

CATHOLIC FUNERAL MASS PLANNER



ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH
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“The Lord is my Light and My Salvation”

Psalm 27

Our deepest sympathy to you in the loss of your loved one; we understand that this is a most difficult and trying time in your lives. Please know that we are here to assist you in any way that we can.

This booklet has been assembled to aid you in selecting the readings and music used in celebration at your loved one’s liturgy. Our goal is to assist you in the selections which characterize both your loved one’s life and journey of faith and our belief as Church, of your loved one’s sharing in the resurrection of Jesus Christ in eternal life. The Church’s rich tradition in liturgical music offers many wonderful selections from which to choose; those listed in this booklet are only a few. Popular and secular music is not appropriate for the church; however it is often chosen for use during the calling hours at the funeral home.

Kindly choose one reading from both the Old Testament **and** the New Testament sections. You can ask the priest to choose the Gospel or select one for him. You may also choose the music you would like to use during the liturgy using the music selections provided. A planning guide is provided to record your selections.

If there is someone among your family or friends whom you would like to proclaim the first two readings, please let us know. If you would like to select the readings and have us take care of its proclamation at the liturgy, that is fine too. Or, if you prefer, we can make some selections for you.

It is our hope that you will find the Word of God, and the inspiring music which accompanies the liturgy, a source of consolation and strength in this time of loss.

The Friars and Staff of St Augustine Parish

Music Suggestions for Funeral Liturgy

Prelude

Generally music is provided as the guests arrive for liturgy. During that time it is customary for appropriate classical music to be played and will be chosen by the music director. These music selections are offered for your consideration for the funeral celebration:

Gathering and/or Recessional Hymns – please select ONE song for opening and ONE for closing

1. Alleluia Sing to Jesus - Hyfrydol (except during Lent)
Alleluia Sing to Jesus! His, the scepter, his the throne. Alleluia! His, the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark the songs of peaceful Zion, thunder like a mighty flood. Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by blood
2. Amazing Grace-Traditional
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved and set me free. was once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.
3. Be Not Afraid - Dufford
Be not afraid, I go before you always, come follow me, and I will give you rest
4. Come Follow Me and Live - Bererick/Walker
Come follow me and live, do not be afraid. Believe and trust in me; your faith will give you strength. Leave all your fears behind you; let your heart be free, for I will be your guide, come and follow me.
5. Go in Peace-Hart/Liles (recommended for closing hymn)
Go in peace, God be with you, Go in peace, be at rest with the saints and the angels, now you are free, go in
6. How Can I Keep From Singing - Quaker Hymn
My life goes on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Refrain: No storm can shake

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my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

7. How Great Thou Art - Hine

Then sings my soul, my savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art.

8. I Know That My Redeemer Lives - Soper

I know that my Redeemer lives, the one who calls me home, I long to see God face to face, to see with my own eyes. I Know that my Redeemer lives, that I shall rise again.

9. On Eagle's Wings - Joncas (see #10 for contemporary version)

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of God, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.

10. Fly Like a Bird - Canedo

Fly like a bird to the Lord, my soul. I want to soar like an eagle. Though I may journey far away from home, I know I'll never be along.

11. Only in God - Talbot

My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be afraid at all, my stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.

12. Prayer of St. Francis - Temple

O Master Grant that I might never seek so much to be consoled, as to console. To be understood, to love as loved, with all my soul

13. Precious Lord, Take My Hand - Dorsey

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home

14. Sing With All the Saints in Glory (Ode to Joy)

Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song! Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, to the former days belong. All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease; in God's likeness, people waking, know the everlasting peace.

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15. You Are Near - Schutte

O Lord, I know you are near, standing always by my side. You guard me from the foe and you lead me in ways everlasting.

Responsorial Psalm (sung between the 1st and 2nd Readings) – select ONE

16. Psalm 23 - My Shepherd is The Lord, nothing in deed shall I want

17. Psalm 23 - Shepherd Me, O God, Beyond My Wants...Fears

18. Psalm 25 - To You O Lord, I Lift My Soul

19. Psalm 27 - The Lord is My Light and My Salvation

20. Psalm 84 - How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place

21. Psalm 103 - The Lord is Kind and Merciful

22. Psalm 131 - My Soul is Longing For Your Peace-Deiss

Hymn during Presentation of the Offerings – Marion Hymns are sung at this time, select ONE

23. Ave Maria

24. – Genito, OSA (a recording can be sent via text/email if needed)

25. Ave Maria – Schubert OR Bach/Gounod (please specify which composer)
Sung in Latin:*Hail Mary, full of Grace...*

26. Ave Maria-Bach/Gounod

27. Eye Has Not Seen - M. Haugen

Eye has not see, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him. Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus, teach us the wisdom of God.

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28. Hail Mary, Gentle Woman – Landry

Gentle Woman, quiet light, morning star, so warm and bright. Gentle mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom, teach us love.

