

St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church
Planning Funeral and Memorial Liturgies

**I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.**

John 14:6

The Clergy and Staff of St. Luke's Church
are here to assist you during this time of sorrow.
If we can be of any assistance to you at this time or in the future,
please contact the Parish Office.

**St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church
340 Franklin Turnpike
Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423
201-444-0272
churchofstluke.org**

ARRANGING FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL MASSES

The Roman Catholic Faith teaches us that the sadness of death will be overcome by Our Savior's bright promise of eternal life for those who believe in Him. St. Luke's parish encourages our parishioners to celebrate the complete Funeral Rites as a means of consolation for the living and grace-filled assistance for the deceased. These Rites, which include a Funeral Mass, are most properly celebrated in the parish church of the deceased, in the presence of their faith community.

When your loved one dies, or is in the imminent process of dying, **the first telephone call** you should make should be to the parish priest. The Parish office telephone number is 201-444-0272. If your loved one is very near death, he/she (and his/her family) may find great comfort in the spiritual support offered at the time of death. If your loved one has already passed, the priest will provide important information related to the protocol surrounding the funeral ritual.

Second, **the next person** that should be immediately contacted is the Funeral director. The parish will suggest a reputable funeral home, if the family does not already have a strong preference. Generally, it is the responsibility of the Funeral director to arrange to transport the body or remains. Scheduling through the Funeral Director is critically important as he/she must also integrate the cemetery schedule in the arrangements.

The next important task is to notify immediate family members, particularly those who live a distance. Such prompt notice assures that those closest to the deceased do not learn of the death through the grapevine; and will provide ample time for family members to make their visitation arrangements, if required.

PRIOR TO MEETING WITH THE PRIEST

You should review this planning booklet that has been prepared for you and your family. **It is extremely important that you complete page 3 of this booklet before you meet with the Priest, and bring this page with you to the meeting.** If you have any questions about any of the information contained in this booklet, I invite you to speak with the Priest that will be presiding at the Mass.

The clergy and staff at St. Luke's are here to serve you and your family during this difficult time. If we may be of assistance to you at any time before, during or after the Funeral Mass, please don't hesitate to contact us at 201-444-0272.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Displays and photographs

We welcome displays of photographs and memorabilia at the entrance to the church. A single framed portrait may be displayed on an easel near the altar, when the cremains are present.

Flowers

We welcome flowers and wreaths as part of the funeral celebration. Flowers used at the funeral home for the Vigil service may be brought to the church. They are most appropriate in the main entryway along with the guest book and, possibly, some photos. The environment of the sanctuary is set for the liturgical season. Please consider leaving a few arrangements from the funeral at the church. Members of the Art &

Environment ministry will be pleased to care for the flower arrangements and ensure that they are properly displayed in the church. During Lent we do not use flowers on the altar, but they can be displayed around the casket or in front of the altar.

Memorial Gifts

Families frequently ask for information regarding a memorial gift to the Church on behalf of their loved one. If you are interested in remembering your loved one through our Memorial Fund at St. Luke's, please contact Father James Manos for more information. Please inform the funeral director of your wishes in order that it can be published along with the funeral announcement. To do this, we ask that you publish "In lieu of flowers, the family requests relatives and friends to honor (the deceased) by making a contribution to the St. Luke's Memorial Fund. These gifts are received in the name of your loved one and provide the means for the Church to continue its extensive charitable and pastoral services.

Military Honors

If there will be military honors taking place at the cemetery, your funeral director will assist with necessary arrangements. If the casket comes to the church draped in a flag, the flag is removed before the liturgy begins and then put back on the coffin after the pall has been removed at the end of the liturgy.

Organist and Cantor

On occasion, people request family members to participate in the Music Ministry for the Funeral Mass. St. Luke's Church will allow skilled members of the family to sing or play one selection during the Funeral to honor their loved one. This must be prearranged in advance with our Director of Music at St. Luke's Parish.

Music stipends are not given to the Church but are paid directly to the Musicians. The stipend allotment for the organist is \$300; the stipend for the Cantor is \$200. These fees are to be paid by the funeral director directly to the musicians. They should be paid on the day of the funeral.

Recorded Music

We recognize the importance of certain recorded songs. Recorded music may be proper at a viewing or vigil service or at a reception but not during Mass.

