

## MUSIC FOR A CATHOLIC FUNERAL

Because the Mass is a public act of worship of the church, the parish is ultimately responsible for the music in the liturgy. Music should be sacred and reflect the idea of resurrection and hope.

You may have in mind some specific songs which may or may not be appropriate during the Mass. Below is a song list with appropriate selections. There are many songs not listed that may be appropriate. Our Director of Liturgy & Music, Dr. Andrea Pobanz, can help you choose music or is happy to make the selections for your loved one's funeral Mass.

Some music is not appropriate for the funeral Mass. For example, *O Danny Boy* is a wonderful song, but because it does not have sacred words, it is not appropriate for a Catholic Mass. If you have a favorite song that cannot be used during Mass, you may want to play it during the luncheon or during a slide show.

The entrance hymn, Communion hymn and recessional hymn are music that the congregation should be encouraged to sing, as well as the usual service music and responses. Solos are more appropriate during offertory (the presentation of the gifts), or as a Communion meditation (a solo may also be sung during Communion).

To hear available recordings, please click on the title and your default web browser will open directly to the recording.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

This psalm is sung by the cantor between the Old Testament and New Testament readings.

Psalm 23 The Lord is My Shepherd  
[Psalm 23 Shepherd Me, O God \(Haugen\)](#)  
Psalm 27 The Lord is My Light and My Salvation  
Psalm 42/43 My Soul is Thirsting for You  
Psalm 103 The Lord is Kind and Merciful  
Psalm 131 In You Lord, I have Found my Peace

## **Songs for the Funeral Mass**

In general, four (4) songs are sung during the funeral liturgy.  
A meditation after Communion is permitted, but not required.

[All Creatures of Our God and King \\*](#)  
[Alleluia, Sing to Jesus \\*](#)  
[Amazing Grace \(Traditional\)](#)  
[Ave Maria \(Schubert, vocal solo\)](#)  
[Be Not Afraid \(Dufford\)](#)  
[Blest Are They](#)  
[Eye Has Not Seen](#)  
[For all the Saints](#)  
[Gift of Finest Wheat](#)  
[Hail Mary, Gentle Woman](#)  
[Here I am, Lord \(Schutte\)](#)  
[Holy God, We Praise Thy Name](#)  
[How Great Thou Art](#)  
[I am the Bread of Life \(Toolan\)](#)  
[I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say](#)  
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Soper)  
[In Paradisum \(chant\)](#)  
[Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You](#)  
O God, You Search Me

[On Eagle's Wings](#)  
[One Bread, One Body](#)  
[Panis Angelicus \(Franck, vocal solo\)](#)  
Praise to the Lord  
[Precious Lord, Take My Hand](#)  
[Prayer of St. Francis](#)  
[Seek Ye First \\*](#)  
Shall We Gather at the River  
Shepherd of Souls  
Shelter Me, O God  
[Sing with All the Saints in Glory \(Hymn to Joy\)](#)  
[Soon and Very Soon \\*](#)  
[The King of Love My Shepherd Is](#)  
The Strife is O'er \*  
We Have Been Told  
We Will Rise Again (Haas)  
[You Are Mine \(Haas\)](#)  
[You Are Near \(Schutte\)](#)

*\* These songs contain "Alleluia" in the text. They should not be chosen for funerals scheduled during Lent.*