

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
Aurora, Ohio*



*Planning a Funeral Mass*



***Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
342 S. Chillicothe Rd.  
Aurora, OH 44202  
330-562-8519 [www.olphaurora.org](http://www.olphaurora.org)***

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Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Our prayers and sympathies go out to you as you experience the death of your dear loved one.

In the face of death and sorrow, the Church confidently proclaims that through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the chains of sin and death are broken and the promise of eternal life is open to all. With this certain faith, our funeral liturgy commends the dead to God's merciful love and brings hope and consolation to the living.

At the time of death, please call the parish so that in cooperation with your family needs and coordinating with the funeral director, a time can be scheduled for the funeral liturgy and wake service.

Additionally, the person making arrangements and family members are encouraged to meet, as soon as possible, with the pastor or member of our pastoral staff to plan the funeral liturgy. In order to assist you in this, we have prepared this booklet of Scripture readings, prayers of the faithful, music selections, guidelines and a planning sheet. A well prepared and celebrated funeral liturgy can bring comfort and strength to those mourning.

May the grace and mercy of our Gracious God, who raised Jesus from the dead, grant eternal rest to our loved dead and peace to our hearts.

Rev. James M. Daprile  
and the OLPH Pastoral Staff

## FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNING SHEET

Please complete the planning sheet below as best you can and bring it for planning with a staff member.

Name of the deceased \_\_\_\_\_ Date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of funeral \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading (OT 1-6): \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading (NT 1-8): \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel (G-1-12): \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer of the Faithful (PF 1-4): \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Bearers: (3 names) \_\_\_\_\_

include relationships

Eucharist distributed under both kinds? (Bread and Wine—Body and Blood) Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you have any family/friends who are Eucharistic Ministers who can help at Mass? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Names(2) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any family/friends who are Altar Servers who want to help at Mass? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Remarks of Remembrance (see requirements attached on page 20.) Please provide a typed copy of what will be shared. It must follow the requirements and be given to Father Daprile for approval *prior* to the funeral. Email: [jmdaprile@olphaurora.org](mailto:jmdaprile@olphaurora.org)

Music: List no more than four hymns and one Psalm for the funeral Mass. (see list on pages 21-22)

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Special requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Visiting Clergy: \_\_\_\_\_

# OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

## SELECTIONS FOR THE FIRST READING

### OT-1

**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.

This will happen when my skin has been stripped off,  
and from my flesh I will see God:

I will see for myself, my own eyes, not another's,  
will behold him my inmost being is consumed with longing.

### OT-2

**Wisdom 3:1-9**

*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself*

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall touch them. They seemed,  
in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction  
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality;  
chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed.

Because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time  
of their visitation they shall shine, and 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.

## OT-3

### 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.

## OT-4

### 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!”

## OT-5

### **Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31**

*The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.*

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 obtains wool and flax  
And makes cloth with skillful hands.  
She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle.  
She reaches out her hands to the poor,  
And extends her arms to the needy.  
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.

## OT-6

### **Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11**

*There is a time for everything under the heavens.*

There is an appointed time for everything,  
And a time for every thing 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 worker from his toil?  
I have considered the task that God has appointed  
For the sons of men to be busied about.  
He has made everything appropriate to its time,  
And has put the timeless into their hearts,  
Without man's ever discovering,  
From beginning to end, the work which God has done.

## Additional readings that might be considered from the Old Testament.

**2 Maccabees 12:43-46** *He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.*  
**Lamentations 3:17-26** *It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.*  
**Daniel 12:1-3** *Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.*

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During the **Easter Season**, one of the following four readings is to be used as the first reading.

**Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43** *He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.*  
**Revelation 14:13** *Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*  
**Revelation 20:11-21:1** *The dead were judged according to their deeds.*  
**Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7** *There shall be no more death.*

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# NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

## SELECTIONS FOR THE SECOND READING

### NT-1

#### **Romans 5:5-11**

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

Brothers and Sisters:  
Hope does not disappoint,  
Because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts  
Through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.  
For Christ, while we were still helpless  
Died at the appointed time for the ungodly.  
Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,  
Though perhaps for a good person  
One might even find courage to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
In that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,  
Will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,  
We were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
How much more, once reconciled,  
Will we be saved by his life.  
Not only that,  
But we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Through whom we have now reconciliation

## NT-2

### **Romans 6:3-9**

*We too might live in newness of life.*

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.

## NT-3

### **Romans 8:31-35. 37-39**

*Who Can Ever Come Between Us and the Love Of Christ?*

If God is for us, who can be against us?  
He who 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.

