

Help for Planning a Funeral Liturgy



*Lord, I lean on your promise to be ever present,
especially now during this time of sorrow.
Wrap your loving arms around me.
Be my strength. Let me take refuge in you.
Cover me in your mercy and grant me peace.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

FUNERAL PLANNER

Date: _____

Name | First, Middle, Last: _____ [Nickname: _____]

Date of Birth: _____ [Date of Death: _____]

Place of Baptism | Church: _____ City, State: _____

Date and Time of Funeral: _____

Primary Family Contact: (Please indicate relationship) _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Other Immediate Family: _____

Funeral Home: _____ Director: _____ Phone/Email: _____

Priest Celebrant: _____ Specific clergy requested? _____

OTHER DETAILS: Funeral Luncheon: ☐ Yes, # _____ ☐ No Luncheon
Military Rites? ☐ Yes ☐ No

VIGIL for the DECEASED or ROSARY

"The vigil for the deceased is the principal rite celebrated by the Christian community in the time following death and before the funeral liturgy..." (OCF, 54.) If the deceased had the custom of praying the rosary, this may also be an option for the time of vigil.

Check one: ☐ Vigil | ☐ Rosary | [☐ Sharing of Memories]

Place: _____ Date/Time _____ Leader : _____

Notes: _____

FUNERAL LITURGY

☐ Mass

☐ Without Mass

Time of Visitation — *It is customary to have an hour of visitation in the church Narthex for one hour before the funeral. The casket is closed shortly before the funeral begins. Family and close friends are welcome to be present and assist with the closing of the casket to the extent they feel comfortable.*

Family assist with closing of casket: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Introductory Rites

The Welcoming of the Body or Cremated Remains: *For the baptized, the funeral liturgy begins with the casket or urn being sprinkled with Holy Water. The casket is draped by a large cloth ("pall") that signifies being "clothed in Christ" (Gal. 3:27). A pall is not used when the deceased has been cremated.*

Placing of the Pall: *Family or close friends are encouraged to assist. Indicate your preference below:*

☐ These individuals will help unfold the pall: _____

☐ Please have the Funeral Director place the pall

Liturgy of the Word

Selection of Scripture Readings *Review the readings and choose one from the Old Testament* and one from the New Testament. Also, please indicate who will be reading. If no one is interested in reading, the parish will provide a reader for the funeral.*

☐ First Reading | Old Testament: _____ Reader: _____

*[*During the Easter Season, the First Reading must come from the Eastertide Reading section]*

☐ Second Reading | New Testament: _____ Reader: _____

[Second Reading is optional – not required]

☐ Gospel: The priest will normally select the passage. If you have a preference, please indicate: [Suggested Gospel Passage: _____]

General Intercessions *These are read after the homily and will be prepared by the parish with your input. Please indicate who will be reading the Intercessions. If no one is interested in reading, the parish will provide a reader for you.*

☐ Reader(s): _____

☐ Names of close family members who have preceded in death:

☐ Is there a particular cause, person, or issue dear to your family that you would like included as an intercession, if appropriate? Perhaps a nursing home or hospice to be mentioned in prayer?

Liturgy of the Eucharist [Funeral Mass]

Presentation of the Gifts *For the Funeral Mass, at least two people are asked to assist in bringing forward the gifts of bread and wine for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The bread and wine will be the gift table, located near the main entry doors.*

☐ Gift Bearers: _____

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion *Occasionally, qualified special ministers are needed to help the priest and/or deacon distribute Holy Communion. If you know of any extraordinary ministers who will be attending the Mass, please indicate below. Extraordinary ministers have undergone training and received certification from their bishop.*

[☐ Ext. Minister(s) of Holy Communion: _____]

Final Commendation

Words of Remembrance / Family Remarks *The Order of Christian Funerals allow a friend or family member to speak "in remembrance of the deceased before the final commendation begins."* [no.197] *Rather than an extended eulogy, these words are to express appreciation for the life of the deceased, or take the form of a prayer or other inspirational text. Words of gratitude for those who attended the funeral and others who assisted are also fitting.*

*Only one family member or friend is to speak, and be brief – speaking **no more than 3-4 minutes**. Because of the intensity of the emotions at a Funeral, it is suggested that the "words of remembrance" be written down in advance and convey the consolation of God's love, grace, and mercy.*

Those who wish to give a eulogy or to share a story about the deceased more fittingly do so during the Viewing/Wake at the Funeral Home, following the prayers at the cemetery or during the luncheon.

