

The background of the entire page is a blurred stained glass window with various colors including yellow, purple, and white. In the foreground, there are several lit yellow candles on a wooden surface, casting a warm glow.

Saints Martha & Mary Parish Funeral Liturgy Planning Booklet

St. Catherine of Sweden Church, 2554 Wildwood Road, Allison Park, PA 15101 412-486-6001
St. Richard Church, 3841 Dickey Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044 724-444-1971

***Our Parish family extends our sympathy
in your time of grief.***

In the gospel of Saint John, we hear the story of the death of Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary and the dear friend of Jesus. When Jesus comes to comfort Martha and Mary, he assures Martha when he says “*I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who believes in me will never die.*” (John 11:25-26) Just as Jesus assured Martha, so he now assures us of this great promise.

We, the Clergy team, the pastoral staff, and parishioners offer you our prayerful support upon the death of your loved one. We want you to know that we are willing to help as you journey through this process of mourning and grief. We know that we cannot remove your pain, but we hope to assist you as you attempt to find God’s loving presence in the midst of your loss.

This booklet is prepared to assist you in the planning of the Mass of Christian Burial for your loved one. We encourage you to ask members of your family or family friends to proclaim the Scripture readings at Mass and offer the Prayers of the Faithful. There is the option of having three different individuals (one for the Old Testament reading, one for the New Testament reading and one for the Prayers of the Faithful.) However, the parish will gladly provide a lector, if you prefer. The priest celebrant will proclaim the gospel. The Director of Music Ministry and cantor will lead the music for the liturgy. One or two family members may present the gifts of bread and wine at the preparation of the gifts.

We understand that this is a difficult time and we do not want you to feel pressured to make any selections. *If this is the case, simply let us know and we will plan the liturgy.* We will be in touch with you to set up a meeting to review the packet and offer guidance to help with planning the liturgy. At that meeting, we will assist you in making your selections and answer any questions or concerns about the liturgy. We will mark your selections on the last page of the booklet and share them with the priest celebrating the funeral Mass.

THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by His death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death that bound humanity (*Order of Christian Funerals, 1*).

It is in this context that the Church proclaims this mystery as we celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial for our beloved deceased. For the Christian whose life of faith began at baptism and was nourished at the table of the Eucharist, it is appropriate to celebrate the Mass, where we make present Jesus Christ's own Passover from death to life. Through the celebration of the Mass, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased, because of its confident belief that in the reality of death, life is changed, not ended. Death does not break the bonds forged in life.

The funeral Mass is celebrated to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of all life. The Church through its funeral rites, especially the Mass of Christian burial, commends the deceased to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins. The celebration of the Christian funeral brings hope and consolation to the living. (*OCF, 5-7*).

As a parish family, we offer our prayers that the celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial will comfort you in your loss as you bid your earthly farewell to your loved one in the true hope of the resurrection.

Please note that eulogies are not part of the funeral liturgy at Mass. If there are any eulogies, arrangements should be made to deliver them at the funeral home or at the cemetery, or most preferably at the funeral luncheon where it affords all those present the opportunity to share memories of their loved ones.

LITURGICAL ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Sprinkling the casket with holy water — We first share in the Resurrection of the Lord through baptism. When the priest sprinkles holy water over the casket during the service, it should serve to recall that initial washing in baptism. In the rite of reception of the body at the church, its use calls to mind the deceased's baptism and initiation into the community of faith.

Placing of the pall — A funeral pall, reminding us of the garment given at baptism, and therefore symbolizing our life in Christ, is draped over the casket at the beginning of the liturgy. Traditionally, the pall is placed on the casket by the pall bearers or other family members.

Christian symbols — A Book of the Gospels may be placed on the casket as a sign that Christians live by the Word of God and that fidelity to that Word leads to eternal life. A Cross may also be placed on the casket as a reminder that a Christian is marked by the Sign of the Cross at Baptism and through Jesus' suffering on the cross is brought to the victory of His resurrection.

Paschal (Easter) candle — The Easter candle symbolizes the risen Christ and tells us He has conquered sin and death and now stands in our midst. This candle is placed before the casket as a reminder that the deceased, through his or her death, shares in that victory of Jesus over the powers of darkness.

Funeral Homily — The central message of the homily is the mystery of redemption based on the scriptural readings that have been chosen. While this is not meant to be a eulogy, the homilist will find it helpful to speak with you about the deceased's life so he can better integrate the chosen Scripture readings with the personality of the deceased.

Funeral Music — All of the music during the Mass of Christian burial must be sacred/liturgical. Songs that are nostalgic or secular are best for the funeral home or cemetery. Suggested hymns are listed in this funeral booklet for your review. If you would prefer that the Music minister make the selections, please inform us and he/she will be happy to do so. A cantor will lead the singing at the Mass.

Incense — Incense is used during the funeral liturgy as a sign of honor to the body of the deceased, which through baptism became a temple of the Holy Spirit. Incense is also used as a sign of the community's prayers for the deceased rising to the throne of God and as a sign of farewell.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

O.T. Reading 1

Job 19:1, 23-27a

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 behold him; And from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

O.T. Reading 2a – L.F. (LONG FORM)

Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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.

The word of the Lord.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

O.T. Reading 2b – S.F

(SHORT FORM)

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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 in the eyes of 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. 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.

O.T. Reading 3

Wisdom 4:7-15

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

O.T. Reading 4

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

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.

