



Greetings!

As you use this funeral-planning packet, please receive our deep expression of sympathy. Planning a funeral of a loved one can be emotionally draining, but it is our hope that using this guide will help at least just a little.

The principal parts of the liturgy that look for your guidance concern music and readings.

Music: Our staff music director and his associates are the **exclusive** ministers of music for funerals at Saint Maria Goretti parish. Other musicians are not permitted because of the tradition and custom of liturgy, which is particular to each parish. Nonprofessionals and other liturgical music ministers cannot be expected to know our traditions. Particular requests for music or for family or friends to contribute musically need to be pre-approved by the parish's music director, Phil Hylton.

Music suggestions are included in this pack and all psalmody and hymns are in the parish's hymnal. Assistance and advice is happily provided by the priest or by Phil Hylton.

Readings: Typically there are four biblical parts to the Liturgy of the Word. 1.) First readings are listed as *P1-P5*; The Psalm is sung by a cantor who leads the congregational response. Suggested Psalms are on pages 13-14; Second Readings are listed as *B1-B14*; The Gospel passages are listed as *V1-V10*. Family members and friends are invited to read the first and second readings as well as the Prayer of the Faithful found on page 39. Biblical passages may, of course, be selected. The priest or deacon will always read the Gospel passage.

The readings will be provided at the church for the liturgy. What is used in this packet is exactly what the reader will find in church. The readers are typically invited to come forward at the appropriate moment.

It is helpful to use the guide on page 7 to follow the flow of the liturgy and the particular need for hymns or readings during the liturgy.

Other Concerns: Here are some other possible areas for family participation.

- 1.) The funeral pall (large white cloth) for a coffin may be unfolded over the coffin during the Opening Rites.

- 2.) Urns may be carried by family in and out of the church in processions. This is particularly advised and encouraged at the end of the funeral as this procession helps to bring the liturgy to a close.
- 3.) Hosts and wine used at the Mass (often called gifts) may be brought forward in procession. Mass servers will assist.
- 4.) Eulogies during Mass are not permitted in this parish. However, a eulogy may be given in Piper Hall after the Mass providing space is available. You are always welcome and encouraged to share memories and stories with one another at your funeral reception or family gathering.
- 5.) The parish offers the possibility for receptions when space is available. Families are expected to pay for such things as sandwiches and salads (purchased usually at Bashas' Grocery Store) while beverages and a variety of desserts are donated by our Women's Guild. Families may also choose to have their reception catered.
- 6.) Flowers are usually sent to the church or to the funeral home if there is a visitation there. In either case, the parish staff will help with arranging the flowers in the sanctuary.
- 7.) Families who wish to provide a program, memorial or holy cards, guest book, etc. are responsible for these provisions. They are readily available through your funeral home's services.
- 8.) Fees are paid through your billing by the funeral home directly to the parish. If you do not use a mortuary for funeral or burial services, please pay the parish fees directly to the parish office.

Separate checks Payable to:

Saint Maria Goretti	\$225.00
Phil Hylton (music)	\$200.00

The honorarium for the priest (\$200), should be payable to the celebrating priest and given to the parish office when submitting the church fee.

As I mentioned earlier, all of these selections and choices and decisions can be confusing and an unwelcome intrusion into your grief. Our staff understands this and we will do all that we can to make this burden lighter. The level of participation in the planning is up to you and not an obligation. This planning guide is designed to be an aid to your grief and a manner through which your parish can reach out to you with help.

Sincerely,

Fr. Paul Avarez,
Parochial Administrator

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR CATHOLIC FUNERALS

1. Does the Catholic Church permit cremation?

Answer: Yes.

Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites. (413)

2. What should be done with cremated remains?

The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires. Whenever possible, appropriate means for recording with dignity the memory of the deceased should be adopted, such as a plaque or stone which records the name of the deceased. (417)

3. Can non-Catholics receive Communion at a Catholic Mass?

Answer: No.

As Catholics, we believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of our oneness in faith, life and worship. Members of churches with whom we are not yet fully united are therefore not ordinarily invited to participate in Holy Communion....