☐ Yes, there will be Words of Remembrance given by _____

☐ No Words of Remembrance

RITE of COMMITTAL

The Rite of Committal is the final act of the community of faith caring for the body of its deceased member. Whenever possible, the rite is to be celebrated beside the open grave or place of internment. (OCF, 204)

Cemetery/Place of Internment: _____

Date and Time: _____ Minister: _____



MUSIC for the FUNERAL — *The parish music is responsible for ensuring appropriate sacred music is provided at all funeral liturgies. If you know musicians you would like to be involved, please contact the music director **prior** to making arrangements. If you have particular hymn selections, please indicate them below. See pp 13-14 for a list of appropriate hymns.*

Prelude (optional):	
Entrance Hymn:	
Responsorial Psalm:	
Presentation of Gifts:	
Holy Communion:	
Song of Farewell:	
Recessional Hymn:	
Other Requests:	

[Contact info for musician, if family is providing]

Name:

Phone:

Email:

First Reading Selections from the Old Testament

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

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

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.

Focus: As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

Wisdom 3:1-9 (long 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.

Focus: As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9 (short 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.
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.

Focus: An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

Wisdom 4:7-15

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 for 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.

More readings on next page

First Reading Selections from the Old Testament

Focus: A worthy wife.

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

When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is 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 works with loving 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 for her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

Focus: He will destroy death forever.

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

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!"

Focus: An appointed time for everything.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for
every affair 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 which God has appointed for
men to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has
put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever
discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God
has done.

Focus: I know that my vindicator lives.

Job 19:1, 23-27a

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.

First Reading Selections from the Old Testament

Focus: Father

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.
When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.
Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children
and, when he prays, is heard.
Whoever reveres his father will live a long life:
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My children, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him;
revile him not all the days of his life;
kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
firmly planted against the debt of your sins
--a house raised in justice to you.

Focus: A good wife.

Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16

Happy the husband of a good wife,
twice-lengthened are his days;
A worthy wife brings joy to her husband,
peaceful and full is his life.
A good wife is a generous gift
bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;
Be he rich or poor, his heart is content,
and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delight her husband,
her thoughtfulness puts flesh in his bones;
A gift from the Lord is her governed speech,
and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.
Choicest of blessings is a modest wife,
priceless her chaste person.
Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the
radiance of her home.

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

Lamentations 3:17-26

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.

Focus: Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.

Daniel 12:1-3

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.

FIRST READINGS FOR EASTER SEASON

(Note: During the Easter season one of these four readings is used as a first reading *instead* of a passage from the Old Testament.)

Focus: He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

Short Version: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-36, 42-43

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

Focus: He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

Long Version: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, 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."

Focus: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Revelation 14:13

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

Focus: The dead were judged according to their deeds.

Revelation 20:11-21:1

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

Focus: There shall be no more death.

Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of the heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

Selections for the Second Reading are on the next page

Second Reading Selections from the New Testament

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

Romans 5:5-11

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 received reconciliation.

Focus: Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.

Romans 5:17-21

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 of 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 man 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.

Focus: We too might live in newness of life.

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Are you aware that we who are 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.

Focus: We too might live in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-9 (long version)

Brothers and Sisters:

Are you aware that we who are 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.

More readings on next page

Second Reading Selections from the New Testament

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

Romans 8:14-23

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

Focus: What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

Brothers and Sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Focus: Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer.

Romans 12:9-18

Brothers and Sisters:

Your love must be sincere.

Detest what is evil, cling to what is good.

Love one another with the affection of brothers.

Anticipate each in showing respect.

Do not grow slack but be fervent in spirit;

he whom you serve is the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer.

Look on the needs of the saints as your own, be generous in offering hospitality.

Bless your persecutors;

bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice,

weep with those who weep.

Have the same attitude toward all.

Put away ambitious thoughts and associate with those who are lowly,

do not be wise in your own estimation.

Never repay injury with injury.

See that your conduct is honorable in the eyes of all. If possible, live peaceably with everyone.

Focus: Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

Brothers and Sisters:

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

*As I live, says the Lord, every knee
shall bend before me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.*

So then, each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

More readings on next page

Second Reading Selections from the New Testament

Focus: So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (long version)

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 man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. 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 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.

Focus: So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 (short version)

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 man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. 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 firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

Focus: Death is swallowed up in victory.

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Brothers and Sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

Brothers and Sisters:

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

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

Focus: We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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.

Focus: He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.

Philippians 3:20-21

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.

Second Reading Selections from the New Testament

Focus: Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

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

2 Timothy 2:8-13

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 Jesus Christ, 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.

Focus: We shall see him as he is.

1 John 3:1-2

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.

Focus: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.

1 John 3:14-16

Beloved:

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.

End of reading selections

Music Selections

[This is not an exhaustive list, only suggestions. You may use a hymnal to help make your selections.]

All music in the church should serve to direct the people's attention to the sacredness of the Liturgy and the presence of Christ. No secular or pre-recorded music (including accompaniments) is appropriate in the church. Non-liturgical songs or pre-recorded music may be part of the wake/vigil service at the funeral home or a luncheon.

