



SANTA MARIA DEL MAR'S PLANNER FOR FUNERAL MASSES



"This is the will of my Father, says the Lord, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

~John 6:40

915 N. Central Ave. Flagler Beach, FL 32136

386-439-2791

INTRODUCTION:

A Catholic funeral, like all funerals, is a time of sadness and mourning. However, in the Catholic faith there is joy in the belief that a funeral represents the passing of the beloved into eternal life. It is our goal to make this process as easy as possible. A funeral should reflect the life of the one that has passed before us and should uplift those who are left behind. Funeral arrangements begin with a meeting with the funeral director. The parish is contacted next, where a priest will confirm time for the funeral mass.

The Funeral Liturgy

The core of the Catholic funeral celebration is the Mass. The Eucharist is at the center of the Catholic faith - the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Scripture readings and prayer also play a prominent role in the Catholic funeral service, along with songs, hymns, and a brief message.

Interment

In the Catholic faith, there is a great respect for the body. Catholics believe that the body is "the temple of the Lord" and that at the End of Days, there will be a resurrection of the body. The interment takes place at the cemetery or columbarium.

OTHER DETAILS:

Viewing the Body

This practice is highly encouraged, because it helps remove doubts that the loved one has truly died. The body should be viewed at the funeral home. At the time of the Mass of Christian Burial the casket is closed.

Funeral Mass Times

Funeral Masses generally will begin at 11:00 a.m. or 1 p.m. Mass is not offered earlier due to daily Mass. This should be coordinated between your funeral director and the church.

Cremation

The Christian faithful are unequivocally confronted by the mystery of life and death when they are faced with the presence of the body of one who has died. The body of a deceased Catholic Christian is also the body once washed in baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed the Bread of Life.

Q1: Does the church allow cremation of the body?

A1: Catholics may choose cremation, provided it in no way expresses a denial of the Catholic teaching of the dignity of the body, created by Almighty God to be a temple of the Holy Spirit and destined to share fully in the Resurrection of the just on the Last Day.

Although the church understands that certain circumstances and preferences may exist for individuals or relatives to seek cremation, she maintains as a first preference the funeral rites with the body present and its immediate burial in a cemetery.

Q2: What is the first step in considering cremation?

A2: Catholic faithful are encouraged to seek the counsel of their pastor before choosing cremation.

Q3: If cremation is chosen, when should the body be cremated?

A3: The church recommends that the body be cremated after the funeral, thus allowing for the presence of the body at the funeral Mass. When pastoral circumstances require it, however, cremation and committal may take place even before the funeral liturgy. Pastors in Florida can grant permission on an individual basis for cremated remains to be present at the funeral Mass.

Q4: How should the final disposition of the cremated remains be handled?

A4: The final disposition of cremated remains should always reflect the Christian belief in the bodily resurrection and the respect afforded to the human body, even after death.

Q5: What is the proper method for final disposition of the cremated remains?

A5: The church recommends that the burial or entombment of the cremated remains occur without delay, once the cremation process is completed.

Cremated remains are to be placed in an urn (or other suitable container) and either buried in the ground or at sea, or entombed in a columbarium.

Catholics are strongly encouraged to be buried or entombed in a Catholic cemetery or the Catholic section of a non-Catholic cemetery.

Q6: What practices for handling cremated remains are to be avoided?

A6: The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition the church requires. Such methods of disposing of cremated remains are inconsistent with the due respect and honor that the church wants to preserve for her departed children.

The practice of a common grave, ground or niche where the cremated remains of several persons are scattered, poured, buried or combined without individual urns is to be completely avoided in Catholic cemeteries. Catholics should not select this practice for the final disposition of their mortal, cremated remains.

Q7: Can cremated remains be divided or combined with those of others?

A7: Each urn is to contain the cremated remains of only one person. The cremated remains of one person are not to be divided but rather are always kept in the same urn.

Q8: Can cremated remains be buried at sea?

A8: The cremated remains of the body may be properly buried at sea in the urn, coffin or other container in which they have been carried to the place of committal.

The answers provided here are excerpted from the Statement and Policy on Cremation, approved by the Bishops of Florida. For complete text of the policy, please visit:
<http://www.flaccb.org/provincepolicies/CremationQandA.pdf>

Reception

You may choose to have the reception after the funeral in our parish hall or at an outside location of your choice. If you choose to have a reception on the Church campus, please contact the parish funeral director for more information.

Church Stipend and Fees

Most funeral homes include the fee for the church in their total cost. Please check with your funeral director to see how they will be charging you. Church stipend (For parishioners: \$400; non-parishioners: \$500). The church stipend does not belong to the priest. A suggested donation for the priest would be \$150.