O.T. Reading 5

Lamentations 3:17-26

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

O.T. Reading 6

Daniel 12:1-3

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 our 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 in 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.

The word of the Lord.

O.T. Reading 7

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 1a - L.F. (LONG FORM)

Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said “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 Israelites 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.”

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 1b – S.F. (SHORT FORM)

Acts 10:34-36, 42-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

“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 Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 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.”

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 2

Romans 5:5-11

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

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 3

Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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.

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 4a – L. F. (LONG FORM)

Romans 6:3-9

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.

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.

The word of the Lord.

OR

N.T. Reading 4b –S. F. (SHORT FORM)

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 5

Romans 8:14-23

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 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.

N.T. Reading 6

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

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? 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, 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.

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 7

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

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 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.

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 8a – L. F. (LONG FORM)

I Corinthians 15:20-28

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 have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through a man.

For just as in Adam all die, so too 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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 8b – S. F. (SHORT FORM) I Corinthians 15:20-23

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

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 a 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 this coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 9

I Corinthians 15:51-57

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

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.

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 10

II Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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

Brothers and sisters:

We know 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.

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 11

II Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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 judgment 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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 12

Philippians 3:20-21

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.

N.T. Reading 13

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

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 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.

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 14

II Timothy 2:8-13

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.

N.T. Reading 15

I John 3:1-2

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 16

I John 3:14-16

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.

N.T. Reading 17

Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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."

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

N.T. Reading 18

Revelation 20:11-21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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.

The word of the Lord.

N.T. Reading 19

Revelation 21:1-5a; 6b-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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."

The word of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

OPTION A

Our Response is: **Lord, hear our prayer**

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, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For our brother/sister, (N)_____ who ate the Body of Christ, the bread of life that he/she may be raised up on the last day, let us pray to the Lord.

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, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face, let us pray to the Lord.

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, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

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

Lord, hear our prayer

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

OPTION B

Our Response is: **Lord, hear our prayer**

For (N)_____ who received the water of Baptism, that he/she may be cleansed of suffering and welcomed into the heavenly banquet of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For all of us, the family and friends of (N)_____, that we may find God's comfort in the midst of our pain and loss, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For all of those who bear the cross of pain in body, mind and spirit, that they may feel God's presence in their pain, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For those who care for the sick, that they may be strengthened by God in their ministry of service to the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

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

Lord, hear our prayer

For all of the faithful departed, especially our relatives and friends, that they may dwell in the house of the Lord forever, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

HYMN SELECTIONS

(Please choose 4 Hymns and the Music Minister will arrange the order)

Common Selections

Amazing Grace

Be Not Afraid

Center of My Life

Eye Has Not Seen

For All the Saints

Here I Am, Lord

How Great Thou Art

I Am the Bread of Life

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I Know that my Redeemer Lives

I Received the Living God

Jesus, Remember Me

Keep in Mind

Lord of All Hopefulness

God, Beyond All Praising

God, Our Help in Ages Past

On Eagle's Wings

Shall We Gather at the River

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

The Strife Is O'er

There Is a Longing

(additional selections on next page)

ADDITIONAL HYMN SELECTIONS

Abide With Me	In Every Age
All is Well with My Soul	Isaiah 49
Alleluia! Alleluia!	Jerusalem My Happy Home
As the Deer Longs	Lead Me Lord
Be Still and Know That I Am God	Like a Shepherd
Be Still My Soul	Only in God
Beautiful Savior	Only This I Want
Because the Lord Is My Shepherd	O God Our Help in ages Past
Beyond the Moon and Stars	O God, You Search Me
Bread of Life	O Loving God
Christ Be Our Light	O Sacrament Most Holy
Crown Him with Many Crowns	Prayer of St. Francis
Come, Follow Me	Shelter Me, O God
Come to Me	Shepherd Me, O God
Day is Done	Shepherd of Souls
Eternal Father, Strong to Save	Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling
Faith of Our Fathers	Soon and Very Soon
Fly Like a Bird	The Lord Is My Light
Healing River of the Spirit	This Alone
Hosea	Unless a Grain of Wheat
How can I Keep from Singing	We Are the Light of the World
How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place	We Walk by Faith
I Have Loved You	We Will Rise Again
Irish Blessing	What Wondrous Love Is This
In Christ Alone	You Are Near

SAINTS MARTHA & MARY PARISH
FAMILY PARTICIPATION FORM
MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Name of the Deceased _____

Date and Time of Funeral Liturgy _____

Church and Celebrant _____

If you have no particular choice for any section, please write NO PREFERENCE on the line and we will be happy to make the selection.

Will the Christian symbols of the Word of God and the Cross be placed on the casket?
 Yes No

Will family members/friends proclaim the Word of God and offer the prayers of the faithful? (*maximum 3 individuals*)
 Yes No

Proclaimed by:

Old Testament Reading Selection
O.T. Readings # 1 – 7: (pages 4-7) _____

New Testament Reading Selection
N.T. Readings # 1 – 19: (pages 8-18) _____

Prayers of the Faithful Selection
Option A or B: (pages 19-20) _____

Will family members/friends present the gifts of bread and wine? Yes No _____
(One OR two individuals may present the gifts)

Names _____

Please choose four hymns from the suggested selections (page 21-22)

Please note that eulogies are not part of the funeral liturgy at Mass. If there are any eulogies, arrangements should be made to deliver them at the funeral home or at the cemetery, or most preferably at the funeral luncheon where it affords all those present the opportunity to share memories of their loved ones.