



Saint Joseph Parish Funeral Resource & Planning Book

*I AM THE
RESURRECTION
AND THE LIFE.
WHOEVER
BELIEVES IN ME
WILL NEVER DIE....*

We offer you our prayers and sympathy...

The people of Saint Joseph Parish offer you our prayerful support and deepest sympathy at this time of loss in your life. We wish to share with you our hope in the Lord Jesus and the life He has promised to those who believe. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Hope will bring you comfort and peace in this difficult time.

As a parish family, we at Saint Joseph constantly pray for our beloved dead and minister to those who are bereaved. If we can be of any assistance to your family now or in the future, please call us at the Parish Office at 330-928-2173.

This booklet is meant to assist you as you make your plans for the Mass of Christian Burial for your loved one. Please read it carefully and feel free to contact a Parish Staff member with any questions.

Rev. Jared Orndorff, Pastor

THE RITES OF THE CHURCH

You and your family will experience the Rite of Christian Burial in three distinct and important parts.

1) THE WAKE SERVICE. This will take place during the visiting hours at the funeral home. A Priest, Deacon or qualified lay person will lead this service of prayer and Scripture. *If desired, it would be most appropriate at this time for a member of the family or a friend to remember the deceased by sharing personal memories as in a eulogy.*

2) THE FUNERAL LITURGY. This is the centerpiece of the celebration of Christian Burial. This is almost always celebrated within a Mass. The bodily remains are honored by being brought to the Church. We celebrate the life of the deceased in the whole context of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

3) THE COMMITTAL. A member of the Parish Staff, normally the Priest celebrant, will accompany the remains and the family to the cemetery where the Rite of Christian Burial will conclude with a brief graveside service.

THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE FUNERAL LITURGY

A funeral may be celebrated on any day of the week except Sundays and Holy Days. There are also some restrictions concerning funerals during Holy Week. The priest will discuss these restrictions as they apply. The normal time for funerals is 10:00 am.

All funeral liturgies are to be celebrated in the parish church. In the event that you feel a funeral liturgy outside of the context of Mass would be more appropriate for your circumstances, this should be discussed with the parish priest.

OFFERING FOR FUNERALS AT SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

The normal offering for a funeral is taken care of by the funeral director. But a wonderful way to remember your loved one is having a Mass offered for them. The Mass offering is \$10 and can be scheduled through the parish secretary.

PLANNING THE FUNERAL LITURGY

The funeral liturgy is one of the most beautiful and meaningful celebrations of the Church. Your family has the option of personalizing the Mass by choosing the Scripture readings and by requesting specific Church hymns. Readings must always be from Sacred Scripture and hymns selected must be consistent with Diocese of Cleveland liturgical guidelines. Secular music is strictly prohibited within the context of the Rite of Christian Burial.

When choosing, there should be one reading from the Old Testament, and one from the New Testament. (In the season of Easter, both readings are from the New Testament.) On the following pages, you will find the texts to read over and consider with your family members. If you prefer, the Parish Staff can make the choices for you.

The priest who will celebrate the Funeral Mass will choose the Gospel.

SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS:

FIRST READING SELECTIONS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Wisdom 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. 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...

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...

Wisdom 4:7-15

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom:

For the just man, though he should 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 perverts his mind or deceit beguiles 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...

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 is 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...

Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel:

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard this word of the Lord:

At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people;

It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;

Some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.

But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament,

And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

The Word of the Lord...

Isaiah 25:6-9

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 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...

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 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.

The Word of the Lord...

READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT DURING EASTER TIME

During Easter Time, these are the only readings that may be selected

Acts 10:34-43 (short form, 10:34-36, 42-43)

Omit the words in bolded brackets [] for the short form of this reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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."

The Word of the Lord...

Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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."

The Word of the Lord...

Revelation 20:11-21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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.

The Word of the Lord...

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

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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 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 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...

