

*Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Boise, Idaho*



Liturgy Planning
For
Funerals & Memorials

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Arranging Funerals and Memorials

The sadness of death should give way in our liturgy to the promise of resurrected life. Our celebration of a person's life should reflect our conviction that in Jesus Christ we have life beyond life.

Sacred Heart is pleased to offer its parishioners and friends the complete rites as a means of consolation for the living and grace-filled assistance for the deceased. These rites, which include a funeral Mass and the possibility of a vigil in the church or funeral home, are most properly celebrated in the parish church of the deceased, in the presence of their faith community.

Funerals at Sacred Heart are therefore limited to Catholic parishioners and to those with significant ties to the parish.

Funerals are normally held at 11 a.m. Monday to Friday and other times by special arrangement, depending on clergy and church availability. A vigil is normally held the afternoon or evening before, at the church or at the funeral home.

The first step to take when planning a funeral liturgy is to call the parish office (344-8311).

**Fr. Rob Cook
Pastor**

SERVICES WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER YOU

The most common form of Catholic funeral has the following elements:

1. Vigil service with either the body or ashes present.
2. Funeral Mass or service with either the body or ashes present.
3. Graveside service with burial of the body or interment of the ashes.

Another option is a memorial Mass or service with no remains present. These can take place close to the time of death or at some convenient time for the gathering of friends and family.

TYPES OF VIGIL SERVICE

1. Prayer service (*suitable for congregations of mixed faiths*)
2. Prayer service with rosary – see below (*suitable for congregations of mixed faiths*)
3. Rosary alone – usually five decades of the rosary (*suitable when most of the congregation is Catholic*).

The vigil service may be held at the funeral home, the church or at a private home. This could mean that you decide to have it at the home of the deceased. Vigils may be led by a priest or deacon. The vigil is the best time to have memorials, eulogies, as well as secular music and readings, such as poems.

AN OUTLINE OF A VIGIL SERVICE WITH ROSARY

Introductory Rites

This includes prayers and an introduction from the priest or deacon.

Scripture Readings

These commonly include a short reading from scripture to illustrate a decade of the rosary followed by the praying of that decade. There are usually three or four meditations. (A homily may follow the readings if desired).

Recitation of the Rosary

This may include a full rosary or a partial rosary.

Reflections or Eulogies

Concluding Prayers

Prayers conclude the vigil service.

TYPES OF FUNERAL MASS

1. **Funeral Mass with body or ashes present.**

The funeral Mass is held at the church. The remains are treated with great respect (including ashes). At the entrance to the church the body is sprinkled with holy water, a white pall is placed over the casket, and crucifix is placed on top. These are reminders of our baptism and our faith in the promise of eternal life. This is followed by a procession into the body of the Church. In the case of cremation, an urn of ashes may be carried in procession or placed on a table at the front of the church before the service begins. A flag may be placed on the casket upon departing the church for the graveside service.

2. **Memorial Mass (no remains present)**

The memorial Mass is held in church just like a funeral Mass, but no remains are present. The opening of Mass is like a more usual Mass with an opening song, greeting and penitential rite.

3. **Memorial Service (no Mass)**

This service may be held for a deceased Catholic whose family is not Catholic. A priest or deacon can lead the memorial service following the outline for The Liturgy of the Word with a brief tribute and music.

AN OUTLINE OF A FUNERAL MASS

Introductory Rites*

At the entrance to the church the body is sprinkled with holy water and symbols are placed. The procession follows.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm (usually sung)
Second Reading (optional)
Gospel Reading
Homily
Prayers of the Faithful

Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Offertory* (*Bread and wine are brought to the altar*)
The Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord's Prayer and The Sign of Peace
Communion*

Final Commendation and Farewell

The body is incensed and a Song of Farewell is generally sung.
Recessional*

**Hymns and solos may be inserted at these points*

You may wish to think of people from your family and friends who can:

- Read the 1st reading and 2nd reading
(It is helpful if the readers are familiar with the Mass and have read during Mass before.)
Copies of the authorized readings are included at the back of this booklet. Other scriptures may be possible with consultation of the priest or may be included in a vigil service.
- Bring forward the gifts of bread and wine

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Tributes and eulogies

Normally individual tributes should be reserved for the vigil service the afternoon or evening before the day of the Funeral Mass or for a reception following. The homily at Mass is when the priest or deacon will preach on the gospel you have chosen and can make specific references to the deceased.

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 in the church.

Financial considerations

It is customary to give the priest and/or deacon a stipend when they preside at a service. Donations to the church and stipends may be paid through the funeral home or directly by a family member. They should be paid on or before the day of the funeral.

Flowers

We welcome flowers and wreaths as part of the funeral celebration. You may consider leaving one flower arrangement for the church to use at the weekend Masses.

MUSIC

Music is an important part of ritual, and we encourage families to make full use of the Church's rich tradition and the parish's musical resources.

Music before and after the Mass

Music for all liturgies is under the direction of the parish music directors (344-8311).

Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs

During a liturgy that lasts around 60 minutes, it is good to allow everyone present to participate fully in the singing. The hymns, psalms and spiritual songs that are chosen need to be familiar to a good number of the congregation so that the singing is strong. Our hymnal contains many fine items from which you may wish to choose. There may be material not included in our resources that you wish to use. In this case, we will need to arrange for the words to be printed. In all cases, you should talk with one of our music directors as soon as you are able.

