

# St. Joseph Parish

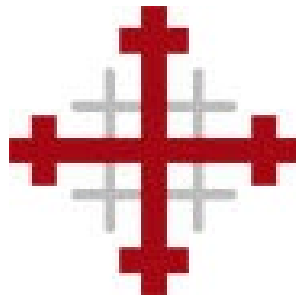
Elk Grove — California

“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life”

*John 14:6*

**Order of Christian Funerals**

*Options for prayer*



## **TEACHINGS of Church on Funerals — *Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church***

#1684 — The Christian funeral is a liturgical celebration of the Church. The ministry of the Church in this instance aims at expressing efficacious communion with the deceased, at the participation in that communion of the community gathered for the funeral, and at the proclamation of eternal life to the community.

#1689— The Eucharistic Sacrifice. When the celebration takes place in church the Eucharist is the heart of the Paschal reality of Christian death. In the Eucharist, the Church expresses her efficacious communion with the departed: offering to the Father in the Holy Spirit the sacrifice of the death and resurrection of Christ, she asks to purify his child of his sins and their consequences, and to admit him to the Paschal fullness of the table of the Kingdom. It is by the Eucharist thus celebrated that the community of the faithful, especially the family of the deceased, learn to live in communion with the one who “has fallen asleep in the Lord,” by communicating in the Body of Christ of which he is a living member and, then, by praying for him and with him.

#1690—A farewell to the deceased is his final “commendation to God” by the Church. It is “the last farewell by which the Christian community greets one of its members before his body is brought to its tomb.” The Byzantine tradition expresses this by the kiss of farewell to the deceased: By this final greeting “we sing for his departure from this life and separation from us, but also because there is a communion and a reunion. For even dead, we are not at all separated from one another, because we all run the same course and we will find one another again in the same place. We shall never be separated, for we live for Christ, and now we are united with Christ as we go toward him . . . we shall all be together in Christ.” (St. Simeon of Thessalonica (circa 1429)).

### *Guidelines for Christian Burials – Diocese of Sacramento*

#### Canon Law of the Catholic Church

1176 — § 1: Deceased members of the Christian faithful must be given ecclesiastical funeral according to the norm of the law.

§ 2: Ecclesiastical funerals, by which the Church seeks spiritual support for the deceased, honors their bodies, and at the same time brings the solace of hope to the living, must be celebrated according to the norm of the liturgical laws.

§ 3: The Church earnestly recommends that the pious custom of the burying the bodies of the deceased be observed; nevertheless, the Church does not prohibit cremation unless it was chosen for reason contrary to Christian doctrine.

## Cremation (from the *Order of Christian Burial*)

413: Although cremation is now permitted, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites.

415: When extraordinary circumstances make the cremation of the body the only feasible choice, pastoral sensitivity must be exercised by priest, deacons, and others who minister to the family of the deceased.

417: The cremated remains of a body should be treated the same respect given to the human body from which they came. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires.

418: When the choice has been made to cremate a body, it is recommended that the cremation take place after the Funeral Liturgy. By virtue of an indult granted by the *Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments*, the celebration of the Funeral Liturgy, including Mass, in the presence of the cremated remains of the body of a deceased person, needs the permission of the Diocesan Bishop on a case by case basis.

## ***Order of Christian Funerals***

### General Introduction

18. Through the celebration of the funeral rites, the Church manifests its care for the dead, both baptized members and catechumens. In keeping with the provisions of *Codex Iuris Canonici*, can. 1183, the Church's funeral rites may be celebrated for a child who died before baptism and whose parents intended to have the child baptized.

At the discretion of the local Ordinary, the Church's funeral rites may be celebrated for a baptized member of another church or ecclesial community provided this would not be contrary to the wishes of the deceased person and provided the minister of the Church or ecclesial community in which the deceased person was a regular member communicant is unavailable.

