

Our Lady of Consolation Parish

A Legacy of Commitment to God's Family

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**Guidelines for Family Participation
in the Order of Christian Funerals**
*Approved Scripture Readings and Texts
of the Roman Catholic Church*

THE FUNERAL LITURGY



Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of the entire Our Lady of Consolation Parish Family, we would like to extend to you our heartfelt prayers and condolences during this time of grief and loss. May the hope of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, Our Lord, and the knowledge that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time, ease your hearts and give you strength.

Death for Christians is a time of fulfillment. The victory over sin and destruction which was won for us by Christ becomes reality for a member of His body. Born again of water and the Spirit, Christians share in this triumph by their share in the sacramental life of the community of believers, the Church.

In the Funeral liturgy, we as Christians gather to celebrate the promises made in to us in Baptism, and pray for our loved ones for whom those promises are nearing fulfillment.

It is appropriate and indeed encouraged that members of the family or friends of the deceased participate in the ministries of the liturgy in order to witness our faith in the midst of the assembly.

*In Christ's Peace,
Fr. O'Neill*

OUTLINE OF THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting
Sprinkling with Holy Water
Placing of the Pall (optional)
Entrance Procession
Placing of Crucifix or Book of Gospels (optional)
Collect (Opening Prayer)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading
Responsorial Psalm
2nd Reading
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel
Homily
General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn
Offertory (Presentation of Gifts)
Prayer Over the Offerings
Preface
Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)
Memorial Acclamation
Doxology

RITE OF COMMUNION

The Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)
Communion Hymn
Meditation Hymn (Optional)
Prayer After Communion

FINAL COMMENDATION

Invitation to Prayer
Song of Farewell
Prayer of Commendation
Recessional Hymn

PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL

PARTICIPATION IN MINISTRY



The Church encourages participation in the various ministries of the Funeral liturgy by members of the family and/or friends of the deceased. Some of the ways for the family and friends to take part in the various ministries during the Funeral liturgy are outlined below.

- **The Funeral Pall**

The funeral pall is a reminder of the white garment at Baptism signifying life in Christ. The pall is placed over the casket after entering the church. This may be done by family members/friends or by the funeral director, if you so desire.

- **Scripture Readings**

Family members or friends may select the readings from the Sacred Scriptures for the Funeral liturgy. Family members/friends may also be chosen to proclaim the Scripture readings. If the family chooses to participate in this way, the Readers must be Catholic and be familiar with the readings they are proclaiming. In selecting the readings, one Old Testament reading should be chosen as the first reading and one the New Testament as the second reading. During the Easter season, special New Testament readings are to be used for the first reading. A full list of the approved reading for the Funeral liturgy is provided below. Readers may sit with their families in the congregation and approach the Ambo (Pulpit) during the Liturgy of the Word. After the proclamation of the readings, the Reader may return to his/her place.

- **The First Reading**

After the Collect (Opening Prayer) is concluded by the Priest and everyone is seated, the Reader proclaiming the first reading from the Old Testament bows to the Altar upon entering the Sanctuary from his/her place in the congregation. The Reader then approaches the Ambo (Pulpit) to the left of the Altar and proclaims the reading. He or she then returns in the same manner by first bowing to the Altar and then returning to the pew.

- **The Responsorial Psalm**

The Responsorial Psalm follows the first reading and is led by the Cantor at the Mass. The Responsorial Psalm is always sung in liturgies with music.

- **The Second Reading**

The person chosen to proclaim the second reading from the New Testament approaches the Ambo in the same manner described for the Reader of the first reading. The second reading is proclaimed after the Responsorial Psalm.

- **General Intercessions (Prayer of the Faithful)**

A family member or friend may be chosen to read the petitions. Two forms are provided below.

- **Offertory Procession**

Family members or friends may also participate in presenting the gifts of bread and wine. Usually, two or three people may be designated to carry the gifts to the celebrant standing before the Altar.

