

# Mother of Perpetual Help

200 North Lange Avenue Maryville, IL 62062 Phone: 618-344-6464 Fax: 618-344-6493

I speak for everyone at Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church as I offer you our sincere condolences for the loss of your loved one and assure you of our continued prayers for you and your family. No matter how young or old, the passing of someone we love is never easy. Now more than ever, I encourage you to place your Faith and Hope in the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The funeral home you are working with will contact me directly to coordinate the time and date of the Funeral services. I hope that this funeral planner is helpful in preparing a beautiful funeral liturgy for your loved one. Please reach out to Denise Guetterman (618-655-0455) to go through the funeral liturgy planner. The Parish Office must receive the Funeral Planning Sheet two days prior to the funeral. I am also happy to talk and/or meet with you before the funeral if you desire.

Again, our prayers are with you. May you know the consolation and Love of Jesus during this time. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

God bless you.

*Fr. Rob Johnson*

Reverend Robert Johnson

Pastor – Mother of Perpetual Help, Maryville, IL





**Planning for Catholic Funerals at  
Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church**

## INTRODUCTION

The Funeral Liturgy of the Catholic Church is not the personal prayer of the deceased or of the family of the deceased. As with every Liturgy of the Church, the Funeral Liturgy is an official, public prayer of the Church. In the case of the Funeral Liturgy, it is the Church's prayer for the immortal soul of the deceased and for the consolation of those loved ones left behind.

In the celebration of the funeral rites, the laity may serve as readers, musicians, ushers, pallbearers, and, if they are already commissioned to do so, as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The family is encouraged to assist the parish ministers in planning the funeral rites: in the choice of readings from the prescribed scriptural texts, the selection of music appropriate for the rites, and in the designation of liturgical ministers, such as servers and readers.

## **THREE PARTS TO A CATHOLIC FUNERAL**

In these three sequential rites, the Church offers to those who are mourning a way to prepare themselves spiritually and emotionally, to say their goodbyes. More and more Catholics are eliminating one or more of these three rites. Except in extraordinary circumstances this should not be the case. The burial of the body or cremains should take place in a reasonable time after death has occurred. The prayer of the Church is seen as a timely way to say farewell and to offer prayers for the immortal soul of the deceased. To delay the Rites of Christian Burial simply for convenience is inappropriate.

### **1) The Vigil (Wake)**

At the Vigil, the Christian community keeps watch with the family in prayer to the God of mercy and finds strength in Christ's presence. The Catholic Vigil is a prayer service, usually held the evening before the funeral.

### **2) The Funeral Mass**

The core of the Catholic funeral celebration is the Mass. The Eucharist is at the center of the Catholic faith – the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Scripture readings and prayer also play a prominent role in the Catholic funeral service, along with songs, hymns, and a brief message. The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. While following the directives of the Church's ritual in planning the liturgical celebration, the choice of music, color of vestments, biblical readings, and homily should reflect the family's wishes, while emphasizing as well the community aspect of faith which remains unbroken in death.

### **3) The Rite of Committal (Burial/Interment)**

In the Catholic faith, there is great respect for the body. Catholics believe that the body is "the temple of the Lord" and that at the End of Days, there will be a resurrection of the body. This service at the cemetery is the last farewell, in which the Christian community honors one of its members before the body is buried or entombed. With priest and mourners accompanying the body to the cemetery, the rite is celebrated at the grave or tomb or in a cemetery committal chapel. The burial should take place as soon as possible after the funeral. Any delay in the burial should be discussed with the priest before the funeral is planned

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

Catholics should never retain the cremated remains in their homes, places of work, or any other personal space. Neither should Catholics divide and share the cremated remains of the deceased. The Church requires that the cremated remains be buried or placed in a recognized area of reverence for the dead. If the final disposition of the cremated remains does not take place according to the teaching of the Church with reverence and in a sacred place, the remains will not be permitted to be brought into the Church for the Funeral Liturgy.