19. Since in baptism the body was marked with the seal of the Trinity and became the temple of the Holy Spirit, Christians respect and honor the bodies of the dead and the places where they rest. Any customs associated with the preparation of the body of the deceased should always be marked with dignity and reverence and never with the despair of those who have

no hope. Preparation of the body should always include prayer, especially at those intimate movements reserved for family members. For the final disposition of the body, it is the ancient Christian custom to bury or entomb the bodies of the dead; cremation is permitted, unless it is evident that cremation was chosen for anti-Christian motives. (*Note: There is the expectation that the cremated remains would be treated similar to how the body is treated: buried or entombed, with an integrity maintained of the remains.*)

21. Since liturgical celebration involves the whole person, it requires attentiveness to all that affects the senses. The readings and prayers, psalms and songs, should be proclaimed or sung with understanding, conviction and reverence. Music for the assembly should be truly expressive of the text and at the same time should be simple and easily sung. The ritual gestures, processions, and postures should express and foster an attitude of reverence and reflectiveness in those taking part in the funeral rite. The funeral rites should be celebrated in an atmosphere of simple beauty, in a setting that encourages participation. Liturgical signs and symbols affirming Christian belief and hope in the paschal mystery are abundant in the celebration of the funeral rites, but their undue multiplication or repetition should be avoided. Care must be taken that the choice and use of signs and symbols are in accord with the culture of the people.

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## CATHOLIC FUNERAL – *ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS*

The *Rites of Christian Funeral* are a series of prayers, each building on the sharing of the Scripture, and praying for and with your loved one. The first prayer is called the *Vigil* (which replaces what used to be called “the *wake*” and/or the *rosary*); the next prayer is the most central prayer of the Catholic Church, our Mass; the final prayer is the burial. Each *rite* expresses our believe that your loved one, and all those who have died, are with God, and join in our prayer. This is what we believe when we celebrate each and every Mass, which is why our Church desires the celebration of a funeral Mass. (Other prayers may include the *Gathering with the Body After Death; Prayer During the Transfer of the Body*, etc., etc.)

You will next need to consider how your loved one will be buried: either in a casket or as cremated remains. As you have read, our Church wants the body of your loved one respected in all treatments. (This is why the body is treated, and prayed for, *differently* than when it has been cremated.) Things you may want to consider: having the body of your loved one present at all of our prayers, and buried; the body being present only for the Mass, then cremated, and buried a couple of days later; or, delay the prayers until after the body is cremated.

**Rites and Order to Consider**

OPTIONS

*The Body of the Deceased (in casket)*

Evening Before Funeral —	Vigil	— <input type="checkbox"/> Church or <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Home
Morning Before Burial —	Funeral Mass	— always in Church
Burial to Follow —	Burial	— Cemetery _____

*Cremated Remains*

Evening Before Funeral —	Vigil	— <input type="checkbox"/> Church or <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Home
Morning Before Burial —	Memorial Mass	— always in Church
Burial to Follow —	Burial	— Cemetery _____

*The Body of the Deceased (in temporary casket)*

Evening Before Funeral —	Vigil	— <input type="checkbox"/> Church or <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Home
Morning Before Burial —	Funeral Mass	— always in Church
<i>Body is cremated</i> Burial to Follow —	Burial	— Cemetery _____

*The Body of the Deceased (in casket)*

Evening —	Funeral Mass	— always in Church
Burial to Follow Next Day —	Burial	— Cemetery _____

*The Body of the Deceased (in temporary casket)*

Evening —	Funeral Mass	— always in Church
<i>Body is cremated</i> Burial to Follow —	Burial	— Cemetery _____

# Rites of Christian Funerals

✠ Full name of the person for whom, and with whom, we are praying. ✠

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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

✠ Name (if different) to be used during the celebration of the Rites of Christian Burial. ✠

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## Vigil

Celebrated where (church, home of family, funeral home): \_\_\_\_\_

The vigil is the principle rite celebrated by the Catholic Christian community, with the grieving family, in the time following the death of their loved one and before the funeral Mass. The vigil may be celebrated at the home of the one who has died, the parish church, or some other suitable place. The purpose of the vigil is to offer a fitting and beautiful prayer to our God of infinite love and mercy, finding solace and strength in the life, death, and resurrection of God's Son, Jesus Christ, Who is present in and through the Christian community. The vigil includes readings from Scripture, prayers of intercession, and a concluding rite.

