

Dear friends,

This booklet is a resource from which to choose the Scripture readings for the funeral Mass of your departed loved one. Ordinarily, the funeral Mass includes three readings: the first from the Old Testament, the second from the New Testament (non-Gospel) and the third from one of the Gospels. You can choose the first and second readings, and the priest will choose the Gospel reading.

The choices for the readings can be found on the following pages:

| Reading | Pages |
|----------------|--------------|
| Old Testament | 3-6 |
| New Testament | 7-10 |

Please write your selections in the space provided on the form on page 2. If you prefer not to choose the readings, simply write 'priest will select' in the appropriate spaces. Please do not think that this means you grieve less for your loved one. People grieve differently: some need to immerse themselves in planning the details of the Mass; others are too distracted to focus on those details. We will accommodate you in either case.

After you complete the form on the other side, please get me the information as soon as you can. You can drop it off at the rectory at St. Mary's, you can call me with the information (rectory: 508-839-3993 x24; cell: 508-523-9234) or send me e-mail (krcardinale@gmail.com). If **one person** wants to give a eulogy lasting no longer than **five minutes**, please include a written copy with the form or include it in the e-mail.

During the Mass, the priest will call the readers, gift-bearers and other participants forward from the pews. They will return to their pews after they perform their ministry. When readers are called, they go to the bottom step in front of the altar, bow and walk to the pulpit on their right. Copies of the readings will be at the pulpit. They should adjust the microphone to be level with and close to their mouths. Readers begin by saying, 'A reading from the (book name)' or 'A reading from the letter of (saint's name) to the (name of Christian community)'. Examples include 'A reading from the book of Wisdom', 'A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans' and 'A reading from the first letter of John'. When they finish the reading, they should look at the people and say, 'The Word of the Lord'.

On behalf of the entire parish, I extend our deepest condolences. Know that your loved one, you and your family and friends are in our prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Ken Cardinale
Pastor

Funeral Mass Planning Form

Name of deceased _____

Funeral director _____

Calling hours _____

Funeral Mass date and time _____

Cemetery _____

Family contact _____

Relationship _____

Phone number(s) _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Words of remembrance (eulogy) given by _____

(Note: eulogy is given by one person and should last no longer than five minutes. It can be given at the beginning of Mass or after Communion.)

Old Testament _____

Read by _____

New Testament _____

Read by _____

Offertory gifts presented by _____

MUSIC (see pages 11 and 12 for suggestions)

Opening hymn _____

Responsorial psalm _____

Offertory hymn _____

Communion hymn _____

Closing hymn _____

OT-1 Proverbs Chapter 31: 10–13, 19-20, 30-31

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 obtains wool and flax,
and works with loving hands.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.
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

OT-2 Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:
Oh, would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:
That with an iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;
Whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;
And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

OT-3 Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and 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 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 his elect.

The word of the Lord.

OT-4 Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.
For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time,
nor can it be measured in terms of years.
Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.
He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported-
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind
or deceit beguile his soul;
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.
Having become perfect in a short while,
he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.
But the people saw and did not understand,
nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

OT-5 Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

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

The word of the Lord.

OT-6 Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the LORD.
The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind,
as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the LORD are not exhausted,
his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the LORD, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in him.
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him,
to the soul that seeks him;
It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

OT-7 Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned
and heard this word of the Lord:
At that time there shall arise
Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since nations began until that time.
At that time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.
Many of those who sleep
in the dust of the earth shall awake;
Some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,
And those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

The word of the Lord.

NT-1 Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into
Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism
into death, so that, just as Christ was raised
from the dead by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

NT-2 Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for us all,
will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly
through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

NT-3 Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
No one 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 accounting of
himself to God.

The word of the Lord.

NT-4 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: 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.

NT-5 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,
so too will God, through Jesus,
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,
that we who are alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.
For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,
will come down from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first.
Then we who are alive, who are left,
will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.
Thus we shall always be with the Lord.
Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

NT-6 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:
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.

NT-7 Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, 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 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."

The word of the Lord.

Music Suggestions

P=Processional (opening song), RP=Responsorial Psalm,
 O=Offertory, C=Communion, R=Recessional (closing song)
 F=Song of Farewell

| Song Title | Suggested Placement |
|--|---------------------|
| All is Well with My Soul | P, O |
| Alleluia! Alleluia! | P, R |
| Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise | P, R |
| Alleluia! Sing to Jesus | P, R |
| Amazing Grace | P, |
| As Morning Breaks (Psalm 63) | RP |
| Ave Maria | O |
| Be Not Afraid | O, C |
| Be Still, My Soul | O, C |
| Be Thou My Vision | P, O, R |
| Because the Lord is My Shepherd | RP, O, C |
| Blest Are They | O |
| Come to Me | O, C |
| Eye Has Not Seen | P, O |
| Gift of Finest Wheat | O, C |
| Give Me Jesus | O, C |
| Go in Peace | R, C |
| How Great Thou Art | R |
| I Am the Bread of Life | O, C |
| I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say | P, O |
| I Know That My Redeemer Lives | P, O, C |
| In Every Age | C |
| Like a Shepherd | RP, O, C |
| Love Divine, All Loves Excelling | P, R |
| May You Walk with Christ | O, C |
| O God, You Search Me | C |
| O Loving God (tune is O Danny Boy) | C, F |
| On Eagle's Wings | P, O, C |
| One Bread, One Body | O, C |
| Only in God | O |
| Parable | O, C |
| Prayer of St. Francis | O |
| Precious Lord, Take My Hand | P, R, |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Psalm 16: The Path of Life | RP |
| Psalm 23: My Shepherd is the Lord (Gelineau) | RP |
| Psalm 27: The Goodness of the Lord | RP |
| Psalm 27: The Lord is My Light | RP, |
| Psalm 63: My Soul Is Thirsting (Angrisano) | RP, O |
| Psalm 91: Be With Me | RP, |
| Shepherd Me, O God (Psalm 23) | RP |
| Sing with All the Saints in Glory | P, R |
| Song of Farewell (Old Hundreth) | F |
| Song of Farewell (Sands) | F |
| Soul of My Savior | P, R |
| Take Me Home (not in Missal) | C |
| Taste and See (Kendzia) | O, C |
| Taste and See (Moore) | O, C |
| The King of Love My Shepherd Is | P, O |
| The Lord is My Light | C |
| The Lord Is My Shepherd (Alstott) | RP, C |
| The Strife is O'er | P, R |
| The Supper of the Lord | O, C |
| Unless a Grain of Wheat (Farrell) | C, O |
| We Will Rise Again | O, C |
| Where my Father Lives | O, C |
| With the Lord | O, C |
| You Are Mine | R, C |
| You Are Near | O, C |