- **Music**

Music is the expression of the praying community and a primary means of participating in the Funeral liturgy. Please discuss any choices or suggestions the family may have with our Music Director, Janeen Walker (Walkfam18@gmail.com). Please keep in mind that only liturgical music may be used during the Funeral Liturgy. A suggested list of hymns is provided.

- **Eulogy/Words of Remembrance**

Words of Remembrance or a Eulogy may be done during the Mass after the Prayer After Communion. A Eulogy may be no longer than 5 minutes and should speak to the faith of the deceased. If possible, it is suggested that a copy of the Words of Remembrance to be done during Mass be [emailed](#) or dropped off to the Rectory at least one day in advance before the Funeral. However, it is suggested that the Words of Remembrance/Eulogy be done at the wake service or at the graveside.



“I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live.” John 11:25-26

READINGS FOR A FUNERAL MASS

- *Please choose from among the following selection passages from Sacred Scripture to be proclaimed at the Funeral liturgy.*
- *You will need to choose two readings from this booklet. Please select the first reading from among the Old Testament readings. (**Please Note:** During the Easter Season, New Testament readings are used in place of the Old Testament readings for the first reading.)*
- *Next, choose a second reading from the New Testament from the selection of New Testament readings.*
- *The Responsorial Psalm will be chosen and led by the Cantor.*
- *The Gospel will be chosen by the presiding Priest.*
- *In addition to the readings from Sacred Scripture, please select one of the two forms of petitions found in this booklet. You may add other petitions, as well as the name of the deceased in the spaces provide.*
- *You may choose the readings when you meet with the Pastor or presiding priest, or a member of our bereavement ministry, or drop off this booklet with your selections prior to the Funeral. Communications via email is also acceptable.*
- *Please feel free to contact the Rectory if you have any other questions regarding the Funeral liturgy of your loved one. We pray that you may know the peace of the Risen Lord during this difficult time and we thank you for your participation in the ministries of the Funeral liturgy.*



SUGGESTED FIRST READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Please look over these passages as part of your funeral preparations, and find those words which speak to your heart.

1. (1151) 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

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

The word of the Lord.

2. (1151) Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the Book of Job

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

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

The word of the Lord.

3. Long Form (1152) Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

Short Form (1152/53) 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.

4. (1153) *Wisdom 4:7-15*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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

The word of the Lord.

5. (1154) *Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

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

The word of the Lord.

6. (1154) *Lamentations 3:17-26*

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

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

My portion is the Lord, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

7. (1155) *Daniel 12:1-3*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard this word of the Lord:

At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time 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.

SECOND READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. (1170) *Romans 5:5-11*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

2. (1170/71) *Romans 5:17-21*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

3. *Long Form (1171) Romans 6:3-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

Short Form (1172) 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.

4. (1172) *Romans 8:14-23*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, "Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

5. (1173) *Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor

height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

6. (1174) Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: *As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.* So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The word of the Lord.

7. Long Form (1174) 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

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

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits 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 first fruits; 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.

Short Form (1175) 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 first fruits 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 first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

8. (1176) 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

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

Brothers and sisters: Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not 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.

9. (1176) 2 Corinthians 4:14–15:1

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

Brothers and sisters: Knowing 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.

10. (1177) 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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

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

We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

11. (1178) Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters: Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified Body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The word of the Lord.

12. (1179) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left,

will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

13. (1179) 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him he will deny us. If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The word of the Lord.

14. (1179) 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

15. (1180) 1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The word of the Lord.



FIRST READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT DURING THE SEASON OF EASTER

1. Long Form (1156) Acts 10:34-43

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, 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.

Short Form (1157) Acts 10:34-35, 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.

2. (1157) Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on,"

"Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The word of the Lord.

3. (1158) Revelation 20:11–21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the

scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

The word of the Lord.

4. (1159) Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

The word of the Lord.