Soloists and Choirs

Many people like to have a solo, such as Schubert's *Ave Maria*, sung. We recommend that one of our cantors lead the singing of the Psalm and the Eucharistic music, and sing one or more of the many appropriate solos that you may choose. It is sometimes possible for one of our choirs to sing, or for professional singers to be hired. Our music directors will be pleased to advise you on this and help with choices.

Suggested donations for a cantor and pianist are \$100 each, but any donation is acceptable. These fees may be paid through the funeral home or by a family member directly to the musicians.

Recorded Music

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

MUSIC FOR FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL MASSES

The most commonly requested hymns

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Amazing Grace | How Can I Keep | How Great Thou Art |
| I am the Bread of Life | From Singing | You Are Mine |
| On Eagle's Wings | Morning Has Broken | Be Not Afraid |
| Into Your Hands, Lord | Shepherd of My Heart | Parable |
| Loving and Forgiving | Fly Like a Bird | In Every Age |
| Here I Am, Lord | Prayer of St. Francis | Song of Simeon |
| | Age to Age | |

Other hymns and songs may be requested.

Psalms

Shepherd Me, O God
Because the Lord is
My Shepherd
As the Deer Longs
The Lord is My Light

Solos

Ave Maria (Schubert)
Ave Maria (Gounod)
Panis Angelicus
Pie Jesu
I Can Only Imagine

Eucharistic

Acclamations
Mass of Creation
Heritage Mass
Mass of Hope
Mass of Glory

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 after a service or to lead a procession out of church. We do not allow them to be played during a service.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

1. Job 19:1, 23-27

A reading from the book of Job

Then Job answered and said: Oh, would that my words were written down!

Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:

my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him,

And from my flesh I shall see God;

my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

2. Wisdom 3:1-9 or 3:1-6. 9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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 the elect.

The Word of the Lord

3. Wisdom 4:7-14

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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

4. Isaiah 25: 6. 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

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

6. Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

I, Daniel, mourned and I 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

7. 2Maccabees 12:43-46

A Reading from the second book of Maccabees

Judas (the ruler of Israel) then 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

8. Ecclesiastes (3:1-11)

A Reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to give birth, 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 profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

1. Psalm 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/.*

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/.*

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

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/.*

2. Psalm 25

R/. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; to you I lift my soul.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD;
and your love are from of old.
In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD. *R/.*

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/.*

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/.*

3. Psalm 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/.*

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/.*

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/.*

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/.*

4. Psalm 63

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, thirsting for you my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water. *R/.*

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary
to see your power and your glory,
for your kindness is a greater good than life;
my lips shall glorify you. *R/.*

Thus will I bless you while I live;
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.
As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul
be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth
shall praise you. *R/.*

You are my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me. *R/.*

5. Psalm 103

R/. The Lord is kind and merciful; the Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our
crimes. *R/*

As father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear
him.

For he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.. *R/*

But the kindness of the Lord is from eternity
to eternity toward those who fear him,
And his justice toward children's children
among those who keep his covenant and
remember to fulfill his precepts.. *R/*

6. Psalm 116

**R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in
the land of the living.**

How gracious is the Lord, and just;
Our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. *R/*

I trusted, even when I said: "I am sorely
afflicted,"
And when I said in my alarm:
"No man can be trusted." *R/*

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
Is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
You have loosened my bonds. *R/*

7. Psalm 130

**R/. With the Lord there is mercy and
fullness of redemption.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to my voice in supplication. *R/*

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,
LORD, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness,
that you may be revered. *R/*

I trust in the LORD;
my soul trusts in his word.
More than sentinels wait for the dawn,
let Israel wait for the Lord. *R/*

For with the LORD is kindness
and with him is plenteous redemption;
and he will redeem Israel
from all their iniquities. *R/*

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

1. Acts: 10:34-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "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 Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and (in) Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised (on) the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 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

Shorter form:

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

"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 Israelites 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

2. Romans 5:5-11

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

The Word of the Lord

3. Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

For if, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person 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 one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of 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

4. Romans 6:3-9

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

Shorter form:

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

5. Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

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

6. Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

What then shall we say to this? 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.

The Word of the Lord

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

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

None of us 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).

The Word of the Lord

8. Corinthians 15:20-23, 24b-28

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

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 itself, 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

Shorter form:

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

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.

The Word of the Lord

9. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

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

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

10. 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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

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

11. 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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

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. So 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 one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord

12. Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

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

13. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, 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

14. Colossians 3:1-4

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

15. 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

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

16. 2 Timothy 4:1-8

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity, will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths. But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord

17. 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of Saint John

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

18. 1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first letter of Saint John

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers (and sisters).

The Word of the Lord

19. Revelation 14: 12-13

A reading from the book of Revelation

Here is what sustains the holy ones who keep God's commandments and their faith in Jesus.

I heard a voice from heaven say,

"Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."

"Yes," said the Spirit,

"let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL READINGS

1. Matthew 5:1-12

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. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord

2. Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

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

4. John 6:37-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

8. John 12:23-28 or 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 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."*

The Gospel of the Lord

9. 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

10. John 17:24-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

"Father, my disciples 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."

The Gospel of the Lord