



Preparation for the Rite of Christian Burial

Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady

53 Winter Hill Road
Tuckahoe, NY 10707

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Parish of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady extends to you our sympathy in your grief. We would like to help you traverse this difficult time, and we pray for the Holy Spirit to strengthen and console you.

At the same time, we live in the joyful hope of eternal life won for us by Jesus Christ. It is in this spirit that we celebrate the funeral liturgy of each of our baptized. Having gone down with Christ into the waters of baptism, each member of the Body of Christ may hope to rise and live forever with God.

This document is intended to help you participate in this mystery as fully as possible, by providing information and guidelines for the funeral liturgy. You may choose readings, prayers, and hymns to fittingly honor your loved one. Our parish staff, including the music director, is able to help you with suggestions if desired.

Please do not hesitate to call us if there is anything we can do for you.

With our prayers, love, and sympathy,
Father Anthony Sorgie, Pastor, and

The Pastoral Staff of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady

Pastoral Staff

Pastor	Fr. Anthony Domenic Sorgie	
Associates	Fr. Sean Connolly	Fr. Paul Waddell
Deacons	Carl Degenhardt	Anthony Viola

General Reflections

At the funerals of its members, the Church confidently celebrates Christ's Paschal Mystery. Its intention is that those who were made one with Christ in Baptism may also pass from death to life with Him. In soul, they are to be cleansed from earthly sin and taken into heaven with the saints and the elect; in body, they await the blessed hope of Christ's coming and the resurrection of the dead.

The body of the deceased Catholic Christian is the body that was once washed in Baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life. At the Funeral Mass, the Church pours forth prayers and petitions for the deceased. Because of the communion of all of Christ's members with each other, all of these things bring spiritual aid to the deceased and the consolation of hope to the living.

The Rites of the Church

All of the baptized are entitled to the full Rite of Christian Burial. You and your family will experience the Rite of Christian Burial in three distinct and important parts:

The Wake Service

This will take place during the visiting hours at the funeral home, usually the afternoon or evening before the funeral. One of our priests or deacons will lead this service of prayer and Scripture. At this time, someone from the family, or a friend, may wish to remember the deceased by sharing personal memories, as in a eulogy.

The Funeral Liturgy

This is the most important part of the celebration of Christian Burial. This is almost always celebrated within a Mass. The bodily remains are honored by being brought to the Church, even if cremation will follow. We celebrate the life of the deceased in the context of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Committal

At the conclusion of the *Mass of Christian Burial* normally one of our priests or deacons will accompany the funeral cortège to the cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium, if it is within a certain radius of miles from the parish. If one of our parish clergy cannot go suitable arrangements are usually made through your Funeral director so that the Rite of Committal may take place at the time of interment or burial.

Should one wish to speak in memory of the deceased, as in a eulogy, the Funeral Rite allows for such to take place just prior to the Prayer of Commendation at the cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium.

N.B. The trip to a crematorium for the proper disposition of the body is not a Liturgical Rite and no clergy will accompany for this action. When the family has received the cremains/urn of their loved one and have decided on a fitting interment in a grave or columbarium niche, then, even many months later, a clergyman from the parish will gather with the family to say the Prayers of Committal and bless the place of final rest.

Planning the Funeral Liturgy

The funeral liturgy is one of the most beautiful and meaningful celebrations of the Church. Your family has the option of personalizing the Mass by choosing the Scripture readings and by requesting specific hymns. When choosing scriptures, there should be one reading from the Old Testament, a Responsorial Psalm, and a New Testament reading. Although you can choose from the whole Bible, the texts contained within this booklet are especially appropriate. See pages 35-36 for **Planning Sheet**.

The Time and Place of the Funeral Liturgy

A funeral may be celebrated on any day of the week except Sundays and Holy Days. There are also some restrictions concerning funerals during Holy Week. The priest will discuss these restrictions as needed. The funeral liturgy is ordinarily celebrated in one of our two parish churches.