We welcome our fellow Christians to the celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (Jn 17: 21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches [e.g., Protestants] with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion.

Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4).

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family. (USCCB Statement)

4. Can a national flag (or other insignia) be used during a Catholic funeral?

Answer: No.

A pall may be placed over the coffin when it is received at the church. A reminder of the baptismal garment of the deceased, the pall is a sign of the Christian dignity of the person. The use of the pall also signifies that all are equal before God. (38)

Only Christian symbols may rest on or be placed near the coffin during the funeral liturgy. Any other symbols, for example, national flags, or flags or insignia of associations, have no place in the funeral liturgy. (38)

Any national flags or the flags or insignia of associations to which the deceased belonged are to be removed from the coffin at the entrance of the church. They may be replaced after the coffin has been taken from the church. (132)

5. Can scripture readings be replaced by non-biblical readings in a Catholic funeral?

Answer: No.

In every celebration for the dead, the Church attaches great importance to the reading of the word of God. The readings proclaim to the assembly the paschal mystery, teach remembrance of the dead, convey the hope of being gathered together again in God's kingdom, and encourage the witness of Christian life. Above all, the readings tell of God's designs for a world in which suffering and death will relinquish their hold on all whom God has called his own. (22)

In the celebration of the liturgy of the word at the funeral liturgy, the biblical readings may not be replaced by non-biblical readings. But during prayer services with the family non-biblical I readings may be used in addition to readings from Scripture. (23)

MUSIC GUIDELINES FOR CATHOLIC FUNERALS

Music is an important part of Catholic funeral rites. Music allows convictions and feelings to be expressed that words alone may fail to convey. Music has the power to strengthen the faith and hope of those present. The hymns chosen should express the mystery of our salvation in Christ, namely, the saving power of the Lord's suffering, death and resurrection. Funeral music should support, console, and uplift those present and help create in them a spirit of hope in Christ's victory over death and in the Christian's share in that victory.

Secular songs (popular/non-religious songs), even though they may have been meaningful to the deceased or the family, do not capture the Gospel message of hope nor the sacred quality of Christian worship, and so secular songs are not appropriate for funeral services. Secular songs would be more appropriate for a funeral reception (or for a non-religious funeral service). Below are some hymn titles offered for your consideration. Other appropriate selections can be made from the parish worship books. Please work with the musicians in making your selection. If there are any questions, please contact the priest or deacon assisting with the funeral services.

HYMNS FOR FUNERAL MASS FROM WORSHIP IV HYMNAL

*Select two-three hymns to be sung at the Funeral Mass from the following list

953 Alleluia, Sing to Jesus Need	708 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need
650 Amazing Grace!	689 O God, Our Help in Ages Past
680 Be Not Afraid	5800 God, You Search Me
721 Blest Are They	690 On Eagle's Wings
678 Center of My Life Heaven	610 Praise, My Soul the King of Heaven
713 Eye Has Not Seen	980 Precious Lord, Take My Hand
891 For All the Saints	652 Shall Tribulation or Distress Bring Me to the Ground?
578 How Great Thou Art	526 Sing with All the Saints in Glory
950 I Am the Bread of Life	712 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
707 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	709 The Living God My Shepherd Is
527 I Know That My Redeemer Lives! (DUKE STREET)	511 The Strife Is O'er
923 I Receive the Living God	646 There Is a Balm in Gilead
585 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	641 What Wondrous Love Is This
867 Jerusalem, My Happy Home	886 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones
686 Lord of All Hopefulness	704 You Are Mine

OTHER OPTIONS

The Gregorian funeral chants in
English or Latin Ave Maria (Schubert)
Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)

*During liturgical celebrations outside of Ordinary Time {Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas} you are welcome and encouraged to select hymns proper to those seasons. See hymnal index for suggestions.

A NOTE TO NON-CATHOLICS

In our society, it sometimes happens that the surviving family members of a deceased Catholic are not Catholics themselves or practice no religion at all. Our experience is that sometimes these non-Catholics come to us assuming they are free to “create” their own funeral service. When this is the case, family members need to understand some basic things about what a Catholic funeral is and how a Catholic funeral must proceed.

