

Funeral Song Selection

All Creatures of Our God and King
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Let the Holy Anthem Rise!
Alleluia, No. 1
Alleluia! Sing To Jesus
Alleluia, The Strife is O'er
Amazing Grace
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing
Ave Maria
Be Not Afraid
Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Crown Him With Many Crowns
Eye Has Not Seen
I Am the Bread of Life
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
In Paradisum
In the Day of the Lord
Jerusalem My Happy Home
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
Jesus Is Risen
Join in the Dance
Lord of All Hopefulness
Lord, When You Came To the Seashore
O Loving God
On Eagle's Wings
Psalms 16 – You Will Show Me the Path of Life
Psalms 23 – The Lord Is My Shepherd (Shepherd Me O God)
Psalms 25 - To You O Lord I Lift My Soul
Psalms 27 - The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation
Psalms 63 - My Soul Is Thirsting for the Living God
Shall We Gather At the River
Sing With All the Saints in Glory
Song of the Angels
Soon and Very Soon
To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
We Shall Rise Again
Worthy Is the Lamb – Manalo
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones
You Are Mine



Funeral Resource & Planning Booklet

*"I am the Resurrection
and the Life.
Whoever believes in Me
will never die."*

~ John 11:25

ST JUDE CHURCH

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*The people of St. Jude Parish
offer you our prayerful support
and deepest sympathy at this time of loss.*

*We wish to share with you our hope in the Lord Jesus
and the Life he has promised with those who believe.*

*As a Parish family, we constantly pray for our
beloved dead and the consolation of their loved ones.*

*If we can be of assistance to you now,
or in the future, please call upon us.*

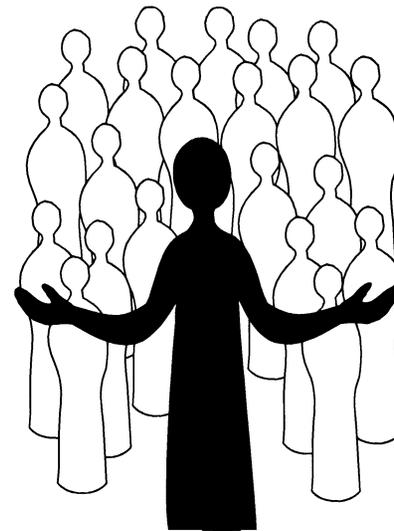
1 John 3:1-2

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.



2 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 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.

1 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.

INTRODUCTION

The Catholic funeral ritual is one of the Church's greatest gifts to its members. Church law holds that, by the virtue of their Baptism, every Catholic has a right to the Church's funeral rites and ordinarily is not to be denied this right. These rites gather together the family and friends of the deceased, members of the local parish community, the Church community scattered throughout this world, and all the angels and saints in the Kingdom of Heaven. These rites lead this vast assembly in praying for the eternal rest and glorification of the deceased and for healing and strength for the grieving. *In celebrating these rites the Church gives witness to its firm belief in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and Life Everlasting for all humanity.* The prayers, Scripture readings, gestures and structure are a part of the long tradition of the Church and are designed to affect the purpose of the rite. For those who have sought to live out their Catholic faith during their lifetime, knowing that these rites will be celebrated for them upon death, is a great comfort, especially as they approach death.

In its funeral rites the Church seeks to open wide its doors and arms to embrace deceased Catholics — saints and sinners alike. When appropriate, the Church is happy to celebrate these rites for those who are *baptized members* of other Christian churches or bodies.

Participation during these rites is encouraged by family and friends through song, word, and action, to the extent to which they feel comfortable. Some will be asked to serve as pallbearers. Members of the family are encouraged to place the white funeral pall on the casket - a gesture that recalls the deceased's Baptism. Family or friends may also serve as readers of the Scriptures, if this would not be an emotional burden. Two or three individuals may also present the bread and wine at the Mass.

This booklet is presented as a help to those who are invited to assist the parish staff in planning the funeral service. It is hoped that the priest presiding at the funeral will have an opportunity to meet with members of the family to gain some background history and an understanding of the deceased. This will enable him to shape an appropriate liturgy.

The Rite of Christian Burial has three distinct and important parts:

- * **The Vigil for the Deceased** (the Wake Service)
- * **The Funeral Liturgy** (the Mass or a Prayer Service);
- * **The Committal** (Burial or Entombment).

THE FUNERAL RITES OF THE CHURCH

THE VIGIL FOR THE DECEASED

Traditionally called the *Wake*, this Vigil is usually held at a funeral home and conducted by a member of the parish staff. It consists of prayers, Scripture reading, at times music, and words of encouragement for the mourners. These are generally arranged by the one who leads the service: the priest, deacon, or pastoral minister. **It is also here, rather than at the Funeral Mass**, that it is appropriate for a family member or a friend to offer some *words of remembrance* or a *eulogy*.

Occasionally, given the circumstances or needs of the family, there may not be a Vigil at a funeral home. Rather, the family may choose to receive guests for an hour or so, prior to the Funeral Mass in the Gathering Area of the church.

THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

This is the centerpiece of the Church's Funeral Rites. While the Church now permits Cremation and provides for the ashes to be brought to church, *it strongly urges that the cremation take place after the Funeral Mass*. The Church wishes to honor the sacredness of the Christian's bodily remains, acknowledging that it has been washed in Baptism, anointed with the Holy Spirit, nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ, and served as an instrument of God's presence in the world. We celebrate the life of the deceased in the whole context of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Of special importance in this liturgy are the readings from Sacred Scripture and the music. The church's funeral rite offers several appropriate readings. A selection of these are found in this booklet; choose one from each of the Old and New Testaments. The gospel is generally chosen by the priest who will preach.

Similarly, a list of appropriate hymns has been prepared by the parish music director and is found on the back page of this booklet. Generally three or four hymns are used during the Mass. Secular songs or recordings are not permitted in church. Both the readings and the music should be expressions of our Faith and a source of support and comfort for the mourners.

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brother 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.

1 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 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.

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.

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.

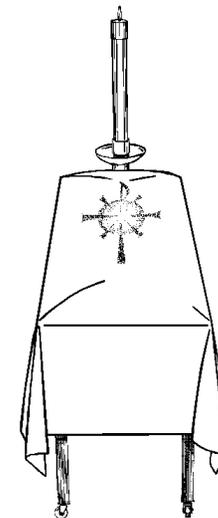
Arrangements for other instrumentalists, singers, or bagpipes should be worked out with the parish music director.

A Liturgy Planning Form is included for your use to guide you through your choices. Bring this with you when you meet with the priest or Parish Staff person.

THE COMMITTAL

Unless cremation is to follow, the Committal usually takes place immediately after the Funeral Mass or Service. The burial of a Catholic's remains in consecrated ground is a Tradition going back to the earliest days of Christianity. It is a mark of respect for the sacredness of the remains which have been a temple of God's grace and presence and now await the coming of Christ at the end of time. Catholic cemeteries are consecrated when they are established and graves in secular cemeteries are blessed at the committal service. Cremated remains are not to be kept in private homes or to be scattered on land, sea, or in the air.

Generally the presiding priest or a member of the parish staff will lead the Committal Service. The service itself is a simple and dignified act of bringing closure to one's life in this world and a prayer of comfort for the bereaved. When appropriate, military honors may be added.



SECOND READINGS (NEW TESTAMENT)

BEREAVEMENT MEAL

St. Jude Parish has a group of volunteers who will provide a simple meal after the services at one of the parish facilities. A suggested monetary donation or free-will offering would be appreciated. If you wish to use this service, please inform the funeral director who will then contact the Bereavement Hospitality Committee.



ADDITIONAL NOTES

Time and Place

Ordinarily the Funeral Mass is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. This allows for the possibility of a second funeral to follow at a reasonable time. Church law does not allow for funerals on Sunday or certain Holy Days. The Funeral Director will call the Parish Office to confirm the time.

When it is expected that the number of those attending the Funeral Mass will be fifty or less it is suggested that the Mass might be held in the chapel rather than the larger church. This allows a more intimate and comforting setting .

Mass Offerings and Memorials

Offerings for Masses for the Deceased given to the family may be brought to the Parish Office or to any church for the scheduling of Masses. Due to the overwhelming request for Masses, St. Jude Parish can only accept a limited number of Masses per family each year. For this reason, we can refer you to other parishes in the diocese or to the Missions where Mass stipends are greatly appreciated.

In the case when there have been a substantial number of contributions, you may wish to consider a more lasting memorial for your loved one. A Parish Staff member can assist you in choosing an appropriate memorial of some kind. We discourage the purchasing of memorial vestments simply because the parish already has so many.

Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from the 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.

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.

Proverbs 31:10, 14-22, 26-31

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy woman,
her value is far beyond pearls.

Like Merchant ships,
she secures her provisions from afar.

She rises while it is still night,
and distributes food to her household.

She picks out a field to purchase;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

She is girt about with strength,
and sturdy are her arms.

She enjoys the success of her dealings;
at night her lamp is undimmed.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.

She fears not the snow for her household;
all her charges are doubly clothed.

She makes her own coverlets,
fine linen and purple are her clothing.

She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.

She watches the conduct of her household,
and eats not her food in idleness.

Her children rise up and praise her;
her husband, too, extols her;

“Many are the women of proven worth,
but you have excelled them all.”

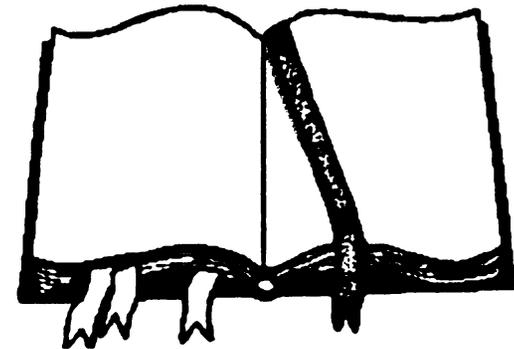
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised,

Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

The pages which follow offer some suggestions for Scripture readings to be used at the Funeral Mass or Service.

May reading them bring you comfort, and choosing them be a source of consolation.



FIRST READINGS (OLD TESTAMENT)

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 drachma, 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.

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 offering 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.

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.

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain of 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.