Bag Pipes

Bag pipes are sometimes culturally important. As they are instruments designed to be played outdoors, we welcome their use on the steps of the church before or at the end of a service or to lead a procession out of church.

PLANNING SHEET FOR THE FUNERAL LITURGY

(Please complete this Planning Sheet and bring it with you to the meeting with the Priest.)

Gathering Song: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

First Reading *(see List of Old Testament Readings on page 6-7)*

Reader: _____

Responsorial Psalm: Shepherd Me, O God *(based on Psalm 23)*

Second Reading: *(see List of New Testament Readings on page 8-11)*

Reader: _____

Gospel Reading: *(see List of Gospel Readings on page 12-14)*

Universal Prayers (Prayer of the Faithful)

Reader: _____

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts Song: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

Presentation of the Bread and Wine: *(usually 2 people)*

Communion Song: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

Communion Meditation Song: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

Final Commendation and Farewell: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

Sending Forth Song: *(see List of Funeral Songs on page 5)*

Opportunities for Family Participation

We encourage family members and friends to take part in the Liturgy of the Word by reading the First Reading, Second Reading, and the Universal Prayers (Prayer of the Faithful). Copies of the authorized readings are included at the back of this booklet. We also encourage family members and friends to take part in the Presentation of the Bread and Wine (usually 2 people).

MUSIC OPTIONS: (Choose one song from each category)

Gathering Song

Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
Here I Am, Lord
Lift High the Cross

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts Song

Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
Eye Has Not Seen
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
How Great Thou Art
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Prayer of St. Francis (Make Me a Channel of Your Peace)
Shelter Me, O God
We Have Been Told
You Are Mine

Communion Song

Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
One Bread, One Body
Taste and See
We Have Been Told
We Will Rise Again (Haas)
You Are Mine
You Are Near

Communion Meditation

Ave Maria
Lady of Knock

Final Commendation and Farewell (Incensing of Casket)

Irish Blessing (*"May the road rise up to meet you...."*)
Go With God (*"Go with God, where chains will never bind you...."*)
Celtic Song of the Angels (*tune: Oh Danny Boy*)(*"May choirs of angels lead you into paradise...."*)
May the Angels Lead You Into Paradise

Sending Forth Song

How Great Thou Art
I Am the Bread of Life
Let There Be Peace on Earth
On Eagle's Wings
We Shall Rise Again

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (choose one)

#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, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

The word of the Lord.

#2 Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the Book of Job

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

The word of the Lord.

#3a Wisdom 3: 1-9 (longer version)

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

The word of the Lord.

#3b Wisdom 3: 1-6, 9 (shorter version of #3)

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

#4 Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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

The word of the Lord.

#5 Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the Lord for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The word of the Lord.

#6 Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the Lord. The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope: the favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; they are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness. My portion is the Lord, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him. Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; it is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

#7 Daniel 12: 1-3

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard this word of the Lord: at that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

The word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS (choose one)

#1 Romans 5:1-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

The word of the Lord.

#2 Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

The word of the Lord.

#3a Romans 6:3-9 (long version)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

#3b Romans 6:3-4, 8-9 (short version)

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.

The word of the Lord.

#4 Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

The word of the Lord.

#5 Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

The word of the Lord.

#6 Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we 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.

#7a 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (long version)

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

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

The word of the Lord.

OR

#7b 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 (short version)

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

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall be all brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

#8 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

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

Brothers and sisters: Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, than the word that is written shall come about: Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

#9 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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

Brothers and sisters: Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

The word of the Lord.

#10 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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

Brothers and sisters: We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

#11 Philippians 3:20-21 A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

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

The word of the Lord.

#12 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 sister, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

#13 2 Timothy 2:8-13 A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

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

The word of the Lord.

#14 1 John 3:1-2 A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

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

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL READINGS (choose one)

#1. Matthew 5:1-12

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. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

#2. Matthew 11:25-30

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 your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” **The Gospel of the Lord.**

#3. Matthew 25:31-46

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.

#4. John 6:37-40

Jesus said to the crowd: “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.

#5. John 6:51-58

Jesus told the crowd: “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.

#6. John 11:17-27 or 11:21-27

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

#7. John 11:32-45

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.

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#8. John 12:23-28 or 12:23-26

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.” The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

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