A Catholic funeral is an act of worship offered by the local Catholic community in union with the universal church. Catholic funerals normally take place within a Catholic Church building, since it is a place set aside for prayer and worship.

Our non-Catholic friends should be aware of the following: Since a Catholic funeral is an act of worship, God is always the central focus of our actions. We always listen to God’s word in the Bible. We always pray to God through his Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord and Savior. We always use sacred music. We always try to use musicians and singers (rather than CD players), because the funeral, like all forms of Catholic worship, is a “work” of the Catholic community. The service is always lead by a priest or a deacon. We always pray for the deceased person. These actions and dispositions are proper marks of true worship.

Since a Catholic funeral is an act of worship, it goes without saying that the funeral is not meant to be a form of entertainment. It is not meant to be a vehicle for the expression of personal interests. It is not meant to provide a “stage” for friends and family members. It is not meant to be a vehicle for the expression of personalized religious beliefs.

The Catholic Church has a two-thousand year history. Truth, wisdom, and tradition are aspects of the great treasure of the Catholic Faith. From her great storehouse of wisdom and experience, the Church provides directions about how funerals are to be conducted. The Church directs what is to take place during a funeral service. The Church provides the texts and prayers that are to be used. These directives and texts are mandatory. It is always the duty of the priest or deacon to see to it that the Church’s norms are followed. For Catholic funerals, the priest or deacon has authority to determine what is acceptable and what is not, and he will be happy to offer guidance and suggestions.

One more thing should be noted. Catholics know that there are Christians who are not Catholic. We view baptized Christians as our brothers and sisters and we respect them as such, but we have not yet achieved the unity of faith that all Christians hope for. Non-Catholic Christians have beliefs and practices that differ from those of Catholic Christians. It is important to understand that at Catholic funerals, it is the Catholic faith that will be celebrated, expressed, and vocalized. Of course, non-Catholics are always welcome at Catholic funeral services. They simply need to be aware that the funeral will take place in a Catholic setting and follow a ritual that is based on Catholic beliefs.

When Catholic clergy are called upon to provide funeral services, they will assume that the person making the request seeks to have a funeral that is celebrated according to Catholic beliefs and norms. They will also assume that, even if friends and family members of the deceased do not hold the Catholic Faith, they are willing to give due respect to Catholic practices and authority.

Funeral Liturgy at Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Scottsdale, Arizona

**Please write your selections and bring this copy to your planning meeting*

Liturgy is to celebrate the new life of (Name of deceased)

Day _____ Date _____ Time _____

Opening Hymn during Entrance Procession _____

First Reading _____ Reader's Name _____

**select one reading from pages 8-12*

Responsorial psalm (sung by cantor)

**select one responsorial psalm from pages 13-14*

Second Reading _____ Reader's Name _____

**select one reading psalm from pages 15-28*

Gospel _____ (read by priest or deacon)

**select one Gospel reading from pages 29-38*

Reader's Name for Prayers of the Faithful _____

Gift-Bearers (2) Names _____

Hymn at the Offertory _____

choose a hymn from the list on the following page **or a solo organ selection may be played*

Hymn during Communion _____

choose 1-2 hymns from the list on the following page **or a solo organ selection may be played*

Closing Hymn as clergy and assembly exit the church

P/1 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, in as much 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.

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

P/2 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 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.

*As sacrificial offering he took
them to himself*

P/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.

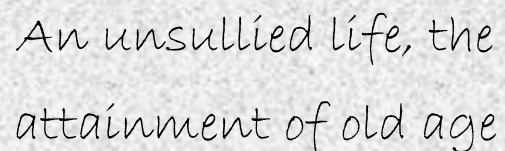
Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an
unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

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.



*An unsullied life, the
attainment of old age*

P/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 people.

On this mountain he will destroy

The veil that veils all people,

The web that is woven over all the 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 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.

He will destroy death forever.

P/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.

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

FUNERAL READINGS: RESPONSORIAL PSALM (select one)

Resp Psalm #1 (Ps 23)

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

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

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

He guides me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
with your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

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

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

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

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

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

Resp Psalm #2 (Ps 25)

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

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

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distress.