Music

Music is an integral part of Catholic worship and is designed to enhance the liturgical action. The Parish of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady will provide an organist and singer for the funeral liturgy at the Church. As professionals who know all the liturgically appropriate hymns and where they fit into the liturgy, they will select the music; however family members are welcome to request specific sacred hymns or music. Secular music may not be played at a Funeral Liturgy. Please consult the list of "frequently selected hymns on the next pages.

Frequently Selected Funeral Hymns

The following is a list of liturgical hymns which are appropriate for funerals. If you have any preferences, **please write your selections in the appropriate place on the Planning Sheet** (See pages 35-36); the Music Director will play as many as possible in the appropriate liturgical places. Because Mass is a live celebration of faith, pre-recorded music is inappropriate.

Hymns

All Creatures of Our God & King

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Amazing Grace

Be Not Afraid

Be Still My Soul

Behold the Lamb

Blest are They

Christ Be Our Light

Crown Him with Many Crowns

For All the Saints

Gentle Shepherd
Gift of Finest Wheat
Here I am, Lord
How Great Thou Art
I Am the Bread of Life
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
King of Love
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Morning Has Broken
O God Beyond All Praising
O Lord I Am Not Worthy
On Eagle's Wings One Bread,
One Body
Psalm 23: The Lord Is My Shepherd
Shepherd Me O God (23rd Psalm)
Sing with All the Saints in Glory
Soul of My Savior
You Are Mine

Vocal Solos

Ave Maria
Come Unto Him (Soprano)
Panis Angelicus
Pie Jesu (Soprano)

Readings

Using the selections in this booklet, please choose one Old Testament reading and one New Testament reading. (During the 50 days of the Easter season, two New Testament readings are selected) These selections should reflect some aspect of the life of the deceased or should have some particular meaning to you. **Please mark the appropriate sections of the Planning Sheet with your reading choices** (see pages 35-36). You may have someone other than the priest read these selections during the Mass, if you so choose. Please indicate the names of the readers, and the priest will invite them to do the readings at the appropriate time during the Mass. The Responsorial Psalm is chosen and will be sung by the cantor.

Prayer of the Faithful

If you wish, you may have someone other than the priest read the petitions of the Prayer of the Faithful. **If so, please indicate the name of the person on the Planning Sheet** on pages 35-36.

Biographical Notes

You might wish to help the celebrant make the homily more personal by furnishing him with a few special notes about the deceased. If you already have such material prepared, please forward a copy to the celebrant to help him in the preparation of the funeral homily.

Because the Funeral Liturgy is not a memorial service but rather the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased, it is more appropriate that any eulogy for the deceased be delivered either during the Wake Service at the funeral home or during the committal service at the grave site.

No Eulogies or Personal Reflections will be allowed to be read during the Funeral Mass.

Cremation

The Church has removed its objections to the practice of cremation. The Church, however, prefers that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral liturgy and that cremation be done afterwards.

Mass Offerings for the Deceased

Mass cards, for the intention of the deceased, may be obtained at our parish office or any Catholic church. The customary offering is \$15 per requested Mass. Due to the overwhelming demand for Masses, The Parish of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady may find it necessary to limit the number of Masses a family may request. If the number of Masses you request exceeds our limit, we can refer you to other parishes in the diocese.

Participation in the Funeral Liturgy

Entrance into the Church

The Rite of Reception takes place in the entrance of the Church. Following the greeting, the casket is sprinkled with holy water, reminding us of the waters of Baptism. The funeral pall is then placed on the casket. This white cloth over the casket reminds us of the white garment that was given at Baptism as a sign of the new life of grace entered into at that time.

Readers

When it is time for the Readings to be proclaimed, the celebrant will invite to the pulpit the person(s) chosen to do the reading(s). It is suggested that the readers, using this booklet, practice the readings beforehand.

Prayer of the Faithful

When it is time for the Prayer of the Faithful, the celebrant will invite the person chosen to read the petitions to the pulpit. You will find the prayers on page 40 of this booklet.

Gift Bearers

It is customary that two family members present the gifts of bread and wine at the Offertory time of the Mass (more than two may participate should it be appropriate). Names of the Gift Bearers should be indicated on the Planning Sheet on pages 39-40.

