

PREPARING TO CELEBRATE THE FUNERAL MASS

# THROUGH DEATH TO LIFE

THIRD EDITION

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# Liturgy of the Word

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## **About the Readings**

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### **Gospel Reading**

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## **About the Readings**

*In collaboration with the Priest or other parish minister assisting you, select one each from the choices for first reading, responsorial psalm, second reading, alleluia verse, and gospel reading. Choices can be recorded on the selection sheet (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using*

*the letter-number coding that appears on the left side of the heading for each reading. The number in parentheses is the lectionary number for that reading. It will be used by parish personnel to mark the lectionary for whoever will read during the Funeral Mass.*

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

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

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## First Reading



*Record your choice on the selection form (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

### ***Outside Easter Time: Old Testament***

#### **C1**

He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.

2 Maccabees 12:43–46

(1011-1)

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

Judas, the ruler of Israel,  
took up a collection among all his soldiers,  
amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,  
which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.  
In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,  
inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;  
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,  
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.  
But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward  
that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,  
it was a holy and pious thought.  
Thus he made atonement for the dead  
that they might be freed from this sin.

The word of the Lord.

## C2

I know that my Vindicator lives.

Job 19:1, 23–27a

(1011-2)

### A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:  
Oh, would that my words were written down!  
Would that they were inscribed in a record:  
That with an iron chisel and with lead  
they were cut in the rock forever!  
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,  
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;  
Whom I myself shall see:  
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;  
And from my flesh I shall see God;  
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

## C3

As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

Long version: Wisdom 3:1–9

(1011-3)

### A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the 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.

### C3

Short version: 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.

### C4

# An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

Wisdom 4:7–15

(1011-4)

## A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early,  
shall be at rest.  
For the age that is honorable comes not  
with the passing of time,  
nor can it be measured in terms of years.  
Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,  
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.  
He who pleased God was loved;  
he who lived among sinners was transported—  
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind  
or deceit beguile his soul;  
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right  
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.  
Having become perfect in a short while,  
he reached the fullness of a long career;  
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,  
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.  
But the people saw and did not understand,  
nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

## C5

# He will destroy death forever.

Isaiah 25:6a, 7–9

(1011-5)

## A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts  
will provide for all peoples.  
On this mountain he will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
The web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.  
The Lord GOD will wipe away

the tears from all faces;  
The reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:  
“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the LORD for whom we looked;  
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The word of the Lord.

## C6

It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of  
the LORD.

Lamentations 3:17–26  
(1011-6)

### A reading from the Book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace,  
I have forgotten what happiness is;  
I tell myself my future is lost,  
all that I hoped for from the LORD.  
The thought of my homeless poverty  
is wormwood and gall;  
Remembering it over and over  
leaves my soul downcast within me.  
But I will call this to mind,  
as my reason to have hope:

The favors of the LORD are not exhausted,  
his mercies are not spent;  
They are renewed each morning,  
so great is his faithfulness.  
My portion is the LORD, says my soul;  
therefore will I hope in him.  
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him,  
to the soul that seeks him;  
It is good to hope in silence  
for the saving help of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.



## C7

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

Daniel 12:1–3

(1011-7)

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

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned  
and heard this word of the Lord:  
At that time there shall arise  
Michael, the great prince,  
guardian of your people;  
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress  
since nations began until that time.  
At that time your people shall escape,  
everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep  
in the dust of the earth shall awake;  
Some shall live forever,  
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.  
But the 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.

### ***During Easter Time: New Testament***

*(Note: During the Easter season one of the following four readings is used as a first reading instead of a passage from the Old Testament.)*

## C8

He is the one appointed by God as judge of the  
living and the dead.

Long version:

Acts of the Apostles 10:34–43

(1012-1)

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

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.”

The word of the Lord.

## **C8**

Short version: Acts of the Apostles 10:34–36, 42–43

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

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.  
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.

## C9

**Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.**

Revelation 14:13

(1012-2)

### **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.

## C10

**The dead were judged according to their deeds.**

Revelation 20:11–21:1

(1012-3)

### **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.

## **C11**

### **There shall be no more death.**

Revelation 21:1–5a, 6b–7  
(1012–4)

#### **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,  
    or 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.