ALTERNATE READING CHOSEN FOR FUNERALS (OLD TESTAMENT)

Sirach 6:14-17

A reading from the Book of Sirach

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price, no sum can balance his worth. A faithful friend is a life-saving remedy, such as one who fears God finds; for he who fears the Lord behaves accordingly, and his friend will be like himself.

The word of the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-9, 12-14

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There here is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to give birth, 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 profit have workers from their toil? I have considered the task that God has appointed for the sons of men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and he has put the timeless into their hearts, without man's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

(NEW TESTAMENT)

2 Timothy 4:1-2a, 6-8

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word. For 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 that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

The Responsorial Psalm is part of the Liturgy of the Word and is arranged between the First and Second readings. The Responsorial Psalm is always sung by the Cantor at the Funeral Mass in chosen by the Music Director with input from the family.

Psalm 23 – The Lord is My Shepherd

Psalm 25 – To You, O Lord, I Lift Up My Soul (Advent)

Psalm 27 – The Lord is My Light and My Salvation

Psalm 42 – As the Deer Longs for Running Streams

Psalm 91 – Be With Me Lord (Lent)

Psalm 103 – The Lord is Kind and Merciful

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS - FORM A

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 the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:

Lector

In baptism _____ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Lord in your mercy:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

In baptism _____ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Lord, in your mercy:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

Our brother/sister _____ was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet. Lord, in your mercy:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

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:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

Many friends 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:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

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:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

Many family members and friends of _____ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that comes from grief. Lord, in your mercy:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Lector

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. Lord, in your mercy:

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Priest: 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.

All: *Amen.*

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS - *Form B*

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

Lector

For _____ 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.

All: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lector

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.

All: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lector

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.

All: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lector

For the family and friends of our brother/sister _____, 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.

All: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lector

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.

All: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

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 the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: *Amen.*

SOME SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES

This is only a sampling of the types of sacred music permitted during a Funeral Mass. The list below includes suggestions for a Mass of Christian Burial or a Memorial Mass. Kindly choose four to five hymns (Entrance, Offertory, Communion, Meditation (optional), and Recessional Hymns). If a hymn to the Blessed Mother is requested, it may be sung after Communion as a Meditation song. (There can only be one Marian Hymn during the liturgy.) The OLC Music Director (walkfam18@gmail.com) will assist with hymns most appropriate for the various parts of the Mass. Hymns with “Alleluia” in them are not sung during Lent.

ENTRANCE HYMNS

- Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
- Be Not Afraid
- Come to Me
- Here I Am Lord
- Holy God We Praise thy Name
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand
- To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King
- We Walk by Faith
- One Bread, One Body
- Panis Angelicus
- Taste and See
- The Supper of the Lord

OFFERTORY HYMN FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

- Amazing Grace
- As the Deer Longs
- In the Garden
- Prayer of Saint Francis
- Seek Ye First
- Shelter me, O God
- The Lord is My Light
- You Are Mine
- You Are Near

COMMUNION HYMNS

- Behold the Lamb
- Blest Are They
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- I Am the Bread of Life
- I Have Loved You
- In the Breaking of the Bread
- Jesus Come To Us

MEDIATION HYMNS

- Ave Maria
- Be With Us Mary
- Hail Mary, Gentle Women
- Holy is His Name
- I Can Only Imagine
- Sacred Silence

RECESSIONAL HYMNS

- All is Well With My Soul
- Carry Me Home
- Go in Peace
- How Great Thou Art
- Irish Blessing
- Lead Me, Lord
- On Eagle’s Wings
- Only in God

SEASONAL HYMNS

Advent – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Christmas – Hark the Herald Angels

Easter - Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise



*Merciful Lord, you know the anguish of the sorrowful,
you are attentive to the prayers of the humble. Hear
your people who cry out to you in their need and
strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

~ From the Rite of Committal,
Order of Christian Funerals