## NT-4

### **Romans 14: 14:7-9. 10-12**

*Whether Alive Or Dead, We Belong To The Lord*

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 account of himself to God.*

## NT-5

### **1 Corinthians 15:20-28}**

*All People Will Be Brought To Life Through Christ:*

Brothers and Sisters,  
Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since death came through a human being,  
the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being.  
For just as in Adam all die,  
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
but each one in proper order:  
Christ the first fruits;  
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;  
then comes the end,  
when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father,  
when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power.  
For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.  
The last enemy to be destroyed is death,  
*for "he subjected everything under his feet."*  
But when it says that everything has been subjected,  
it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him.  
When everything is subjected to him,  
then the Son himself will (also) be subjected  
to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

## NT-6

### **1 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 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.

## NT-7

### **Philippians 3:20-21**

#### *Jesus will Transfigure these lowly bodies of ours to be like His Glorious Body:*

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.

## NT-8

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*We Shall Stay With The Lord For Ever*

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 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 a 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.

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# GOSPEL READINGS

**(The priest reads the Gospel)**

**G-1**

### 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.

## G-2

### **Matthew 11:25-30**

*Come To Me...And I Will Give You Rest:*

At that time Jesus said in reply,  
"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."

## G-3

### **Matthew 25:31-46**

*Come, You Whom My Father Has Blessed:*

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."

## G-4

### **Luke 12:35-40**

*You also must be prepared.*

Jesus told his disciples:  
 "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants  
 who await their master's return from a wedding,  
 ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.  
 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.  
 Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table,  
 and proceed to wait on them.  
 And should he come in the second or third watch  
 and find them prepared in this way,  
 blessed are those servants.  
 Be sure of this:  
 if the master of the house had known the hour  
 when the thief was coming,  
 he would not have let his house be broken into.  
 You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,  
 the Son of Man will come."

## G-5

### **Luke 23:33, 39-43**

*Today you will be with Me in Paradise*

When they came to the place called the Skull,  
they crucified him 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 Messiah? Save yourself and us."  
The other, 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."

## G-6

### **John 6:37-40**

*All Who Believe In the Son Will Have Eternal Life  
And I Will Raise Him To Life Against 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."

## G-7

### **John 6:51-59**

*Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and I will raise him up on the last day.*

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.”

## G-8

### 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 Messiah,  
the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

## G-9

### John 11:32-45

#### *Lazarus, Come Out*

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,  
she fell at his feet and said to him, "  
Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."  
When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping,  
he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,

"Where have you laid him?" They said to him,  
"Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept.  
So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."  
But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man  
have done something so that this man would not have died?"  
So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.  
It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said,  
"Take away the stone."  
Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him,  
"Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."  
Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you  
that if you believe you will see the glory of God?"  
So they took away the stone.  
And Jesus raised his eyes and said,  
"Father, I thank you for hearing me.  
I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this,  
that they may believe that you sent me."  
And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice,  
"Lazarus, come out!"  
The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands,  
and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them,  
"Untie him and let him go."  
Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done  
began to believe in him.

## G-10

### John 12:23-28

*If A Grain Of Wheat Falls On The Ground And Dies, It Yields A Rich Harvest:*

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 loses 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."

## G-11

### John 14:1-6

*There Are Many Rooms In My Father's House*

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.

## G-12

### John 17:24-26

*Father, I Want Those You Have Given Me To Be With Me Where I Am:*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

"Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.

I wish that where I am they also may be with me,

that they may see my glory that you gave me,

because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you,

and they know that you sent me.

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,  
that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them."

# SELECTIONS FOR PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

## **PF-1** The priest offers an opening prayer

**Reader:** Our response to the Intercessions will be: *Hear our prayer.*

In baptism, N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet, Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against Your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace. Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. Lord in your mercy: **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to prayer for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. Lord in your mercy **R:** *Hear our Prayer*

**The priest concludes with a closing prayer**

## **PF-2** The priest offers an opening prayer

**Reader:** Our response to our petitions will be: Lord, hear our prayer

- 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. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*

### **PF-3 The priest offers an opening prayer**

- For N. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she now be admitted to the company of the saints. We pray to the Lord. **R:** Lord, hear our prayer
- For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord. **R:** Lord, hear our prayer
- For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord. **R:** Lord, hear our prayer
- For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord. **R:** Lord, hear our prayer
- For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord.

**R:** Lord, hear our prayer

### **The priest concludes with a closing prayer**

#### **PF-4 The priest offers an opening prayer**

- For the bishops and priests of the Church, and all who preach the Gospel, that they may be given the strength to express in action, the word they proclaim. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For those in public office that they may promote justice and peace. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*
- For those who bear the cross of pain in mind or body, that they may never feel forsaken by God. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For the soul of God's servant N. that God may deliver his/her soul from punishment and from the powers of darkness. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For N. that God in his mercy may blot out all his/her offenses. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- For N. that God may establish him/her in light and peace. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- May God call N. to happiness in the company of all the saints. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- May God welcome into his glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life. We pray to the Lord. **R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*
- May God give a place in the Kingdom of Heaven to all the faithful departed. We pray to the Lord.

