

Dear Members of St. Gregory's Parish Family and Friends,

The priests, deacons, sisters and members of our parish family extend to you and your family our heartfelt sympathy during this time of sorrow at the death of your loved one. Our prayers and support are with you as your journey through this time of grief and loss.

This booklet is provided to assist you as you prepare for the funeral Liturgy. You will find choices for appropriate readings, music selections and other liturgical acts to speak of your sorrow and joy in sharing in Christ's Resurrection. Please choose readings from Sacred Scripture, the Old and New Testament, a Gospel passage and a Prayer of the Faithful. Please ask family and friends to assist with readings, bringing of gifts to the altar, and placing the Pall on the casket. Please choose four (4) hymns, from the selections found on page 70, for the congregation's participation.

Please use the Funeral Liturgy Planning sheet, found on page 71, to finalize your choices. Please drop the planning sheet off at the Parish Office, or give it to the priest when he comes to the wake. At that time, the priest may meet with family members to obtain some personal background about the deceased for use in his homily.

Following the funeral, our Parish offers a bereavement breakfast or brunch which is available upon request. Our parish also offers continued support through our Grief and Loss Ministry and, for those suffering the loss of a child, our Caring Arms Support Group. Both groups meet on a monthly basis. Please contact the Parish Office for dates and times either now or at a later time when you feel the need for support.

You have our sincere sympathy and a promise of my personal prayer.

Sincerely,

Rev. Joseph C. Gatto, Pastor

Please note: Any family members who are unable to attend the Funeral Liturgy are welcome to view the Funeral via live streaming video on the internet at our parish Web site, www.stgregs.org.

Memorials

Many families prefer a lasting memorial in honor of their loved one. Our Parish offers several opportunities for your consideration.

The St. Gregory the Great Foundation

The St. Gregory the Great Foundation accepts and administers special donations to benefit the religious, educational and charitable ministries of the parish community.

Gifts to the Foundation are enduring, unlike the weekly offertory contribution that is used for the day-to-day needs of our Parish.

Designed to be everlasting, your gift is placed in trust. Each year, only the income from your contribution is used in accordance with your specific wishes. In this way you create a living and lasting memorial.

Gifts can be restricted for the benefit of the Parish, St. Gregory the Great School, Family Faith Formation (Religious Education), or another special ministry dear to you and your family member.

The St. Gregory the Great Commemorative Court

You may choose to remember your loved one through one or more memorial markers in the St. Gregory the Great Commemorative Court.

Located near the Ministry Center, the Court offers many memorial opportunities in a peaceful, tranquil setting.

Funeral Service Memorials

In lieu of flowers and other similar remembrances at the memorial services, many parishioners prefer to offer gift envelopes like the one included in this booklet. Simple to arrange, we will coordinate this wonderful gesture with your funeral director.

Other Wishes

Other arrangements can be made to accommodate your special wishes.

We offer these suggestions with our sympathy and hope that they may be helpful to you at this difficult time.

If you are pre-planning your arrangements, we urge you to consider the Foundation and the other memorial opportunities in your estate and financial plan.

Please help sustain the Catholic legacy of St. Gregory the Great Parish. The Parish Office and the Foundation Board of Advisors are ready to assist you. Please call 688-5678 for additional information. All contributions to St. Gregory the Great are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

About Cremation

In May 1963, the Vatican's Holy Office lifted the prohibition forbidding Catholics to choose cremation. Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites.

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 which lies in death naturally recalls the personal story of faith, the loving family bonds, the friendships, and the words and acts of kindness of the deceased person.

The body of the deceased is also the body once washed in baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life. Thus, the Church's reverence for the sacredness of the human body grows out of a reverence and concern both natural and supernatural for the human person. The body of the deceased forcefully brings to mind the Church's conviction that the human body is in Christ, a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead.

When the choice has been made to cremate a body, it is recommended that the cremation take place after the Funeral Liturgy. In this case, the Vigil of the Deceased and related prayers would be used. Sometimes, however, it is not possible for the body to be present for the Funeral Mass. When extraordinary circumstances make the cremation of a body the only feasible choice, the cremated remains (ashes) may be brought into Church. The cremated remains (ashes) should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. 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 that the Church requires.

If you have any questions on this matter, please ask the priest.

The Pastoral Team

INDEX

		<u>Page #</u>
<u>Theme of Reading</u>		
1A (God’s promise after the flood)	<u>Old Testament Readings</u> Genesis 8: 6-13, 20-22	7
2A (Prayer for the dead)	2 Maccabees 12:43-46	8
3A (Longing for God)	Job 19: 1. 23-27	9
4A (A worthy wife)	Proverbs 31: 10-13. 19-20. 30-31	10
5A (A time for everything)	Eccelesiastes 3: 1-11	11
6A (Purification of suffering)	Wisdom 3: 1-6, 9	12
7A (Goodness can come in youth)	Wisdom 4: 7-14	13
8A (The Lord is with us in trials)	Sirach 2: 1-11	14
9A (God will destroy death)	Isaiah 25: 6. 7-9	15
10A (The Lord will bring new life)	Isaiah 35: 1-6. 10	16
11A (The Lord brings strength to all)	Isaiah 40: 25-31	17
12A (Hope in God will be fulfilled)	Lamentations 3: 17-26	18
13A (Jesus “Shepherd” tends his flock)	Ezekiel 34: 11-16	19
14A (Justice will prevail)	Daniel 12: 1-3	20
<u>Theme of Reading</u>		
1B (God judges justly)	<u>New Testament Readings</u> Acts 10: 34-36. 42-43	22
2B (Jesus saves all who trust in Him)	Romans 5: 5-11	23
3B (Eternal life comes through Jesus)	Romans 5: 17-21	24
4B (Let us walk in the newness of life)	Romans 6: 3-9, 3-4, 8-9	25
5B (We wait for our bodies to be set free)	Romans 8: 14-23	26
6B (Jesus overcame suffering, death, evil)	Romans 8: 31-35. 37-39	27
7B (Alive or dead we belong to the Lord)	Romans 14: 7-9. 10-12	28
8B (God’s wisdom is the greatest)	I Corinthians 2: 1-10	29
9B (Lived love never fails)	Colossians 3: 12-17	30
10B (Christ will triumph)	I Corinthians 15: 20-24. 25-28	31
11B (Resurrection will overcome death)	I Corinthians 15: 51-57	32
12B (We will ultimately live forever)	2 Corinthians 4: 13-15, 1	33
13B (After dying we will come back to life)	2 Corinthians 5: 1. 6-10	34
14B (Our resurrected bodies live forever)	Philippians 3: 20-21	35
15B (Resurrection follows death for all)	I Thessalonians 4: 13-18	36
16B (If we die with Him, we shall live)	2 Timothy 2: 8-13	37
17B (We are God’s children)	1 John 3: 1-2	38
18B (If we love, we will have eternal life)	1 John 3: 14-16	39
19B (Good works are rewarded)	Revelation 14: 13	40
20B (God will judge justly)	Revelation 20: 11-21, 1	41
21B (There will be no more death)	Revelation 21: 1-5. 6-7	42

INDEX

<u>Theme of Reading</u>	<u>Gospel Readings</u>	<u>Page #</u>
1C (Blessed are those who do good for others)	Matthew 5: 1-12	44
2C (Come to me and I will give you rest)	Matthew 11: 25-30	45
3C (Go out to meet the bridegroom)	Matthew 25: 1-13	46
4C (Come, you whom my father has blessed)	Matthew 25: 31-46	47
5C (Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last)	Mark 15: 33-39	48
6C (Jesus brings resurrection to the young)	Luke 7: 11-17	49
7C (Be prepared for the arrival of your master)	Luke 12: 35-40	50
8C (Today you will be with me in paradise)	Luke 23: 33, 39-43	51
9C (Father into your hands I commend my spirit)	Luke 23: 44-49	52
10C (Disciples knew Jesus at the breaking of bread)	Luke 23: 13-16	53
11C (If we believe in Jesus we shall live forever)	John 6: 37-40	54
12C (Anyone who eats this bread will live forever)	John 6: 51-58	55
13C (I am the resurrection and the life)	John 11: 21-22	56
14C (Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead)	John 11: 32-45	57
15C (If a grain of wheat shall fall)	John 12: 23-26	58
16C (There are many rooms in my father's house)	John 14: 1-6	59
17C (Jesus brings life to those who believe)	John 17: 24-26	60
 <u>Prayers of the Faithful</u>	1D, 2D, 3D, 4D, 5D, 6D	62 – 67
 <u>Guidelines for <i>Testimony of Faith</i> (Eulogy)</u>		68
 <u>Music Selections</u>		69 - 70
 <u>Funeral Liturgy Planning Sheet</u>		71

OLD TESTAMENT

1A Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22

A reading from the book of Genesis

At the end of forty days Noah opened the hatch he had made in the Ark, and he sent out a raven, to see if the waters had lessened on the earth. It flew back and forth until the waters dried off from the earth. Then he sent out a dove, to see if the waters had lessened on the earth. But the dove could find no place to alight and perch, and it returned to him in the ark, for there was water all over the earth. Putting out his hand, he caught the dove and drew it back to him inside the ark. He waited seven days more and again sent the dove out from the ark. In the evening the dove came back to him, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf! So Noah knew that the waters had lessened on the earth. He waited still another seven days and then released the dove once more; and this time it did not come back.

In the six hundred and first year of Noah's life, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water began to dry up on the earth. Noah then removed the covering of the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was drying up.

Noah built an altar to the Lord, and choosing from every clean animal and every clean bird, he offered holocausts on the altar. When the Lord smelled the sweet odor, he said to himself: "Never again will I doom the earth because of man, since the desires of man's heart are evil from the start; nor will I ever again strike down all living beings, as I have done.

**As long as the earth lasts,
seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat,
Summer and winter,
and day and night
shall not cease."**

The Word of the Lord

2A 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second book of Maccabees

**Judas, the ruler of Israel,
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.

3A Job 19: 1, 23-27

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.

4A Proverbs 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 makes cloth with skillful 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

5A Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

**There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.
A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build.
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.
A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.**

What advantage has the worker from his toil? I have considered the task which God has appointed for men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord

6A Wisdom 3: 1-6, 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.**

**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

7A Wisdom 4: 7-14

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.

8A Sirach 2: 1-11

A reading from the book of Sirach

**My son, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for trials.**

**Be sincere of heart and steadfast,
undisturbed in time of adversity.**

**Cling to him, forsake him not;
thus will your future be great.**

**Accept whatever befalls you,
in crushing misfortune be patient;**

**For in fire gold is tested,
and worthy men in the crucible of humiliation.**

**Trust God and he will help you;
make straight your ways and hope in him.**

**You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy,
turn not away lest you fall.**

**You who fear the Lord, trust him,
and your reward will not be lost.**

**You who fear the Lord, hope for good things,
for lasting joy and mercy.**

**Study the generations long past and understand;
has anyone hoped in the Lord and been disappointed?**

Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken?

Has anyone called upon him and been rebuffed?

**Compassionate and merciful is the Lord; he forgives sins,
he saves in time of trouble.**

The Word of the Lord

9A 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

10A Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

**The desert and the parched land will exult;
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.**

**They will bloom with abundant flowers,
and rejoice with joyful song.**

**The glory of Lebanon will be given to them,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon.**

**They will see the glory of the Lord,
the splendor of our God.**

**Strengthen the hands that are feeble,
make firm the knees that are weak,
Say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!**

**Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;**

**With divine recompense
he comes to save you.**

**Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,
the ears of the deaf be cleared;**

**Then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the dumb will sing.**

**Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;**

**They will meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning will flee.**

The Word of the Lord

11A Isaiah 40: 25-31

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

To whom can you liken me as an equal?

Says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high

and see who has created these things:

**He leads out their army and numbers them,
calling them all by name.**

**By his great might and the strength of his power
not one of them is missing!**

**Why, O Jacob, do you say,
and declare, O Israel,**

**“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?**

**Do you not know
or have you not heard?**

**The Lord is the eternal God,
creator of the ends of the earth.**

**He does not faint nor grow weary,
and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.**

**He gives strength to the fainting;
for the weak he makes vigor abound.**

**Though young men faint and grow weary,
and youths stagger and fall,**

**They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength,
they will soar as with eagles' wings;**

**They will run and not grow weary,
walk and not grow faint.**

The Word of the Lord

12A 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.

13A Ezekiel 34: 11-16

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will look after and tend my sheep.

As a shepherd tends his flock

**when he finds himself among his scattered sheep,
so will I tend my sheep.**

I will rescue them from every place

where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark.

I will lead them out from among the peoples

and gather them from the foreign lands;

I will bring them back to their own country

and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel

in the land's ravines and all its inhabited places.

In good pastures will I pasture them,

and on the mountain heights of Israel

shall be their grazing ground.

There they shall lie down on good grazing ground,

and in rich pastures shall they be pastured

on the mountains of Israel.

I myself will pasture my sheep;

I myself will give them rest, says the Lord God.

The lost I will seek out,

the strayed I will bring back,

the injured I will bind up,

the sick I will heal

but the sleek and the strong I will destroy,

shepherding them rightly.

The Word of the Lord

14A Daniel 12: 1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

**“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

1B Acts of the Apostles 10: 34-36, 42-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

**Rather, in every nation whoever fears him
and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.**

**You know the word that he sent to the Israelites
As he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all.**

**He commissioned us to preach to the people
and to bear witness that he is the one set apart by God
as judge of the living and the dead.**

**To him all the prophets testify,
that everyone who believes in him
has forgiveness of sins through his name.”**

The Word of the Lord

2B Romans 5: 5-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint,

because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,

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.

3B Romans 5: 17-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**If, by the transgression of the one,
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 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 the one man
the many were made sinners,
so through the obedience of the 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.

4B Romans 6: 3-9

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.**

**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.

5B Romans 8: 14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons 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 firstfruits of the Spirit,

we also groan within ourselves

as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

6B Romans 8: 31-35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

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

**Is it possible that he who did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for the sake of us all
will not grant us all things besides?**

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

God, who justifies?

Who shall condemn them?

**Christ Jesus, who died or rather was raised up,
who is at the right hand of God
and who intercedes for us?**

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

**Trial, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or
nakedness, or danger, or the sword?**

**Yet in all this we are more than conquerors
because of him who has loved us.**

For I am certain that neither death nor life,

**neither angels nor principalities,
neither the present nor the future,
nor powers, neither height nor depth
nor any other creature,**

**will be able to separate us from the love of God
that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

The Word of the Lord

7B Romans 14: 7-9, 10b-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.

8B 1 Corinthians 2: 1-10

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers, when I came to you I did not come proclaiming God's testimony with any particular eloquence or "wisdom." No, I determined that while I was with you I would speak of nothing but Jesus Christ and him crucified. When I came among you it was weakness and fear, and with much trepidation. My message and my preaching had none of the persuasive force of "wise" argumentation, but the convincing power of the Spirit. As a consequence, your faith rests not on the wisdom of men but on the power of God.

There is, to be sure, a certain wisdom which we express among the spiritually mature. It is not a wisdom of this age, however, nor of the rulers of this age, who are men headed for destruction. No, what we utter is God's wisdom: a mysterious, a hidden wisdom. God planned it before all ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age knew the mystery; if they had known it, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory. Of this wisdom it is written: "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love him." Yet God has revealed this wisdom to us through the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

9B Colossians 3: 12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.

Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.

Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body you have been called to that peace.

Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness.

Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you. In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another.

Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns, and inspired songs.

Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Give thanks to God the Father through Him.

The Word of the Lord.

10B I Corinthians 15: 20-28

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

Brothers and sisters:

**Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since death came through a man,
the resurrection of the dead came also through man.
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 firstfruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;
then comes the end,
when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father.
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

11B 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

12B 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1

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

Brothers and sisters:

**Knowing 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

13B 2 Corinthians 5: 1, 6-10

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

Brothers and sisters:

**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.**

**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 may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.**

The word of the Lord

14B Philippians 3: 20-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

We have our citizenship in heaven;

It is from there

**that we eagerly await the coming of our savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**He will give a new form to this lowly body of ours
and remake it**

**according to the pattern of his glorified body,
By his power to subject everything to himself.**

The Word of the Lord

15B 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.

16B 2 Timothy 2: 8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

**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

17B 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

18B 1 John 3: 14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

**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.

19B Revelation 14: 13

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say to me:

Write this down:

Happy now are the dead who die in the Lord!

The Spirit added,

**Yes, they shall find rest from their labors,
for their good works accompany them.**

The Word of the Lord.

20B Revelation 20:11- 21:1

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John saw a large white throne and the One who sat on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence until they could no longer be seen. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne. Lastly, among the scrolls, the book of the living was opened. The dead were judged according to their conduct as recorded on the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then death and the nether world gave up their dead. Each person was judged according to his conduct. Then death and the nether world were hurled into the pool of fire which is the second death; anyone whose name was not found inscribed in the book of the living was hurled into this pool of fire.

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no longer there.

The Word of the Lord.

21B Revelation 21: 1-5, 6b-7

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw new heavens and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no longer. I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride prepared to meet her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne cry out: “This is God’s dwelling among men. He shall dwell with them and they shall be his people, and he shall be their God who is always with them. He shall wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, crying out or pain, for the former world has passed away.”

The One who sat on the throne said to me, “See, I make all things new!” I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To anyone who thirsts I will give to drink without cost from the spring of life-giving water. He who wins the victory shall inherit these gifts; I will be his God and he shall be my son.”

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL READINGS

1C Matthew 5: 1-12

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit:

for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn

for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek;

for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness

for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful;

for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart,

for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers;

for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted

for the sake of righteousness,

for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you

and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad,

for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.

2C Matthew 11: 25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

**“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.**

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

**No one knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.**

**“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.**

**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves.**

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

The Gospel of the Lord

3C Matthew 25: 1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

**“The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins
who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.**

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

**The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,
brought no oil with them,**

but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

**Since the bridegroom was long delayed,
they all became drowsy and fell asleep.**

At midnight, there was a cry,

‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,

**‘Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out.’**

But the wise ones replied,

‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you.

Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’

While they went off to buy it,

the bridegroom came

and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.

Afterwards the other virgins came and said,

‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’

But he said in reply,

‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’

Therefore, stay awake,

for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

4C Matthew 25: 31-46

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.**

**And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.**

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right,

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

**For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me
drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me,
ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.’**

Then the righteous will answer him and say,

**‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you
drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and
clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’**

**And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you
did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’**

Then he will say to those on his left,

**‘Depart from me, you accursed,
into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.**

**For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave
me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you
gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’**

**Then they will answer and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or
thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,
and not minister to your needs?’**

**He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of
these least ones, you did not do for me.’**

**And these will go off to eternal punishment,
but the righteous to eternal life.”**

The Gospel of the Lord

5C Mark 15: 33-39

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

**At noon darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon.**

**And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
“*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*”
which is translated,**

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

**Some of the bystanders who heard it said,
“Look, he is calling Elijah.”**

**One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine,
put it on a reed,
and gave it to him to drink, saying,**

“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

**The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two
from top to bottom.**

**When the centurion who stood facing him
saw how he breathed his last he said,
“Truly this man was the Son of God!”**

The Gospel of the Lord

6C Luke 7: 11-17

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

**Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.**

**As he drew near to the gate of the city,
a man who had died was being carried out,
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.**

A large crowd from the city was with her.

**When the Lord saw her,
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,
“Do not weep.”**

**He stepped forward and touched the coffin;
at this the bearers halted,
and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!”**

**The dead man sat up and began to speak,
and Jesus gave him to his mother.**

**Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,
“A great prophet has arisen in our midst,”
and “God has visited his people.”**

**This report about him spread through the whole of Judea
and in all the surrounding region.**

The Gospel of the Lord

7C Luke 12: 35-40

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“Gird your loins and light your lamps
and be like servants who await their master’s return from
a wedding,
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.**

Blessed are those servants

whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.

Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,

have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.

And should he come in the second or third watch

and find them prepared in this way,

blessed are those servants.

Be sure of this:

if the master of the house had known the hour

when the thief was coming,

he would not have let his house be broken into.

**You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.”**

The Gospel of the Lord

8C Luke 23: 33, 39-43

**When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified Jesus and the criminals there,
one on his right, the other on his left.**

**Now one of the criminals hanging there
reviled Jesus, saying,
“Are you not the Christ?
Save yourself and us.”**

**The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
“Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?**

**And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,
but this man has done nothing criminal.”**

**Then he said,
“Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”**

**He replied to him,
“Amen, I say to you,
today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

The Gospel of the Lord

9C Luke 23: 44-49

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

It was around midday, and darkness came over the whole land until midafternoon with an eclipse of the sun. The curtain in the sanctuary was torn in two. Jesus uttered a loud cry and said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” After he had said this, he expired. The centurion, upon seeing what had happened, gave glory to God by saying, “Surely this was an innocent man.” After the crowd assembled for this spectacle witnessed what had happened, they returned beating their breasts. All his friends and the women who had accompanied him from Galilee were standing at a distance watching everything.

The gospel of the Lord.

10C Luke 24: 13-16, 28-35

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Two of the disciples of Jesus on that same day (the first day of the week) were making their way to a village named Emmaus seven miles distant from Jerusalem, discussing as they went all that had happened. In the course of their lively exchange, Jesus approached and began to walk along with them. However, they were restrained from recognizing him.

By now they were near the village to which they were going, and he acted as if he were going farther. But they pressed him: “Stay with us. It is nearly evening – the day is practically over.” So he went to stay with them.

When he had seated himself with them to eat, he took bread, pronounced the blessing, then broke the bread and began to distribute it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him; whereupon he vanished from their sight. They said to one another, “Were not our hearts burning inside us as he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?” They got up immediately and returned to Jerusalem, where they found the Eleven and the rest of the company assembled. They were greeted with, “The Lord has been raised! It is true! He has appeared to Simon.” Then they recounted what had happened on the road and how they had come to know him in the breaking of bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

11C John 6: 37-40

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

**“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,
because I came down from heaven not to do my own will
but the will of the one who sent me.**

**And this is the will of the one who sent me,
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,
but that I should raise it on the last day.**

**For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him
may have eternal life,
and I shall raise him on the last day.”**

The Gospel of the Lord

12C John 6: 51-58

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

**“I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my Flesh
for the life of the world.”**

**The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,
“How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?”**

Jesus said to them,

**“Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his
Blood,**

you do not have life within you.

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
has eternal life,**

and I will raise him on the last day.

**For my Flesh is true food,
and my Blood is true drink.**

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in him.**

**Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.**

**This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.”**

The Gospel of the Lord

13C John 11: 21-27

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

**When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus
had already been in the tomb for four days.**

Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.

**Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary
to comfort them about their brother.**

**When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went to meet him;
but Mary sat at home.**

Martha said to Jesus,

**“Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.**

**But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you.”**

Jesus said to her,

“Your brother will rise.”

Martha said to him,

**“I know he will rise,
in the resurrection on the last day.”**

Jesus told her,

**“I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**

Do you believe this?”

She said to him, “Yes, Lord.

**I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

14C John 11: 32-45

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

**When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,
she fell at his feet and said to him,
“Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.”**

**When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping,
he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,
“Where have you laid him?”**

They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”

But some of them said,

**“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man
have done something so that this man would not have died?”**

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.

Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,

“Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.”

Jesus said to her,

“Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?”

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus raised his eyes and said,

**“Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me;
but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe
that you sent me.”**

And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice,

“Lazarus, come out!”

**The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands,
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.**

So Jesus said to the crowd,

“Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary

and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

15C John 12: 23-26

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life will lose it,

and whoever hates his life in this world

will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

16C John 14: 1-6

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not,

**would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place
for you?**

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

**I will come back again and take you to myself,
so that where I am you also may be.**

Where I am going you know the way.”

Thomas said to him,

**“Master, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?”**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

17C John 17: 24-26

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.

I wish that where I am they also may be with me,

that they may see my glory that you gave me,

because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,

but I know you, and they know that you sent me.

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,

that the love with which you loved me

may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Prayers of the Faithful

1D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

- 1. In baptism_____received the light of Christ.
May he/she now be welcomed into the fullness of
God's life.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 2. That all our deceased relatives and friends may find
rest and peace in God's love.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 3. For consolation for the family and friends
of_____, that they might be consoled by the
Lord in their grief.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 4. For all assembled here in faith to pray for_____.
May we live in the expectation of Jesus' coming.
We pray to the Lord.**

Prayers of the Faithful

2D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

- 1. For _____ who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of the saints.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 2. For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 3. For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 4. For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, especially _____, that they may see God face to face.
We pray to the Lord.**

Prayers of the Faithful

3D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

1. For all our deceased loved ones, especially those who we remember at this Eucharist.

We pray to the Lord.

2. For those of us left with the pain and loss of the death of a loved one, may we always look to Jesus for comfort and consolation.

We pray to the Lord.

3. That peace will reign throughout the world and within our families, and that love will guide our way.

We pray to the Lord.

4. For all of us assembled here in faith to pray for, _____, may we live always in the expectation of Jesus' coming.

We pray to the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

4D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

1. That all members of the church remember death not as an end but as a step to a better life.

We pray to the Lord.

2. That all people who mourn find consolation and peace in God through those around them.

We pray to the Lord.

3. That, _____ and all who have died enjoy the vision of God with those in heaven.

We pray to the Lord.

4. That all family members and friends of _____ experience the strength of our faith in the resurrection of Christ.

We pray to the Lord.

5. That all of us here present, may one day enjoy eternal life in the company of our brother/sister _____, and all the saints.

We pray to the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

5D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

- 1. For _____ who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she now be admitted to the company of the saints.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 2. For the family and the friends of _____, that they may be consoled by the Lord in their grief.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 3. For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.
We pray to the Lord.**

- 4. For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we be gathered together again in God's kingdom.
We pray to the Lord.**

Prayers of the Faithful

6D Our response is: Lord hear our prayer

- 1. For _____, whose death we mourn, that our memories of his/her life may be the cause of our joy and gratitude.
We pray to the Lord.**
- 2. For the family, relatives, and friends of _____, that his/her death may remind us of God's gift of life.
We pray to the Lord.**
- 3. For all who physically and spiritually cared for _____, during his/her last days, that they may realize how much their help is appreciated.
We pray to the Lord.**
- 4. For all of us here today, that the God of life gives us the gift of a happy death.
We pray to the Lord.**
- 5. For all of our deceased loved ones, especially _____, and for all who have been buried from this church, that they may rest in the peace and joy of Christ.
We pray to the Lord.**

“Testimony of Faith” (Eulogy) at St. Gregory’s Parish

A personal reflection (commonly known as a eulogy) about the life of our beloved deceased may be offered after communion during the Funeral Liturgy. Because these remarks are offered from the Sanctuary and are within the sacred context of the Eucharistic Liturgy, it is important that these remarks serve as a “Testimony of Faith” and celebration of our beloved’s life in Christ.

These remarks should reflect the nature of our loved one’s belief in God and their relationship with Church; how our loved one lived out their faith; and what values, religious practices, and personal spirituality they conveyed throughout their life.

In preparing your remarks, consider how your loved one faced challenges or joys in light of their faith. What role their faith played in their family life, workplace, community, or volunteer work. You might also consider including an example of a time when they had to trust in God.

In an effort to provide clarity for those who choose the option to give a “Testimony of Faith,” we offer the following specifications:

- In this instance, one person is to speak. The speaker should be someone who can maintain composure and is comfortable speaking before a large congregation.
- Considering its place in the Sacred Liturgy, three minutes is allotted.
- This is an opportunity to offer a testimonial on the life of the deceased in the context of his/her faith. All other ‘life stories’, tributes, or anecdotes; should be told during the wake visiting hours, at the cemetery or at a family reception.
- All Testimonies of Faith need to be typed up and submitted to the priest celebrant for review and approval prior to the Funeral Mass [this could take place when the priest comes for the wake service].

MUSIC SELECTIONS

SUGGESTED MUSIC

The music that you and your family choose for the Funeral or Memorial Mass of a loved one can greatly enhance the liturgical celebration. Our Director of Music is available to assist you with musical selections that will be a reflection of the resurrection theme with sensitivity to the needs of your family. Please note that secular music is inappropriate at liturgy.

TITLE	THEME
Amazing Grace	Trust
Ave Maria	Mary
Be Not Afraid	Trust
Come to Me	Comfort
Eat This Bread	Eucharist
Eye Has Not Seen	Comfort
Glory and Praise to Our God	Praise
Gift of Finest Wheat	Eucharist
Here I Am, Lord	Ministry & Mission
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name	Praise
How Great Thou Art	Creation
I Am the Bread of Life	Eucharist
I Heard the Voice of Jesus	Comfort
I Know That My Redeemer Lives	Resurrection
I, the Lord	Resurrection
Jerusalem, My Happy Home	Heaven / Eternal Life
Keep in Mind	Faith
Let There Be Peace on Earth	Peace
Lift High the Cross	Holy Cross
Lord of All Hopefulness	Petition & Prayer
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	Love
On Eagle's Wings	Trust
One Bread, One Body	Eucharist
Only in God	Trust
Only This I Want	Discipleship
Panis Angelicus	Eucharist
Prayer of St. Francis	Peace
Shelter Me, O God	Comfort
Shepherd of Souls	Eucharist
The King of Love My Shepherd Is	Comfort
This Alone	Petition & Prayer
Turn to Me	Penance & Reconciliation
Ubi Caritas	Love
Unless a Grain of Wheat	Discipleship
We Remember	Faith
We Walk by Faith	Faith
Wherever You Go	Marriage
You Are Near	Trust

FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNING

Deceased Person _____

Funeral Home _____

Time & Date of Funeral _____

Name of the Family Contact Person _____

Telephone Number _____

Presider _____

Placing of the Pall (Optional) _____

Old Testament Reading _____

Read by _____

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Sung by the Cantor)

New Testament Reading _____

Read by _____

Gospel Reading (Read by Priest) _____

Prayers of the Faithful _____

Read by _____

Presentation of the Gifts by _____

Optional *Testimony of Faith* Read by _____

Music Selections:
