IV. SUGGESTED READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE
FROM THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

OLD TESTAMENT

Job 19:1, 23-27a
Job's prayer of hope and confidence in God. By God's power, death will be overcome and human life fulfilled in him.

Wisdom 3:1-9
Hope that those who have died are with God, and that this presence will be someday manifest.

Wisdom 4:7-14
Confidence that one who dies young or suddenly but has lived well, is with God - despite the confusion this event causes those who mourn.

Isaiah 25:6, 7-9
A prophecy of the coming kingdom of God and its conquest over grief. This passage should be used with a second lesson drawn from Rev. 21.

Lamentations 3:17-26
Jeremiah's prayer in the face of Israel's destruction: he still waits on the Lord for his help.

Daniel 12:1-3
The prophecy of the end time in which God shall call forth to life all those who have lived well.

2 Mac. 12:43-46
The hope for a future resurrection.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 10:34-43
The central position of the Risen Christ: forgiveness for those who believe in him.

Romans 5:5-11
The death of Christ is his love for us: our hope is based on this action of his love.

Romans 5:17-21
Death as a reality of human evil contrasted with life as bestowed by Jesus.

Romans 6:3-9
The baptized are united to Jesus: even death cannot break that unity.

Romans 8:14-23
We have hope because we are the children of God: yet, we experience suffering until the final victory on the last day.

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39
The unshakable basis of the Christian hope: God's love for us in his gift of Jesus.

Romans 14: 7-9, 10-12
Jesus is our Lord and our Ruler: we belong to him in life and in death.

1 Cor. 15:20-24, 25-28
Death is still a present evil to be experienced, but one which will be trampled upon by Jesus.

1 Cor. 15:51-57
Through Jesus Christ we will conquer even the seeming finality of death.

2 Cor. 5:1, 6-10
Beyond the experience of death, faith tells us life lies with Christ.

Phil. 3:20-21
We await the coming again of Jesus when he will make us like himself in glory.

1 Thess. 4:13-18
We grieve at death, but not as the world does-, our grief is colored by hope.

2 Tim. 2:8-13
If we are faithful in life to our commitment to Jesus, we will share his victory.

1 Jn. 3:1-2
Because in his love God has made us his children, we can now look forward to the last day.

1 Jn. 3:14-16
The only power death can have is if even now we do not live in the mutual love to which Christ has called us.

Rev. 14:13
The death of those who are good is to be rewarded.

Rev. 20:11-21:1
The future judgment of our deeds, and the new creation.

Rev. 21:1-5, 6-7
The future establishment of God's kingdom. Should be used with No. 86 (Prophecy from Isaiah 25).
**PSALMS**

**Ps. 23**
These themes predominate in the Christian usage of this psalm: trust in the Lord; the recognition of the risen Christ as the good shepherd; the link of the good shepherd theme to the Eucharist.

**Ps. 25**
A prayer of confidence, not in one's actions, but in a God who has demonstrated his love for us.

**Ps. 27**
A prayer of confidence that God will take us to himself.

**Ps. 42**
A prayer of one in anguish who desire to be with God.

**Ps. 63**
A prayer to be with God and to rely only upon him.

**Ps. 103**
The prayer of one who recognizes the passing nature of human life, but also the certainty of God's faithfulness to his promise.

**Ps. 115**
Before the idols of this world, and the transitory nature of life, the psalmist trusts in the Lord.

**Ps. 122**
A pilgrim psalm: looking forward to the kingdom of heaven.

**Ps. 130**
The classic prayer of the sinner who trusts in the mercy and faithfulness of God.

**Ps. 143**
A prayer for mercy based on the actions of God's love and care.