

*Preparing to Celebrate  
the Funeral Mass*

*St. Margaret Church  
Madison, CT*

*Funeral Mass Ministry*

*Funeral Ministry Contact:*

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*Phone:* \_\_\_\_\_

## **Planning a personal funeral service.**

This booklet contains a variety of prayers, readings and traditions included in the official Catholic ritual for Christian funerals. The rite encourages you, working with a member of the Funeral Mass Ministry, to select those most suitable to you.

## **Readings.**

In this booklet is a list of prayers and scriptural readings.

You may select one for each of the following:

- Opening Prayer
- Old Testament
- Responsorial Psalm
- New Testament
- Gospel
- Prayers of the Faithful

The priest will give a brief homily based on your choices.

## **Music.**

A selection of hymns is suggested for the following:

- Entrance
- Presentation of Gifts
- Communion
- Recessional

These may be interchanged. Please keep in mind, secular music is not appropriate.

## **The color of the priest's vestments.**

The priest's choice of white vestments symbolizes Christian hope. Purple may also be worn as a sign of mourning.

## **Placing of the Pall.**

The pall reminds us of the garment given at baptism, which symbolizes our life in Christ. It is draped over the coffin at the beginning of the liturgy. Family members or friends are encouraged to place the pall, although it may be done by the funeral personnel.

### **Sprinkling of the casket.**

We first share in the resurrection of the Lord through baptism. The priest sprinkles holy water over the casket, recalling the initial washing in baptism.

### **Easter or paschal candle.**

The paschal candle symbolizes the risen Christ and tells us He has conquered sin and death and now lives in our midst. In the Catholic funeral service, the candle is placed before the casket as a reminder that the deceased shares in Jesus' victory over death.

### **Presentation of Gifts.**

The church encourages family members or friends to bring up the gifts of bread and wine to the altar.

### **Holy Communion.**

The Eucharist is the most perfect way to share in the Funeral Mass. We welcome to Holy Communion those who practice the Catholic faith and are properly disposed.

### **Eulogy.**

A family member or friend may speak for up to five minutes in remembrance of the deceased. The eulogy should not overshadow the principal focus of the Church's Liturgy. This is an occasion to cite some of the ways in which the effects of Christ's death and resurrection in the life of the departed have inspired us and deepened the faith of others during his or her life. Others wishing to speak may do so at the funeral home during calling hours.

### **Incensing of the body.**

During the Funeral Mass, the priest walks around the casket and incenses the body as a sign of our respect for the remains. Incensing symbolizes our prayers for the deceased, rising to the throne of God, and it is a final farewell and commendation of the departed to God.

### **Cremation.**

When a family selects cremation, it is appropriate that the cremated remains of the body be present for the full course of the funeral rites.

## Opening Prayer (OP)

Please select one from the following:

### **OP-1** General

God of faithfulness,  
in your wisdom you have called your servant ..N.. out of this world; release him/her from the bonds of sin, and welcome him/her into your presence, so that he/she may enjoy eternal light and peace and be raised up in glory with all your saints.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

### **OP-2** General

Lord, in our grief we turn to you.  
Are you not the God of love who opens your ears to all? Listen to our prayers for your servant ..N., whom you have called out of this world: Lead him/her to your kingdom of light and peace and count him/her among the saints in glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

### **OP-3** General

God of all consolation, open our hearts to your word, so that, listening to it, we may comfort one another, finding light in time of darkness and faith in time of doubt.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

### **OP-4** General

Into your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brother/sister ..N.. In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love; deliver him/her now from every evil and bid him/her enter eternal rest.

