

Mass of Christian Burial

This book contains the readings and hymns that can be used at the Funeral Mass. Please fill out the sheet in the back of the pamphlet which records your selections, so that we can give them to the clergy. If there is something you want done at the Funeral Mass not seen in this book, please speak to the priest.

Westchester Funeral Home, Inc.
190 Main Street
Eastchester, New York 10709
(914) 337-4585

The Texts of Sacred Scripture

Index of Readings - Old Testament

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Reading 1 | Job 19:1,23-27
<i>Job proclaims that the Redeemer lives and shall see God with his own eyes.</i> |
| Reading 2 | Wisdom 3:1-6, 9 (Shorter form)
<i>The souls of the just are in peace for they were tried and found worthy of God.</i> |
| Reading 3 | Wisdom 4:7-14
<i>Pleasing to the Lord is the soul of one who has been perfect in a short time, reaching the fullness of a long career.</i> |
| Reading 4 | Isaiah 25:6, 7-9
<i>The Lord will destroy death forever and wipe away the tears from every eye.</i> |
| Reading 5 | Lamentations 3:17-26
<i>The Lord is faithful to his people and therefore I will hope for him in silence.</i> |
| Reading 6 | Daniel 12:1-3
<i>Many who lie sleeping in the dust will awake and live forever.</i> |
| Reading 7 | 2 Maccabees 12:43-46
<i>It is holy and pious to await the resurrection of the dead.</i> |

OLD TESTAMENT

1 – Job 19:1,23-27

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.

2 – 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 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.

3 – Wisdom 4:7-14

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 is loved;
 he who lived among sinners was transported—
 Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind
 or deceit beguile his soul;
 For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
 and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.
 Having become perfect in a short while,
 he reached the fullness of a long career;
 for his soul was pleasing to the Lord,
 therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.
 But the people saw and did not understand,
 nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the Lord.

4 – Isaiah 25:6, 7-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts
 will provide for all peoples.
 On this mountain he will destroy
 the veil that veils all peoples,
 The web that is woven over all nations;
 he will destroy death forever.
 The Lord God will wipe away
 the tears from all faces;
 The reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth;
 for the Lord has spoken.
 On that day it will be said:
 “Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
 This is the Lord for whom we looked;
 let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

5 – Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

My soul is deprived of peace,
 I have forgotten what happiness is;
 I tell myself my future is lost,
 all that I hoped for from the Lord.
 The thought of my homeless poverty
 is wormwood and gall;
 Remembering it over and over
 leaves my soul downcast within me.
 But I will call this to mind,
 as my reason to have hope:
 The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
 his mercies are not spent;
 They are renewed each morning,
 so great is his faithfulness.
 My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
 therefore, will I hope in him.
 Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,
 to the soul that seeks him;
 It is good to hope in silence
 for the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

6 – Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

I, Daniel, mourned and I heard this word of the Lord:
 “At that time, there shall arise
 Michael, the great prince,
 guardian of your people;
 It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
 since the nations began until that time.
 At that time, your people shall escape,
 everyone who is found written in the book.
 Many of those who sleep
 in the dust of the earth shall awake;
 Some shall live forever,
 others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
 But the wise shall shine brightly
 like the splendor of the firmament,
 And those who lead the many to justice
 shall be like the stars forever.”

The Word of the Lord.

7 – 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

Judas, the ruler of Israel,
 then took up a collection among all his soldiers,
 amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,
 which he sent to Jerusalem
 to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.
In doing this, he acted in a very excellent and noble way,
 inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;
 for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.
But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward
 that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,
 it was a holy and pious thought.
Thus he made atonement for the dead
 that they might be freed from this sin.

The Word of the Lord.

