

Dear Friends,

The Catholic funeral liturgy provides comfort and consolation to those mourning the death of one they have loved.

We invite and encourage you to take an active part in this celebration by planning your loved one's Mass of Christian Burial.

On the following pages, you will find appropriate readings and music selections. We ask that you select one from each category which best expresses your sentiments at this time. You may communicate your selections to us directly or through the Funeral Director. A member of our Ministry of Consolation is also available to meet with you to help you in planning this Mass.

It is our hope that as you enter into the planning process, you will experience deeper consolation and strength.

*The Pastoral Team
Our Lady of Lourdes*

Music Selections

Please select one from each group

Gathering

Be Not Afraid

Come To Me

Eye Has Not Seen

I Heard the Voice of Jesus

On Eagle's Wings

We Will Rise Again

Psalm

Ps. 23 - Shepherd Me, O God

Ps. 25 - To You, O Lord

Ps. 27 - The Lord is My Light

Ps. 84 - Happy Are They

Ps. 91 - Be With Me, Lord

Presentation

Ave Maria

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Here I Am, Lord

Prayer of St. Francis

Shelter Me, O God

We Have Been Told

Music Selections

Please select one from each group

Communion

Center of My Life

I Am the Bread of Life

One Bread, One Body

Panis Angelicus

Song of the Body of Christ

We Remember

You Are Mine

Recessional

Amazing Grace

How Great Thou Art

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

I, the Lord

On Eagle's Wings *(if not used as Gathering Hymn)*

Precious Lord, Take My Hand



First Reading - Old Testament

please select one reading

Old Testament 1

Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered 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

Old Testament 2

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.

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

Old Testament 3

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

Old Testament 4

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

Old Testament 5

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

Old Testament 6

Proverbs 31:10-12, 20, 25a, 26-27a, 28-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.
She is clothed with strength and dignity.

She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.

She watches the conduct of her household.
Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her:
“Many are the women of proven worth,
but you have excelled them all.”

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

**Pronounced: ih-kee-zee-AS-teez*

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes*

There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair 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 advantage has the work from his toil?

I have considered the task which God has appointed for men
to be busied about.
He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts,
without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of Sirach

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter;
whoever finds one has found a rare treasure.

A faithful friend is something beyond price;
there is no measuring a friend's worth.

A faithful friend is a life-saving remedy;
and those who trust in God will find one.

Whoever trusts and respects the Lord makes true friends;
for as a person is, so is his friend.

The Word of the Lord

Second Reading - New Testament

please select one reading

New Testament 1

Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the Letter of St. 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,
yet 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

A reading from the Letter of St. 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

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you received a spirit of adoption,
through which we cry, “Abba, Father!”

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,
if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation
the revelation of the children of God;
for creation was made subject to futility,
not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it,
in hope that creation itself
would be set free from slavery to corruption
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now;
and not only that, but we ourselves,
who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord

New Testament 4

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of St. 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,
how 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

New Testament 5

Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

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

New Testament 6

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first Letter of St. 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

New Testament 7

2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

A reading from the second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

We know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus
will raise us also with Jesus
and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,
so that the grace bestowed in abundance
on more and more people
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged;
rather, although our outer self is wasting away,
our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction
is producing for us an eternal weight of glory
beyond all comparison,
as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;
for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

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

The Word of the Lord

New Testament 8

Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of St. 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

New Testament 9

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first Letter of St. 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

A reading from the first Letter of St. 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

New Testament 11

2 Timothy 4:6-8

A reading from the second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

I, Paul, 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

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I 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

New Testament 13

Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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.

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 away 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

Prayer of the Faithful

PRIEST: Our response to the Prayer of the Faithful
will be: “LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER”

1. Christ, Son of the Living God, you raised your friend Lazarus from the dead, raise up to new life all the dead, especially _____,
we pray to the Lord ...
2. Christ, consoler of all who mourn, comfort us as we mourn the loss of _____,
we pray to the Lord ...
3. Christ, victor over sin and death, grant _____ the gift of eternal life with you,
we pray to the Lord ...
4. Christ, giver of all good gifts, please reward _____ for all the love and kindness shown to us over the years,
we pray to the Lord ...
5. Christ, our brother and friend, increase our hope that all our deceased relatives and friends will be admitted to the company of the saints,
we pray to the Lord ...

PRIEST: