

Grief&Hope

The Funeral Liturgy

Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Parish

“I THIRST FOR YOU.”

Church: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

Parish Office: 1062 Church St., Plymouth, MI 48170

734-453-0326



Mourn

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. — Matthew 5:4

The pastoral staff at *Our Lady of Good Counsel* would like to express our sincere sympathies to you and your family. Our Catholic faith teaches us, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, to mourn with great hope. Still, grieving the death of a loved one is a unique human experience that takes time and must be fully processed. We cannot fully understand the depth of your loss, but please know that you are not alone. We are here to help you prepare for the next few days leading up to the funeral liturgy, as well as support you as you mourn in the weeks and months ahead.

May God bless you and give you peace,

The Pastoral Staff at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

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Hope

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. — 1 Thessalonians 4:13

Mourn with Great Hope

From the moment of death to the moment of burial, the church enters into one continuous time of prayer. *“At the death of a Christian, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of its confident belief that death is not the end nor does it break the bonds forged in life.”* (Order of Christian Funeral, par.4)

We invite you and your family to join the Church in this time of prayer. Praying for the dead is rooted in the Old Testament and is considered “holy and pious” with powers to free the dead from their sins. We hope for you, the funeral liturgy will be comforting, as you remember your loved one and you pray for their eternal life with our Lord.

Please use this booklet to assist you in planning the funeral liturgy as well as give you resources to support your grief.

Planning the Funeral

Funeral Home: Before the formal prayers of the church are offered, you should meet with a funeral home of your choosing and arrange for **visitation hours**, usually at the funeral home. This is a time of preparation, of grieving, and expressing thoughts and feelings with family and close friends who have come to show their support for you and pay their respects to your loved one. Please communicate the visitation hours to the church so that a minister can lead you and your family in a **vigil prayer service**.

Church: You should also meet with a parish representative to begin planning the **funeral liturgy**. Funerals are held at 10:30am weekdays and Saturdays.

Luncheon: It is a common practice for the family to host a luncheon immediately after the funeral. This too can be coordinated with a parish representative.

Peace

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you. — John 14:27

The Catholic Funeral

There is a three-part celebration of the Order of Christian Funerals in which we honor and remember our loved ones whom the Lord has called home, as well as show reverence for their body and pray for the repose of their soul.

1. **The Vigil:** This is usually at the funeral home before or after visitation hours. A bereavement minister from OLCG will lead you and your family through a vigil prayer which will either be a Scripture reading or praying of the Rosary. During this beautiful and comforting ritual, memories will bring forth a flood of emotions that help with the process of mourning.
2. **The Funeral Liturgy:** This is the essential act of worship we offer the dead. During the funeral liturgy, the Church formally commends the deceased to God, offering the Lord's own Eucharistic Sacrifice on his or her behalf.
3. **The Rite of Committal:** The mourners accompany the body to the grave site, blessing the grave and praying in hopeful anticipation of the Resurrection in Christ.

Please note, the appropriate time for a eulogy is either at the funeral home before the funeral Mass or after the funeral Mass at the Rite of Committal.

Gathering before the Funeral

Our Lady of Good Counsel invites families to bring the body of their loved one to the church about 30 minutes before the funeral begins. This will give mourners time to pay their final respects before the funeral begins. The Funeral Director should know to bring the coffin to the Our Lady of Good Counsel Wall of Remembrance where it will be displayed and allow for a time of deep prayer. At the appropriate time, the celebrant will ask the families to place an inscribed cross on the wall, write the name of their loved one in the "Book of Life," and say a prayer of blessing. On the Feast of All Souls in November, the family will be invited back to the annual memorial Mass

Faith

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. — Romans 15:13

where the cross will be returned to them, a candle lighting will take place and a reception will follow Mass.

Preparation for the Funeral Liturgy

We encourage you and your family to participate in planning the liturgy. You and other family members have shared in the life of your loved one and will know the most appropriate Scripture readings and musical selections to make that will allow God to speak to you in a very personal way about the mystery of death and eternal life. The funeral liturgy allows for three readings. The first reading is from the Old Testament. The second reading and Gospel reading are from the New Testament. These readings can be found in this booklet. However, you could choose your own petitions as long as you review this first with your priest. Please consider what guest you would like for:

- † **Up to three readers** for the two readings and intercessions.
- † **Up to three Eucharistic ministers.**
- † **Between two-six people** for the offering of the gifts.