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# Responsorial Psalm



*Record your choice on the selection form (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

## D1

Psalm 23:1–3, 4, 5, 6  
(1013-1)

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

or:

**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

Beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake.

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

or:

**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

Even though I walk in the dark valley

I fear no evil; for you are at my side

With your rod and your staff

that give me courage.

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

or:

**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with**

**me.**

You spread the table before me  
in the sight of my foes;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

or:

**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me  
all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
for years to come.

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

or:

**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

## **D2**

25:6 and 7b, 17–18, 20–21  
(1013-2)

**To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

or:

**No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,  
and your kindness are from of old.  
In your kindness remember me,  
because of your goodness, O LORD.

**To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

or:

**No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.**

Relieve the troubles of my heart;  
and bring me out of my distress.  
Put an end to my affliction and my suffering;  
and take away all my sins.

**To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

or:

**No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.**

Preserve my life and rescue me;

let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.  
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,  
because I wait for you, O LORD.  
**To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**  
or:  
**No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.**

## D3

27:1, 4, 7 and 8b and 9a, 13-14  
(1013-3)

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

or:

**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life's refuge;  
of whom should I be afraid?

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

or:

**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

One thing I ask of the LORD;  
this I seek:

To dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,

That I may gaze on the loveliness of the LORD  
and contemplate his temple.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

or:

**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call;  
have pity on me, and answer me.

Your presence, O LORD, I seek.

Hide not your face from me.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

or:

**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD



in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.  
**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**  
or:  
**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

## **D4**

42:2, 3, 5cdef; 43:3, 4, 5  
(1013-4)

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

As the hind longs for the running waters,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

I went with the throng and led them in procession  
to the house of God.

Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,  
with the multitude keeping festival.

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

Send forth your light and your fidelity;  
they shall lead me on

And bring me to your holy mountain,  
to your dwelling-place.

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

Then will I go in to the altar of God,  
the God of my gladness and joy;

Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,  
O God, my God!

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

Why are you so downcast, O my soul?  
Why do you sigh within me?

Hope in God! For I shall again be thanking him,  
in the presence of my savior and my God.

**My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?**

## D5

63:2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9  
(1013–5)

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts  
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary  
to see your power and your glory,  
For your kindness is a greater good than life;  
my lips shall glorify you.

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus will I bless you while I live;  
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.  
As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,  
and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

You are my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.  
My soul clings fast to you;  
your right hand upholds me.

**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

## D6

103:8 and 10, 13–14, 15–16, 17–18  
(1013–6)

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

or:

**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,  
slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.  
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,  
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

or:

**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.  
For he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

or:

**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

Man's days are like those of grass;  
like a flower of the field he blooms;  
The wind sweeps over him and he is gone,  
and his place knows him no more.

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

or:

**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

But the kindness of the LORD is from eternity  
to eternity toward those who fear him,  
And his justice toward children's children  
among those who keep his covenant  
and remember to fulfill his precepts.

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

or:

**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

## **D7**

116:5, 6, 10–11, 15–16ac

(1013-7)

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

Gracious is the LORD and just;  
yes, our God is merciful.

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

The LORD keeps the little ones;  
I was brought low, and he saved me.

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

I believed, even when I said,  
    "I am greatly afflicted";  
I said in my alarm,  
    "No man is dependable."

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

Precious in the eyes of the LORD  
    is the death of his faithful ones.  
O LORD, I am your servant,  
    you have loosed my bonds.

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

## **D8**

122:1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

(1013-8)

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord.**

or:

**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

I rejoiced because they said to me,  
    "We will go up to the house of the LORD."  
And now we have set foot  
    within your gates, O Jerusalem.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord.**

or:

**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

To it the tribes go up,  
    the tribes of the LORD.  
According to the decree for Israel,  
    to give thanks to the name of the LORD.  
In it are set up judgment seats,  
    seats for the house of David.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord.**

or:

**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!  
May those who love you prosper!  
May peace be within your walls,  
prosperity in your buildings.  
**I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Because of my relatives and friends  
I will say, "Peace be within you!"  
Because of the house of the LORD, our God,  
I will pray for your good.  
**I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
**Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

## D9

130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8  
(1013-9)

**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**  
or:  
**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to my voice in supplication.  
**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**  
or:  
**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,  
LORD, who can stand?  
But with you is forgiveness,  
that you may be revered.  
**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**  
or:  
**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

I trust in the LORD;  
my soul trusts in his word.  
My soul waits for the LORD  
more than the sentinels wait for the dawn.  
**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**

or:

**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

More than the sentinels wait for the dawn,  
let Israel wait for the LORD,  
For with the LORD is kindness  
and with him is plenteous redemption.