The old order has passed away: welcome him/her then into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, but into the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

**We ask this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen**

**OP-5**            General

O God,  
to whom mercy and forgiveness belong, hear our prayers on behalf of your servant ..N.., whom you have called out of this world; and because he/she put his/her hope and trust in you, command that he/she be carried safely home to heaven and come to enjoy your eternal reward.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-6**            A baptized child

Lord,  
In our grief we call upon your mercy: open your ears to our prayers, and one day unite us again with ..N.., who, we firmly trust, already enjoys eternal life in your kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-7**            A baptized child

To you, O Lord,  
We humbly entrust this child, so precious in your sight. Take him/her into your arms and welcome him/her into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-8**            A baptized child

Most compassionate God, who in the counsels of your wisdom have called this little child to yourself on the very threshold of life, listen kindly to our prayers and grant that one day we may inherit eternal life with him (her), whom, by the grace of Baptism, you have adopted as your own child and who we believe is dwelling even now in your kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-9**            A young person

Lord,  
your wisdom governs the length of our days.  
We mourn the loss of ..N., whose life has passed so quickly, and we entrust  
him/her to your mercy.  
Welcome him/her into your heavenly dwelling and grant him/her the  
happiness of everlasting youth.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-10**            A young person

Lord God,  
source and destiny of our lives, in your loving providence you gave us ..N..  
to grow in wisdom, age and grace.  
Now you have called him/her to yourself.  
As we grieve the loss of one so young, we seek to understand your purpose,  
draw him/her to yourself and give him/her full stature in Christ.  
May he/she stand with all the angels and saints, who know your love and  
praise your saving will.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-11**            Parent(s)

God of our ancestors in faith,  
by the covenant made on Mount Sinai you taught your people to strengthen  
the bonds of family through faith, honor and love.  
Look kindly upon ..N., a father/mother who sought to bind his/her children to  
you. Bring him/her one day to our heavenly home where the saints dwell in  
blessedness and peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-12**            A married couple

Lord God,

Giver of all that is true and lovely and gracious, you created in marriage a sign of your covenant.

Look with mercy upon ..N.. and ..N.. You blessed them in their companionship, and in their joys and sorrows you bound them together.

Lead them into eternal peace, and bring them to the table where the saints feast together in your heavenly home.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-13**            A wife

Eternal God, You made the union of man and woman a sign of the bond between Christ and the Church.

Grant mercy and peace to ..N., who was united in love with her husband.

May the care and devotion of her life on earth find a lasting reward in heaven.

Look kindly on her husband and family/children as they now turn to your compassion and love.

Strengthen their faith and lighten their loss.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-14**            A husband

Eternal God, You made the union of man and woman a sign of the bond between Christ and the Church.

Grant mercy and peace to ..N., who was united in love with his wife.

May the care and devotion of his life on earth find a lasting reward in heaven.

Look kindly on his wife and family/children as they now turn to your compassion and love.

Strengthen their faith and lighten their loss.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-15** An elderly person

God of endless ages, from one generation to the next you have been our refuge and strength. Before the mountains were born or the earth came to be, you are God. Have mercy now on your servant ..N.. whose long life was spent in your service. Give him/her a place in your kingdom, where hope is firm for all who love and rest is sure for all who serve.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-16** An elderly person

God of mercy, look kindly on your servant ..N.. who has set down the burden of his/her years.

As he/she served you faithfully throughout his/her life, may you give him/her the fullness of your peace and joy. We give thanks for the long life of ..N.., now caught up in your eternal love. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus who is our risen Lord now and forever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-17** One who died after a long illness

God of deliverance,  
You called our brother/sister ..N.. to serve you in weakness and pain, and gave him/her the grace of sharing the cross of your Son.  
Reward his/her patience and forbearance, and grant him/her the fullness of Christ's victory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-18** One who died after a long illness

O God, You are the water for our thirst and the manna in our desert. We praise you for the life of ..N.. and bless your mercy that has brought his/her suffering to an end.