You will have the opportunity to cover the casket with the **funeral pall**. This is a large white cloth which represents the baptismal garment in which your loved one once “died” in the water of baptism to a new birth in Christ. It symbolizes the white garments the saints wear in heaven, gathered around the Lord. The unfolding of the funeral pall is traditionally done by up to four member of the immediate family. It can however be unfolded by the funeral director.

Date of funeral: _____

Funeral Liturgy Planning

Please prayerfully consider the funeral liturgy readings from the selections that begin on page 12. Music selections can be found on pages 11. People you choose should be Christians of deep faith. They should have a clear and audible voice and have prepared in advance. When you have completed this information, please go over this with a parish representative.

Name: _____

1st Reading (Old Testament): _____ Lector: _____

2nd Reading (New Testament): _____ Lector: _____

Gospel Reading: _____ (Priest or Deacon)

Intercession: 1. _____

Intercession Lector: _____

Placing of the funeral pall: 1. _____ 2. _____

*Eucharistic Ministers (Body): 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

*Eucharistic Ministers (Blood): 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Presentation of Gifts (2-6): 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

Music: Up to four hymns 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Choose one Psalm: _____

* Must be trained and active in their parish.

Funeral Luncheon: Yes: _____ No: _____

Discussed Musician/Cantor fees: _____

Please tear this page out and give to church representative. Please ask for a copy if you desire.

Name to be used in prayers: _____

Nickname _____

Age: _____ Spouse: _____ (Living _____ or Deceased _____)

Cause of death: _____

Children: _____

Grandchildren: _____

Surviving Siblings: _____

Please describe your loved one's faith:

Did your love one have a favorite prayer or bible verse? _____

Please tell us some things about your love one. Their occupation and employers, schooling, military service, interests, family life, favorite stories... Use space on the back of this page if necessary.

Love

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. — 1st John 4:7

About Cremation

The clear preference of the Catholic Church is for the burial of your loved one rather than having their remains cremated. However, the Church does permit cremation as long as certain guidelines are observed in order to preserve respect for the dignity of the body and belief in the integral resurrection of the body and soul.

- a) Cremation should take place after the funeral and must not express the denial of Church teachings.
- b) The remains should never be scattered or handled in an undignified manner and placed in a worthy vessel.
- c) Cremated remains should be buried or entombed in a cemetery grave.

Grieve

Amen, amen, I say to you. You will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy. — John 16:20

Words about Grief and Mourning

Simply stated, grief is your reaction to the death of your loved one. It consists of the internal thoughts and emotions you may have at any given time. Common emotions are guilt, anger and sadness. The grief reaction is very different for everyone — no two hearts ache in the same way. And despite what you may have been told, there are no stages to grief, meaning there is no “common path.” There is only your path.

Mourning is the outward expression of your internal grief. It is your proactive response. Mourning is not passive, rather it consists of the many ways you can express your grief. And in expressing your grief, you begin to heal. Your life will never be the same, but gradually, as you mourn the loss of your loved one, you begin to move forward into a new and different life.

Good Mourning Ministry is a Catholic bereavement apostolate that serves southeast Michigan and Ohio. Their “Grieving with Great Hope” healing workshops have helped thousands of people like yourself. We encourage you to visit their website and consider attending one of their upcoming programs.

www.goodmourningministry.net

734-259-9122



Pray

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be known to God. — Philippians 4:6

Other Considerations

Your funeral director will most likely help you plan many things including flower arrangements and writing the obituary for the newspaper. You will of course want to contact family members and close friends and consider the travel plans that may be needed. If you have an attorney who helped you with your will or trust, you should contact him or her as well. If your loved one was employed then their employer will need to be notified.

Be sure to locate and keep in a safe place other important documents, such as, Life Insurance Plans and the Death Certificate (you may need to request several copies). At some point you may need to apply for Social Security benefits. The phone number to the Livonia office is 1-800-772-1213 or the national website is www.ssa.gov.

First Reading Options
(Please choose one and note on page seven.)

A-1 A reading from the Second Book of Maccabees

12:43-46

Judas, the ruler of Israel, took up a collection among 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 be useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did 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 sin.

The word of the Lord.

A-2 A reading from the Book of Wisdom

3:1-6,9

The souls of the just are in the hands 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 at 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.
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.

A-3 A reading from the Book of Wisdom

4:7-15

The just, though they 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,
 and an unsullied life, the attachment of old age.
Those who please God were loved;
 they who lived among sinners were transported
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert their mind
 or deceit beguile their soul;
For the witchery of the paltry things obscures what is right
 and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.
Having become perfect in short while,
 they reached the fullness of a long career;
 for their souls were pleasing to the Lord,
 therefore he sped them 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.