## **OTHER DETAILS**

### **Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass**

The funeral liturgy outside of Mass is ordinarily celebrated in the parish church/chapel, but may be celebrated in the home of the deceased, a funeral home, or in a cemetery chapel. Generally speaking, Mass may not be offered as part of the funeral rites for those not entitled to a Catholic funeral according to Church law. Following careful consideration of the deceased's relationship with the Church, the needs and wishes of the bereaved family, and the attitude of the community, the pastor may offer a funeral liturgy outside Mass. This rite may also be appropriate for a deceased Catholic when no members of the family practice the faith. The body of the deceased should be present for the service.

Even though Mass may not be celebrated as part of the funeral rite in these situations, it may be offered at another time for the repose of the soul of the deceased and for the spiritual well-being of the relatives and friends.

### **Ecumenical Considerations**

When requested by the Catholic relatives of a deceased baptized non-Catholic, a priest may conduct a prayer service for the non-Catholic in a funeral home. In particular circumstances where the deceased non-Catholic was well disposed to the Church, and the family requests Mass, it may be celebrated with the body present in church.

### **Readings**

Two readings, along with the Gospel, may be selected for use during the Funeral Liturgy. These readings are to be chosen from *The Order of Christian Funerals*. The first reading is taken from the Old Testament and the second is selected from the New Testament options. The responsorial psalm should always be sung. The Gospel may only be proclaimed by a priest or deacon. Only those priests or deacons in good standing, who have been granted faculties by the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois may celebrate, concelebrate, or preach at a funeral liturgy. Options of readings to choose are provided in this planner. If you desire to see more possible options, please refer to the website of the United States Conference of Catholic bishops (USCCB)

## **MUSIC**

Sacred music is an integral part to the celebration of the funeral liturgy. The Director of Worship, or a substitute chosen by the Director, will be present to foster the full and active participation of the assembly in the Funeral Mass or Funeral Liturgy outside of Mass. The selection of music must be liturgical and express our Christian belief in the gift of the resurrection. The Director of Worship and Pastor will assist and guide the family in appropriate musical selections for the Liturgy.

No taped music of any kind will be permitted immediately before or during the liturgy or during any of the three formal parts of the “Order of Christian Funerals” (Vigil, Funeral Mass/Liturgy, or Rite of Committal).

### **Suggested Donations** (usually taken care of by The Funeral Home)

- For the Church: \$125.00
- For the Priest: \$150.00
- For the Organist: \$150.00
- For the Cantor: \$50.00
- For the Funeral Luncheon \$200.00 (only if utilized)
- For the Altar Servers: \$20.00 each

## **Eulogy**

With the Pastor’s permission, one person is allowed to offer a eulogy for the deceased. The eulogy must be under five minutes and, of course, must be appropriate for a Sacred place. The eulogy will take place immediately before the prayer of final commendation at the end of the Funeral Mass.

## **Date and Time**

Funerals are typically offered at MPH Monday – Thursday between 9 am – 1 pm, depending on the preference of the family and the availability of the Church and priest/deacon. Other times, along with funerals on Fridays and Saturdays, are possible. If needed please ask and we will always try to accommodate if possible.

## FUNERAL PLANNING SHEET

Name of Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Urn (cremated) or Casket\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note, a proper burial should be planned within 30 days of the funeral.

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Funeral:  Funeral Home  Church  Cemetery

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### PART 1: WAKE SERVICE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Visitation: Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

A Vigil for the Deceased (Prayer Service) is recommended to begin 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the wake/visitation. If Father or Deacon are not available, a volunteer from the Parish will be honored to lead this. Please select below what option you would like.

Prayer service prior to the Wake (15 minutes prior to the start time):

or

Prayer service and Rosary prior to the Wake (40 minutes prior to the start time):

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**PART 2: FUNERAL AND/OR MEMORIAL SERVICE IN CHURCH/CHAPEL**

Opening Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading (Old Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Reader (*Please list name of reader*): \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm (Sung by Cantor): \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading (New Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Reader (*Please list name of reader*): \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Eulogy will be offered (5 minutes maximum):  Yes  No

If yes, list name (One person only): \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR FUNERAL MASSES ONLY**

Offertory Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift bearers:  Yes  No

If yes, list names: 1.) \_\_\_\_\_

2.) \_\_\_\_\_

Communion Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

Closing Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funeral Luncheon/Reception**

As a courtesy, a Funeral Luncheon/Reception may be held in the Parish Center if volunteers are available.