29. Here I am Lord - Schutte

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

30. I, the Lord- Kendzia

I, the Lord am with you, always by your side, come and take my hand, for I will lead you home, follow me.

31. Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee – Van Dyke (music Ode to Joy)

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of Love

32. Lord You Have Come - Garbarain

O Lord, with your eyes set upon me, gently smiling, you have spoken my name; all I long for I have found by the water, at your side, I will see other shores.

33. O God You Search Me – Farrell

O God, you search me and you know me.

Communion Hymns – please select ONE, if you expect high attendance, please select TWO

34. O How Blessed - Schutte

35. I am the Bread of Life - Toolan

I am the bread of life, ...the resurrection. If you believe in me, even if you die, you will live forever. And I will raise you up on the last day.

36. Taste and See - Kendzia (as there are several versions of this hymn, please specify if you would like a version by another composer)

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

37. Ubi Caritas - B. Hurd

*Latin Refrain—Ubi caritas est vera, est vera; Deus ibi est, Deus ibi est
(Where there is true charity, God is present)*

*(Verse) May we who gather at this table to share the bread of life, become
a sacrament of love, your healing touch, O Christ.*

38. We Remember - Haugen

*We remember how You (Jesus) loved us, to your death, and still we
celebrate for You are with us here. And we believe that we will see You,
when You come, in your glory Lord, we remember, we celebrate, we
believe.*

39. Panis Angelicus - Franck

Sung in Latin: Holy and living bread, wondrous food from heaven...

OR a contemporary version of this hymn is Bread of Angels-Stephen

40. Bread of Angels - Stephen

Commendation Songs - please select ONE

Selection should best reflect the promise of a heavenly dwelling place with our Loving God and is sung just before the final blessing while the priest incenses the casket.

41. May the Angels - Joncas

*May the angels lead you into paradise, may the martyrs come to welcome
you, and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.*

42. O Loving God - Londonderry Air (Irish Melody) also May Choirs of
Angels - Londonderry Air-words to the refrain are same #31)

*O Loving God, we send our daughter/son home to you, home to a place of
everlasting love, to join there with the angel choirs and blessed saints and
to be hold your glorious holy face. Receive her/his soul and let eternal
light shine, eternal light for ever on her/his soul, so that he/she may be
forever in your dwelling place, and be at rest in peace until we meet again.*

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43. Song of Farewell - Sands

*May the choir of angels, come to meet you, may they lead you to paradise.
May their arms enfold you, with his mercy, may you have eternal life.*

Other Hymns - best used as a Meditation Hymn or Closing

44. Irish Blessing - Fabing

*May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always with you. May
the sunshine warm you always 'til we meet again.*

45. Coming Home - Genito (option to sing one verse during the

Commendation or the entire hymn as a meditation during Communion)

*Coming home to love, coming home to peace, coming home, coming home
to you.*

Suggestions on Words of Remembrance (optional)

Saint Augustine said that funerals are more for the benefit of the living than the dead. This is because the funeral rites help us, the living, to express our grief at a time of loss and our gratitude for the life lived and shared with us, all in a context of community and faith.

Sometimes a family member or close friend or associate of the deceased is invited to share "words of remembrance." At the priest's discretion this can be done either before the funeral Mass begins or, at the beginning. This is entirely optional.

Words of Remembrance are "remarks" and should be done by one person only. These remarks are expected to be about 3-4 minutes duration. Another option is to deliver such remarks at the funeral home during the wake or at the cemetery/mausoleum during the Committal service.

The remarks:

- place the person's life in the context of faith and hope
- reflect the relationship of the deceased to God, family, church and community
- honor the legacy of the deceased with appreciation and admiration.
- are expected to remember the deceased in a respectful tone, never cynical or negative

Universal Prayer

Presider: Opening Prayer

For ..., who in Baptism was given the pledge of eternal life: may he/she now be admitted to the company of the saints, we pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

For our brother/sister, ..., who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life: may he/she be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

For ... family and friends, for all who loved and cared for him/her: may they be consoled in their grief and may they have the rewards of their goodness, we pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again: may they see God face to face, we pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

For all of us assembled here in faith: may we be gathered again in God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

Presider: Closing Prayer

Old Testament Readings – please select one

All readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition as presented at www.usccb.org.