Now we beg that same endless mercy to raise him/her to new life. Nourished by the food and drink of heaven, may he/she rest forever in the joy of Christ our Lord.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen

**OP-19**                    One who died suddenly

Lord, as we mourn the sudden death of our brother/sister, show us the immense power of your goodness and strengthen our belief that ..N.. has entered into your presence.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R.** Amen

**OP-20**                    Outside Easter Time

O God, almighty Father, our faith professes that your Son died and rose again; mercifully grant, that through this mystery, your servant N., who has fallen asleep in Christ, may rejoice to rise again through Him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

*Or:*

O God, whose nature is always to forgive and to show mercy, we humbly implore you for your servant N., whom you have called (this day) to journey to you, and, since he (she) hoped and believe in you, grant that he (she) may be led to our true homeland to delight in its everlasting joys. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-21**

## Outside Easter Time

O God, who is mercy for sinners and the happiness of your Saints, give, we pray, to your servant N., for whom (today) we perform the fraternal offices of burial, a share with your chosen ones in the blessedness you give, so on the day of resurrection, freed from the bonds of mortality, he (she) may come before your face. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**Or:**

O God, who have set a limit to this present life, so as to open up an entry into eternity, we humbly beseech you, that by the grace of your mercy, you may command the name of your servant N., to be inscribed in the book of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-22**

## During Easter Time

Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord: as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, may our hope of resurrection from your departed servant N., also find new strength. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**Or:**

O God, who through the ending of present things open up the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that the soul of your servant N., may be led by you to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-23**            Other Prayers for Funeral Masses

O God, who alone is able to give life after death, free your servant N. from all sins that he (she), who believed in the Resurrection of your Christ, may, when the day of resurrection comes, be united with you in glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-24**            Other Prayers

O God, who knows that our hearts are weighed down by grief at the death of this young child, grant that, while we weep for him (her), who at your bidding has departed this life so soon, we may have faith that he (she) has gain an eternal home in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

**OP-25**            A Child Who Died before Baptism

Receive the prayers of your faithful, Lord and grant that those you allow to be weighed down by their longing for the child taken from them may be raised up by faith to hope in your compassion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

*Or:*

O God, searcher of hearts and most loving consoler, who knows the faith of these parents, grant that, as they mourn their child, now departed from this life, they may be assured that he (she) has been entrusted to your divine compassion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen

## Readings from the Old Testament (OT)

**OT – 1** *He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.*

2 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.

**OT – 2** *As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

Wisdom 3:1-6,9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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

For if in the eyes of 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.

**OT - 3** *an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.*

Wisdom 4: 7-25

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.

**OT - 4** *He will destroy death forever*

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.

**OT - 5** *A time for everything.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

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. I recognize that there is nothing better than to rejoice and to do well during life.

Moreover, that all can eat and drink and enjoy the good of all their toil – this is a gift from God.

The word of the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalms** (R)

The Responsorial Psalm is usually sung by the Organist with the congregation responding. However, if you prefer, it may be read.

**R - 1** Psalm 23            The Lord is my shepherd.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
    In verdant pastures he gives repose;  
Beside restful waters he leads me;  
    He refreshes my soul.  
He guides me in the right paths  
    for his name's sake.

**R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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

**R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Responsorial Psalm is usually sung by the Organist with the congregation responding. However, if you prefer, it may be read.

**R – 2** Psalm 27      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.** The Lord is my light and my salvation

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.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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.** The Lord is my light and my salvation

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.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

## **Readings from the New Testament (NT)**

**NT - 1** We too might live in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

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. 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.

**NT - 2** What will separate us from the love of Christ?

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 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 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, not height, nor depth, nor any creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**NT – 3** What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

1 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**NT – 4** A crown awaits me.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

I for my part am already being poured out like a libation. The time of my dissolution is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on a merited crown awaits me; on that Day the Lord, just judge that he is, will award it to me – and not only to me, but all who have looked for His appearing with eager longing.

The word of the Lord.

**NT -5** Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

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 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 the 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.

**NT - 6** Love endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-13

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

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, then I will understand fully, even though I have been fully understood.

So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord

**NT - 7** *There shall be no more death.*

Revelation 21:1-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of 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." Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true." He said to me, "They are accomplished. I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will 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.

The word of the Lord.