RESPONSORIAL PSALM SELECTIONS

The Responsorial Psalm is always sung

Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6 (Gather # 35)

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. He guides me in right paths for his name sake. **R/.**

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/.**

Psalm 25:6 and 7b, 17-18, 20-21 (Gather # 39)

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

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your kindness 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/.**

Psalm 27:1, 4, 7 and 8b and 9a, 13-14 (Gather # 41)

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 sound hearted and wait for the LORD. **R/.**

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (Gather # 55)

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

Psalm 103:8 and 10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18 (Gather # 75)

R/. 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 a 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/.**

Man's days are like those of grass; like a flower of the field he blooms; The wind sweeps over him and he is gone, and his place knows him no more. **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/.**

Psalm 122:1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (Gather # 84)

R/. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the LORD."

And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R/.**

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, according to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David. **R/.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper!

May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings. **R/.**

Because of my relatives and friend, I will say "Peace be within you!"

Because of the house of the LORD, our God, I will pray for your good. **R/.**

Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8 (Gather # 87)

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?

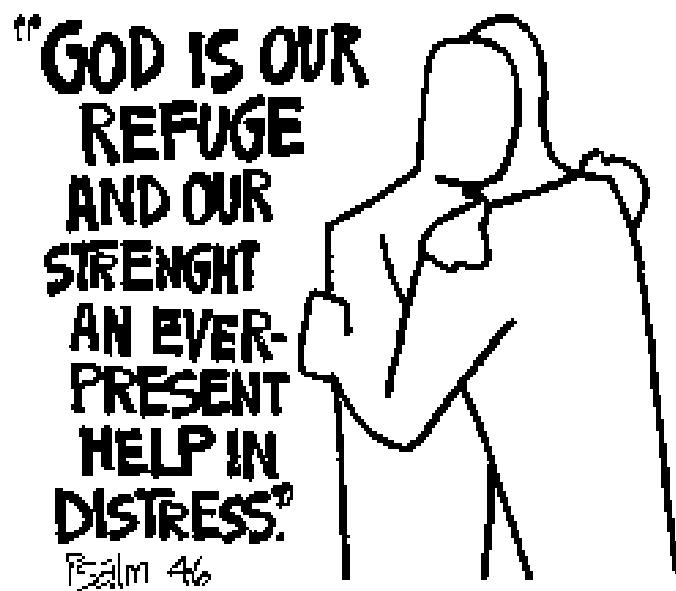
But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered. **R/.**

I trust in the LORD; my soul trusts in his word. My soul waits for the LORD more than the sentinels wait for the dawn. **R/.**

More than the sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the LORD,

For with the LORD is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption. **R/.**

And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities. **R/.**



SECOND READING SELECTIONS:

Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more 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...

Romans 6:3-9

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Through baptism into His death we were buried with Him, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. If we have been united with Him through likeness to His death, so shall we be through a like resurrection. This we know: our old self was crucified with Him so that the sinful body might be destroyed and we might be slaves to sin no longer. A man who is dead has been freed from sin. If we have died with Christ, we believe that we are also to live with Him. We know that Christ, once raised from the dead, will never die again; death has no more power over Him.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters: Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, "Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the 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...

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

If God is for us, who can be against us? Is it possible that He who did not spare His own Son but handed Him over for the sake of us all will not grant us all things besides? Who shall bring a charge against God's chosen ones? God, who justifies? Who shall condemn them? Christ Jesus, who died or rather was raised up, who is at the right hand of God and who intercedes for us?

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Trial, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or the sword? Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of Him who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death, nor life, neither angels, nor principalities, neither the present, nor the future, nor powers, neither height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord...

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters: No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

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

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

The Word of the Lord...

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (short form 15:20-23)

Omit the words in bolded brackets [] for the short form of this reading.

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

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 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. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet." But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.]

The Word of the Lord...

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

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

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

2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy:

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

The Word of the Lord...

1 John 3:1-2

A Reading from the First Letter of John:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God. Yet that in fact is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized the Son. Dearly beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall later be has not yet come to light. We know that when it comes to light we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

The Word of the Lord...

1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John:

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.

The Word of the Lord....

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

We would have you be clear about those who sleep in death, brothers; otherwise you might yield to grief, like those who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, God will bring forth with Him from the dead those also who have fallen asleep believing in Him. We say to you, as if the Lord Himself had said it, that we who live, who survive until His coming, will in no way have an advantage of those who have fallen asleep. No, the Lord Himself will come down from heaven at the word of command, at the sound of the archangel's voice and God's trumpet; and those who died in Christ will rise first. Then we, the living, the survivors, will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thenceforth we shall be with the Lord unceasingly. Console one another with this message.