Reflections \_\_\_\_\_

People who have been invited by the family to offer reflections on the life of the one who has died before the Funeral Mass...

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## Funeral Mass

The funeral Mass is the central liturgical celebration of the Catholic Christian community whereby we give praise to God in thanksgiving for Christ's victory over sin and death, and commend the one who has died to God's tender mercy by expressing our hope for eternal salvation. We affirm, in sign and symbol, word and gesture, our faith that every person, through baptism, shares in Christ's life, death and resurrection. Furthermore, we pray with those who have died that we shall all one day be raised up, and be united in the kingdom of light and peace. The Mass is always celebrated in a parish church where the entire Catholic Christian community gathers.

# Music for Liturgy

*Please* identify any musicians and singers....

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Gathering (Opening) Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia): \_\_\_\_\_

Preparation of the Gifts: \_\_\_\_\_

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus): \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Acclamation: \_\_\_\_\_

Great Amen: \_\_\_\_\_

Communion Songs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Meditation (post-communion): \_\_\_\_\_

Closing (Exit) Song: \_\_\_\_\_

*Other ideas???:*

**Funeral Mass**  
Selections of the Family for the Mass

Opening Prayer: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish Priest)

Old Testament Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ (Lector: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Person who will proclaim God's Word

Psalm: \_\_\_\_\_ (Lector: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Person who will proclaim God's Word

New Testament Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ (Lector: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Person who will proclaim God's Word

Gospel: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish Priest or Deacon)  
(Indicate if you want the deacon of priest to select.)

General Intercessions: \_\_\_\_\_ (Lector: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Person who will offer petitions to God.

Offertory Procession: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
People who may bring up the gifts for the Mass

Prayer over the Gifts: \_\_\_\_\_ Preface: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer After Communion: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish Priest)

Communion Reflections \_\_\_\_\_

People who have been invited by the family to offer reflections on the life of the one who has died, and the blessing of that life on others.

Notes/Comments (other ideas):

## RITUAL SELECTIONS — FUNERAL or MEMORIAL MASS

### Opening Prayers (Selected options for your consideration....)

OP-1

Almighty God and Father,  
it is our certain faith  
that your Son, who died on the cross, was raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of all who have fallen asleep.  
Grant that through this mystery  
your servant NN., who has gone to his/her rest in Christ,  
may share in the joy of his resurrection.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

OP-3

O God,  
in whom sinners find mercy and the saints find joy,  
we pray to you for our brother/sister NN.,  
whose body we honor with Christian burial,  
that he/she may be delivered from the bonds of death.  
Admit him/her to the joyful company of your saints  
and raise him/her up on the last day  
to rejoice in your presence for ever.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

OP-2

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

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

OP-7

Holy Lord, almighty and eternal God,  
hear our prayers for your servant NN.,  
whom you have summoned out of this world.  
Forgive his/her sins and failings  
and grant his/her a place of refreshment, light, and peace  
Let him/her pass unharmed through the gates of death  
to dwell with the blessed in light,  
as you promised to Abraham and his children for ever.  
Accept NN. into your safekeeping  
and on the great day of judgement  
raise him/her up with all the saints  
to inherit you eternal kingdom.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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# SCRIPTURE

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## Old Testament Readings

(The parenthesized text refers to Lectionary Reference Numbers)

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(OT-1011-01)

### #1 – A Reading from the Second Book of Maccabees

Judas, the ruler of Israel,  
took up a collection among all his soldiers,  
amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,  
which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an  
expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,  
inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead  
in view;  
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise  
again,  
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for  
them in death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward  
that awaits those who had gone to rest  
in godliness,  
it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead  
that they might be freed from this sin.

The Word of the Lord.

