

**Planning Booklet  
For Funerals and Memorial Services  
Holy Cross Catholic Parish  
9371 Wigham Street  
Thornton, CO 80229  
303-289-2258**

Almost all people must confront death many times during their lifetime--the death of family members, friends, death in the news and even the death of pets. Every death we face is also the facing of our own death. We offer this booklet to help you in the event of the death of someone close as well as to help you and your loved ones communicate about death in a more open and honest way.

The priest, deacons and people of the Holy Cross Parish wish to express our support for you during the time of loss. To help you we have prepared this booklet. We hope it answers some questions and assists you in the planning of the funeral services.

We want to be present for you and with you during these days and to offer our services in planning, sharing and grieving with you the loss of someone you love.

**GETTING STARTED PLANNING:** When someone dies, often their family and/or friends do not know what to do. Our pastoral staff will be happy to sit down with you and discuss your choices and the decisions you face.

There are three main services you will want to consider:

First will be a "**WAKE**" or "**VIGIL**" service. In the Liturgy of the Catholic Church this service takes place before the funeral service, usually on the evening before. It is shared. It is a time for mourners to tell the story of passage, pray and say farewell. It is a time for friends to share the family's sorrow and lend them support and to pray together.

This liturgy begins with a song or prayer. It includes readings from Scripture, a short homily, prayers of intercession, the Lord's Prayer, concluding prayers and a blessing. It is appropriate for family members or friends to speak in memory of the one who has died. This can be a planned talk or an informal sharing of memories.

Second, the **FUNERAL SERVICE** is celebrated. This is often held in the daytime, but an evening time for this service might be more convenient for many who wish to attend. If the funeral service is held in the evening, burial normally would be the following day.

Much of this booklet is designed to help you in planning for this Mass or Scripture Service. There are occasions when a Mass is not appropriate at the time of the funeral. A Scripture Prayer Service can be used at this time with masses of remembrance to take place at a later date.

The third service is the **RITE OF COMMITMENT**. If the body is to be buried, a brief service at the grave is appropriate. This is a time for final good-byes and is for more immediate family and friends. In the event of cremation of the body (which is allowed by the church) a service of committal of the ashes may take place. The church strongly discourages the spreading of ashes. A permanent location for the ashes with a marker helps the family to bring closure to the funeral.

**PLANNING WITH THE PRIEST OR DEACON:** Priests and deacons are the ordinary ministers for funerals in the church. They will assist you in planning and dealing with the many questions that surface when dealing with the death of a loved one. The priest or deacon is also experienced in the liturgies of the Wake, Funeral and Graveside. They can help you to plan a service that will be most appropriate. Our parish staff can also be a comforting resource in planning and make arrangements with the church.

The first step is to consider your choices and schedule the services desired. This will need to be coordinated between the church and the funeral home. Often this can be done while visiting with the funeral director and over the phone to the church. It will be important to schedule services with both the church and the funeral home before making definite plans.

We want you to be very much involved with the planning process. You are the ones who knew your loved one the best. You also know your present needs and those of your family and friends who will be present for the services.

**SCRIPTURE TEXTS** can be chosen from any place in the Bible. There is a section in this booklet listing many possible choices to assist you in planning. Please do not feel limited to these choices. A favorite passage of yours or your loved one is most appropriate.

**HOMILY AND/OR EULOGY:** Storytelling is an important part of this time together. The telling of our Christian story and the telling of the story of our loved one give us comfort in our faith and in God's promises. Generally, the homily time of the Mass is for the former and other times at the Wake and Mass can be used for the latter. A personal sharing by friend or family member lends a personal touch to the services that is most appropriate. This is often done as a sort of "meditation" following Communion at Mass or towards the end of a Scripture Service. It is also appropriate at the Wake (and can be done both times). Sometimes this is done through a favorite poem or one written for the occasion.

**MUSIC:** It is natural for people to sing when they ritualize and pray. Singing has a uniting and comforting effect on our gatherings. The first use of music in a Wake or Funeral Mass is for all to sing together. There are selections in this booklet to assist you in your choices. Please note that the nature of these services is both farewell and celebration (celebration of the new life our loved one is called to by God). Songs then should express our faith in the resurrection and eternal life. Rather than some customary funeral melodies which tend to be heavy and sad, the hymns and songs chosen should be hopeful and joyful.

**PARTICIPATION:** Liturgy is most effective when we are involved fully. There are many opportunities to participate in these services and we welcome various persons taking these roles. (Sometimes the immediate family does not feel able to do much and that is perfectly acceptable, but involving family and friends lends a personal family atmosphere to these services.) Opportunities include: placing the pall on the casket, reading the Scriptures, being a pall bearer or server, bringing forward the gifts of bread and wine, sharing a few words, reading a poem or other piece, writing and/or reading the prayers of the faithful, making art pieces, distributing the cup at communion time, singing,...

Sometimes the one who has died is a member of a lodge or other organization or is due military honors. These services are welcome. Most often they are reserved for the graveside service and follow the time of prayer led by the priest or deacon.

## **VARIOUS QUESTIONS:**

Donations or Stipends: Catholic priests and deacons do not accept stipends for funeral services. We do welcome donations to the church, especially in the name of a loved one.

We are happy to assist you with a Funeral Dinner. If you would like our assistance in providing a dinner for your family and guests following the graveside service, please let us know. There is no charge to you, as members of our parish appreciate this ministry opportunity to lend support to you in this difficult time.

In line with the purpose of the various services, the casket may be open during the Wake service. Normally it is not opened at the church on the occasion of the Funeral Mass and it is never opened following the Mass or at the graveside.

We are happy to offer Masses for those who have died. To make arrangements, please contact the parish office (303-289-2258).

**BEYOND THE FUNERAL:** Please consider us to be an extended part of your family. As families do, we wish to support you not only during this time of loss, but in the days, months and years beyond. Grief over the loss of a loved one does not go away quickly. We are present to you in a variety of ways including: our parish family at prayer, private visits or counseling, anniversary Masses, support programs and groups. Please consult with the parish priest, deacon or grief minister for more information and check the bulletin for special program offerings. There are also other agencies and groups in our community available to lend support to you and your family.

**OUR AMERICAN WAY OF FUNERALS:** What we have inherited through family and national customs surrounding the death of a family member or person we love include many services, customs, obligations and taboos. Some of these are helpful to the grieving process and lead us to a healthy, faith filled way of dealing with the loss of a person we love. Other customs are not helpful nor healthy, leading us to suppress our feelings and isolate ourselves. In dealing with these issues, remember, the healing God provides comes through people--primarily family, then through friends including the people of the church. Customs that encourage sharing of our memories, stories, feelings and tears are helpful, healthy and to be sought. Customs that isolate or encourage silence should be rejected

An example of the latter is the "family room" in funeral home chapels which make it difficult for persons attending a service to see, touch and share with family members. Initial thoughts might be that this contact would be difficult, but the long term consequences of isolation are devastating.

There are other customs which we deem unhealthy that are a part of our American way. An example is the expenses surrounding a funeral. These might be lessened if we keep in mind that our loved one is in the hands of God and is not affected by what happens at the funeral. Funerals are for the living, the survivors. We cannot buy the approval of our loved one who has died anymore than we can buy their way into heaven.

**RECEPTION OF COMMUNION:** Often at a funeral there among the participants a number of persons from other faith communities and Catholics who have not been active in church attendance. Questions arise as to the reception of Communion. The Lord wishes to feed us especially in times of deepest hunger such as the loss of someone we love. This is not the time to be concerned about worthiness. We encourage Catholics to work on their relationship with the church and ability to receive Communion regularly at a later date. Others must make a personal decision which we respect.

## FAMILY RECORD OF SELECTIONS

**Funeral Of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wake/Vigil:**

Date:

Time:

Scriptures:

Other Choices (Songs, Sharings, Readers...)

**Funeral Mass:**

Date:

Time:

Priest/Deacon:

Entrance Song:

Placing of the Pall:  
(done by)

Other symbols:

First Reading:

Read By:

Responsorial Psalm:

Sung/Read By:

Second Reading:

Read by:

Gospel:

Homily (Sermon):  
Prayers of the Faithful :

Written by :

Read by:

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*Omit the following section when a Scripture Prayer Service is planned.*

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Offertory Song:

Incense:                    Yes ( )                    No ( )

Gift Bearers:

Communion Song:

Cup Ministers:

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Meditation/Remembrance/Eulogy:

    Read/Sung by:

Closing Song:

**THE COMMITTAL**

Special Wishes (announcements, Scripture, prayers)...

## READINGS FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES

### READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

#### OT 1

*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom      3:1-9

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.

OT 2

*An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom      4:7-15

The just man, though he die early,  
shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not  
with the passing of time,  
nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,  
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved;  
he who lived among sinners was transported—  
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind  
or deceit beguile his soul;

For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right  
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while,  
he reached the fullness of a long career;  
for his soul was pleasing to the Lord,  
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people saw and did not understand,  
nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

### OT 3

*I know that my Vindicator lives.*

A reading from the Book of Job      19:1, 23-27a

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!

    Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead

    they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,

    and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:

    my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;

And from my flesh I shall see God;

    my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

## OT 4

*He will destroy death forever.*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah      25:6a, 7-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts

will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy

the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations;

he will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away

the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove

from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the Lord for whom we looked;

let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The word of the Lord.

## OT 5

*There is a time for everything under the heavens.*

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every thing 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 that God has appointed

for the sons of men to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,

and has put the timeless into their hearts,

without man's ever discovering,

from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

**PS 1** Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6

(1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or:

(4ab) Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

Beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or:

Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

Even though I walk in the dark valley

I fear no evil; for you are at my side

With your rod and your staff

that give me courage.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or:

Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

You spread the table before me

in the sight of my foes;

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or:

Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

Only goodness and kindness follow me

all the days of my life;

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

for years to come.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or:

Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

**PS 2** Psalm 25:6 and 7b, 17-18, 20-21

(1) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

or:

(3a) No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord,

and your kindness are from of old.

In your kindness remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

or:

No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.

Relieve the troubles of my heart;

and bring me out of my distress.

Put an end to my affliction and my suffering;

and take away all my sins.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

or:

No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.

Preserve my life and rescue me;

let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,

because I wait for you, O Lord.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

or:

No one who waits for you, O Lord, will ever be put to shame.

**PS 3** Psalm 42:2, 3, 5cdef; 43:3, 4, 5

(42:3) My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

As the hind longs for the running waters,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

Thirst is my soul for God, the living God.

When shall I go and behold the face of God?

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

I went with the throng and led them in procession  
to the house of God.

Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,  
with the multitude keeping festival.

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

Send forth your light and your fidelity;

they shall lead me on

And bring me to your holy mountain,

to your dwelling-place.

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

Then will I go in to the altar of God,

the God of my gladness and joy;

Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,

O God, my God!

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

Why are you so downcast, O my soul?

Why do you sigh within me?

Hope in God! For I shall again be thanking him,

in the presence of my savior and my God.

My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face.

**PS 4** Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

(2b) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;

for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts

like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary

to see your power and your glory,

For your kindness is a greater good than life;

my lips shall glorify you.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live;

lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.

As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,

and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

You are my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

My soul clings fast to you;

your right hand upholds me.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**PS 5** Psalm 116:5, 6, 10-11, 15-16ac

(9) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

or:

Alleluia.

Gracious is the Lord and just;

yes, our God is merciful.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

or:

Alleluia.

The Lord keeps the little ones;

I was brought low, and he saved me.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

or:

Alleluia.

I believed, even when I said,

“I am greatly afflicted”;

I said in my alarm,

“No man is dependable.”

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

or:

Alleluia.

Precious in the eyes of the Lord

is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant,

you have loosed my bonds.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

or:

Alleluia.

**PS 6** Psalm 103:8 and 10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18

(8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

or:

(37:39a) The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,

slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us,

nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

or:

The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

As a father has compassion on his children,

so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

For he knows how we are formed,

he remembers that we are dust.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

or:

The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

Man's days are like those of grass;

like a flower of the field he blooms;

The wind sweeps over him and he is gone,

and his place knows him no more.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

or:

The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

But the kindness of the Lord is from eternity,

to eternity toward those who fear him,

And his justice toward children's children

among those who keep his covenant

and remember to fulfill his precepts.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

or:

The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

**PS 7** Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8

(1) Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

(see 50) I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to my voice in supplication.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

If you, O Lord, mark iniquities,

Lord, who can stand?

But with you is forgiveness,

that you may be revered.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

I trust in the Lord;

my soul trusts in his word.

My soul waits for the Lord

more than the sentinels wait for the dawn.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

More than the sentinels wait for the dawn,

let Israel wait for the Lord,

For with the Lord is kindness

and with him is plenteous redemption.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

And he will redeem Israel

from all their iniquities.

Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

or:

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

## READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

### NT 1

*Death is swallowed up in victory.*

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15:51-57

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.

## NT 2

*Since we are now justified by his Blood,  
we will be saved through him from the wrath.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 5:5-11

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.

NT 3

*We too might live in newness of life.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 6:3-9

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.

NT 4

*What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.*

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 4:14--5:1

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.

**NT 5**

*We have a building from God, eternal in heaven.*

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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.

## NT 6

*What will separate us from the love of Christ?*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans      8:31b-35, 37-39

Brothers and sisters:

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

He did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

will he not also give us everything else along with him?

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

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,

who also is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine,

or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly

through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,

nor angels, nor principalities,  
nor present things, nor future things,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor any other creature will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**NT 7**

*Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself,

and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord,

and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,

that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother?

Or you, why do you look down on your brother?

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee

shall bend before me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The word of the Lord.

**NT 8**

*He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians      3:20-21

Brothers and sisters:

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.

## NT 9

*We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans      8:14-23

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.

**NT 10**

*Thus we shall always be with the Lord.*

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,

about those who have fallen asleep,

so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,

so too will God, through Jesus,

bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,

that we who are alive,

who are left until the coming of the Lord,

will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself, with a word of command,

with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,

will come down from heaven,

and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left,

will be caught up together with them in the clouds

to meet the Lord in the air.

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words. The word of the Lord.

**NT 11**

*We shall see him as he is.*

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John      3:1-2

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us

that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us

is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;

what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,

for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

## NT 12

*There shall be no more death.*

A reading from the Book of Revelation      21:1-5a, 6b-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.

The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,  
and the sea was no more.

I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.

He will dwell with them and they will be his people  
and God himself will always be with them as their God.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes,  
and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain,  
for the old order has passed away.”

The One who sat on the throne said,

“Behold, I make all things new.”

I am the Alpha and the Omega,

the beginning and the end.

To the thirsty I will give a gift

from the spring of life-giving water.

The victor will inherit these gifts,

and I shall be his God,

and he will be my son.”

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL READINGS

### G 1

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12a

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.

## G 2

*Come to me and I will give you rest.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 11:25-30

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.

### G 3

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:31-46

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.

## G 4

*Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke      24:13-16, 28-35

That very day, the first day of the week,  
two of the disciples of Jesus were going  
to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem,  
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.

And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,  
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

As they approached the village to which they were going,  
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him, "Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."

So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,

“Were not our hearts burning within us

while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem

where they found gathered together

the Eleven and those with them, who were saying,

“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

Then the two recounted

what had taken place on the way

and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G 5

*Whoever hears my word and believes has passed from death to life.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 5:24-29

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:

“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word

and believes in the one who sent me

has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,

but has passed from death to life.

Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here

when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,

and those who hear will live.

For just as the Father has life in himself,

so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself.

And he gave him power to exercise judgment,

because he is the Son of Man.

Do not be amazed at this,

because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs

will hear his voice and will come out,

those who have done good deeds

to the resurrection of life,

but those who have done wicked deeds

to the resurrection of condemnation.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G 6

*The Kingdom of heaven belongs to little children.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them,

but the disciples rebuked them.

When Jesus saw this he became indignant, and said to them,

“Let the children come to me; do not prevent them,

for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Amen, I say to you,

whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child

will not enter it.”

Then he embraced the children and blessed them,

placing his hands on them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## G 7

*I am the resurrection and the life.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 11:17-27

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.

**G 8**

*I shall raise him on the last day.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 6:37-40

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.

G 9

*If it dies, it produces much fruit.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 12:23-28

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.

“I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?

‘Father, save me from this hour’?

But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.”

Then a voice came from heaven,

“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **G 10**

*In my Father's house there are many dwellings.*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John      14:1-6

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.

**INFORMATION: OBITUARY AND DEATH NOTICE**

Full Name

Name Before Marriage

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Baptism (Church, Location, Date)

Married to

Location and Date of Marriage

Previous Marriages

Father's Name

Father's Date and Place of Birth

Mother's Name Before Marriage

Mother's Date and Place of Birth

Names of Mother's Parents

Names of Father's Parents

Children (Name, Date of Birth, Place of Birth)

Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren  
(Name, Parents)

Sisters and Brothers, Other Relatives  
(Name, Telephone, Relationship)

Military Service (Branch, serial number, dates of service, rank,  
V.A. claim number, death benefits, location of discharge papers)

Employment (name of employer, address, dates)

Union membership

Social Security number

Previous residences (city, dates)

Accomplishments and honors

Memorial Requests

Persons to notify (names, telephone)

**Legal**

Will (date, place kept, person who prepared, witnesses)

Executor of estate as listed in will

( ) No Will

Medical treatment special requests

Donation of Organs or Body

## **Financial**

Life Insurance Policies (Company, Policy Number, Agent)

Other Death Benefits (Credit Union Insurance, Union, Organizations, Insurance) Employer

Bank, Savings, Other accounts  
(Institution, Type of Account, number)

Real Estate (Location, mortgage, Held By)

Stocks and bonds (Name, Location of Certificates)

Brokers and account numbers

Safety Deposit Boxes (Location, number, location of key)

## **Burial Arrangements**

Funeral Home (name, address, telephone, contact person)

If no arrangements made -- funeral requests

Cemetery (name, location, contact person, easement or deed number, legal description of graves or crypts)

If no arrangements made -- burial requests

Memorial Marker and Inscriptions (company name, address, telephone, contact person, description of arrangements)

If no arrangements made -- marker and inscription requests

Cremation and disposition of ashes request