1. A reading from the Book of Job - Job 19:1, 23-25, 27

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! As for me, I know that my vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust: I will see for myself, my own eyes, not another's, will behold him: my inmost being is consumed with longing.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

2. A reading from the book of Wisdom - Wisdom 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous 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 to others, indeed, they seem 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 judgment they shall shine, and 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

3. A reading from the book of Wisdom - Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

The souls of the righteous 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 to others, indeed, they seem 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

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furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with the elect.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

4. A reading from the Book of Wisdom - Wisdom 4:7-15

The righteous one, 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 passes for gray hair and an unsullied life is the attainment of old age. The one who pleased God was loved; living 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 that consideration into account.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

5. A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah - Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

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: "Indeed this is our God, we looked to him, and he saved us! This is the Lord to whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

6. A reading from the Book of Lamentations - Lamentations 3:17-26

My life is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; My enduring hope, I said, has perished before the Lord. The thought of my wretched homelessness is wormwood and poison; Remembering it over and over, my soul is downcast. But this I will call to mind; therefore I will hope: The Lord's acts of mercy are not exhausted, this compassion is not spent; They are renewed each morning—great is your faithfulness! The Lord is my portion, I tell myself, therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is good to those who trust in him, to the one that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the Lord's deliverance.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

7. A reading from the Book of Daniel - Daniel 12:1-3

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard the word of the Lord: “At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since the nation 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 to everlasting life, others to reproach and everlasting disgrace. But those with insight shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.”

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

8. A reading from the Second Book of Maccabees - 2 Maccabees 12:43-46
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 in mind; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead. 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 absolved from their sin.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

9. A Reading from the Book of Proverbs – Pv 31:10-15, 17-18, 20-21, 23, 25-26, 28-31

Who can find a woman of worth? Far beyond jewels is her value. Her husband trusts her judgment; he does not lack income. She brings him profit, not loss, all the days of her life. She seeks out wool and flax and weaves with skillful hands. Like a merchant fleet, she secures her provisions from afar. She rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household, a portion to her maidservants. She girds herself with strength; she exerts her arms with vigor. She enjoys the profit from her dealings; her lamp is never extinguished at night. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. She is not concerned for her household when it snows—all her charges are doubly clothed. Her husband is prominent at the city gates as he sits with the elders of the land. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom, kindly instruction is on her tongue. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband, too, praises 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. Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

10. A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes – Eccl 3:1-11

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to give birth, , 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 profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts, so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

11. A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah – Is 55:1-3, 6-8

All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, buy grain and eat; Come, buy grain without money and milk without cost! Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what does not satisfy? Only listen to me, and you shall delight in rich fare. Pay attention and come to me; listen, that you may have life. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, the steadfast loyalty promised to David. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their way, and sinners their thoughts; Let them turn to the LORD to find mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways – oracle of the LORD.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

New Testament Readings - Please choose 1

1. A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles – Acts 10:34-43

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words: “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.”

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

2. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 5:5-11

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured 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 whom we have now received reconciliation.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

3. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 5:17-21

“If, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

4. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 6:3-9

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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

5. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 8:14-23

“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 be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits the

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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 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

6. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 8:31-35, 37-39

“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, not 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

7. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans – Rm 14:7-12

“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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

8. A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians – 1 Cor 15:20-28

“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 dies, 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. 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

9. A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians – 1 Cor 15:51-57

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 and 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 that

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which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and that 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

10. A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians – 2

Cor 4:14-5:1

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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

11. A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians – 2

Cor 5:1, 6-10

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 good or evil.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

12. A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Phillipians – Phil 3:20-

21

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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

13. A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians – 1

Thess 4:13-18

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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

14. A Reading from the Second Letter of Timothy – 2 Tim 2:8-13

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David; such is my gospel I preach, 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."

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

15. A Reading from the First Letter of St Peter – 1 Peter 4:7-11

Brother and Sisters, the end of all things is at hand. Therefore, be serious and sober for prayers. Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. Whoever preaches, let it be with the words of God; whoever serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

16. A Reading from the First Letter of John – 1 John 3:1-2

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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

17. A Reading from the First Letter of John – 1 John 3:14-16

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that Jesus laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

18. A Reading from the Book of Revelation – Rev 14:13

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."

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

19. A Reading from the Book of Revelation – Rev 20:11-21:1

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. 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.

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

20. A Reading from the Book of Revelation – Rev 21:1-5a, 6b-7

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

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

(Pause)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Gospel Readings – Please Choose 1

1. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew – Mt 5:1-12

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. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

2. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew – Mt 11:25-30

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."

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

3. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew – Mt 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "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

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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."

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

4. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark – Mk 15:33-39

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!"

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

5. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke – Lk 7:11-17

Soon afterward he 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.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

6. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke – Lk 23:33, 39-43

When the soldiers 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."

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

7. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke – Lk 24:13-16,28-35

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

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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.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

8. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John – Jn 6:37-40

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.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

9. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John – Jn 6:51-58

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.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

10. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John – Jn 11:32-45

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.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

11. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John – Jn 14:1-6

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. (Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

12. A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John – Jn 14:1-14

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. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.

(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

13. A Reading from the Gospel According to John – Jn 11:17-27

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. 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

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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."
(Pause)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

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