(OT-1011-02)

### #2 – A Reading from the Book of Job

Then Job answered Bildad the Shuhite 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;  
And from my flesh I shall see God;  
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

(OT-1011-03)

### #3 – 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.  
In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;  
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,  
and the LORD shall be their King forever.  
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.

(OT-1011-04)

### #4 – 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.

(OT-1011-05)

#5 – A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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

The Word of the Lord.

(OT-1011-06)

#6 – 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

(OT-1011-07)

#7 – A Reading from the Book of 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.

(OT-453-YR-II)

#8 – 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 their toil? I have  
considered the task which God has appointed for us to be  
busied about, and God has made everything appropriate to its  
time. He has put timelessness into our hearts, without our  
ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which  
God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

(RP-1013-01)

#1

**Response: The LORD is my shepherd;  
There is nothing I shall want.**

**Or: Though I walk in the valley of darkness,  
I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
Besides restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.

**Response:...**

He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
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.

**Response:...**

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

**Response:...**

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.

**Response:...**

(RP-1013-03)

#3

**Response: The LORD is my light and my salvation.**

**Or: I believe that I shall see the good things of  
the LORD and in the land of the living.**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is my life's refuge;  
of whom should I be afraid?

**Response:...**

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 gaze on the loveliness of the LORD  
and contemplate his temple.

**Response:...**

(RP-1013-02)

#2

**Response: To you, O LORD, I lift my soul.**

**Or : No one who waits for you, O LORD,  
Will ever be put to shame.**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,  
and your kindness are from of old.  
In your kindness remember me,  
because of your goodness, O LORD

**Response:...**

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.

**Response:...**

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.

**Response:...**

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;  
do not in anger repel your servant.

**Response:...**

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

**Response:...**

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## New Testament Readings

(Some selections)

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(NT-1012-01)

### #1 – 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, 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.

(NT-1014-03)

### #3 – A Reading from the Letter of St. 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. 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.

(NT-1014-01)

### #2 – A Reading from the Letter of St. 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 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.

(NT-1014-05)

### #4 – A Reading from the Letter of St. 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 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.

(NT-1014-08)

#5 – 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.

(NT-1014-12)

#7 – A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with 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.

(NT-1014-13)

#9 – 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.

(NT-1014-10)

#6 – A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint 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. 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.

(NT-347-Year II)

#8 – A Reading from the First Letter of St. Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, which may not be defiled and is unfading, kept in heaven for you who, by the power of God, are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is even now ready to be revealed in the final time.

In this, you have cause to rejoice; although, for a little while now, you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may be for the praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, and still believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. Concerning this salvation, prophets, who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours, searched and investigated it. They investigated the time and circumstances that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when would be the sufferings destined for Christ, and the glories to follow them, were to happen. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you; revealing things that have now been announced to you by those who preached the good news to you through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels longed to see.

The Word of the Lord.

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Gospel Readings  
(Some selections)

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(G-1016-01)

#1 – A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.  
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.  
Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and  
utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in  
heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

(G-1016-11)

#3 – A Reading from the Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:  
“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word and  
believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not  
come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now  
here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,  
and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in  
himself, so also he gave to his Son the possession of life in  
himself. And he gave him power to exercise judgment,  
because he is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this,  
because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs  
will hear his voice and will come out, those who have done  
good deeds to the resurrection of life, but those who have  
done wicked deeds to the resurrection of condemnation.

The Gospel of the Lord.

(G-1016-02)

#2 – A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:  
“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for  
although you have hidden these things from the wise and the  
learned you have revealed them to the childlike.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

“No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows  
the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son  
wishes to reveal him.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

(G-1016-12)

#4 – A Reading from the Gospel according to John

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

#5 – A Reading from the 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.

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General Intercessions  
(Some examples)

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(POF-1)

#1

The priest begins:

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

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

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

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

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

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

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.

Lord in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

For the mourners: The family and family of NN. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

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

Lord, in your mercy: **R. Hear our prayer.**

The priest then concludes:

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

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

The priest begins:

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ God’s Son from the dead; with confidence we ask Him to save all His people, living and dead:

For &NN.& 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. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may raised up on the last day.