**R:** *Lord, hear our prayer*

### **The priest concludes with a closing prayer**

# Words of Remembrance

At a recent funeral the lector read from the Book of Wisdom and unwittingly proclaimed that the deceased's "hope was full of immortality" (wickedness) rather than "immortality" (eternity)! While that may be the aspirations of some, our Christian witness and hope is virtue-oriented and Gospel-driven.

In 2001, the Diocese of Youngstown promulgated a policy regarding "words of remembrance at funerals." Our Catholic funeral liturgy is a faith event celebrating our life in Jesus Christ, rejoicing in Christ's promise of the Resurrection, commending the faithful departed to God's mercy, and seeking the strength and consolation of God at this time of loss. Our liturgy offers us the saving Word of the Lord from the Scriptures (not our favorite poems or secular readings), brings up the simple and ordinary gifts of bread and wine (the offerings of the community to be blessed and shared), sings communal songs and psalms of faith (not popular tunes), and prays in a common voice of thanksgiving and praise to God.

*The Order of Christian Funerals* (the ritual for Catholic funerals) allows for a few words of remembrance. These words of remembrance are spoken by one person but relevant to all who are gathered, and are about the deceased but directly connected to the deceased's life of faith and participation in the Eucharist and community/parish. Many people have misunderstood and/or abused these liturgical words of remembrance and have instead spoken a eulogy ("good words"), which was often a recital of events or a chronicle of stories about the deceased unrelated to the Eucharist and sometimes inappropriate for a religious gathering. However a eulogy may be appropriate at the vigil service at the funeral home, at the cemetery or at the luncheon, where the circumstances and constraints are different.

In order that our Catholic funeral liturgy maintains its purpose and dignity, the diocese has issued these directives that are observed at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Aurora:

1. The priest celebrant, at *his discretion* and in consideration of the pastoral circumstances, may extend an invitation for a member of the family or a friend to speak *briefly* in remembrance of the deceased.
2. If someone is to speak at the Funeral Mass, it should occur following the Prayer after Communion and before the Final Commendation.
3. Only *one person* is to speak at the liturgy and for *three to five minutes*.
4. The *priest celebrant should preview the content of is to be spoken* in remembrance of the deceased to determine that they are consistent with liturgical law and appropriate for the liturgical celebration. A *printed copy of the text* of your Words of Remembrance (*not an outline*) are to be given to the priest or dropped off at the parish offices *before* calling hours or given to the prayer presider *at the* wake service.

Please remember *Words of Remembrance* is not a eulogy but a faith reflection and memory of the deceased.

# Music

## SELECTIONS FOR A FUNERAL LITURGY

Music can help in the grieving process even when at first we don't want to sing, or think we can't sing. The music below represents hymns that our Funeral Choir are able to sing to help you in the grieving process. It is also important to recognize that not all music is appropriate at a Funeral Liturgy. The proper place for music that is not sacred is at the Funeral Home, the luncheon or at the family home.

Music plays a major part in our liturgy. Please choose four hymns plus one Psalm for the following parts: Gathering, Presentation of Gifts, Communion, Recessional and the Responsorial Psalm. You need NOT choose all five if you cannot find something you recognize or that your deceased relative loved. In that case, allow our Staff to choose for you or assist you. If you wish a hymn that is not listed, please ask if it can be used.

A Hymn of Glory  
All Creatures of Our God and King  
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus  
Amazing Grace  
Ave Marie—Vince Ambrosetti  
Be Not Afraid

Crown Him with Many Crowns  
Come Home  
Come All You Blessed Ones  
Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

Eat This Bread  
Eye Has Not Seen  
For All the Saints  
Friends  
Gift of Finest Wheat

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman  
Here I Am Lord  
The Hand of God  
How Great Thou Art  
I Am the Bread of Life  
I Know that My Redeemer Lives  
Just a Closer Walk

The Land of the Living  
Let There Be Peace On Earth  
Like A Little Child  
May the Angels Be Your Guide

Now Thank We All Our God  
On Eagles Wings  
One Bread, One Body

Prayer of St. Francis  
Psalm of Hope

Song of Farewell  
The Land of the Living  
To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King  
We Will Remember You  
We Will Rise Again  
We Shall Rise Again  
We Remember  
You Are Mine  
You Are Near

**PSALMS**—Choose one which will follow the First Reading

Shepherd Me, O God  
The Lord is My Light and Salvation  
To You O Lord