**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**

or:

**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

And he will redeem Israel  
from all their iniquities.

**Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.**

or:

**I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.**

## **D10**

143:1-2, 5-6, 7ab, 8ab, 10  
(1013-10)

**O Lord, hear my prayer.**

O LORD, hear my prayer;  
hearken to my pleading in your faithfulness;  
in your justice answer me.  
And enter not into judgment with your servant,  
for before you no living man is just.

**O Lord, hear my prayer.**

I remember the days of old;  
I meditate on all your doings;  
the works of your hands I ponder.  
I stretch out my hands to you;  
my soul thirsts for you like parched land.

**O Lord, hear my prayer.**

Hasten to answer me, O LORD;  
for my spirit fails me.  
At dawn let me hear of your mercy,  
for in you I trust.

**O Lord, hear my prayer.**

Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God.  
May your good spirit guide me

on level ground.  
**O Lord, hear my prayer.**

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## Second Reading



*Record your choice on the selection form (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

### **E1**

Since we are now justified by his Blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath.

Romans 5:5–11  
(1014-1)

#### **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.

## E2

Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.

Romans 5:17–21  
(1014-2)

### 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.

## E3

We too might live in newness of life.

Long version: Romans 6:3–9

(1014-3)

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

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

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.

## **E3**

Short version: 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.

## E4

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

Romans 8:14–23

(1014-4)

### 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.

## E5

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Romans 8:31b–35, 37–39  
(1014-5)

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

Brothers and sisters:

    If God is for us, who can be against us?  
He did not spare his own Son  
    but handed him over for us all,  
    will he not also give us everything else along with him?  
Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?  
It is God who acquits us.  
Who will condemn?  
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.

**E6**

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

Romans 14:7–9, 10c–12  
(1014-6)

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

Brothers and sisters:

    No one lives for oneself,  
    and no one dies for oneself.  
For if we live, we live for the Lord,  
    and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.  
For this is why Christ died and came to life,  
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.  
Why then do you judge your brother?  
Or you, why do you look down on your brother?  
For we shall all stand before the 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.

## E7

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

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

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

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who 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 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.

## E7

Short version: 1 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 firstfruits 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 firstfruits;  
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

## E8

**Death is swallowed up in victory.**

1 Corinthians 15:51–57

(1014-8)

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

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery.

We shall not 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.

## E9

What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:14–5:1  
(1014-9)

### **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.

## **E10**

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

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6–10

(1014-10)

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

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

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

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

For we must all appear before the 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.

## **E11**

**He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.**

Philippians 3:20–21

(1014-11)

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

Brothers and sisters:

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



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

The word of the Lord.

## E12

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

(1014-12)

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

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,  
about those who have fallen asleep,  
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.  
For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,  
so too will God, through Jesus,  
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.  
Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,  
that we who are alive,  
who are left until the coming of the Lord,  
will surely 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.

## E13

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

2 Timothy 2:8–13

(1014-13)

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

Beloved:

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

David:

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

But the word of God is not chained.

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

This saying is trustworthy:

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

if we persevere  
we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him  
he will deny us.

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

The word of the Lord.

**E14**

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

1 John 3:1-2

(1014-14)

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

Beloved:

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

Yet so we are.

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

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

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

The word of the Lord.

## E15

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

1 John 3:14–16

(1014-15)

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

Beloved:

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

Whoever does not love remains in death.

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

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

The word of the Lord.

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# Gospel Reading



*Record your choice on the selection form (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

## G1

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

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

### ✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

He began to teach them, saying:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blessed are the peacemakers,

for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
    righteousness,  
    for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you  
    and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of  
    me.  
Rejoice and be glad,  
    for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G2

Come to me and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:25–30

(1016-2)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

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

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

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

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

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

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G3

# Behold the bridegroom! Come out to him!

Matthew 25:1–13

(1016-3)

## ✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

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

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,  
brought no oil with them,  
but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

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

At midnight, there was a cry,  
‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,  
‘Give us some of your oil,  
for our lamps are going out.’

