



Ministry of Consolation

Mary Immaculate Church
Bellport, New York

Mass of Christian Burial Guide

Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one. At Mary Immaculate, we are honored to accompany you during this sacred time of grief and remembrance.

In the pages that follow, you will find carefully chosen Scripture readings and music selections that can be used to celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial. These resources are meant to help you create a liturgy that reflects the life, faith, and spirit of your loved one. A member of our parish staff will be reaching out to guide you through each step of the planning process with care and compassion.

As you prepare for this holy celebration, know that you are not alone. May the peace of Christ bring comfort to your heart, and may the hope of the Resurrection bring light to your sorrow.

With prayerful sympathy,

*Rev. Msgr. William Hanson,
Pastor*

*Ministry of Consolation
Staff of Mary Immaculate*



The readings in this booklet are divided into options from the Old Testament and the New Testament. Please choose one reading from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament.

You'll find a list of song options following the readings. You will choose one Old Testament Reading and one from the New Testament.

Select a hymn for each of the following.

- 1) Gathering
- 2) Responsorial Psalm
- 3) Preparation of the Gifts
- 4) Communion
- 5) Recessional

Our staff will help you with these selections if you wish.

Consider whether you would like family members to do the readings and bring up the gifts. If you prefer, our members of the ministry of consolation can do any or all of these tasks.

We also ask if you would write a few paragraphs about your loved one's life. This helps our pastor in preparing his homily for the funeral Mass.

If you have any questions, please reach out to anyone in the Parish Office at 631-286-0154.

We are here to help you.

First Reading Option: Old Testament

Ecc. 3:9-13

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

What advantage has the worker for his toil?
I have considered the task God has appointed
for us to be busied about.

God has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into our hearts,
without humankind ever discovering
from the beginning to end the work
which God has done.

I recognized that there is nothing better
than to be glad and to do well during life.

For every person, moreover,
to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of their labor
is a gift from God.

The Word of the Lord

First Reading Option: Old Testament

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 Option: Old Testament

Isaiah 43:1-5

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus, says the Lord who created you, Jacob,
and formed you, Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name: you are mine.

When you pass through waters, I will be with you;
through rivers, you shall not be swept away.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned,
nor will flames consume you.

For I, the Lord, am your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your savior.

Because you are precious in my eyes
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you
and nations in exchange for your life.

Fear not, for I am with you;
from the east I will bring back your offspring,
from the west I will gather you.

The Word of the Lord.

First Reading Option: Old Testament

Jeremiah 29:11-14

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Thus, says the Lord:

I know well the plans I have in mind for you,
plans for your welfare and not for woe,
so as to give you a future of hope.

When you call me and come and pray to me,
I will listen to you.

When you look for me, you will find me.

Yes, when you seek me with all your heart,
I will let you find me, and I will change your lot;

I will gather you together from all the nations
and all the places to which I have banished you
and bring you back to the place from which I have exiled you.

The Word of the Lord.

First Reading Option: Old Testament

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 I will 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

First Reading Option: Old Testament

Proverbs 31: 10, 25-27, 29-31

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

Who can find a woman of worth?
Far beyond jewels is her value.

She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and laughs at the days to come.

She opens her mouth in wisdom;
kindly instruction is on her tongue.

She watches over the affairs of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

“Many are the women of proven worth,
but you have excelled them all.”

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who honors the LORD is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

First Reading Option: Old Testament

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 there 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 the elect.

The Word of the Lord

First Reading Option: Old Testament

Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The upright, though he die before his time, will find rest.
Length of days is not what makes age honorable,
Nor the number of years the true measure of life;
Understanding, this is grey hairs,
untarnished life, this is ripe old age.

Having won God's favour, he has been loved
and, as he was living among sinners, has been taken away.

He has been carried off that evil may not warp
his understanding or deceitfulness seduce his soul;
For the fascination of evil throws good things into the shade,
and the whirlwind of desire corrupts a simple heart.

Having come to perfection so soon, he has lived long;
his soul being pleasing to the Lord,
he has hurried away from the wickedness around him.

Yet people look on, uncomprehending;
and it does not enter their heads that grace and mercy
await his chosen one
and that he intervenes on behalf of his holy ones.

The Word of the Lord

Second Reading Options: New Testament

Acts 10:34-36, 24—42-43

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 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.

Second Reading Options: New Testament

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 Options: New Testament

Rev. 14:13

A reading from the book of Revelation

I 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

Second Reading Options: New Testament

Rev. 21:1a, 3-5a

A reading from the book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth.
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.”

Then the one who sat on the throne said,
“Behold, I make all things new.”

The Word of the Lord

Second Reading Option

1 Cor. 13:8-13

A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Love never fails.

If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;

if tongues, they will cease;

if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

For we know partially, and we prophesy partially,

but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I used to talk as a child,

think as a child, reason as a child;

when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,

but then face to face.

At present I know partially;

then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

So, faith, hope, love remain, these three;

but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

Second Reading Options: New Testament

2 Cor. 5:1, 6-10

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

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.

So 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 one may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

Second Reading Options: New Testament

Rom. 6:3,4,8,9

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.

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 Options: New Testament

Rom. 8:31b-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?
It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of God?
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 loves us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things,
not 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.

Second Reading Options: New Testament

Rom. 14:7-9

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

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 the Lord of both
the dead and the living.

The Word of the Lord.

Second Reading Options: New Testament

1 Thes. 4:13-18

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brother and sisters,
about those who sleep in death,
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 from heaven, and the dead 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.

Music

The sacred and communal nature of the Catholic Funeral Mass requires careful planning in the selection of music. This planning will insure the ability of all those gathered to actively participate in the Mass.

A cantor and musician will be provided by the Church for the Mass. You may select hymns for the Procession, the Psalm, the Preparation of the Gifts, Holy Communion and Recessional.

On the following pages, you will find a list of choices for the different parts of the Mass. If you prefer, our music coordinator can select songs for you.



MUSIC OPTIONS

Songs for the ENTRANCE or RECESSIONAL

Most of the songs listed below are appropriate for either the
Entrance or Recessional

Amazing Grace - *Traditional*

Be Not Afraid - *Dufford*

Christ Be Our Light - *Farrell*

Here I Am, Lord - *Schutte*

Hosea - *Priori*

How Great Thou Art - *Hine*

I Know that My Redeemer Lives - *Soper*

The King of Love My Shepherd Is - *St. Columba*

Let There Be Peace on Earth - *Miller & Jackson*

O Loving God - *to the tune of Danny Boy*

On Eagle's Wings - *Joncas*

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling - *Thompson*

Responsorial Psalms

Like a Child Rests - *Walker* (based on the 131st Psalm)

The Lord is My Shepherd - (based on the 23rd Psalm)

My Soul Thirsts - *Angrisano* (based on the 63rd Psalm)

Shelter Me, O God - *Hurd* (based on the 19th Psalm)

Shepherd Me, O God - *Haugen* (based on the 23rd Psalm)

Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord - *(based on the 34th Psalm)*

Songs during the Preparation of the Gifts and Communion

Most of the songs listed below are appropriate for either the
Presentation of the Gifts or Communion

Ave Maria - *Schubert (for Presentation of the Gifts only)*

Behold the Lamb - *Willett*

Beyond the Moon & Stars - *Schutte*

Bread of Life - *Fisher*

Come to Me - *Norbert*

Eye Has Not Seen - *Haugen*

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman - *Landry (for Presentation of the Gifts)*

Here I Am, Lord - *Schutte*

Hosea - *Priory*

I Am the Bread of Life - *Toolan*

I Have Loved You - *Joncas*

I, the Lord - *Kendzia*

The Lord is My Light - *Walker*

One Love Released - *Frenzel & Keli*

Parable - *Ridge*

Prayer of St. Francis - *Temple (for Presentation of the Gifts only)*

Sacred Silence - *Booth & Pixler*

Shelter Me, O God - *Hurd*

Take and Eat - *Joncas*

This Alone - *Slane*

We Remember - *Haugen*

***“BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN,
FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED.”***



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