

GUIDELINES
FOR THE
CELEBRATION OF A FUNERAL MASS
AT
SAINT TIMOTHY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

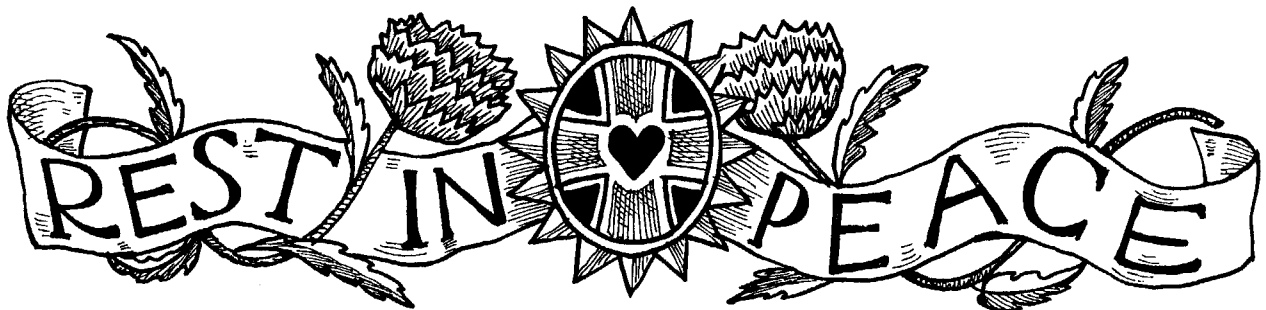
Together as a community of faith, the parish family of Saint Timothy offers to you our sympathy and prayerful support as you mourn the death of your loved one. We hope and pray that this time of preparation for the funeral liturgy will provide you with sentiments of comfort and consolation.

This packet has been assembled to assist you in preparing for the celebration of your loved one's funeral liturgy. We trust that the enclosed materials will guide your selections and enable you to enter more deeply into the Eucharistic celebration.

Please know that you are not alone as you face this difficult and trying time. We at Saint Timothy offer you the assurance of our prayers and we pledge to you our support in the days ahead. If we can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Michael S. Olivere
Reverend William J. Monahan



Rite of Funerals

The Church ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the Funeral Rites with the comforting Word of God and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The faith community celebrates the Funeral Rite to offer worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life that is now returned to Him. The Funeral Mass offered for your loved one is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. The planning and the carrying out of these Funeral Rites brings various ministries together. The Church calls each member of Christ's Body—religious and lay person—to participate. The community's principal involvement is expressed through its active participation in the Funeral Liturgy.

Participation in the Funeral Mass

Often families of the deceased invite friends and other family members to take active roles in the Funeral Mass. The following are areas of the Mass where individuals can be invited to assist:

- Placing of the Pall and/or Religious Object on the casket
- Ministry of Reader
- Reading of the Intercessions
- Presentation of the Gifts

Funeral Liturgy Worksheet

Included with this packet is the Funeral Liturgy Worksheet which is to be used to record all of the details concerning the Funeral Liturgy. Please be mindful of the details in this packet as you make your selections. The completed Funeral Liturgy Worksheet should be returned to the rectory at least one day before the funeral.

Choosing the Texts for the Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word is an integral part of the celebration of Christian funerals. There are various texts from which to choose the necessary readings. Please be sure to select one Old Testament reading and one New Testament reading from the texts which can be found on pages 5 through 10 of this packet. Please record your selections on the Funeral Liturgy Worksheet.

The General Intercessions or Prayer of the Faithful is proclaimed by a reader as well. A copy of the General Intercessions is included in this packet for the reader to look over.

Choosing Readers for the Liturgy of the Word

At every celebration of the Word, the ministry of reader is to be exercised by the Catholic laity. In selecting readers for the Funeral Liturgy, please select people who are capable of proclaiming God's Word to the assembly in a loud, clear, and reverent manner. Those who have a poor speaking voice or who become nervous when speaking or reading in public should not be asked to read—both in respect for the Word proclaimed and for the sake of their own feelings. The names of the readers should be included on the Funeral Liturgy Worksheet. N.B. The Lectionary is the proper liturgical book from which the scriptural readings are proclaimed. Copies of the readings (e.g., missalettes or photocopies) should not be used.

Choosing Music for the Funeral Liturgy

Music is integral to all worship and so finds an essential role in the Order of Christian Funerals. The emotions of sorrow and pain, of fear and joy, of loss and hope so intertwined at the time of death can better find effective expression in the careful, prayerful selection of the music that will accompany the various parts of the Funeral Liturgy.

Listed below are some suggestions. All questions or requests concerning music should be directed to Ms. Anne Coneghen, Director of Music Ministries (215.624.6188 x102).

All I Ask	How Great Thou Art	On Eagle's Wings
Amazing Grace	I Am the Bread of Life	One Bread, One Body
As the Deer Longs	I Have Loved You	Only A Shadow
Ave Maria	I Heard the Voice of Jesus	Prayer of Saint Francis
Be Not Afraid	I Know That My Redeemer Lives	Shelter Me, O God
Behold the Lamb	Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	Shepherd Me, O God
Blest Are They	Jesus Remember Me	To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul
Blest Be the Lord	Joyful Joyful, We Adore Thee	Taste and See
Bread of Life	Keep in Mind	The Cry of the Poor
Center of My Life	Let There Be Peace	The Strife Is O'er
Come to Me	Like A Child Rests	The Supper of the Lord
Eat This Bread	Loving and Forgiving	There is a Balm
Eye Has Not Seen	Mary's Song	There is a Longing
Faith of Our Fathers	My Soul Rejoices	Though the Mountains May Fall
For All the Saints	Morning Has Broken	We Remember
Gift of Finest Wheat	Now We Remain	We Walk by Faith
Give Me Jesus	O God, Our Help in Ages Past	We Will Rise Again
Here I Am, Lord	O God, You Search Me	You Are Mine
Hosea	O Lord, I Am Not Worthy	You Are Near

Faith Reflections/Words of Remembrance

Frequently, there are those who wish to share their thoughts about the deceased with others. We certainly recognize the value of sharing memories of deceased loved ones. According to the norms found in the Rite of Funerals, the Church offers three prayerful contexts in which a “faith reflection” can take place.

First, it is important to note that this is meant to be a “faith reflection” on the life of faith practiced by the deceased within the Catholic Church and his/her family. It is not a reflection on the deceased’s hobbies or secular interests. Please keep in mind that since the death of a loved one can overwhelm family and friends with grief, many who are willing to offer a faith reflection are unable to do so.

For those preparing faith reflections, the Rite of Funerals allows for a single, compact and prepared faith reflection. Reflections may take place:

- At the Vigil (or Wake) service before the closing prayer
- At the Committal service at the cemetery before the final blessing
- In Church prior to the celebration of the Funeral Mass or after the Concluding Prayer
- At the reception/repast following the committal services

The one preparing and presenting the reflection should be mindful of time constraints and follow the required guidelines:

- A reflection may be offered by one person
- The reflection may be no longer than 2 or 3 minutes
- The reflection is to be conducted from a written text rather than extemporaneously
- A typed or legibly written copy of the reflection must be given to the priest celebrant the day before the liturgy

Remembering a Loved One

Often family and friends seek fitting expressions of their love and lasting ways to memorialize a deceased loved one. Along with the traditional remembrance of a loved one through the celebration of the Mass, Saint Timothy Parish offers further means of memorializing a loved one that family and friends may want to consider:

- **A Gift to the Parish:** A monetary gift to the parish for general purposes is always welcomed and can help to ensure the ongoing mission of the Parish and larger Church to proclaim and practice the Gospel. A gift to the parish for a particular purpose, such as, the school tuition fund, the elevator fund, the music program or an area of parish life that was of special interest to the deceased is also a fitting way to memorialize a loved one.
- **The Memorial Fund:** This fund allows for the refurbishing of the sacred vessels and altar appointments such as candlesticks, candelabras, thuribles, quality altar linens and vestments. There is no fixed amount required for a donation and all funds are used exclusively for the sanctuaries of Saint Timothy Church. A Mass is celebrated once monthly on Sundays for those remembered through the Memorial Fund, a public acknowledgement is printed in our Sunday bulletin and a beautifully printed card is sent to the families of those enrolled. Those who are interested in honoring a loved one through a particular item, can contact the Rectory for further information.
- **The Grotto at Saint Timothy:** As part of the 75th Anniversary of Saint Timothy Parish in 2004, a grotto in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary was erected on the grounds of the parish. As of this writing over 600 living and deceased members of the parish have had their names inscribed on memorial bricks forming a walkway to the Blessed Mother. Family and friends of deceased loved ones have found this a wonderful way to memorialize a loved one. Each 4 x 8" brick can be inscribed with 3 lines each containing 15 characters at a cost. For application forms, please contact the Rectory (215.624.6188) Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **S.T.A.R. Education Fund for Children of Saint Timothy School:** S.T.A.R., Saint Timothy Alumni Remembers, was founded in April 2006, and is a fund for education at the parish school. Donations to this fund help provide scholarships to needy children attending Saint Timothy School. For more information contact the Rectory Office or the S.T.A.R. Program at 215-624-6188 during regular business hours.

Annual Mass of Remembrance

Please know that each November (around All Souls Day) we invite the families of those who have died during that particular year to participate in a Mass of Remembrance. We will be contacting the family prior to the Mass in order that we may obtain a photograph of the deceased to be displayed for the celebration.

Contacting Saint Timothy Church

If we can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our business office is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Reverend Michael S. Olivere, Pastor
Ms. Anne Coneghen, Director of Music Ministries

Saint Timothy Rectory
3001 Levick Street
Philadelphia, PA 19149
215.624.6188

FIRST READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

1. A reading from the second Book of Maccabees 12:43-46

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.

2. 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.

3. Long form—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.

OR

Short form—A reading from the Book of Wisdom 3:1-6, 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 in the eyes of 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. A reading from the Book of Lamentations 3:17-26

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the LORD. The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope: The favors of the LORD are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness. My portion is the LORD, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him. Good is the LORD to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the LORD. The word of the Lord.

7. A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel 12:1-3

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard this word of the Lord: At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; Some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever. The word of the Lord.

SECOND READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. 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.

2. A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 5:17-21

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.

3. Long form—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.

OR

Short form—A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

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. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. The word of the Lord.

4. 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 first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. The word of the Lord.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. Long form—A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-28

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.

OR

Short form—A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-23

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. The word of the Lord.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy 2:8-13

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.

14. 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.

15. A reading from the first Letter of Saint John 3:14-16

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.

General Intercessions / Prayer of the Faithful (Option 1)

Priest: My brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his.

Reader: In baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister N. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

General Intercessions / Prayer of the Faithful (Option 2)

Priest: God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:

Reader: For, N., 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.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people: Hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