But the wise ones replied,  
‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you.  
Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’

While they went off to buy it,  
the bridegroom came  
and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.  
Afterwards the other virgins came and said,  
‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’

But he said in reply,  
‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’

Therefore, stay awake,  
for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G4

Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Matthew 25:31–46

(1016-4)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,  
and all the angels with him,  
he will sit upon his glorious throne,  
and all the nations will be assembled before him.

And he will separate them one from another,  
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right,

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the  
world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food,

I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
a stranger and you welcomed me,  
naked and you clothed me,  
ill and you cared for me,  
in prison and you visited me.’

Then the righteous will answer him and say,

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,  
or thirsty and give you drink?

When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,  
or naked and clothe you?

When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’

And the king will say to them in reply,

‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did  
for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’

Then he will say to those on his left,

‘Depart from me, you accursed,  
into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food,

I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,  
naked and you gave me no clothing,  
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’

Then they will answer and say,

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty  
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,  
and not minister to your needs?’

He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you,

what you did not do for one of these least ones,  
you did not do for me.’

And these will go off to eternal punishment,  
but the righteous to eternal life.”

## G5

### Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

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

#### ✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon.  
And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
"*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*"  
which is translated,  
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"  
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
"Look, he is calling Elijah."  
One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,  
and gave it to him to drink, saying,  
"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."  
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.  
The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.  
When the centurion who stood facing him  
saw how he breathed his last he said,  
"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

When the sabbath was over,  
Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome  
bought spices so that they might go and anoint him.  
Very early when the sun had risen,  
on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.  
They were saying to one another,  
"Who will roll back the stone for us  
from the entrance to the tomb?"  
When they looked up,  
they saw that the stone had been rolled back;  
it was very large.  
On entering the tomb they saw a young man  
sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,  
and they were utterly amazed.  
He said to them, "Do not be amazed!  
You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.  
He has been raised; he is not here.



Behold the place where they laid him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G5

Short version: Mark 15:33–39

### ✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon.  
And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
“*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*”  
which is translated,  
“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”  
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
“Look, he is calling Elijah.”  
One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,  
and gave it to him to drink, saying,  
“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”  
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.  
The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.  
When the centurion who stood facing him  
saw how he breathed his last he said,  
“Truly this man was the Son of God!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G6

Young man, I tell you, arise!

Luke 7:11–17

(1016-6)

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

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,  
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.  
As he drew near to the gate of the city,  
a man who had died was being carried out,  
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.

A large crowd from the city was with her.  
When the Lord saw her,  
    he was moved with pity for her and said to her,  
    “Do not weep.”  
He stepped forward and touched the coffin;  
    at this the bearers halted,  
    and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!”  
The dead man sat up and began to speak,  
    and Jesus gave him to his mother.  
Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,  
    “A great prophet has arisen in our midst,”  
    and “God has visited his people.”  
This report about him spread through the whole of Judea  
    and in all the surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G7

### You also must be prepared.

Luke 12:35–40

(1016-7)

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

Jesus said to his disciples:  
    “Gird your loins and light your lamps  
    and be like servants who await their master’s return from a  
    wedding,  
    ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.  
Blessed are those servants  
    whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.  
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,  
    have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.  
And should he come in the second or third watch  
    and find them prepared in this way,  
    blessed are those servants.  
Be sure of this:  
    if the master of the house had known the hour  
    when the thief was coming,  
    he would not have let his house be broken into.  
You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,  
    the Son of Man will come.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G8

Today you will be with me in Paradise.

Luke 23:33, 39–43

(1016-8)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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

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

The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply,  
“Have you no fear of God,  
for you are subject to the same condemnation?  
And indeed, we have been condemned justly,  
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,  
but this man has done nothing criminal.”

Then he said,  
“Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”  
He replied to him,  
“Amen, I say to you,  
today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G9

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

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

(1016-9)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon

because of an eclipse of the sun.  
Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.  
Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;  
and when he had said this he breathed his last.

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

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

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

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

While they were puzzling over this, behold,  
two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.  
They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.  
They said to them,

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G9

Short version: Luke 23:44–46, 50, 52–53

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

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

Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.  
Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;  
and when he had said this he breathed his last.

