



As you plan for the funeral liturgy for your loved one, please know the prayers of the St. Mary community are with you.

This book will assist you in planning for The Mass of the Resurrection. Contained within this book you will find:

Page 2	Order of the Funeral Mass
Page 3	Mass of the Resurrection Selection Sheet Select one Old Testament Reading, one New Testament reading, and one Gospel reading.
Page 4	Funeral Music Outline
Pages 5-14	Selections of Old Testament Readings
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Pages 38-62	Selections of Gospel Readings
Pages 63-67	Selections of General Intercessions (Petitions)

Take your time to go through the Scripture readings and make your choices. When you meet with a parish Bereavement Minister, you can relay your choices to the minister.

Musical selections for the Mass will be made with the Bereavement Minister as well. All music should be from selections of sacred church music.

Again, please know the thoughts and prayers of the community at this time and in the weeks and months ahead. Your loved one will be remembered at the next All Souls Day Mass on November 2nd. A family member will receive an invitation to this special evening celebration for all to come to.

May the Lord comfort you during these days,
The Faith Community of Saint Mary Parish



ORDER OF THE FUNERAL MASS

THE GATHERING RIGHTS

Gathering
Sprinkling with Holy Water
Placing of the Pall
Opening Procession & Song
Words of Remembrance (*Optional*)
Opening Prayer

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading (Old Testament)
Psalm Response
Second Reading (New Testament)
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel Proclamation
Homily
General Intercessions/Petitions

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts (bread and wine)
Eucharist Prayer

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Lamb of God
Communion
Prayer after Communion

THE CONCLUDING RITE

Final Commendation
Dismissal
Closing Procession & Song



Mass of the Resurrection Selection Sheet

Mass of the Resurrection for: _____

(Commonly referred to as: _____)

Old Testament/1st Reading: _____

Read by: _____

New Testament/ 2nd Reading: _____

Read By: _____

Gospel Reading: _____

General Intercessions (Petitions) # _____ (or self composed)

Read by: _____

Offertory Gift Presenters: _____

Words of Remembrance** (Optional) given by: _____

**The optional Words of Remembrance (eulogy) is done following the Opening Procession Song and is given by one family member. It is recommended that the thoughts be written on paper ahead of time and it be no longer than five minutes in length.

FUNERAL MUSIC OUTLINE

DATE	
NAME	
GATHERING	
RESPONSORIAL PSALM	
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	
COMMUNION	
INCENSING	
RECESSIONAL	

<u>GATHERING & RECESSIONAL SONGS</u>	<u>PRESENTATION & COMM HYMNS</u>	
		Precious Lord Take My Hand (955)
Amazing Grace (645)	All Who Hunger (925)	Quietly, Peacefully (713)
Be Not Afraid (683)	Amazing Grace (645)	Rest Now In Me (711)
Covenant Hymn (904)	Ave Maria (Schubert)	Shelter Me, O God (717)
Go In Peace (Hart)	Behold The Lamb (939)	Song Of The Body Of Christ (924)
Here I Am, Lord (777)	Covenant Hymn (904)	Shepherd of My Heart (723)
How Great Thou Art (578)	Eat This Bread (941)	Take and Eat This Bread (928)
Let There Be Peace On Earth (829)	Eye Has Not Seen (728)	Taste and See (930)
On Eagle's Wings (691)	Hail Mary, Gentle Woman (889)	The Cloud's Veil (710)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (955)	I Am The Bread of Life (945)	The King of Love (712)
Song of Farewell (Sands)	I Have Loved You (588)	We Are Many Parts (834)
There Is A Place (979)	In The Arms of God (714)	We Remember (681)
You Raise Me Up (Loveland/Graham)	Jesus, Hope of the World (909)	We Shall Rise Again (871)
<u>RESPONSORIAL PSALMS</u>	Let Us Be Bread (946)	You Are Near (695)
Ps 23 Shepherd Me, O God (35)	Old Irish Blessing (Agay)	<u>INCENSING</u>
Ps 25 To You, O Lord I Lift My Soul (39)	On Eagle's Wings (691)	All I Ask of You (Norbet)
Ps 27 The Lord Is My Light (VAO 357)	One Bread, One Body (932)	Jesus, Remember Me (510)
Ps 63 My Soul Is Thirsting (VAO 317)	Pan De Vida (920)	May The Angels Lead You (980)
PS 91 Be With Me Lord (65)	Panis Angelicus (Aquinas)	Songs of the Angels (Dufford)
Ps 103 The Lord is Kind & Merciful (72)	Prayer of St. Francis (828)	The Hand of God Shall Hold You (981)

Old Testament/First Reading - #1

Job 19:1, 23-26

I know that My Redeemer lives

A Reading from the Book of Job

Then 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;

And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Old Testament/First Reading - #2a – Long Version
Wisdom 3:1-9**

The faithful shall abide with God in love

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.