ORDER OF A FUNERAL MASS:

Introductory Rites

Greeting
Sprinkling the Casket with Holy Water
Placing of the Pall
Opening Song (*choose one from the list provided*)
Opening Prayer
Eulogy (*Optional, before readings*)

Liturgy of the Word

Readings (*Please choose one from the list provided*)
Responsorial Psalm (*selected & sung by cantor*)
Gospel Reading (*selected by priest*)
Intercessions/Petitions

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Christians are baptized into the paschal mystery of Christ's death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sin and fullness of salvation. This mystery is celebrated in every Mass, remembering Christ's loving deed and giving thanks and praise to God. The celebration reaches its high point as the priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, lifting up the vessels containing the Body and Blood of Christ.

Offertory/Presentation of Gifts song (*choose one from the list provided*)
Gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar table (*by members of the deceased family if they so choose*), and everything is prepared for the celebration.

Preparation of the Gifts & Altar
Communion Song (*choose one from the list provided*)

Final Commendation

Invitation to Prayer
Prayer of Commendation
Closing Song (*choose one from the list provided*)

A NOTE FOR NON-CATHOLICS:

In our society, it sometimes happens that the surviving family members of a deceased Catholic are not Catholics themselves or practice no religion at all. Our experience is that sometimes these non-Catholics come to us assuming they are free to "create" their own funeral service. When this is the case, family members need to understand some basic things about what a Catholic funeral is and how a Catholic funeral must proceed.

A Catholic funeral is an act of worship offered by the local Catholic community in union with the universal Church. Catholic funerals normally take place within a Catholic church building, since it is a place set aside for prayer and worship. Our non-Catholic friends should be aware of the following: Since a Catholic funeral is an act of worship, God is always the central focus of our actions. We always listen to God's word in the Bible. We always pray to God through his Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord and Savior. We always use sacred music. We always try to use musicians and singers (rather than CD players), because the funeral, like all forms of Catholic worship, is a "work" of the Catholic community. The service is always lead by a priest or a deacon. We always pray for God's help and blessing. We always pray for the deceased person. These actions and dispositions are proper marks of true worship.

Since a Catholic funeral is an act of worship, it goes without saying that the funeral is not meant to be a form of entertainment. It is not meant to be a vehicle for the expression of personal interests. It is not meant to provide a "stage" for friends and family members. It is not meant to be a vehicle for the expression of personalized religious beliefs.

The Catholic Church has a two-thousand year history. Truth, wisdom, and tradition are aspects of the great treasure of the Catholic Faith. From her great storehouse of wisdom and experience, the Church provides directions about how funerals are to be conducted. The Church directs what is to take place during a funeral service. The Church provides the texts and prayers that are to be used. These directives and texts are mandatory. It is always the duty of the priest or deacon to see to it that the Church's norms are followed. For Catholic funerals, the priest or deacon has authority to determine what is acceptable and what is not, and he will be happy to offer guidance and suggestions.

One more thing should be noted. Catholics know that there are Christians who are not Catholic. We view baptized Christians as our brothers and sisters, and we respect them as such, but we have not yet achieved the unity of faith that all Christians hope for. Non-Catholic Christians have beliefs and practices that differ from those of Catholic Christians. It is important to understand that at Catholic funerals, it is the Catholic faith that will be celebrated, expressed, and vocalized. Of course, non-Catholics are always welcome at Catholic funeral services. They simply need to be aware that the funeral will take place in a Catholic setting and follow a ritual that is based on Catholic beliefs.

When Catholic clergy are called upon to provide funeral services, they will assume that the person making the request seeks to have a funeral that is celebrated according to Catholic beliefs and norms. They will also assume that, even if friends and family members of the deceased do not hold the Catholic Faith, they are willing to give due respect to Catholic practices and authority.

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.

Choosing Music for the Service

You may have in mind some specific songs which may or may not be appropriate during the Mass. Please look over the list provided and make your song selections. Keep in mind that any music chosen which is not on the list will need to be approved. 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 reception or during a slide show not in the church.

The use of recorded music in the liturgy is not permitted in our church.

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. Please choose a total of four songs.

Church Musician Details

Our Music Director, Kim Cazzaniga, will be available for the funeral Mass. She will be the pianist as well as the cantor. We prefer that you use the musicians at our church. Once you have made your song choices, we will inform the Music Director of your selections.

Guest Musicians

As stated previously, we prefer you use the church musicians for all funeral services. Guest musicians are allowed with some limitations. They must work through the parish music director. If they are not familiar with the Catholic liturgy, then our music director must be present (for an additional fee).

SONG CHOICES FOR FUNERALS:

All I Ask Of You	Like A Shepherd
Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er	Lord, You Have Come To The Seashore
Amazing Grace	Now We Remain
Ave Maria Schubert	O God, Our Help In Ages Past
Be Not Afraid	O Loving God
Blest Are They	On Eagles Wings
Come To Me	One Bread, One Body
Eat This Bread	Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven
Eye Has Not Seen	Prayer Of St. Francis
For All The Saints	Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Here I Am, Lord	Sing With All The Saints In Glory
How Great Thou Art	The King Of Love My Shepherd Is
I Am The Bread Of Life	The Supper Of The Lord
I Have Loved You	We Remember
I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say	We Walk By Faith
I Know That My Redeemer Lives	We Will Rise Again
Jerusalem, My Happy Home	Yes, I Shall Arise
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee	You Are Mine
Keep In Mind	You Are Near

OTHER PARTICIPANTS FOR THE FUNERAL MASS:

Altar Servers/Extraordinary Ministers

The Diocese of St. Augustine uses EM's to distribute Communion. We will schedule the EM's for the funeral Mass. If your family has an altar server from this diocese, he is welcome to participate at Mass. Please inform us if you have a family member that would like to participate.