No  Yes If yes, number of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please contact the Parish Office at 618.344.6464 for more information.**

## Suggested Hymns

Below is a list of hymn suggestions for use during the Mass of Christian Burial. Hymns can be moved into other areas of the Mass if you would like. For example, Amazing Grace is listed as a gathering hymn, but could also be used during the Preparation of the Gifts or at Recessional. If you would like assistance with placement of the hymns, please contact Denise Guetterman, Director of Liturgical Music, at 618.655.0455. Also, contact Denise if you have questions or wish to use a hymn that is not on the list below.

### Gathering Hymns

Amazing Grace  
All Creatures of Our God and King\*  
At the Lamb's High Feast  
Be Not Afraid  
Be Thou My Vision  
I Heard the Voice of Jesus  
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (traditional hymn)  
Lord of All Hopefulness  
O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
Precious Lord, Take My Hand

### Responsorial Psalm (Sung by the cantor)

Psalm 23 (The Lord Is My Shepherd)  
Psalm 27 (The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation)  
Psalm 42 (Like a Deer, That Longs for Running  
Streams My Soul Longs for You My God)

### Hymn During the Preparation of the Gifts

Ave Maria (vocal solo or organ solo)  
Center of My Life  
How Can I Keep From Singing  
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (by Scott Soper)  
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
In Christ Alone  
O God, You Search Me  
Only This I want  
Prayer of St. Francis (Make Me a Channel of Your  
Peace)  
Soon and Very Soon  
Soul of My Savior  
We Walk By Faith  
Your Only Son (also known as Lamb of God by Twila  
Paris)  
Instrumental Music (Organ or Piano with No Vocal  
Part)

### Communion Hymns

Bread of Life (by Bernadette Farrell)  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
I Am the Bread of Life  
I Have Loved You  
I Received the Living God  
Keep in Mind  
Lord, You Have Come to the Seashore  
On Eagle's Wings  
Panis Angelicus  
Shepherd Me, O God  
Taste and See (by Bob Hurd)  
Taste and See (by Bob E. Moore Jr.)  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
The Lord Is My Light  
Unless a Grain of Wheat  
You Are Near  
Your Words Are Spirit and Life

### Recessional Hymns

Abide with Me  
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus\*  
Crown Him with Many Crowns  
For All the Saints\*  
Hail, Redeemer, King Divine  
How Great Thou Art  
Jerusalem, My Happy Home  
Lead Me, Lord  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
Lift High the Cross  
Sing with All the Saints in Glory (tune: Ode to Joy)  
Take Up Your Cross  
The Day of Resurrection  
The Strife Is O'er\*  
Three Days  
To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King  
What Wondrous Love Is This

\*Not to be used during Lent due to the word "Alleluia" in the lyric

## **FUNERAL READINGS : FIRST READING (select one)**

### **FIRST READING #1.** A Blameless Life Is A Ripe Old Age: Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But the just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age. He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported--snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; for the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind. Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the Lord

### **FIRST READING #2.** The Lord God 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

### **FIRST READING #3.** I Know That My Redeemer Lives: Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the book of Job

Job answered and said: Oh, would that my words were written down! Would that they were inscribed in a record: that with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever! But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust; whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him, and from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

## **FUNERAL READINGS : SECOND READING (select one)**

### **SECOND READING #1. Let Us Walk in Newness Of Life: Romans 6:3-9**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord

### **SECOND READING #2. We Shall See God as He Really Is: 1 John 3:1-2**

A reading from the first letter of John

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord

### **SECOND READING #3. Whether Alive or Dead, We Belong To The Lord: Romans 14:7-9. 10c-12**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord

### **SECOND READING #4. Death Is Swallowed Up in Victory: 1 Corinthians 15:51-57**

A reading from the first letter of 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

## **FUNERAL READINGS : GOSPEL READING (select one)**

**GOSPEL READING #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

**GOSPEL READING #2.** Lazarus, Come Out: John 11:32-45

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?" So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The gospel of the Lord

**GOSPEL READING #3.** There Are Many Rooms in My Father's House: 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