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.

**Old Testament/First Reading - #2b – Short Version
Wisdom 3:1-6, 9**

The faithful shall abide with God in love

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hands of God,
and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in 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 humanity, 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.

Old Testament/First Reading

Wisdom 4:7-15

A blameless life is a ripe old age

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he dies 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 the Lord sped him
out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people saw and did not understand,

nor did they take this into account.

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,

and his care is with his elect.

The Word of the Lord

Old Testament/First Reading - #4

Isaiah 26: 6a, 7-9

The Lord God will destroy death forever

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

Old Testament/First Reading - #5

Lamentations 3: 17-26

It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save

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

Old Testament Reading/First Reading - #6

Daniel 12:1-3

The wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

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.

Old Testament/First Reading - #7

2 Maccabees 12: 43-46

It is good and holy to think of the dead rising again.

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

Old Testament

Proverbs 31: 10-13, 20, 25-31

A blessed wife & mother

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls.
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.
She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs at the days to come.
She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.
Her children rise up and praise her;
her husband, too, extols her:
"Many are the women of proven worth,
but you have excelled them all."
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears 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.

Old Testament/First Reading - #9

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8, 11, 15

God has made an appointed time for everything.

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.
God has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into our hearts.
What now is,
has already been;
what is to be,
already is;
and God restores what would otherwise be displaced.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament/Second Reading - #1a – Long Version
Acts 10:34-43
Jesus as the Divine Judge of the living and dead.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "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.

New Testament/Second Reading - #1 b - Short Version

Acts 10: 34-36, 42-42

Jesus as the Divine Judge of the living and dead.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said,
"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 to 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.

New Testament/Second Reading - #2

Romans 5:5-11

We will be saved and justified through his blood.

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

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, yet 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.

New Testament/Second Reading - #3

Romans 5: 17-21

Where sin increased, grace abounded even more.

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

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 one person
 the many were made sinners,
so through the obedience of one
 the many will be made righteous.

The law entered in so that transgression might increase but,
 where sin increased, grace overflowed all 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.

**New Testament /Second Reading - #4a- Long Version
Romans 6: 3-9**

Let us walk in newness of life.

A Reading from the Letter 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.

New Testament/Second Reading - # 4b - Short Version
Romans 6: 3-9

Let us walk in newness of life.

A Reading from the Letter 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.

New Testament/Second Reading - # 5

Romans 8:14-23

I consider the sufferings of this present time as nothing.

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

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 received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of GOD, and if children, then heirs, heirs of GOD and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider the sufferings of this present time as nothing, compared to the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of GoD; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the One who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of GOD. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #6

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

What will separate from the love of Christ?

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

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 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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #7

Romans 14:7-12

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter 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 LORD of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother?
Or you, why do you look down on your brother?
For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of GOD;
for it is written:
"As I live, says the LORD,
every knee shall bend before me,
and every tongue shall give praise to GOD."

So (then) each of us shall give an account of himself to GOD.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #8a -Long Version
1 Corinthians 15: 20-28

All will be brought to life in Christ.

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. 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 firstfruits; 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, for "he subjected everything under his feet." But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him.

When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will (also) be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament/Second Reading - #8 b Short Version

1 Corinthians 15: 20-23

All will be brought to life in Christ.

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead
came also through a human being.

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 firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - # 9
1 Corinthians 15: 51-57
Death is swallowed up in victory.

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #10

2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1

What is seen is transitory; what is unseen is eternal.

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians

We know that the one who raised the LORD Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,
so that the grace bestowed in abundance
on more and more people may cause
the thanksgiving to overflow
for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged;
rather, although our outer self is wasting away,
our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction is producing for us
an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,
as we look not to what is seen
but to what is unseen;
for what is seen is transitory,
but what is unseen is eternal.

For 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.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #11

2 Corinthians 1: 6-10

We have an everlasting home in heaven.

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians

For 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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #12

Philippians 3:20-21

Jesus will change our mortal bodies to be like his own.

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians

Our citizenship is in heaven,

and from it we also await a savior, the LORD Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body to conform

with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring
all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament/Second Reading - # 13

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-26

Jesus is our hope.

A Reading from the Second Letter 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.

New Testament/Second Reading - # 14

2 Timothy 2: 8-13

If we have died with him we shall also live with him.

