



## St. Thomas the Apostle Church

60 Byrd Avenue  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003



*"If one member suffers in the body of Christ which is the Church, all the members suffer with that member."*

†St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 12

Dear Friends,

During this time of sadness, please be assured of the prayers of our parish community for you and your family. We believe the healing presence of family and friends and the comfort of our faith in God help us to mourn our loss and lead us to a deeper belief in God's loving presence in our lives.

The first page provides you with an opportunity to help plan the Mass by choosing readings, music, and the possible involvement of your family in the Mass. A member of the Funeral Ministry will contact you to assist in this preparation. The Funeral Director will also be of assistance to you in any way possible.

In preparing for your loved one's funeral, it would be most helpful to the priest-celebrant at the Mass if the information on the following personal history pages could be provided. This information would enable us to speak more meaningfully during the homily.

Our prayers are with you.

Find peace in the Risen Lord,

The Clergy, Staff and the  
Parish Community of  
St. Thomas the Apostle Church

✠ **ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS** ✠

Name and Day/Date/Time of Mass: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Day) (Date) (Time)

**READINGS AND LECTORS:**

Please choose an Old Testament and A New Testament reading from the workbook provided. If the family chooses not to read these selections at the Funeral Mass, members of the Funeral Ministry will be happy to assist by reading the passages the family has chosen. Please indicate your choices:

\_\_\_ Family Members Old Testament Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Reader \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number/Book/Chapter-Verse)  
New Testament Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Reader \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number/Book/Chapter-Verse)  
\_\_\_ Funeral Ministry will proclaim the Readings

**MUSIC REQUESTS:**

Please select sacred hymns from the sheet provided. Our Music Director is available to help you in making your choices. NOTE: CHURCH LAW PROHIBITS SECULAR MUSIC BEING PLAYED DURING THE FUNERAL MASS.

Entrance Hymn (Gathering) \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn for Preparation and Presentation of the Gifts \_\_\_\_\_

Communion Hymn \_\_\_\_\_

Song of Farewell \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional Hymn (Song of Sending) \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Hymn for Military Service – Please provide Branch of Military: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Eternal Father, Strong to Serve)

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER**

Please choose from the three options provided: (Option A, B or C) # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Name of Reader \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_ Funeral Ministry

**PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:**

Please choose 2 family members or friends to offer the gifts of bread and wine to the Altar.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Your Parish Contacts are:

Your Music Contact is:



Thank you for your assistance in the planning of this Liturgy.  
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And Let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

**PERSONAL HISTORY**

**NAME OF DECEASED** \_\_\_\_\_

**NICKNAME (If any)** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_

**WAS THE DECEASED A PARISHIONER?** \_\_\_\_\_

**MARRIED** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPOUSE'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**SINGLE** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPOUSE LIVING OR DECEASED** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOW MANY YEARS MARRIED** \_\_\_\_\_

*(If needed, please list the names on another sheet)*

**NAMES OF CHILDREN** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF GRANDCHILDREN** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF PARENTS** \_\_\_\_\_

**ARE PARENTS LIVING OR DECEASED?** \_\_\_\_\_

⊗ ⊗ ⊗

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**What was the deceased's occupation?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Military Service?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Branch of service:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What are some of the qualities that made this person special? (Caring, Great Listener, Hardworking, Family-Oriented, Courageous, etc.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate any special interests, hobbies, talents.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FAITH LIFE**

**How did this person see their relationship with God? Were they involved in any ministries in the Parish?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WHO WERE THE PRIMARY CAREGIVERS?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

✠ ✠ ✠

**Let us pray:**

**O God, whose nature  
is always to forgive and to show mercy,  
we humbly implore you for your servant**

**N. \_\_\_\_\_,**  
**whom you have called (this day) to journey to you,  
and, since he (she) hoped and believed in you,  
grant that he (she) may be led to our true homeland  
to delight in its everlasting joys.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

✠ ✠ ✠

*May the Lord open to him/her the gates of Paradise, that he/she may return to that homeland where there is no death,  
where eternal joy endures.*

✠ ✠ ✠

## Hymn Selections for a Funeral/Memorial Mass

Thank you for taking the time to prepare the Sacred Liturgy in honor and in memory, for the eternal repose of your loved one.

*Please select a hymn in each of the sections and write your choices on the "Order of Christian Funerals" form. Space is also provided for a personal selection or one which will reflect service in a branch of the military. Please note that Church law prohibits secular music being played during a Funeral Mass.*

### Entrance Hymn

Lift High the Cross  
Eye Has Not Seen  
Here I Am, Lord

Be Not Afraid  
Amazing Grace  
I Heard the Voice of Jesus

### Presentation and Preparation of Gifts

Be Not Afraid  
Here I Am, Lord  
Amazing Grace  
Eye Has Not Seen  
We Will Rise Again

Be With Me, Lord  
Prayer of St. Francis  
The Cry of the Poor  
You Are Mine  
Shelter Me, O God

### Communion Hymn

Behold the Lamb  
One Bread, One Body  
We Remember  
Pan de Vita  
Ave Maria (Hail Mary)  
One Blessing Cup  
Here at This Table

Bread of Life  
Amen, El Cuerpo de Cristo  
Panis Angelicus (Bread of Angels)  
I Am the Bread of Life  
Blest Are They  
Blest Are They  
The Supper of the Lord

### Song of Farewell/Not for Memorial Mass

Saints of God (Les Mis Melody)  
Song of Farewell (Old Hundredth)  
Reciban su Alma – Reza

In Paradisum (Sung in Latin)  
Celtic Song of Farewell (Danny Boy Melody)  
Que Los Angeles te Lleven al Paraiso  
(Cordova)

### Recessional Hymn

How Great Thou Art  
Blest Are They  
Amazing Grace  
All Creatures of Our God and King

Lead Me, Lord  
On Eagles Wings  
I Am the Bread of Life

### Sacred Music of Your Choice (no secular music)\*\*\*

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\*\*\*Upon approval of the Music Director

Sacred Hymn Reflecting Military Service: Eternal Father, Strong to Serve  
Army \_\_\_\_\_ Navy \_\_\_\_\_ Marine \_\_\_\_\_ Air Force \_\_\_\_\_ Coast Guard \_\_\_\_\_



**THE FIRST READING**

**MUST BE TAKEN  
FROM**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Is 43: 1-3a

### **A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob,  
and formed you, O Israel:

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by  
name, you are mine.

When you pass through the water, I will be with you; in  
the rivers you shall not drown.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned;  
and the flames shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord, your God,

The Holy One of Israel, your savior.

**The Word of the Lord.**

*Ecclesiastes*

*Chapter 3: 1-8*

**A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes:**

**To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under  
heaven:**

**A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to  
pluck up that which is planted;**

**A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time  
to build up;**

**A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to  
dance;**

**A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a  
time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;**

**A time to get, 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 keep silence, and a time  
to speak;**

**A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of  
peace.**

**The Word of the Lord.**



## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



### Reading I from the Old Testament

1.

*2 Mc 12:43-46*

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees  
*He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had  
the resurrection of the dead in view.*

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.

*Jb 19:1, 23-27a*

A reading from the Book of Job  
*I know that my Vindicator lives.*

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*

*Wis 3:1-9*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom  
*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

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

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



*or Short Form*

*Wis 3:1-6, 9*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom  
*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

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.

*Wis 4:7-15*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom  
*An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.*

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.

*Is 25:6a, 7-9*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah  
*He will destroy death forever.*

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.**

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



6.

*Lam 3:17-26*

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

*It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.*

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.

*Dn 12:1-3*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel  
*Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth  
shall awake.*

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.**



**THE SECOND  
READING**

**MUST BE TAKEN  
FROM**

**THE NEW  
TESTAMENT**

Rev 21: 1-7

### **A Reading from the Book of Revelation**

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

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." Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true."

He said to me, "They are accomplished. 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.

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



### Reading II from the New Testament

#### 1. Acts 10:34-43 (Long Form)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.*

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.**

*or Short Form*

*Acts 10:34-36, 42-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.*

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.**

#### 2.

*Rv 14:13*

A reading from the Book of Revelation  
*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.*

I, John, 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.**

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



3.

*Rv 20:11-21:1*

A reading from the Book of Revelation  
*The dead were judged according to their deeds.*

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.**

4.

*Rv 21:1-5a, 6b-7*

A reading from the Book of Revelation  
*There shall be no more death.*

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.**

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



5.

*Rom 5:5-11*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

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

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 Lord.**

6.

*Rom 5:17-21*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

*Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.*

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.**



## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



7.

*Long Form*

*Rom 6:3-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

*We too might live in newness of life.*

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*

*Rom 6:3-4, 8-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

*We too might live in newness of life.*

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.

8.

*Rom 8:14-23*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

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

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.

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



9.

*Rom 8:31b-35, 37-39*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

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

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.

10.

*Rom 14:7-9, 10c-12*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans

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

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.

11.

*Long Form*

*1 Cor 15:20-28*

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

*So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.*

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.

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



*or Short Form*  
**1 Cor 15:20-23**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Corinthians  
*So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.*

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.**

12.  
**1 Cor 15:51-57**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Corinthians  
*Death is swallowed up in victory.*

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.**

13.  
**2 Cor 4:14-5:1**

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to  
the Corinthians  
*What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is  
eternal.*

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.**

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead

⊗      ⊗      ⊗      ⊗      ⊗      ⊗      ⊗

14.  
*2 Cor 5:1, 6-10*

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

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

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.**

15.  
*Phil 3:20-21*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

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

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.**

16.  
*1 Thes 4:13-18*

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

*Thus we shall always be with the Lord.*

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.**

## Readings for the Masses of the Dead



17.  
2 Tm 2:8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

*If we have died with him we shall also live with him.*

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.**

18.  
1 Jn 3:1-2

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John  
*We shall see him as he is.*

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.**

19.  
1 Jn 3:14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John  
*We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.*

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.**

## **A Reading from the Book of Timothy**

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power:

Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand.

I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## Masses for the Dead



### Universal Prayer - A

#### Priest's Introduction

Let us in faith call upon God the almighty Father, who raised Christ his Son from the dead, as we pray for the salvation of the living and the dead. Our response is, *Lord, hear our prayer.*



#### *Intentions:*

That God may establish the Christian people in faith and unity, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may rescue the entire world from all the evils of war, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may be pleased to show himself a father to our brothers and sisters who lack work, food or housing, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may be pleased to admit for ever to the company of the Saints his deceased servant N., \_\_\_\_\_ who once through Baptism received the seed of eternal life, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That on the last day he may raise up N., \_\_\_\_\_ who fed on the Body of Christ, the Bread of eternal life, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may welcome into the light of his face all who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may graciously help and comfort our brothers and sisters who are suffering affliction, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

That he may be pleased to gather into his glorious Kingdom all who have gathered here in faith and devotion, let us pray to the Lord. (R)

#### Priest's Prayer

May the prayer of those who cry to you benefit the souls of your servants, O Lord: free them, we pray, from all their sins and make them sharers in your redemption. Through Christ our Lord. (R.) Amen.

## Masses for the Dead



### Universal Prayer - B

#### Priest's Introduction:

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: Our Response is: *Hear our prayer.*



#### Intentions:

In Baptism *N.* \_\_\_\_\_ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

Our brother/sister *N.* \_\_\_\_\_ was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

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. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleeps in the Lord. Give refreshment, light, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

The family and friends of *N.* \_\_\_\_\_ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that comes from grief. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our brother/sister *N.* \_\_\_\_\_ Strengthen our hope that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. Lord, in your mercy. (R)

#### Priest's Prayer:

Lord God, giver of peace and the 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. *R. Amen*



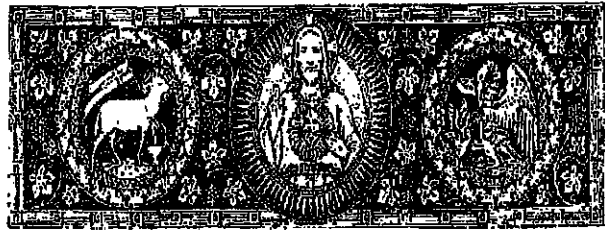
## Masses for the Dead



### Universal Prayer - C

#### Priest's Introduction:

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead: with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead: Our response is, *Lord, hear our prayer.*



#### Intentions:

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, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

For our brother/sister *N.* \_\_\_\_\_ who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

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, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

For all of us assemble here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord. (*R*)

#### Priest's Prayer:

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. *R. Amen*