The Texts of Sacred Scripture

Index of Readings - New Testament

Reading 1	Acts 10:34-43 (Longer form) <i>God the Father has appointed Jesus to judge the living and the dead.</i>
Reading 1a	Acts 10:34-36,42-43 (Shorter form) <i>God the Father has appointed Jesus to judge the living and the dead</i>
Reading 2	Romans 5:5-11 <i>God's love is so strong for us that Christ died for us; therefore, it must be certain that we shall be saved from God's wrath through Christ.</i>
Reading 3	Romans 5:17-21 <i>However great the number of sins committed, the grace of Jesus Christ is greater, leading us to eternal life.</i>
Reading 4	Romans 6:3-11 (Longer form) <i>Christ conquered sin and death forever, so that, by our Baptism, we may rise with him..</i>
Reading 5	Romans 8:14-23 <i>We are made adopted children of God and await for the redemption of our bodies.</i>
Reading 6	Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 <i>Nothing, not even death, will ever be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.</i>
Reading 7	Romans 14:7-12 <i>All things, living and dead, belong to the Lord; therefore, we have to give an account of ourselves before him.</i>
Reading 8	1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 (Longer form) <i>Christ will hand over the kingdom to his God and Father so that God may be all in all.</i>
Reading 9	1 Corinthians 15:51-57 <i>God gives us victory over death through Jesus Christ.</i>
Reading 10	2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10 <i>Whether we are home in heaven or away in our bodies, we aspire to please the Lord.</i>
Reading 11	Philippians 3:20- 4:1 <i>Christ will change our lowly bodies to conform with his glorified body.</i>

- Reading 12** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
God, through Jesus, will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
- Reading 13** 2 Timothy 2:8-13
If we persevere, we shall also reign with Christ.
- Reading 14** 1 John 3:1-2
The love of God has made us his children and we shall see him as he really is.
- Reading 15** 1 John 3:14-16
We have passed out of death into life because we love our neighbors.
- Reading 16** Revelation 14:13
Happy are those who die in the Lord, for their good works accompany them.
- Reading 17** Revelation 20:11- 21:1
The dead shall be judged according to their works and a new earth shall be formed.
- Reading 18** Revelation 21:1-7
There shall be no more death, mourning, or crying forever.

NEW TESTAMENT

1 - Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered
in the house of Cornelius, 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 Israelites,
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all,
He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.

The Word of the Lord.

2 – Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the letter of 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 that 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 reconcile,
will we be saved by his life.
Not only that,
but we also boast of a God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

3 – Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

For if, by the transgression of the one,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace
and the gift of justification
come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression
condemnation came upon all,
so, through one righteous act,
acquittal and life came to all.

For just as through the disobedience of the one man
the many were made sinners,
so, though the obedience of the one,
the many will be made righteous.

The law entered in so that transgression might increase;
but where sin increased,
grace overflowed the more,
so that, as sin reigned in death,
grace also might reign through justification for eternal life,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

4 – Romans 6:3-11

A reading from the letter of 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.

As to his death, he died to sin once and for all;
as to his life, he lives for God.

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin
And living for God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

5 – Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you receive a Spirit of adoption,
through whom we cry, “Abba, Father!”
The Spirit himself 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 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 ourselves,
who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

6 – Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn?

Christ Jesus it is who died— or, rather, was raised—

who also is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,

or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly

through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life

nor angels, nor principalities,

nor present things, nor future things,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor any other creature will be able to separate us

from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

7 – Romans 14:7-12

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.

We shall all have to appear before the judgment seat of God.

It is written,

"As surely as I live, says the Lord,

every knee shall bend before me and every tongue

shall give praise to God."

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

The Word of the Lord.

8 – 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

A reading from the first letter of 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 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,
when he has destroyed every sovereignty
and every authority and power.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

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.

9 – 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.

When this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility
and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,
then the word that is written shall come about:

*"Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"*

The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

10 – 2 Corinthians 5:1,6-10

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

We are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body,
we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

11 – Philippians 3:20-4:1

A reading from the letter of 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.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters,
whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,
in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

12 – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of 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 a word of command,
 with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,
 will come down from heaven,
 and the dead in Christ will rise first.
 Then we who are alive, who are left,
 will be caught up together with them in the clouds
 to meet the Lord in the air.
 Thus we shall always be with the Lord.
 Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

13 – 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the 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.

