lord, in your mercy: *R. Hear our prayer.*

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in expectation of your Son's coming. Lord, in your mercy: *R. 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. *R. Amen.*

Option (B)

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:

Reader: Please respond, "Lord, hear our prayer" to the following petitions:

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: *R. Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our sister/brother who ate the Body of Christ, the Bread of Life, that she/he may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord: *R. Lord, hear our prayer.*

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: *R. Lord, hear our prayer.*

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: *R. Lord, hear our prayer.*

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.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord. *R. 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. *R. Amen.*

Music: Gathering Songs

During Ordinary Time:

All Creatures of Our God and King	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/112/all-creatures-of-our-god-and-king
Amazing Grace	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/116/amazing-grace
Be Not Afraid	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/87859/be-not-afraid
Faith of our Fathers	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/171/faith-of-our-fathers
Here I Am, Lord	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1523/here-i-am-lord
I Know that My Redeemer Lives	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BV74-EqU0Cs
Joyful, Joyful We Adore You	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/50273/joyful-joyful-we-adore-you
Lift High the Cross	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/13014/lift-high-the-cross
Morning Has Broken	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/277/morning-has-broken
Prayer of St. Francis	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl1Gst7pEqc
We Gather Together	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/394/we-gather-together

During Advent:

O Come O Come Emmanuel	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/285/o-come-o-come-emmanuel
Beyond the Moon and Stars	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/66441/beyond-the-moon-and-stars

During Christmastime:

Angels We Have Heard on High	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/120/angels-we-have-heard-on-high
Away in a Manger	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/127/away-in-a-manger
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/204/hark-the-herald-angels-sing
Joy to the World	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/251/joy-to-the-world
O Come All Ye Faithful	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/68649/o-come-all-ye-faithful
Silent Night	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9T4WB2zfmps
What Child is This	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/399/what-child-is-this

During Eastertime:

12 Jesus Christ is Risen Today	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/246/jesus-christ-is-risen-today
--------------------------------	---

Music: Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23	The Lord is My Shepherd [Blakesley]
Psalm 23	Shepherd Me O God [Haugen]
Psalm 25	To You O Lord I Lift Up My Soul [Soper]
Psalm 25	To You O Lord I Lift Up My Soul [Hurd]
Psalm 27	The Lord Is My Light And My Salvation [Walker]
Psalm 34	Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord [Kendzia]
Psalm 51	Be Merciful O Lord [Agrisano]
Psalm 63	My Soul is Thirsting for You, O Lord, Thirsting for You, O God [Angrisano]
Psalm 91	Be With Me Lord [Haugen]
Psalm 103	The Lord is Kind and Merciful [Modlin]
Psalm 116	I Will Walk in the Presence of the Lord [Soper]
Psalm 122	I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say Let us Go To The House of the Lord [Hurd]
Psalm 138	On the Day I Called for Help [Cooney]
Psalm 166	Our Blessing Cup [Hurd]

Music: Preparation of the Altar

Age to Age	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=VqHRXkukdCI
Beyond the Moon & Stars	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=k2R7uMU8gHU
Center of My Life	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1493/center-of-my-life
Come Follow Me	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Xl2xeJwrTt0
Come To Me	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/661/come-to-me
Eye Has Not Seen	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jYgOQC82aU
Fly Like A Bird	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KreofGH4YMc
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1529/hail-mary-gentle-woman
Hosea	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/218/hosea
I The Lord	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gy-tSSSEoc
Loving and Forgiving	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Qo73k3yGX5Y
Lord of the Dance	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=xhs9ZNH9dHE
On Eagles Wings	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTPpMdZoiNU
Only This I Want	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1425/only-this-i-want
Parable	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=4zIB5LKMgHc
Prayer of St. Francis	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl1Gst7pEqc
Shelter Me, O God	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/333/shelter-me-o-god
The Summons	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/30338/the-summons
We Remember	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/395/we-remember
We Walk By Faith	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hk_7EUvwv8
You Are Near	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1413/you-are-near

During Lenten Season

Hosea	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/218/hosea
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/268/lord-who-throughout-these-forty-days
The Glory of These 40 Days	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/364/the-glory-of-these-forty-days

Music: Communion Songs

Bread of Angels	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iSqJ_8uFuo
Behold the Lamb	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4fHiL_j8Lg
Eat This Bread	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/590/eat-this-bread
Gift Of Finest Wheat	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/189/gift-of-finest-wheat
I Am the Bread of Life	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CRMbh8ViUI
One Bread, One Body	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/1398/one-bread-one-body
Our Blessing Cup	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cq0iWfxkUn8
Panis Angelicus	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OTg9kGfHvU&list=PL8FgGzPnX7TFd-j1v3uhLhF3W-Ax2XNAN&t=0s&index=7
Take and Eat	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6EJJRaK69U
Taste and See	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1R-OrDmF70

Music: Meditation

Ave Maria	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CaEPSAO2Uk
Irish Blessing	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/32155/irish-blessing-blessing-prayer
Jesus Remember Me	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=RGB2E0NzO2A
Lady of Knock	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=N7p1Hmc0RV0

Music: Procession to the Place of Rest

America The Beautiful	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/118/america-the-beautiful
Be Not Afraid	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/87859/be-not-afraid
Eternal Father- Navy Hymn	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/32147/eternal-father-strong-to-save
Go In Peace	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=UjDoILE7ILY
Holy God We Praise Thy Name	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/214/holy-god-we-praise-thy-name
How Can I Keep From Singing	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=5uc1smOOs7A
How Great Thou Art	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/220/how-great-thou-art
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (except during Lent)	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/246/jesus-christ-is-risen-today
Let There Be Peace on Earth	https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wRFNg-Eyt_0
Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/128/mine-eyes-have-seen-the-glory
Now Thank We All Our God	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/281/now-thank-we-all-our-god
On Eagles Wings	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTPpMdZoiNU
To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King	https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/6836/to-jesus-christ-our-sovereign-king