Eulogy

You may select one person to speak briefly for the Eulogy. The Eulogy will take place before the readings. Because of the formal nature of the Mass, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine has issued the following guidelines for the Eulogy at a Funeral Mass. They are to be followed faithfully:

Eulogy Guidelines

1. **Biographical Information.** It is recommended that biographical information about the deceased be printed in a program to be handed out before the funeral, if the family desires this. The sharing in remembrance of the deceased is not a biography.
2. **The Sharing.** It is the policy of the Diocese of Saint Augustine (also stated in the Order of Christian Funerals) that only one member or friend of the family should speak in remembrance of the deceased at the Funeral Mass. The pastor or presider of the Funeral Liturgy may determine otherwise, but the number who will speak must be determined before the liturgy. The Vigil or wake is the more appropriate time for sharing informal stories about the deceased.
3. **Content of the Sharing.** It is recommended that the sharing address the following question: "*What blessings did God give your deceased loved one during his or her life and how were those blessings shared with others?*" This sharing must never include anything that is inappropriate for a church setting; for example, off-color jokes or remarks that might offend the mourners are inappropriate. The sharing is not a time to philosophize about death, but to recall with gratitude the blessings of God for one loved by God and now returned to God.
4. **Preparation.** It is recommended that the family prepare the remembrance together. The sharing must be written ahead of time. The sharing may be reviewed by the presider before the Funeral Mass. When the presider or another minister prepares the Funeral Rites with the family and friends, an informal discussion of the blessings of the deceased might occur. With this list of blessings the family can be assisted in preparing the text for the sharing. A copy of this policy may be given to the family, as well as the Sample of such a sharing (included with this policy).
5. **Length of Sharing.** The sharing should not take more than 4-5 minutes.
6. **Delivery.** If the family wants a sharing of blessings to occur, but cannot deliver it because of grief, the priest may read the text for the family.
7. **Place of Sharing within the Mass.** In the Order of Christian Funerals, the Eulogy will take place before the readings.

Lectors/Readers & Gift Bearers

The church will provide lectors for the 1st and 2nd readings. Family members such as grandchildren or friends are welcome to bring up the gifts, the wine and bread during Mass.

READING CHOICES FOR SERVICES:

The selection of passages from the Bible is an important part of planning a funeral ceremony, as we want to turn to God's word for wisdom and comfort in this time of loss. The Word of God is at the heart of our Christian celebration of faith in this funeral rite in anticipation of the resurrection of the body.

To make this easier for the family, the Catholic Church has pre-selected a number of Biblical passages which are appropriate for the occasion of a funeral. Please look over these passages as part of your funeral preparations, and find those words which speak to your heart.

Instructions:

1. The readings are taken from the Old or New Testament.
2. The gospel reading is also taken from the New Testament, and will be chosen by the priest.
3. The priest or an assisting deacon will proclaim the Gospel

For the **Funeral Mass**, please select two readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS:

#1. 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

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

#2. Job 19:1, 23-27

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; 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

#3. Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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 His elect.

The Word of the Lord

#4. Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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. Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The Word of the Lord

#5. Isaiah 25: 6. 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

#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

#7. Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

I, Daniel, mourned and I 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

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS:

#1. Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the letter of Paul 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

#2. Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

For 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.

The Word of the Lord

#3. Romans 6:3-9

A reading from the letter of Paul 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

#4. Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

For 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 that the sufferings of this present time are as

nothing compared with 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

#5. Romans 8:31-35. 37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

What then shall we say to this? 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, 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

#6. Romans 14:7-9. 10-12

A reading from the letter of Paul 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. 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

#7. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

But now 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 first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the d 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

#8. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first letter of Paul 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

#9. 2 Corinthians 4:14 -5:1

A reading from the second letter of Paul 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

#10. 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

A reading from the second letter of Paul 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

#11. Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

But 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

#12. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, 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

#13. 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul 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

#14. 1 John 3:1-2

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

#15. 1 John 3:14-16

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

FUNERAL PLANNING FORM

Please fill in your selections and the information requested and return to the parish office.

Name of the Deceased: _____

Family Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Contact Phone #: _____

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Readings:

1st Reading: _____

2nd Reading: _____

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Song Selections:

Entrance Song: _____

Offertory Song: _____

Communion Song: _____

Closing Song: _____

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Gift Bearers: Yes No

Names: _____

Eulogy: Yes No (4-5 min.)

Given By: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Place or Residence: _____