A-4 A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

25:6a, 7-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts,
 will provide 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 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 this 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.

A-5 A reading from the Book of Lamentations

3:17-26

My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the Lord.
The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind,
as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in him.
Good is the Lord to one who waits from 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.

A-6 A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

3:1-11

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for everything under the heavens.
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down and a time to build.
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.
A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

What gain has the worker from his toil?
I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with.
He has made everything beautiful in its time' also he has put eternity into man's mind, yest so that
he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

The word of the Lord.

First Reading ~ Easter Season

AA-1 A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:34-36,42-43

Peter proceeded to speak, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is the 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.

AA-2 A reading from the Book of Revelation

14:13

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 rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The word of the Lord.

First Reading ~ Easter Season continued

AA-3 A reading from the Book of Revelation

21:1-5a, 6b-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and new earth. The former heaven and former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I saw a 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 away every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the order has passed away."

The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and 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.

Second Reading Options
(Please choose one and note on page seven.)

B-1 A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

5:5-11

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will 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.

B-2 A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

6:3-4, 8-9

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death by the glory of the father, so that 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.

B-3 A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

8:14-23

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, "Father!" The spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may be glorified with him. I consider 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 the labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves who have the fruits of the spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

B-4 A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

8:1b-35, 37-39

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own son, but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ 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 peril, or the sword? No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loves us.

For I am convinced that neither death, or 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

B-5 A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

15: 51-57

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed. In an instant, in a 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 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 victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord

B-6 A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

14:7-9, 10c-12

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me,
And every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The word of the Lord

B-7 A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

4:6-8

Beloved:

I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on the day, and not only to me, but for all who have longed for his appearance.

The word of the Lord

B-8 A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

4:14-5:1

Brothers and Sisters:

Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us all with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything is indeed 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 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

B-9 A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

5:1, 6-10

Brothers and Sisters:

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.

We are always courageous, although we know 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 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

B-10 A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want to be unaware, brother 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 command, with the voice of an archangel and 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

B-11 A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy 2:8-13

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 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.

If we deny him, He will deny us.

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

The word of the Lord

B-12 A reading from the first letter of Saint John 3:1-2

Beloved;

See what 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 that when it is revealed, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord

C-3 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: “When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, 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 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 these least brothers (and sisters) of mine, you did for me.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

C-4 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

7:11-17

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; as this the bearers halted, and he said, “Young man, I tell you arise.” And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him 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 the all surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C-5 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

24:13-16, 28-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus, even miles from Jerusalem, and they were conversing about all the things that has 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 farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in and stayed 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 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 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.

C-6 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:37-40

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 of my Father, they 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.

C-7 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:51-59

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 gives us 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 will 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, 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.

C-8 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

11:21-27

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. 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.

C-9 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

12:23-269

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.

C-10 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

14:1-6

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 dwellings places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you there 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.

Intercession Options

The following options for intercessions are offered for adults who are baptized Catholics. However, you may choose to modify these or write your own, as long as your priest or deacon approves. Please contact the parish for alternative intercessions for children or youth, and for those who are not Catholic or have not been baptized. **Please choose one intercession option and note on page seven.**

D-1

PRIEST: God, the Almighty Father, raised Christ his son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, both living and dead.

READER: Our response is *“Lord hear our prayer.”*

READER: For _____ who in baptism was given the promise of eternal life, the he/she now be admitted into the company of God’s saints.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For _____’s family and friends, may they be consoled in their grief by Jesus who once wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For our deceased relatives and friends and all who have helped us, that they may have reward of their goodness.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For all who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For all us who are assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered again in God’s kingdom.

We pray to the Lord

PRIEST: God, our shelter and our strength, You listen in love to the cry of your people; hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them fullness of redemption.

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

D-2

PRIEST: Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears those who trust in the Lord, we join our prayers to His.

READER: Our response is *“Lord hear our prayer.”*

READER: In baptism _____ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death.
We pray to the Lord

READER: Our brother/sister was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.
We pray to the Lord

READER: Many friends and family members have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.
We pray to the Lord

READER: Many people die by violence, war, famine and disease each day. Show you mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love and gather them into the eternal Kingdom of peace.
We pray to the Lord

READER: Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to those whose faith is known to you alone.
We pray to the Lord

READER: The family and friends of _____ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel darkness and doubt that come from grief.
We pray to the Lord

READER: We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister _____ . Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son’s coming.
We pray to the Lord

PRIEST: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the voice of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the prayers of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who have fallen asleep in Christ, and grant them a place in the Kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

D-3

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

READER: Our response is *“Lord hear our prayer.”*

READER: That the bishops and priests of the Church, and all who preach the Gospel, may be given the strength of the Word of Life which they proclaim.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That those in public office may promote justice and peace.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That those who bear the cross of pain in mind and body may never feel forsaken by God.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That God may deliver the soul of His servant, _____ from the power of death.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That God in His mercy, may blot out all his/her offenses.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That God may establish _____ in light and peace.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That God may call his/her to happiness in the company of the saints.