Suggested Processional Hymns

All Creatures of our God and King	On Eagles Wings
Amazing Grace	The Canticle of the Sun
Be Not Afraid	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Eye Has Not Seen	The Strife is O'er
Glory and Praise to our God	There are Many Rooms
Hosea	Though the Mountains May Fall
Love Divine, All Love's Excelling	We Walk By Faith

Suggested Psalm Refrains

Psalm 19: Lord, You Have the Words of Everlasting Life	Psalm 34: The Lord Hears the Cry of the Poor
Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God	Psalm 40: Here I am
Psalm 25: To You, O Lord I Lift my Soul	Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful
Psalm 27: The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation	Psalm 116: Center of My Life
Psalm 27: In the Land of the Living	

Suggested for Hymns for Preparation of the Altar

Amazing Grace	On Eagles Wings
Blest Are They	Only This I Want
Here I Am, Lord	Prayer of St. Francis (<i>Make Me A Channel</i>)
Hosea	Precious Lord, Take My Hand
I Am the Vine	Remember Your Love
I Have Loved You	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Let There Be Peace on Earth	The Servant Song
Like a Shepherd	There are Many Rooms
Love Divine, All Love's Excelling	Unless a Grain of Wheat
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace	Center of My Life

Suggested Communion Hymns

Amazing Grace	Now We Remain
Be Not Afraid	On Eagles Wings
Blest are They	One Bread, One Body
Center of My Life	Only This I Want
Eat This Bread	Remember Your Love
Gift of Finest Wheat	Shepherd Me, O God
Here I Am, Lord	Take and Eat This Bread
I Am the Bread of Life	Taste and See
I Am the Vine	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
I Have Loved You	Unless a Grain of Wheat
Look Beyond	You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Suggested Meditation after Communion (Optional)

Ave Maria (<i>Latin Text</i>)	Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
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Song of Farewell

This Day in New Jerusalem (May Angels Welcome You) <i>preferred</i>	Song of Farewell (Sung to tune of <i>Danny Boy</i>)
The Hand of God Shall Hold You	Song of Farewell (Tune of Old One Hundredth)

Suggested Recessional Hymns

All Creatures of our God and King	Let There Be Peace on Earth
Amazing Grace	Love Divine, All Love's Excelling
City of God	Sing With All the Saints in Glory (<i>Hymn to Joy</i>)
Eye Has Not Seen	The Canticle of the Sun
Glory and Praise to our God	The Strife is O'er
Holy God We Praise Thy Name	There are Many Rooms
How Great Thou Art	Though the Mountains May Fall
Joyful, Joyful We Adore You	We Walk By Faith

FEES & REQUESTED OFFERINGS (as of 5/20/25)

Holy Trinity Parish is a charitable organization with the mission of ministering to people in all phases of their faith journey, from birth to death. Although one cannot put a price on compassion and service, we do have operating costs. That's why we ask those who benefit from funeral services to help with expenses.

Traditionally, the matter of fees is handled by the funeral home. When families choose to forgo the services of a funeral home, parish staff will help.

Below are the requested fees and offerings to help our parish remain strong and help those who are less fortunate. **Additionally, we would be most grateful if Holy Trinity Catholic Parish or Holy Trinity Catholic School was designated as a recipient of memorials in your loved one's name.**

Church Stipends and Fees:

Organist/Pianist \$150 Check payable to: Name of Musician

Vocal Musicians \$75 Check payable to **Holy Trinity** for distribution to the musicians.

Requested Minimum Offerings, Honorariums or Gifts:

- Funeral and Visitation: \$300 (one hour visitation before funeral)
 - Check payable to **Holy Trinity**
- Priest/Deacon Honorarium at family's discretion
 - Check payable to Name of Priest or Deacon
- Leader of Rosary or Vigil Honorarium at family's discretion
 - Check payable to Name of Vigil Rosary leader
- Altar Servers (2): Gift at family's discretion (perhaps \$5-10 per server given at church)

Luncheon Donation: Luncheons are provided if the deceased had been an active, contributing Holy Trinity Parishioner. Volunteers serve the lunch and parishioners donate desserts and side dishes. This helps minimize the expense of luncheons, but there remains a cost for the main meal, serving supplies, set-up, clean-up, etc. A suggested donation is \$3 per person who attends. Family members are given the opportunity bring leftovers home.

Burial Fees:

Burials at Holy Trinity Cemetery are arranged by the funeral home and/or the Cemetery Sexton, David Homrich. The cost varies depending on the type of burial and other circumstances.

If a family is experiencing financial hardship, please contact Fr. Chris Rouech, pastor, at 616) 784-0677, ext. 114 | frchris@holytrinitycp.org.

Nearly everything we accomplish at Holy Trinity is through the freewill offerings of our members who unite themselves to Christ and his self-giving. Whatever you give, it will be accepted as your gift of gratitude to God for the life of the person whose passing you now mourn. Our prayers for you and your beloved departed will continue for years to come.

*Cultivating faith and sharing its fruits
since 1848*



HOLY TRINITY
CATHOLIC PARISH

Comstock Park, MI

Cultivating faith since 1848

1200 Alpine Church Road NW | Comstock Park, MI 49321

Parish Office: 616.784.0677 ext. 110

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