

Funeral Planning Handbook



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Introduction

The death and loss of a loved one can be a difficult and emotional time. Sadness, grief, despair, relief, anguish, and sometimes anger are just a few of the emotions we may experience during the immediate days following the death of a loved one. But, in Jesus Christ, our faith tells us that with death, life is changed, *not ended*. It is our deepest hope and prayer that our family and friends who have died are now in the hands of God.

The Funeral Liturgy seeks to express both aspects of Christian Death: a true sense of mourning and loss and the hope that we will all be reunited one day with Jesus Christ in Heaven.

The priests, deacon and pastoral staff at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish are ready to assist you in planning the funeral and/or arranging a burial. Once you have made arrangements with the funeral home, you will be receiving a call from one of us asking to meet with you. The purpose of this meeting is to meet you, encourage you to share your thoughts and memories of the deceased, plan the funeral liturgy and answer any questions that you may have. We are also here to assist you in the months following the funeral, as you adjust to living in the absence of the deceased. We also encourage you to participate in a parish sponsored Bereavement Support Group that meets twice a month.

The fullness of the Catholic Church's funeral liturgy consists of 3 parts. The first is the Vigil, which normally occurs during the visiting hours at the funeral home. The second is the Mass. The third is the burial.

In some cases, family members may wonder whether a funeral home service may take the place of a Mass. While this is certainly possible and permitted, the Catholic Church **strongly** encourages families to have a Mass. A funeral Mass is a good reminder of the faith that we celebrate and often take for granted. In your decision-making about whether or not to have Mass, you should consider the desire of the deceased and/or the importance of bringing your family together to celebrate our faith.

A funeral Mass helps loved ones better understand the Lord's promise of eternal life and the love that the Lord has for the deceased and his or her family. For these reasons, the Catholic Church considers the Mass to be *the central component* of the Order of Christian Funerals. It is, in fact, the most powerful prayer the Church can offer and the best way to help our loved ones who have died.

At this time and always, may God's peace be upon you and your loved ones.

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor

Rev. Jason Giombetti, Parochial Vicar

CREMATION

What does the Catholic Church say about cremation?

During recent years, cremation has become more common, and the Catholic Church now permits the practice. However, the Church clearly prefers and urges whenever possible that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rite. Because the Church so highly values the burial of the body as a conforming of Christ's own burial and Resurrection, families should take great care considering how to bury the body of their loved ones.

If you decide to cremate the body, the Church prefers that your family wait until after the funeral, but will tolerate cremation beforehand. Cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to the remains of a human body, and should be buried or entombed. It is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful departed in the air, on land, at sea or in some other way, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects.

If you have any questions or concerns during this difficult and often emotional time, we encourage you to please speak to one of the priests. We are here to offer you support and guide you with the important decisions that you will make.

PLANNING THE FUNERAL MASS

1. ***The Pall***: Prior to the Mass, two or more family members may wish to unfold the Funeral Pall (the white cloth symbolic of their Baptismal robe) over the casket, otherwise the Funeral Director will unfold the Pall. After the Pall has covered the casket, a family member or friend is allowed to place a symbol of Christian life, e.g. a Cross, a Bible, etc., on the funeral pall.
2. ***Eulogy***: At the beginning of the Funeral Mass, a family member or friend may offer a brief reflection. This eulogy should be prepared and no longer than 5-6 minutes (or longer than 2.5 double-spaced pages). The reflection should focus on faith, life, family devotion, work ethics and kindness of the deceased. **The eulogy should be typed and given to the priest prior to the wake service.** If more than one family member or friend would like to speak, they will be invited to speak at the wake or cemetery.
3. ***Scripture Readings and Music***: You are encouraged to select the hymns and the readings for the Funeral Mass. You may have family members or friends read these scripture selections during the Mass. Both Old and New Testament readings will begin by stating the name of the Book or Letter and end by stating, "The Word of the Lord."
4. ***Prayer Intentions***: You may select 3-4 of the prayer intentions [pg. 11] or you may personally compose them. Personally composed intentions or prayers often address the personal faith and hopes of your family. These intentions should be typed and provided to the priest prior to the wake service.
5. ***Gifts***: You may have family members (1-3) bring up the gifts of bread and wine to be consecrated at Mass.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

1.) A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-11)

There 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 seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

2.) A reading from the Book of Job (19:1, 23-27a)

(I know that my Vindicator lives)

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.) A reading from the book of Wisdom (3:1-9) (short form, 3:1-6, 9)

(As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself)

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.

4.) A reading from the Book of Wisdom (4:7-15)

(An unsullied life, the attainment of old age)

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.) A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (25:6a, 7-9)

(He will destroy death forever)

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.) A reading from the Book of Lamentations (3:17-26)

(It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord)

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.) A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel (12:1-3)

(Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake)

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.

8.) A reading from the Second Book of Maccabees (12:43-46)

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

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

9.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:14-23)

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

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.

