

MUSIC FOR THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

Music is integral to the funeral rites. It allows the community to express convictions and feelings that words alone may fail to convey. It has the power to console and uplift the mourners and to strengthen the unity of the assembly in faith and love. (OCF, paragraph 30)

Music should be provided for the vigil and funeral liturgy and, whenever possible, for the funeral processions and the rite of committal. (32)

The music for the celebration of the funeral rites should be **chosen with great care:**

- to express the paschal mystery (death and resurrection)
- to relate to the readings from Scripture
- to support, console, uplift the participants (32, 31)

Musical leadership should be provided:

- organist or other instrumentalist
- cantor
- choir when possible (33)

Every effort should be made by the various liturgical ministers to encourage the **active participation** of the family and of the entire assembly. (150)

The following “lists” are by no means exhaustive, and the numbers indicated are meant as a guide. The songs and hymns have been arranged by “topic.” The resources consulted were: 1) Gather (3rd Edition—GIA), 2) Worship (4th Edition—GIA), 3) JourneySongs (3rd Edition—OCP), 4) One in Faith (WLP). There are a great many good resources beyond these four. These should provide a good starting point.

LAMENT

By the Waters of Babylon (1)
God Remembers (1)
God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn (1, 2)
O God, Why Are You Silent? (1)
We Await with Wakeful Care (1)
When Painful Memories Haunt Each Day (2)
When Streets Resound with Cries of Grief (2)
Why Stand So Far Away (1)

PETITION/PRAYER

A Celtic Rune (1)
As a Chalice Cast of Gold (2)
Ask and You Shall Receive (4)
Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord (2)
Be Thou My Vision (3)
Christ Be beside Me (3)
Come, Lord Jesus (3)
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life (2, 3)
Eternal Father, Strong to Save (3, 4)
Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ (2)
For the Sake of Christ (3)
God Be in My Head (3)
Have Mercy, Lord (2)
Healing River of the Spirit (1)
Help Me, Lord (4)
Hold Us, Jesus (1)
How Long, O God (4)

How Shall We Name God? (1)
I Lift My Soul to You (1)
Increase Our Faith (1)
Jesus, Come! For We Invite You (2)
Jesus, Come to Us (3)
Jesus, Show Us How to Pray (2)
Lead Me, Guide Me (1, 2, 3, 4)
Lord of All Hopefulness (1, 3, 4)
Lord, Teach Us How to Pray (2)
Make Us Worthy (1)
O Lord, Hear My Prayer (1, 2)
O Lord, the Guardian of My Heart (1)
Open My Eyes (1, 3)
Open the Eyes of My Heart (4)
Sacred Silence (3)
St. Patrick's Breastplate (3)
Seek Ye First (1, 2, 3, 4)
Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit (2)
Song of St. Patrick (1)
Song over the Waters (1)
Stand by Me (3)
There Is a Longing (1, 3)
These Alone Are Enough (1, 3)
This Alone (3)
To You, O God, I Lift Up My Soul (3)
Turn My Heart, O God (1)
We Cannot Measure How You Heal (1, 2)
When My Soul Is Sore and Troubled (2)

COMFORT

Abide with Me (3, 4)
All Will Be Well (1, 4)
Be Not Afraid (1, 2, 3, 4)
Be Still and Know That I Am God—Christopher Walker, Steven C. Warner (3, 4)
Because the Lord Is My Shepherd (3)
Come, All You Blessed Ones (4)
Come to Me - John Bell, Michael Joncas, Gregory Norbet (1, 2, 3, 4)
Come to Me, O Weary Traveler (1, 2)
Come, You Sinners, Poor and Needy (2, 4)
Don't Be Afraid (1)
Eye Has Not Seen (1, 2)
Fly like a Bird (3)
Give Thanks for Life (4)
God Will Wipe the Tears (1)
Grant Them Eternal Rest (4)
How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (2)
I Have Been Anointed (1, 4)
I Heard the Voice of Jesus (1, 2, 3, 4)
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say—Ed Bolduc (4)
In Every Age (1, 3)
In the Arms of God (1)
In the Arms of the Shepherd (4)
Jesus, Lead the Way (1, 2)
Just a Closer Walk with Thee (4)
Like a Child Rests (3)

My Shepherd, You Supply [Will Supply] My Need (2, 3, 4)
My Soul Is Longing (4)
My Soul Is Thirsting (3, 4)
Nada Te Turbe/Nothing Can Trouble (1, 2)
O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life (2)
O God, You Are My God Alone (2)
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts (2)
O Lord, You Are My Shepherd (4)
On Eagle's Wings (1, 2, 3, 4)
Only You, O God (1)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (1, 2, 3, 4)
Quietly, Peacefully (1)
Rest Now in Me (1)
Shelter Me, O God (1, 3)
Shepherd of My Heart (1)
The Clouds' Veil (1)
The King of Love My Shepherd Is (1, 2, 3, 4)
The Living God My Shepherd Is (2)
The Lord Will Heal the Broken Heart (1)
There Is a Balm in Gilead (1, 2, 3, 4)
With a Shepherd's Care (1, 2)
With You by My Side (1)
You Are All I Want (1)
You Are Mine (1, 2)
You Are Near (1, 3, 4)
You Are the Light I Seek (4)
Your Hand, Though Hidden, Guides Us (2)

ETERNAL LIFE / HEAVEN

Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled (1)
I Will Be the Vine (1)
Jerusalem, My Happy Home (1, 2, 3, 4)
Jesus, Remember Me (1, 2, 4)
Martha, Mary, Waiting, Weeping (2)
Shall We Gather at the River (1, 2, 3)
Sing with All the Saints in Glory (1, 2, 3, 4)
Soon and Very Soon (4)
Steal Away to Jesus (1, 3)
Take Me Home (1)
The Kingdom of God (1, 2, 4)
There Are Many Rooms (1)
We Shall Rise Again (1)

FUNERAL

Celtic Song of Farewell (4)
Dwellers in the Holy City (1, 2)
Give Me Jesus (3)
Go in Peace (3)
God of Love (4)
How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place (3)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives—David Haas, Howard Hughes, Scott Soper (1, 2, 3, 4)
I, the Lord (3)
In Paradisum/May Choirs of Angels (1)
Jesus, Lord, Have Mercy (4)
Keep in Mind (1, 2, 3, 4)

Lord, Receive Your Servant (4)
May Holy Angels Lead You (1)
May the Angels (4)
May the Angels Be Your Guide (3)
May the Angels Lead You (4)
May the Angels Lead You into Paradise (1, 2)
O Lord, You Died That All Might Live (2)
O Loving God (3)
Parable (3)
Peace Be with Those (1)
Rest in Peace, Earth's Journey Ended (2)
Saints of God (2)
Song of Farewell—Michael Joncas, Ernest Sands, Grayson W. Brown, Mary B. Wittry (1, 3, 4)
The Hand of God Shall Hold You (1)
The Lord Is My Light—Christopher Walker (3)
There Is a Place (1, 2)
Yes, I Shall Arise (3)