The Word of the Lord...

Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians:

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

The Word of the Lord...

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...

Universal Prayer: A family member may read the petitions if you wish. They are here so that the reader may practice.

1. For N. who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she 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 and for all who have ended us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord.
4. For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord.
5. For the family and friends of our brother/sister N, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord.
6. 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.

FAMILY PARTICIPATION

During the ceremony the family and friends are encouraged to participate to the degree to which they feel comfortable. Members of the family are encouraged to place the white funeral pall on the casket, a gesture which recalls the deceased's Baptism.

Family members or friends who are practicing Roman Catholics may proclaim the readings, if doing so would not be an emotional burden. Family is also asked to have two to four people bring up the gifts of bread and wine for the Mass.

If you have any questions concerning your involvement in the funeral, please ask the Funeral Director or a member of the Parish Staff.

MUSIC AT THE FUNERAL LITURGY

Saint Joseph Parish will provide an organist and cantor for the funeral liturgy at the church. Family members are welcome to request specific hymns, especially if they were favorites of the deceased. **Secular music should not be played at a funeral liturgy.** On the following page is a list of commonly chosen hymns. This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list, but rather, some suggestions for you to consider. If you would like a hymn that's not listed, please speak to a Priest or the organist about the hymns so that we can be sure the organist can meet your requests.

MASS OFFERINGS FOR THE DECEASED

Mass cards for the intention of the deceased are available from the Parish Office. Donations for the specific purpose of Masses for the deceased may be presented to the parish office during normal business hours. An offering of \$10 is the requested donation for a Mass offering.

CREMATION

In recent years, the Church has modified her objection to the practice of cremation, now allowing the practice for the faithful departed. However, the Church does place certain restrictions on the final resting place of the cremains. Please consult with a Priest or Deacon if you have specific questions.

SUGGESTED MUSIC FOR FUNERAL MASSES

Any hymn in the Gather Hymnal or missalette is acceptable for congregational singing, depending on the liturgical season.

1. Suggested Opening or Closing Hymns

Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er #525 (cannot be used during Lent)
Here I Am Lord #777
Holy God We Praise Thy Name #615
How Great Thou Art #578
I Am the Bread of Life #945
On Eagles Wings #691
Sing with all the Saints in Glory (same tune as Joyful Joyful) #539

2. Suggested Offertory or Communion Hymns

Be Not Afraid #683
I Am the Bread of Life #945
I Receive the Living God #916
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Prayer of St. Francis) #828
On Eagles Wings #691
You Are Mine #721

3. The following can be available as a solo in place of the Offertory Hymn:

Ave Maria
Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled
Just A Closer Walk With Thee
Like A Shepherd
Panis Angelicus
Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Other hymns may be selected with the approval of the Priest and/or Music and Worship Director.



Saint Elizabeth Prayer of Widows and Widowers

Lord Jesus Christ, during your earthly life, you showed compassion on those who had lost a loved one. Turn your compassionate eyes on me in my sorrow over the loss of my life's partner. Take him/her into your heavenly kingdom as a reward for his/her earthly service. Help me to cope with my loss by relying on you even more than before.

Teach me to adapt to the new conditions of my life and to continue doing your will as I see it. Enable me to avoid withdrawing from life and make me give myself to others more readily, so that I may continue to live in your grace and to do the tasks that you have laid out for me.

Amen.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Pray for us

LITURGY PLAN FORM

We ask your family to take a few moments to review this brochure carefully and complete this form. Please give it to the priest who will have the funeral or to another Parish Rectory Staff member as soon as possible. Someone will contact you if there are any questions concerning your requests.

First Reading: _____

Proclaimed By: _____

Responsorial Psalm: The organist will choose and sing the Psalm if you do not have a special request.

Responsorial Psalm: _____

Second Reading: _____

Proclaimed By: _____

Gospel: The priest celebrating the funeral will choose the Gospel.

Prayers of the Faithful read by: _____

Gift Bearers: _____

Hymn Requests:

Opening: _____

Offertory: _____

Communion: _____

Closing: _____

[NOTE: If desired by the family, the organist will choose the hymns.]

Other Special Items:

If you have any questions, please call Saint Joseph Parish Rectory at 330 928-2173