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G10

Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer  
these things and enter into his glory?

Long version: Luke 24:13–35  
(1016-10)

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

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

they came back and reported  
 that they had indeed seen a vision of angels  
 who announced that he was alive.  
 Then some of those with us went to the tomb  
 and found things just as the women had described,  
 but him they did not see."  
 And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are!  
 How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!  
 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things  
 and enter into his glory?"  
 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
 Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him  
 in all the Scriptures.  
 As they approached the village to which they were going,  
 Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther.  
 But they urged him, "Stay with us,  
 for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."  
 So he went in to stay with them.  
 And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
 he took bread, said the blessing,  
 broke it, and gave it to them.  
 With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
 but he vanished from their sight.  
 Then they said to each other,  
 "Were not our hearts burning within us  
 while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to  
 us?"  
 So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem  
 where they found gathered together  
 the Eleven and those with them, who were saying,  
 "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!"  
 Then the two recounted  
 what had taken place on the way  
 and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the  
 bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G10

Short version: Luke 24:13–16, 28–35

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week,

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G11

Whoever hears my word and believes has passed  
from death to life.

John 5:24-29  
(1016-11)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:  
"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word  
and believes in the one who sent me  
has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,

but has passed from death to life.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here  
when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,  
and those who hear will live.  
For just as the Father has life in himself,  
so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself.  
And he gave him power to exercise judgment,  
because he is the Son of Man.  
Do not be amazed at this,  
because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs  
will hear his voice and will come out,  
those who have done good deeds  
to the resurrection of life,  
but those who have done wicked deeds  
to the resurrection of condemnation.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G12

Everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may  
have eternal life and I shall raise him on the last  
day.

John 6:37–40  
(1016–12)

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

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,  
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,  
because I came down from heaven not to do my own will  
but the will of the one who sent me.  
And this is the will of the one who sent me,  
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,  
but that I should raise it on the last day.  
For this is the will of my Father,  
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him  
may have eternal life,  
and I shall raise him on the last day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



## G13

Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and I will raise them up on the last day.

John 6:51–59

(1016-13)

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven;  
whoever eats this bread will live forever;  
and the bread that I will give is my Flesh  
for the life of the world.”

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,

“How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?”

Jesus said to them,

“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his Blood,  
you do not have life within you.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood  
has eternal life,  
and I will raise him on the last day.

For my Flesh is true food,  
and my Blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood  
remains in me and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so also the one who feeds on me  
will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,  
whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G14

I am the resurrection and the life.

Long version: John 11:17–27

(1016-14)

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G14**

Short version: John 11:21–27

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

Martha said to Jesus,  
    “Lord, if you had been here,  
    my brother would not have died.  
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,  
    God will give you.”  
Jesus said to her,

“Your brother will rise.”  
Martha said to him,  
“I know he will rise,  
in the resurrection on the last day.”  
Jesus told her,  
“I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.  
Do you believe this?”  
She said to him, “Yes, Lord.  
I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,  
the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G15

### Lazarus, come out!

John 11:32–45  
(1016-15)

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

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,  
she fell at his feet and said to him,  
“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.”  
When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her  
weeping,  
he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,  
“Where have you laid him?”  
They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”  
And Jesus wept.  
So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”  
But some of them said,  
“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man  
have done something so that this man would not have died?”  
  
So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.  
It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.  
Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”  
Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,  
“Lord, by now there will be a stench;  
he has been dead for four days.”  
Jesus said to her,

“Did I not tell you that if you believe  
you will see the glory of God?”  
So they took away the stone.  
And Jesus raised his eyes and said,  
“Father, I thank you for hearing me.  
I know that you always hear me;  
but because of the crowd here I have said this,  
that they may believe that you sent me.”  
And when he had said this,  
he cried out in a loud voice,  
“Lazarus, come out!”  
The dead man came out,  
tied hand and foot with burial bands,  
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.  
So Jesus said to the crowd,  
“Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of Jews who had come to Mary  
and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G16

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

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,  
it remains just a grain of wheat;  
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.  
Whoever loves his life will lose it,  
and whoever hates his life in this world  
will preserve it for eternal life.  
Whoever serves me must follow me,  
and where I am, there also will my servant be.  
The Father will honor whoever serves me.

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

'Father, save me from this hour'?  
But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.  
Father, glorify your name."  
Then a voice came from heaven,  
    "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G16

Short version: John 12:23–26

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

Jesus said to his disciples:  
    "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
    unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,  
    it remains just a grain of wheat;  
    but if it dies, it produces much fruit.  
Whoever loves his life will lose it,  
    and whoever hates his life in this world  
    will preserve it for eternal life.  
Whoever serves me must follow me,  
    and where I am, there also will my servant be.  
The Father will honor whoever serves me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G17

In my Father's house there are many dwellings.

John 14:1–6  
(1016–17)

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

Jesus said to his disciples:  
    "Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
You have faith in God; have faith also in me.  
In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.  
If there were not,

would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?  
And if I go and prepare a place for you,  
I will come back again and take you to myself,  
so that where I am you also may be.  
Where I am going you know the way.”  
Thomas said to him,  
“Master, we do not know where you are going;  
how can we know the way?”  
Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G18**

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

John 17:24–26  
(1016-18)

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

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:  
“Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.  
I wish that where I am they also may be with me,  
that they may see my glory that you gave me,  
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.  
Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,  
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.  
I made known to them your name and I will make it known,  
that the love with which you loved me  
may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G19**

**And bowing his head he handed over his Spirit.**

John 19:17–18, 25–39  
(1016-19)

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

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,  
he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,  
in Hebrew, Golgotha.

There they crucified him, and with him two others,  
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother  
and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,  
and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved,  
he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son."

Then he said to the disciple,  
"Behold, your mother."

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

After this, aware that everything was now finished,  
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,  
Jesus said, "I thirst."

There was a vessel filled with common wine.

So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop  
and put it up to his mouth.

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

Now since it was preparation day,  
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the  
sabbath,

for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,  
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken  
and they be taken down.

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

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

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

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

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

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

And Pilate permitted it.  
So he came and took his Body.  
Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,  
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes  
weighing about one hundred pounds.

The Gospel of the Lord.



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# General Intercessions



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

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

*Record your choices on the selection form (that you have downloaded and printed from [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com)) using the letter-number code on the left side of each heading.*

## **H1**

(OCF, 167-A)

*The Priest begins:*

**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:**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

## ***For a Religious***

*Assisting minister:*

**Our brother/sister N. spent his (her) life following Jesus, poor, chaste, and obedient. Count him (her) among all holy men and women who sing in your courts.**

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**R. Hear our prayer.**

## ***For a Bishop or Priest***

*Assisting minister:*

**Our brother N. shared in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, leading God's people in prayer and worship. Bring him into your presence where he will take his place in the heavenly liturgy.**

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**R. Hear our prayer.**

## ***For a Deacon***

*Assisting minister:*

**Our brother N. served God's people as a deacon of the Church. Prepare a place for him in the kingdom whose coming he proclaimed.**

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**R. Hear our prayer.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

## ***For the mourners***

*Assisting minister:*

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

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**R. Hear our prayer.**

*Assisting minister:*

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

**Lord, in your mercy:**

R. Hear our prayer.

*The Priest then concludes:*

**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.

## **H2**

(OCF, 167-B)

*The Priest begins:*

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

*Assisting minister:*

**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.

*Assisting minister:*

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

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

***For a deacon***

*Assisting minister:*

**For our brother N., who proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ and served the needs of the poor, that he may be welcomed into the sanctuary of heaven.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

## ***For a bishop or priest***

*Assisting minister:*

**For our brother N., who served the Church as a bishop/priest, that he may be given a place in the liturgy of heaven.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**

*Assisting minister:*

**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 mourners***

*Assisting minister:*

**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.**  
R. Lord, hear our prayer.

*Assisting minister:*

**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.

*The Priest then concludes:*

**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.**

### **H3**

(OCF, 401-2)

*The Priest begins:*

**My dear friends, let us join with one another in praying to God, not only for our departed brother/sister, but also for the Church, for peace in the world, and for ourselves.**

*Assisting minister:*

**That the bishops and priests of the Church, and all who preach the Gospel, may be given the strength to express in action the word they proclaim.**