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy

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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #15)

1 John 3:1-2

We are always God 's children.

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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #16

1 John 3: 14-16

We have life because of love.

A Reading from the First Letter of John

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death.

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.

The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #17

Revelation 14: 13

Blessed are they who die in the Lord.

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.

New Testament /Second Reading - #18

Revelation 20:11 -21:1

All the dead were judged according to their deeds.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Next I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them.

I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls.

The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds.

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.)

Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #19
Revelation 21: 1-5a, 6b-7

There shall be no more death or mourning.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from GOD, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, GOD'S dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and GOD himself will always be with them.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, (for) the old order has passed away."

The one who sat on the throne said,

"Behold, I make all things new.

I (am) the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water.

The victor will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

The Word of the LORD.

New Testament /Second Reading - #20

1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:8a

Love never fails.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Corinthians

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy
and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;
if I have all faith so as to move mountains
but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own,
and if I hand my body over
so that I may boast
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel - #1

Matthew 5: 1-12a

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

When he 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 - #2

Matthew 11:25-30

Come to me ... and I will give you rest.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

At that time Jesus said in reply,

"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.

Gospel - # 3

Matthew 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

"The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked.

Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #4

Matthew 25:31-46

Come, you whom my Father has blessed.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'

And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #5a- Long Version
Mark 15: 33-39, 16: 1-6

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back; it was very large. On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed.

He said to them, "Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #5b- Short Version

Mark 15: 33-39

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #6
Luke 7:11-17

Young men, I say to you, arise.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her.

When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, "Do not weep." He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!"

The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, "A great prophet has arisen in our midst," and "God has visited his people." This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #7
Luke 12:35-40

Be prepared.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

"Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - # 8

Luke 23:33, 39-43

Today you will be with me in paradise.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

When they came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified him and the criminals there,
one on his right, the other on his left.

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,
"Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us."

The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
"Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?
And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,
but this man has done nothing criminal."

Then he said,
"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied to him,
"Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #9a - Long Version
Luke 23:44-46, 50-53, 24:1-6a

Father, I put my life in your hands.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, had not consented to their plan of action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea and was awaiting the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

But at daybreak on the first day of the week they took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #9b -Short Version
Luke 23:44-46, 50-53, 24:1-6a

Father, I put my life in your hands.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, had not consented to their plan of action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea and was awaiting the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #10a -Long Version

Luke 24:13-35

Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #10b -Short Version

Luke 24:13-35

Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #11

John 5:24-29

Whoever hears my word and believes has passed from death to life.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

"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.

Gospel - #12

John 6:37-40

All who believe in the Son will have eternal life and I will raise them on the last day.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

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.

Gospel - #13

John 6:51-59

All who eat this bread will live forever; and I will raise them on the last day.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus said to the crowd:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,

"How can this man give us (his) flesh to eat?"

Jesus said to them,

"Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,
you do not have life within you.

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever."

These things he said while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - # 14a –LongVersion

John 11:17-27

I am the resurrection and the life.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. (But) even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - # 14b –Short Version

John 11:17-27

I am the resurrection and the life.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. (But) even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #15
John 11:32-45

Lazarus, come out.

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 - # 16a- Long Version

John 12: 23-28

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies it yields a rich harvest.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus answered them,

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life loses it,

and whoever hates his life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?

'Father, save me from this hour'?

But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.

Father, glorify your name."

Then a voice came from heaven,

"I have glorified it and will glorify it again."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - # 16b- Short Version

John 12: 23-26

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies it yields a rich harvest.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus answered them,

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life loses it,

and whoever hates his life in this world

will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #17

John 14:1-6

There are many rooms in my Father's house.

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.

Gospel - #18

John 17:24-26

Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

Father, they are your gift to me.

I wish that where I am they also may be with me,
that they may see my glory that you gave me,
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father,

the world also does not know you,
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,
that the love with which you loved me may be in them
and I in them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #19

John 19:17-18, 25-30

Jesus bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

They took Jesus and, carrying the cross himself, he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdaia. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth.

When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel - #20

Mark 10:13-16

Let the little children come to me.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Mark

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might bless them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

General Intercessions

The General Intercessions (also known as Petitions, or Prayers of the Faithful) may follow the suggestions on the following pages. You might choose the prayers as they are on the following pages, you might choose to mix together some of the various prayers from the following suggestions, or you might choose to completely write you own prayers.

There should be at least four individual prayers of intercession along with the communal response, "Lord, Hear Our Prayer."

General Intercessions - #1

Following the Homily

Priest: Brothers & sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord, we join our voices in prayer:

Reader: "Our response is, 'Lord, hear our prayer.'"

