



The Catholic Community of

St. Thomas More

Funeral Packet

Order of Christian Funerals – Musical Considerations

“Music is integral to the funeral rites. It allows the community to express convictions and feelings that words alone may fail to convey. It has the power to console and uplift the mourners and to strengthen the unity of the assembly in faith and love.” (Roman Ritual)

Below is the order of the Funeral Mass in regards to the music selections. There is also a list of suggested songs. In general, the music that will be selected for a Funeral Mass are: four (4) songs, one (1) responsorial psalm, and a song of farewell. Two musicians will be scheduled for each funeral: a cantor (solo singer), and an accompanist. A suggested stipend of \$100 to each musician is requested at the time of the funeral.

Order of Music for a Funeral Mass

- Opening Song
- Responsorial Psalm (The psalm will always be sung.)
- Gospel Acclamation (“Alleluia”, except during Lent)
- Preparation of Gifts Song
- Mass Parts (“Holy”, Memorial Acclamation, “Amen”, “Lamb of God”)
- Communion Song
- Song of Farewell
- Closing Song (A version of “May the Angels Lead You into Paradise” may be chosen.)

Suggested Funeral Songs

All Creatures of Our God and King	Gather #611
Amazing Grace	Gather #645
Ave Maria	(Schubert, or Bach/Gounod on request)
Be Not Afraid	Gather #683
City of God	Gather #766
Here I Am, Lord	Gather #777
Hosea	Gather #484
How Great Thou Art	Gather #578
I Am the Bread of Life	Gather #945
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee	Gather #614
Let There Be Peace on Earth	Gather #829
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace	Gather #828
On Eagle’s Wings	Gather #691
One Bread, One Body	Gather #932
Remember Your Love	Gather #961

Responsorial Psalm

The responsorial psalm will be paired with the selected readings. Depending on the chosen readings, the psalm will be Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God (Gather #35), Psalm 27: The Lord is My Light (Gather #121), Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Gather #72 or #75), or Psalm 116 In the Land of the Living (Gather #1162).

Gospel Acclamation and Mass Parts

An "Alleluia" will be sung before the Gospel reading. During Lent, the Lenten Gospel Acclamation will be sung instead of an Alleluia. The musicians will choose the musical setting unless a specific setting is requested. Versions include: Chant Mass (Gather #173), Mass of Remembrance (Gather #327), or Celtic (Gather #334).

For the Mass Parts, the Community Mass setting will be sung unless a different musical setting is requested. (Gather #370, 373, 372, 389). Other Mass settings include: Heritage Mass or Chant Mass.

Song of Farewell

A song of farewell is sung before the final commendation. The musicians will choose one of the following settings unless a specific version is requested.

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| • By Steven Janco | Gather #163 |
| • By Ernest Sands | OCP publications |
| • Celtic Melody arr. by Steven Schaubel | WLP publications |
| • Tune of Old Hundredth | WLP publications |

May the Angels Lead You Into Paradise

This text may be used as the closing song, but a standard song may also be used. There are two versions that can be used:

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| • By Howard Hughes | Gather #980 |
| • By Steven Janco | Gather #165 |