Holy Communion

Roman Catholics, who are properly disposed, are invited to receive Holy Communion in our church. Non-Catholics and those unable to receive are invited to take this time to pray for the repose of the soul of the deceased as well as for the family and friends of the deceased in this difficult time.



OLD TESTAMENT

READINGS



Please select ONE reading from the Old Testament selections and mark your choice on the Planning Sheet on pages 39-40 of this booklet.

During the Easter season, New Testament readings 16, 17, 18, and 19, starting on page 32 are used as the first reading instead of readings from the Old Testament.

Old Testament Reading 1

Job 19:1, 23-27

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered and said:
Oh, 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 into 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.

Old Testament Reading 2

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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.

Old Testament Reading 3

Wisdom 4:7-14

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

But the righteous one, 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 passes for gray hair, and an unsullied life is the attainment of old age.

The one who pleased God was loved,
living 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 that consideration into account.

The Word of the Lord.

Old Testament Reading 4

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.

Old Testament Reading 5

Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

My life is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
My enduring hope, I said,
has perished before the LORD.

The thought of my wretched homelessness
is wormwood and poison;
Remembering it over and over,
my soul is downcast.

But this I will call to mind;
therefore I will hope:
The LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted,
his compassion is not spent;
They are renewed each morning —
great is your faithfulness!

The LORD is my portion, I tell myself,
therefore I will hope in him.

The LORD is good to those who trust in him,
to the one that seeks him;
It is good to hope in silence
for the LORD's deliverance.

The Word of the Lord.

Old Testament Reading 6

Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the Book of the prophet Daniel

My life is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
In those days, I Daniel,
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.

Old Testament Reading 7

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second book of Maccabees

Judas, the ruler of Israel, then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this, he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead, that they might be freed from this sin.

The Word of the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT

READINGS



Please select ONE reading from the New Testament selections and mark your choice on the Planning Sheet on pages 35-36 of this document.

New Testament Reading 1

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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

"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 children of Israel as

he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,

who is Lord of all,

He commissioned us to preach to the people

and testify that he is the one appointed by God

as judge of the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness,

that everyone who believes in him

will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Reading 2

Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 3

Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 4

Romans 6:3-9

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 5

Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the Letter of St. 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 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.

New Testament Reading 6

Romans 8:31-35. 37-39

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

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.

New Testament Reading 7

Romans 14:7-9, 10-12

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 8

1 Corinthians 15:20-24, 25-28

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits 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 first fruits; 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, s
o that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Reading 9

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the First Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 10

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

A reading from the Second Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 11

Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

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.

New Testament Reading 12

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the First Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 13

2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the Second Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 14

1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the First Letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 15

1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first letter of St. 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.

New Testament Reading 16 - Easter Season

Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I heard a voice from heaven say,

“Write this:

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”

“Yes”, said the Spirit,

“let them find rest from their labors,
for their works accompany them.”

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Reading 17 - Easter Season

Revelation 20:11-21:1

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it.
The earth and the sky fled from his presence
and there was no place for them.
I saw the dead, the great and the lowly,
standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened.

Then another scroll was opened, the book of life.
The dead were judged according to their deeds,
by what was written in the scrolls.

The sea gave up its dead;
then Death and Hades gave up their dead.
All the dead were judged according to their deeds.
Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire.
(This pool of fire is the second death.)

Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life
was thrown into the pool of fire.
Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Reading 18 - Easter Season

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

A reading from the book of Revelation

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.

New Testament Reading 19 - Easter Season

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

"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 children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power.

He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the Devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.

This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Prayer of the Faithful

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 present our needs to our Heavenly Father, and respond to the petitions by praying:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

1. In Baptism N. received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
2. Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
3. Our brother/sister N. was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
4. Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
5. 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. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
6. The family and friends of N. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
7. 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. Let us pray to the Lord. **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.

✠. Amen.

Planning Sheet

Name of the deceased _____

Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading _____

Read by _____

2nd Reading _____

Read by _____

Prayer of the Faithful (see previous page)

Read by _____

Gift Bearers (Usually 2 or 3 persons.)

Music

Biographical Notes