- In baptism, *(Name)* received the light of Christ. Almighty God, scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death, we pray to the Lord....
- Our brother/sister *(Name)* was nourished at the table of our Savior. Welcome him/her to the halls of the heavenly banquet, we pray to the Lord....
- Many friends and members of our families have gone before us into the eternal kingdom; Lord, grant them an everlasting home, we pray to the Lord
- Many people die each day by violence, war, and famine. Lord, show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them in the eternal kingdom of your peace, we pray to the Lord
- 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, we pray to the Lord
- All of *(Name's)* family and friends seek comfort and consolation during this time of loss. Lord, heal their pain and dispel any darkness and doubt that come with grief, we pray to the Lord....
- We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister *(Name)*. Lord, strengthen our hope so that we may live in confidence of your lasting peace through your Son's coming, we pray to the Lord....

Priest: Gracious God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of your Son and the voices of your people, whose lives have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in your eternal kingdom. We ask this and all of our prayers through Christ, our Lord.

General Intercessions - #2

Following the Homily

Priest: God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son and conquered death; with confidence we ask God to save all his children:

Reader: "Our response is, 'Lord, hear our prayer. '"

- For (Name), who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of all the saints, we pray to the Lord
- For our brother/sister who shared in the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Lord
- For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us in our lives, that they may have the reward for their goodness, we pray to the Lord
- For all who have fallen asleep in Christ steeped in a faith only God knew, that they may know the joy of seeing God face to face, we pray to the Lord....
- For all of *(Name's)* family and friends, including those who could not be here, that all may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his own friend, Lazarus, we pray to the Lord
- For all who are experiencing loss due to separations of all kinds, that they may find comfort in Christ, we pray to the Lord
- For all of us assembled here to thank God for the blessings we've known in (Name), that we find comfort in our belief we will be gathered again in God's eternal kingdom, we pray to the Lord

Priest: Gracious God, who is our shelter and our strength, you listen to the cry of your people; hear our prayers for our deceased relatives and friends that they may know the fullness of joy in your presence. We ask this and all of our prayers through Christ, our Lord.

General Intercessions - #3

Following the Homily

Priest: In our times of need and desperation, we turn to the Lord, the source of all blessings. Confident God is with us, we ask God to hear our prayers and tend to our needs:

Reader: "Our response is, 'Lord, hear our prayer. '"

- For (Name), who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may be admitted to the communion of all the saints, we pray to the Lord....
- As *(Name)* proclaimed Christ's message by his/her daily living, we pray that we may follow his/her example, we pray to the Lord....
- That all who are bereaved may find consolation and strength in our shared faith in Christ's resurrection, we pray to the Lord....
- That the God of all life may inspire world leaders to seek ways of life-giving peace and solutions to diseases and famine, we pray to the Lord....
- That the dying, who await the embrace of Christ, may be freed from fear and filled with faith in the salvation God bestows, we pray to the Lord....
- That we, who assemble here to proclaim God's goodness in the midst of loss, may find strength in God's promises fulfilled in the resurrection of Christ, we pray to the Lord
- We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister *(Name)*. Lord, strengthen our hope so that we may live in confidence of your lasting peace through your Son's coming, we pray to the Lord....

Priest: Gracious God, our shelter and our strength, hear the prayers we offer for our deceased brothers and sisters. Receive their spirit and may your love bring comfort to those who mourn their loss. We ask this and all of our prayers through Christ, our Lord.

General Intercessions - #4

Following the Homily

Priest: We believe that Jesus died and rose again; and so it will be for those who die believing in him. God will bring them into eternal company with him, and so with confidence we offer our prayers.

Reader: "Our response is, 'Lord, hear our prayer. '"

- That as (Name) crosses the threshold of death to begin everlasting life, Jesus will be his/her guide and companion, we pray to the Lord....
- We pray for *(Name)*, that as he/she knew creative labor, joy, and suffering here on earth, he may now share in Christ's risen life, we pray to the Lord....
- For relatives and friends who suffer this loss, this pain of separation, that our common faith, hope, and trust in God's love may be a strong support, we pray to the Lord
- For loved ones who could not be here, that the comfort of Christ is with them as well, we pray to the Lord....
- For all who suffer the pains of loss and suffering throughout our world, that Christ's resurrection may unite all of humanity, we pray to the Lord....

Priest: Almighty God of all consolation, you have sent light into darkness in the presence and power of your Son. His death and resurrection have given us the victory over death itself. Hear our prayers for (Name) and for all of the human family to know your consoling love. We ask this and all of our prayers through Christ, our Lord.