Put an end to my affliction and my suffering, and take away all my sins.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Preserve my life, and rescue me;
let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
because I wait for you, O Lord.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Resp Psalm #3 (Ps 27)

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

One thing I ask of the Lord;
this I seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
that I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord
and contemplate his temple.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call;
have pity on me and answer me.
Your presence, O Lord, I seek.
Hide not your face from me.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord with courage;
be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

B/1 Acts 10:34-36, 42-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts
uprightly
is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of
the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness, that
everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

He is the one appointed
by God as judge of the
living

B/2 Romans 5: 5-11

Epistle to the Romans

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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.

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

B/3 Romans 6: 3-4, 8-9

Epistle to the Romans

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.

We too might live in
newness of life.

B/4 Romans 8: 14-23

Epistle to the Romans

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 to 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.

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

B/5 Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

Epistle to the Romans

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,

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.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

B/6 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

First Epistle to the Corinthians

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.

Death is swallowed
up in victory.

B/7 Romans 14:7-9, 10-12

Epistle to the Romans

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.

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

B/8 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1
Second Epistle to the Corinthians

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.

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

B/9 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Second Epistle to the Corinthians

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.

We have a building
from God, eternal in
heaven.

B/10 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

First Epistle to the Thessalonians

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.

Thus we shall always be
with the Lord

B/11 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Epistle

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.

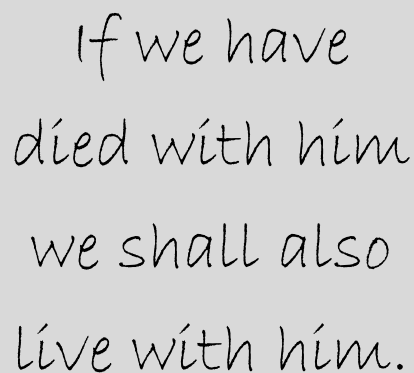
Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

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.



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

The word of the Lord.

B/12 1 John 3:1-2

Epistle

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.

We shall see him
as he is.

B/13 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.

B/14 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.

V/1 *Matthew 5:1-12a*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

He began to teach them, saying:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for
theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/2 Matthew 11: 25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

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

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one
knows the Son except the Father,

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

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

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/3 Matthew 25: 31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

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

And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me,

ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.’

Then the righteous will answer him and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’

When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’

And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’

Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.

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

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

He will answer them, “Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.’

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/4 *Luke 7: 11-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,

and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.

As he drew near to the gate of the city,

a man who had died was being carried out,

the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.

A large crowd from the city was with her. When

the Lord saw her,

he was moved with pity for her and said to her, “Do not weep.”

He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the

bearers halted,

and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!” The dead

man sat up and began to speak,

and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, “A great

prophet has arisen in our midst,”

and “God has visited his people.”

This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the

surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/5 Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/6 *John 6: 37-40*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven
not to do my own will
but the will of the one who sent me.

And this is the will of the one who sent me,

that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day.

For this is the will of my Father,

that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life,
and I shall raise him on the last day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/7 *John 6: 51-59*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

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

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,

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

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

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

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

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

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

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/8 John 11: 21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Martha said to Jesus,

"Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.

But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will
give you."

Jesus said to her,

"Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him,

"I know he will rise,
in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus

told her,

"I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and
everyone who lives and believes in me
will never die.

Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord.

I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of
god, the one who is coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

V/9 *John 12: 23-26*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus told 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.

V/10 John 14:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself, so that
where I am you also may be.

Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas
said to him,

“Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we
know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes
to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful at a Funeral Mass

Presider: Brothers and sisters, confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:

- In Baptism, *NAME* received the Light of Christ.
Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death.
We pray to the Lord...
- Our brother/sister *NAME* was nourished at the table of the Savior.
Welcome him/her in the halls of the heavenly banquet
We pray to the Lord...
- 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...*
- The family and friends of *NAME* seek comfort and consolation.
heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that can come
from grief. *We pray to the Lord...*
- We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our
brother/sister *NAME*. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in
the expectation of your Son's coming. *We pray to the Lord...*

Presider: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the Prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people. Grant these prayers through Christ our Lord.