We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord hear our prayer.**

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward or their goodness.

We pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

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, **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

The priest then concludes:

God, our shelter and our strength, You listen in love to the cry of Your People: hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen!**

Let us turn to Christ Jesus with confidence and faith in the power of his cross and resurrection:

Risen Lord, pattern of our life for ever:  
Lord, have mercy... **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Promise and image of what we shall be:  
Lord, have mercy... **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Son of God who came to destroy sin and death:  
Lord, have mercy **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Word of God who delivered us from the fear of death:  
Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Crucified Lord, forsaken in death, raised in glory:  
Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, gentle Shepard who brings rest to our souls, give peace to NN. for ever:  
Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bless those who mourn and are in pain. Bless NN.’s family and friends who gather around him/her today:  
Lord, have mercy. **R. Lord have mercy.**

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FUNERAL MASS - MEMORIAL MASS *continued.....*

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Prayers Over the Gifts (Options for your consideration....)

POG-1

Lord, receive the gifts we offer for the salvation of NN.  
May Christ be merciful in judging our brother (sister) NN.  
For he (she) believed in Christ as his (her) Lord our Savior.

POG-3

Lord, we are united in this sacrament by love of Jesus Christ.  
Accept these gifts and receive our brother/sister, NN.  
Into the glory of your Son, who is Lord for ever and ever.

POG-2

Lord, accept this sacrifice we offer for NN.  
On the day of his (her) burial.  
May your love cleanse him (her) from his (her) human weakness and forgive any sins he (she) may have committed.

POG - 4

All-powerful Father, may this sacrifice wash away the sins of our brother (sister) NN. In the blood of Christ. You cleansed him (her) in the waters of baptism. In your loving mercy grant him (her) pardon and peace.

## Preface Prayers (Options for your consideration....)

### PRE-1

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him, who rose from the dead,  
our hope of resurrection dawned.  
The sadness of death gives way  
to the bright promise of immortality.

Lord, for your faithful people life is changed, not ended.  
When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death  
we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven.

And so, with the choirs of angels in heaven  
we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

### PRE-3

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him the world is saved,  
man is reborn,  
and the dead rise again to life.

Through Christ the angels of heaven  
offer their prayer of adoration  
as they rejoice in your presence for ever.  
May our voices be one with theirs  
in their triumphant hymn of praise:

### PRE-2

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

He chose to die  
that he might free all men from dying.  
He gave his life  
that we might live to you alone for ever.

In our joy we sing to your glory  
with all the choirs of angels:

### PRE-4

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

By your power you bring us to birth.  
By your providence you rule our lives.  
By your command you free us at last from sin  
as we return to the dust from which we came.  
Through the saving death of your Son  
we rise at your word to the glory of resurrection.

Now we join the angels and the saints  
as they sing their unending hymn of praise:

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## Prayers After Communion (Options for your consideration....)

### PAC-1

Lord God,  
your Son Jesus Christ gave us  
the sacrament of his body and blood  
to guide us on our pilgrim way to your kingdom.  
May our brother/sister, NN., who shared in the Eucharist,  
come to the banquet of life Christ has prepared for us.

### PAC-2

Father, all-powerful God,  
we pray for our brother (sister) NN.  
whom you have called (today) from this world.  
May this eucharist cleanse him (her),  
forgive his (her) sins,  
and raise him (her) up to eternal joy in your presence.

PAC-3

Lord God,  
may the death and resurrection of Christ  
which we celebrate in this Eucharist  
bring our brother (sister) NN. the peace of your eternal  
home.

PAC-4

Lord,  
in this sacrament you give us your crucified and risen Son.  
Bring to the glory of the resurrection our brother (sister)  
NN.  
who has been purified by his holy mystery.

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### The Prayer of Saint Francis

O Lord, make me an instrument of Your Peace!  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is discord, harmony;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light, and  
Where there is sorrow, joy.  
Oh Divine Master, grant that I may not  
so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand; to be loved  
as to love; for it is in giving that we receive;  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

Amen!