We pray to the Lord

READER: That God may welcome into His Glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life and that God may give a place in the Kingdom for the faithful departed.

We pray to the Lord

PRIEST: O God, Creator and Redeemer, of all the faithful, grant your departed servant release from their offenses. Hear our prayers for those we love and give them the pardon they have always desired.

We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

D-4

PRIEST: Let us come to our loving Father, asking him to give eternal rest to the departed and comfort and hope to the living.

READER: Our response is ***“Lord hear our prayer.”***

READER: For those who lead us in our faith in Jesus resurrection, that they will find hope and peace in Gospel of Life and salvation.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For our bother/sister, _____, that he/she may receive the happiness of eternal life.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For those who mourn this loss, especially, _____, and _____, that their grief may be lightened by the risen Christ and His promise to unite us again in our heavenly home.

We pray to the Lord

READER: For the grace of a well-prepared death, that when God calls us to new life, we will be ready with the lamp of faith to guide us.

We pray to the Lord.

READER: For the forgiveness of sins, that our prayers and this reconciling sacrifice of the Mass will bring _____ and all the departed to the fullness of God’s glory.

We pray to the Lord

PRIEST: God of our salvation, you reward the just and console those who mourn. Hear our prayers for those who have gone before us and those who grieve their death.

We ask this in the name of our Risen Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Suggested Hymns & Liturgical Music for Funeral & Memorial Masses

While there are opportunities to play recorded and/or secular (or non-liturgical) music at funeral rites (the wake, the internment, or the reception, for instance), the Mass, however, is not such an opportunity. Similarly, we are unable to accommodate requests for non-liturgical musical works (again, for the wake). Thank you for understanding the traditions of the Church and of our parish.

Please make a single selection from under each heading. Hymnal numbers are provided in parentheses, in case you want to look any up to make sure you are thinking of the right song, or if you want to prepare a program for your guests (please do not feel obligated to do so—most do not). If there is something in the hymnal that you would like that is not listed here—for example, more contemporary music (e.g. 10,000 Reasons, Oceans, etc.)—we would be happy to try to accommodate you; please do ask! (We may need an additional fee to have someone project lyrics.)

Thank you, and may God bless you & your family as you attend to this important corporal work of mercy!

Processional Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King (607)
Amazing Grace (650)
Be Not Afraid (680)
For All the Saints (Ralph Vaughan Williams) (891)
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (707)
Lord of All Hopefulness (686)
On Eagles' Wings (690)
The King of Love, My Shepherd Is (712)

Responsorial Psalm (Please see Section D of Through Death To Life)

Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd
Psalm 25: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul
Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation
Psalm 63: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Psalm 103: The Lord is kind and merciful
Psalm 116: I will walk in the presence of the Lord
Psalm 122: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Hymn for the Preparation of the Gifts

Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)
Ave Maria (Schubert)
Amazing Grace (650)
Be Not Afraid (680)
Be Thou My Vision*
Blest Are They (721)

Hymn for the Preparation of the Gifts (Cont.)

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman*
Here I Am, Lord (783)
The King of Love, My Shepherd Is (712)
Lord, You Have Come / Pescador de Hombres (760)
Prayer of St. Francis (Make Me a Channel of Your Peace)*
You Are Mine (704)

Communion Hymn

Blest Are They (721)
Eat This Bread (943)
Gift of Finest Wheat (939)
Here I Am, Lord (783)
I Am the Bread of Life (950)
Panis Angelicus (C. Franck)*
Panis Angelicus (Lambillotte)*
Pie Jesu (Fauré)*
Pie Jesu (Lloyd Webber)*
Taste and See (Moore) (945)

Recessional Hymn

Be Not Afraid (680)
For all the Saints (Ralph Vaughan Williams) (891)
How Great Thou Art (578)
Jesus, Remember Me (Taize / Berthier) (869)
May Choirs of Angels (*In paradisum*) Can be sung to chant
(English or Latin) or modern classical
O God, Our Help in Ages Past (689)
On Eagles' Wings (Joncas) (690)
Sing With All the Saints in Glory (526)
The Strife Is O'er (511)

* *not in hymnal but can be requested*