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

**That those in public office may promote justice and peace.**

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

**That those who bear the cross of pain  
in mind or body may never feel forsaken by God.**

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

**That God may deliver the soul of his servant N. from  
punishment and from the powers of darkness.**

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

**That God in his mercy may blot out all his (her)  
offenses.**

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

**That God may establish him (her) in light and peace.**

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

**That God may call him (her) to happiness in the  
company of all the saints.**

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

**That God may welcome into his glory those of our  
family and friends who have departed this life.**

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

**That God may give a place in the kingdom of heaven to  
all the faithful departed.**

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

*The Priest then concludes:*

**O God,  
Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful,  
grant to the souls of your departed servants  
release from all their sins.  
Hear our prayers for those we love  
and give them the pardon they have always desired.**

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

## **H4**

(OCF, 401-4)

*The Priest begins:*

**Let us turn to Christ Jesus with confidence and faith in  
the power of his cross and resurrection:**

*Assisting minister:*

**Risen Lord, pattern of our life for ever:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

**Promise and image of what we shall be:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

**Son of God who came to destroy sin and death:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

**Word of God who delivered us from the fear of death:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

**Crucified Lord, forsaken in death, raised in glory:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord Jesus, gentle Shepherd who brings rest to our  
souls, give peace to N. for ever:**



**Lord, have mercy.**  
R. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord Jesus, you bless those who mourn and are in pain.  
Bless N.'s family and friends who gather around him  
(her) today:  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.**

## ***For a Baptized Child***

### **H5**

(OCF, 401-5)

*The Priest begins:*

**Jesus is the Son of God and the pattern for our own  
creation. His promise is that one day we shall truly be  
like him. With our hope founded on that promise, we  
pray:**

*Assisting minister:*

**That God will receive our praise and thanksgiving for  
the life of N.:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**  
R. Lord, have mercy.

**That God will bring to completion N.'s baptism into  
Christ:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**  
R. Lord, have mercy.

**That God will lead N. from death to life:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**  
R. Lord, have mercy.

**That all of us, N.'s family and friends, may be comforted  
in our grief:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, have mercy.

**That God will grant release to those who suffer:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, have mercy.

**That God will grant peace to all who have died in the  
faith of Christ:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, have mercy.

**That one day we may all share in the banquet of the  
Lord, praising God for victory over death:**

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, have mercy.

## ***For a Baptized Child***

### **H6**

(OCF, 401-6)

*The Priest begins:*

**The Lord Jesus is the lover of his people and our only  
sure hope. Let us ask him to deepen our faith and  
sustain us in this dark hour.**

*Assisting minister:*

**You became a little child for our sake, sharing our  
human life.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

**You grew in wisdom, age, and grace, and learned obedience through suffering.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

**You welcomed children, promising them your kingdom.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

**You comforted those who mourned the loss of children and friends.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

**You took upon yourself the suffering and death of us all.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

**You promised to raise up those who believe in you just as you were raised up in glory by the Father.**

**To you we pray:**

R. Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

*The Priest then concludes:*

**Lord God, you entrusted N. to our care  
and now you embrace him (her) in your love.  
Take N. into your keeping  
together with all children who have died.  
Comfort us, your sorrowing servants,  
who seek to do your will  
and to know your saving peace.**

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

R. Amen.

# ***For a Child***

## **H7**

(OCF, 401-7)

*The Priest begins:*

**Let us pray for N., his (her) family and friends, and for all God's people.**

*Assisting minister:*

**For N., child of God [and heir to the kingdom], that he (she) be held securely in God's loving embrace now and for all eternity.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For N.'s family, especially his (her) mother and father, [his (her) brother(s) and sister(s)], that they feel the healing power of Christ in the midst of their pain and grief.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For N.'s friends, those who played with him (her) and those who cared for him (her), that they may be consoled in their loss and strengthened in their love for one another.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For all parents who grieve over the death of their children, that they may be comforted in the knowledge that their children dwell with God.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For children who have died of hunger and disease, that these little ones be seated close to the Lord at his heavenly table.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For the whole Church, that we prepare worthily for the hour of our death, when God will call us by name to pass from this world to the next.**

**We pray to the Lord.**

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Priest then concludes:*

**Lord God,  
you entrusted N. to our care  
and now you embrace him (her) in your love.**

**Take N. into your keeping  
together with all children who have died.**

**Comfort us, your sorrowing servants,  
who seek to do your will  
and to know your saving peace.**

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

R. Amen.