

Funeral Mass Readings

(Sometimes the readings of the day of the deceased's feast day are very appropriate.)

■ Old Testament Readings

- ___ Job 19:1, 23-27a *"I know that my redeemer lives"*
- ___ Wisdom 3:1-9 *"The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God"*
- ___ Wisdom 4:7-15 *"Length of days is not what makes one honorable"*
- ___ Isaiah 25:6-9 *"God will destroy Death forever"*
- ___ Lamentations 3:17-26 *"The Lord is good to those who trust"*
- ___ Daniel 12:1-3 *"When that time comes, your own people will be spared"*
- ___ Maccabees 12:43-45 *"It is good and holy to think of the dead rising again"*

■ New Testament (non-Gospel) Readings

- ___ Acts 10:34-43 *"God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone"*
- ___ Romans 5:5-11 *"Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our Hearts"*
- ___ Romans 5:17-21 *"Grace will reign to bring eternal life"*
- ___ Romans 6:3-9 *"Having died with Christ we shall return to life with Him"*
- ___ Romans 8:14-23 *"What we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory which is waiting for us"*
- ___ Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 *"With God on our side, who can be against us?"*
- ___ Romans 14:4-12 *"The life and death of each of us has its influence on others"*
- ___ 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 *"All people will be brought to life in Christ"*
- ___ 1 Corinthians 14:51-57 *"Death is swallowed up in victory"*
- ___ 2 Corinthians 4:14 – 5:1 *"There is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home"*
- ___ 2 Corinthians 5:1 – 6:10 *"We go by faith and not by sight"*
- ___ Philippians 3:20-21 *"He will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of His glorious body"*
- ___ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *"We shall stay with the Lord forever"*
- ___ 2 Timothy 2:8-13 *"If we have died with Him, we shall live with Him"*
- ___ 1 John 3:1-2 *"We shall be like Him because we shall see Him"*
- ___ 1 John 3:14-16 *"We have passed from death to life"*
- ___ Revelation 14:13 *"Happy are those who die in the Lord"*
- ___ Revelation 20:11 – 21:1 *"The dead have been judged according to their works"*
- ___ Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7 *"There will be no more death"*

Funeral Mass Readings

▪ Gospel Readings

- ___ Matthew 5:1-12a *(The Beatitudes) "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven"*
- ___ Matthew 11:25-30 *"Come to me...and I will give you rest"*
- ___ Matthew 25:1-13 *(Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids) "Stay awake, for you do not know the day or hour"*
- ___ Matthew 25:31-46 *(Parable of the last Judgment) "Come, inherit the kingdom prepared for you"*
- ___ Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6 *(Jesus from the cross and at the empty tomb) "He has risen, He is not here"*
- ___ Luke 7:11-17 *(The raising of the widow's son) "Young man, I say to you arise"*
- ___ Luke 12:53-40 *(Parable of the wise servants) "Be prepared...have your lamps burning"*
- ___ Luke 23:33, 39-43 *(To the repentant thief on the cross) "Today you will be with me in paradise"*
- ___ Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53 *(Jesus on the cross) "Father, I put my life in your hands"*
- ___ Luke 24:13-35 *(On the road to Emmaus) "They recognized Him in the breaking of the bread"*
- ___ John 5:24-29 *"Whoever listens to my words and believes has eternal life"*
- ___ John 6:37-40 *"Whoever believes in the Son shall have eternal life"*
- ___ John 6:51-59 *"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has life eternal"*
- ___ John 11:17-2 *"I am the resurrection and the life"*
- ___ John 11:32-45 *(The raising of Lazarus) "Many who had seen what He did believe in Him"*
- ___ John 12:23-28 *"If a grain of wheat fall on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest"*
- ___ John 14:1-6 *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"*
- ___ John 17:24-26 *"Father, I want those You have given me to be with me where I am"*
- ___ John 19:17-18 *(Jesus on the cross) "Bowing His head, He gave up his spirit"*

COMMUNION HYMN

Sung as the faithful come forward to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion.

Suggestions: *Panis Angelicus* (can be sung solo by Cantor)
Eat this Bread
I Am the Bread of Life
Taste and See
Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All
Eye Has Not Seen
Shepherd of Souls
Shepherd Me, O God
O Sacrament Most Holy

SONG OF FAREWELL

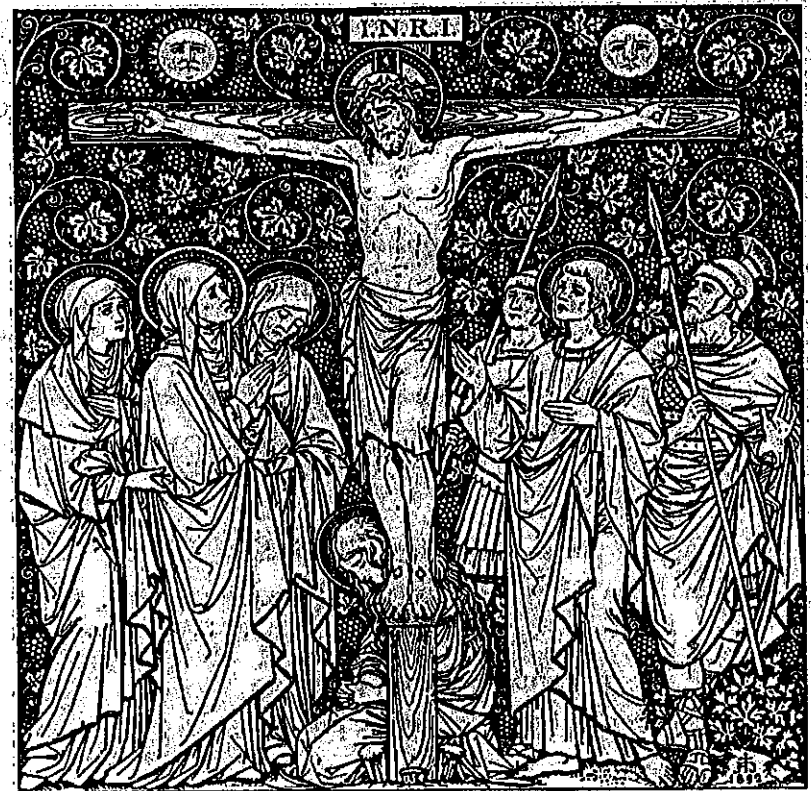
The hymn, "Come to His / Her Aid, O Saints of God," is sung while the casket is incensed and sprinkled with Holy Water. This is omitted if the body was cremated.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Sung as the body, celebrant, servers, and family process out of the church.

Options: *In Paradisum / May Choirs of Angels*
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
God, We Praise You
How Great Thou Art
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Jesus, Remember Me (small funerals / Lent)
Alleluia, Let the Holy Anthem Rise (Eastertide)

MUSIC OPTIONS



MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

*Church of St. Mary, Help of Christians
Sleepy Eye, Minnesota*

CELEBRANT _____ PHONE # _____

(Please call if you need help or have questions. Once selections are completed, please call priest or parish office at (507)-794-4121.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As the celebrant leaves the Sacristy and to receive the body into the Church, the Cantor chants the Entrance Antiphon for the Funeral Mass, "Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

OPENING HYMN _____

Sung while the priest and servers process to the sanctuary, and the family processes into church and find their seats.

Suggestions: **Lord of All Hopefulness**
 Be Thou My Vision
 Amazing Grace
 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (not during Lent)
 Here I Am, Lord
 Be Not Afraid
 Sing with All the Saints in Glory

RESPONSORIAL PSALM _____

The Psalm is proclaimed between the First and Second Readings.

Options: **Psalm 23** (The Lord is my Shepherd...)
 Psalm 27 (The Lord is my light & my salvation)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung after the Second Reading. "Alleluia," & verse, except during Lent.

OFFERTORY HYMN _____

Sung as the gifts are prepared.

Suggestions: **Ave Maria** (can be sung solo by the Cantor)
 We Walk by Faith
 Prayer of St. Francis
 Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
 Servant Song
 On Eagle's Wings
 Jerusalem, My Happy Home
 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
 O Sacred Head, Surrounded
 Abide with Me
 Hail Holy Queen (v. 3, "and when our life-breath leaves us, / show us thy Son, Christ Jesus.)

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS _____

The Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Agnus Dei, are sung.

Options: **Heritage Mass**
 Chant Mass (the shortest setting, especially ideal in situations where the congregation is unlikely to sing)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

As the celebrant receives Communion, the Cantor sings the Communion Antiphon of the Funeral Mass: "May eternal light shine upon them, O Lord, in the company of Your Saints for eternity, for You are full of goodness."