## **GOSPEL READINGS (G)**

**G - 1** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Matthew 5:1-12a

+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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G - 2** I shall raise him on the last day.

John 6:37-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G - 3** I am the resurrection and the life.

John 11:17-27

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only two miles away. Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G - 4** I wish that where I am they also may be.

John 17:24-26

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G - 5** In my Father’s house there are many dwellings.

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.

**G - 6** Come to me and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:25-30

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G - 7** If a grain of wheat fall on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

John 12:23-28

+ 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 Gospel of the Lord

## **General Intercessions**

### **Prayers of the Faithful - A**

Please select A, B, or C.

The Priest will announce the Prayers of the Faithful.

You then approach the lectern.

Wait for the Priest to say the following prayer:

Brothers and sisters,

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to His:

#### **YOU BEGIN**

The response will be: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

1. In baptism, ..N.. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death.

We pray to the Lord.

2. Our brother/sister, ..N.. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.

We pray to the Lord.

3. Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.

We pray to the Lord.

4. The family and friends of ..N.. seek consolation. Heal their pain and comfort them in their grief.

We pray to the Lord.

5. We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister ..N.. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming.

We pray to the Lord.

6. For those who rendered loving care to ..N.. in his/her final days. May they be blessed for their compassion.

We pray to the Lord.

Wait at the lectern until the Priest concludes with the following prayer:

Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom, We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Return to your seat.

## **General Intercessions**

### **Prayers of the Faithful - B**

#### **YOU BEGIN**

The response will be: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

1. For ..N.. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he may now be admitted to the company of the saints.  
We pray to the Lord.
2. For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day.  
We pray to the Lord.
3. For our deceased relatives and friends who have gone before us, grant them an everlasting home with your Son.  
We pray to the Lord.
4. For ..N.. family and friends that they may be consoled in their grief.  
We pray to the Lord.
5. For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.  
We pray to the Lord.
6. For the dedicated nurses and staff who cared for ..N.. that they may be blessed for their patience and compassion.  
We pray to the Lord.

Wait at the lectern until the Priest concludes with the following prayer:

Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom, We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Return to your seat.

## **General Intercessions**

### **Prayers of the Faithful - C**

#### **YOU BEGIN**

The response will be: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

1. That ..N.. may rejoice in the gift of eternal rest and everlasting life.  
We pray to the Lord.
2. That the family and friends of ..N.. may find solace from their sorrow through their faith in Jesus who conquered death for us all.  
We pray to the Lord.
3. That the ill and dying and all who are heavily burdened may receive Jesus' gift of comfort.  
We pray to the Lord.
4. That all who have died may rest in the peace and joy of Jesus.  
We pray to the Lord.
5. The family and friends of ..N.. seek consolation. Heal their pain and comfort them in their grief.  
We pray to the Lord.
6. Lord Jesus, gentle Shepherd who brings rest to our souls, grant peace to ..N.. forever.  
We pray to the Lord.

Wait at the lectern until the Priest concludes with the following prayer:

Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Return to your seat.

## **Record of Selections**

### **Placing of the Pall: by family**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Opening Prayer: by Priest**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

### **1st Reading – Old Testament**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Pg. \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Name)

### **Responsorial Psalm: by organist**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Pg. \_\_\_\_\_

### **2nd Reading – New Testament**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Pg. \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Name)

### **Gospel**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Pg. \_\_\_\_\_

### **General Intercessions**

A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. \_\_\_\_\_ C. \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Name)

**Presentation of the Gifts**

Bought forward by: \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print Names)

**Remarks of Remembrance (Eulogy)**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print Name)

**Hymn Selections:**

Entrance \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation of Gifts \_\_\_\_\_

Communion \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES:



God of all consolation,  
In your unending love and mercy for us, you  
turn the darkness of death into the dawn of  
new life.  
Show compassion to your people in sorrow.  
Be our refuge and our strength to lift us from  
the darkness of this grief to peace and joy in  
your presence.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