14 – 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

15 – 1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved:

We know that we have passed from death to live
because we love our brothers and sisters.

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 come to know love
was that he laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives
for our brothers and sisters.

The Word of the Lord.

EASTER SEASON

16 – Revelation 14:13 (Easter Season)

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say to me:

“Write this down:

Happy now are the dead who die in the Lord!”

The Spirit added,

“Yes, they shall find rest from their labors,
for their good works accompany them.”

The Word of the Lord.

17 – Revelation 20:11-21:1 (Easter Season).

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, saw a large white throne and the One who sat on it.

The earth and the sky fled from his presence
until they could no longer be seen.

I saw the dead, the great and the lowly,
standing before the throne.

Lastly, among the scrolls,
the book of the living was opened.

The dead were judged according to their conduct
as recorded on the scrolls.

The sea gave up its dead;
then death and the nether world gave up their dead.

Each person was judged according to his conduct.

Then death and the nether world were hurled into the pool of fire,
which is the second death;
anyone whose name was not found
inscribed in the book of the living
was hurled into this pool of fire.

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth.

The former heavens and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no longer there.

The Word of the Lord.

18 – Revelation 21:1-7 (Easter Season)

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, saw new heavens and a new earth.
The former heavens and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no longer.
I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city,
coming down out of heaven from God,
beautiful as a bride prepared to meet her husband.
I heard a loud voice from the throne cry out:
“This is God’s dwelling among men.
He shall dwell with them and they shall be his people,
and he shall be their God who is always with them.
He shall wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning,
crying out or pain,
for the former world has passed away.
The One who sat on the throne said to me,
“See I make all things new!
I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the Beginning and the End.
To anyone who thirsts I will give to drink without cost
from the spring of life-giving water.
He who wins the victory shall inherit these gifts;
I will be his God and he shall be my son.”

The Word of the Lord.

Hymn Suggestions

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus (Entrance / Closing)
 Amazing Grace (Offertory/Communion/Closing)
 Be Not Afraid (Entrance/Offertory/Communion/Closing)
 Blest Are They [Beatitudes] (Offertory / Communion)
 Earthen Vessels (Offertory / Communion)
 Eat This Bread (Communion)
 Eye Has Not Seen (Offertory / Communion)
 Gift of Finest Wheat (Communion)
 Here I Am Lord (Entrance / Offertory / Communion)
 Hosea (Entrance / Offertory / Closing)
 How Great Thou Art (Offertory/Communion/Closing)
 I Am the Bread of Life (Communion / Closing)
 I Have Loved You (Offertory / Communion)
 Lift High the Cross (Entrance / Closing)
 Morning Has Broken (Entrance)
 O God Our Help In Ages Past (Entrance / Closing)
 On Eagles Wings (Entrance, Offertory, Communion)
 Prayer of St. Francis (Offertory / Communion)
 The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Communion)
 The Lord Is My Light (Responsorial Psalm/Offertory)
 This Alone (Offertory)
 We Have Been Told (Offertory / Communion)
 We Remember (Offertory)
 Yahweh, I Know You Are Near (Entrance/Offertory/Comm)

The Mass of Christian Burial

Name of Deceased: _____

Parishioner: _____ Number of Years: _____

☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed

First Reading _____ Read by _____
(Old Testament)

Second Reading _____ Read by _____
(New Testament)

Gift Bearers: (2 people): _____

Songs: _____

Biographical Notes:

Spouse's Name: _____
☐ Living ☐ Deceased ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed

Children :

Number of grandchildren: _____ Number of great-grandchildren: _____

Veteran of: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Occupation: _____

Circumstances of Death (e.g. sickness, accident, sudden): _____

Please give us a brief description of the faith life of the deceased, which may include service to the community and/or the church:

Please return this form to your Funeral Director