10.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:31b-35, 37-39)

(What will separate us from the love of Christ?)

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.

11.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (14:7-9, 10c-12)

(Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's)

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.

12.) A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians (15:51-57)*(Death is swallowed up in victory)*

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.

13.) A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians (5:1, 6-10)*(We have a building from God, eternal in heaven)*

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.

14.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians (3:20-21)*(He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory)*

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.

15.) A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians (4:13-18)*(Thus we shall always be with the Lord)*

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.

16.) A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (2:8-13)*(If we have died with him we shall also live with him)*

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.

17.) A reading from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy (4:6-8)

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.

18.) A reading from the first Letter of Saint John (3:1-2)*(We shall see him as he is)*

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.

19.) A reading from the Book of Revelation (21:1-5a, 6b-7)*(There shall be no more death)*

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.

GOSPEL READINGS

19.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:1-12a)

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

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."

20.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (11:25-30)

(Come to me and I will give you rest)

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."

21.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (25:31-46)

(Come, you who are blessed by my Father)

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."

22.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (7:11-17)

Young man, I tell you, arise!

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.

23.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (23:33, 39-43)

(Today you will be with me in Paradise)

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."

24.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:37-40)

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

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."

25.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (11:17-27)*(I am the resurrection and the life)*

[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."

26.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (5:24-29)*(Whoever hears my word and believes has passed from death to life)*

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.

27.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (14:1-6)*(In my Father's house there are many dwellings)*

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."

28.) A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (12:23-28 (short form, 12:23-26))*If it dies, it produces much fruit.*

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."]

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Families may write their own personal prayer intentions, or select 4 or 5 of the following.

1. 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.
2. Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. We pray to the Lord..
3. Family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. We pray to the Lord.
4. We are assembled here in faith and to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming.
We pray to the Lord.
5. *Personally composed intentions.*

Family may want to pray for other family members, living or deceased, health concerns, the church, our country, etc.



FUNERAL HYMNS

The following listing is provided to assist you with selecting music for the Mass of Christian Burial. This list includes frequently sung hymns, Responsorial Psalms, and songs of final commendation.

HYMNS: Choose up to four hymns.

*All Creatures of Our God and King	Keep in Mind
*Alleluia, Alleluia (Hymn of Joy)	Lady of Knock (Irish Vocal Solo)
*Alleluia Number 1	Let There Be Peace on Earth
*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	Lift High the Cross America the
Beautiful (Military Funeral)	Lord of All Hopefulness
Amazing Grace	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Ave Maria (Vocal Solo)	O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Be Not Afraid	On Eagle's Wings
Christ, Be Our Light	One Bread, One Body
Eat This Bread	Panis Angelicus (Franck: Vocal Solo)
Eternal Father, Strong to Save (Navy Hymn)	Panis Angelicus (Lambillotte Arrangement)
Fatima Ave (Portuguese Hymn)	Prayer of Saint Francis
*For All the Saints	Shelter Me, O God
Fly Like a Bird	Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling
Gift of Finest Wheat	Taste and See (Moore Arr.)
Hail Mary: Gentle Woman	The Cry of the Poor
Here I Am, Lord	The King of Love, My Shepherd Is
Hosea (Come Back to me)	The Strife Is O'er
How Great Thou Art	To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
I Am the Bread of Life	We Have Been Told
I Have Loved You	We Remember
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	We Will Rise Again
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Duke Street)	You Are Mine
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	You Are Near

Hymns marked with * omitted during lent

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS: Choose one.

Psalm 23: The Lord Is My Shepherd.
 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 before the Lord in the Land of the Living.
 Psalm 130: With the Lord There Is Mercy.
 Be With Me Lord: Psalm 91 (Haugen)
 Like a Child Rests: Psalm 131 (Suggested for a Child's Funeral)

SONG FOR FINAL COMMENDATION (During Incensing Rite): Choose one.

All I Ask of You
 I Know That My Redeemer Lives
 Jesus, Remember Me
 O Loving God (Irish Melody)
 Song of Farewell: Old Hundredth or Sands' Arrangement

Funeral Liturgy Selections

Name (by which the deceased was familiarly known) _____

Eulogy (read by one person) _____

(Please note guidelines found on page 2.)

Placement of the Funeral Pall _____

Old Testament Reading (#1-9) _____

Page # _____ Reading # _____

Read by _____

New Testament Reading (#10-18) _____

Page # _____ Reading # _____

Read by _____

Gospel Reading (#19-28) _____ *(read by priest or deacon)*

Page # _____ Reading # _____

Prayer Intentions (see page 11)

Personally Composed? (Y/N)

Read by (one person) _____

Presentation of the Gifts _____

Funeral Hymns

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Responsorial Psalm _____

Song for Final Commendation _____

Please return this worksheet either to the parish office or to the funeral home prior to the wake.