



Church of Saint Pius X

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Church of Saint Pius X

Funeral Handbook



Fear not, I am with you...
Isaiah 41: 10

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed I was walking
along the beach with the Lord.
Many scenes from my life flashed
across the sky. In each scene I
noticed footprints in the sand.

Sometimes there were two sets of
footprints, other times there was one
only. This bothered me because I
noticed that during the low periods of
my life, when I was suffering from
anguish, sorrow or defeat,

I could see only one set of footprints,
so I said to the Lord,

"You promised me Lord,
that if I followed you, you would walk
with me always. But I have noticed
that during the most trying periods of
my life there has only been one set of
footprints in the sand.

Why, when I needed you most, have
you not been there for me?"

The Lord replied,
"The years when you have seen only
one set of footprints,
my child, is when I carried you."

The Hand Of God Shall Hold You
To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King
We Gather Together
Ye Watchers And Ye Holy Ones

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23 Shepherd Me, O God (M. Haugen)
Ps 23 The Lord Is My Shepherd
Ps 25 To You, O Lord (S. Soper)
Ps 27 The Lord Is My Light and my Salvation
Ps 42 As the Deer Longs (B. Hurd)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)
Ave Maria (Schubert)
Eye Has Not Seen
Prayer of St. Francis
The King Of Love My Shepherd Is
The Lord Is Near
There Is A Balm In Gilead

COMMUNION SONGS

Be Not Afraid
Blest Are They
Eye Has Not Seen
Here I Am Lord
I Am The Bread Of Life
On Eagle's Wings
One Bread, One Body
Panis Angelicus
Remember Me
The Supper Of The Lord
We Remember

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
Besides restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths
for his name sake.
Even though I walk
In the dark valley I fear no evil;
for you are at my side
with your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.

Only goodness and kindness
follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house
of the Lord for years to come.

(Order of Christian Funerals, p. 143)

SAINT PIUS X MUSIC MINISTRY

Dear Parishioner, Dear Friend,

You have just experienced one of the most significant and emotional events in your life—the death of your loved one. It is also a loss for our parish and our Catholic community. Our natural human expressions of sympathy are joined with our prayers for you.

Your feelings of grief can be overwhelming and require great courage. There may be some confusion about what to do next. Be assured the priests and staff of the Church of Saint Pius X are committed to assist you at this difficult time in any way we can.

Some families have expressed a desire to take an active part in the Funeral Mass which is offered for the repose of the soul of your beloved departed. This booklet has been prepared to guide you in planning the Scripture readings and music for the Mass, and also contains eulogy guidelines. If you would prefer not to join in the planning, it is completely understandable, and we will complete this for you.

If you so choose, please review the pages that follow and complete the form included in this package.

Our Pastoral Staff will review all these matters with you to assure the Mass and Rituals are prayerful and dignified.

Christ's resurrection from the dead is our own hope of eternal life. May this belief be a source of consolation during these days. Again, please know we are sorry for your loss and we pray for you and your family.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Sebastian Francisco P. Bacatan, Jr, Ph.D., A.M.
Pastor*

Especially during this time of sorrow, the hymns and acclamations of the Mass help us lift our hearts and minds to our loving God. Our parish cantor and organist will be present at the Funeral Mass to help lead the assembly in sung prayer. As part of their ministry, they will select and prepare music for the Funeral Mass. If members of the family wish to suggest any hymns, they may do so; otherwise our music ministers will do this for you.

Suggested Hymns

The selections listed here are examples of music that is appropriate for funerals. Our parish hymnal has many other hymns that may be used during a Funeral Liturgy.

GATHERING and FINAL HYMS

A Mighty Fortress
All Creatures Of Our God And King
Alleluia, Sing To Jesus
Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er
Amazing Grace
At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing
Be Not Afraid
Christ Be Beside Me (*Morning has broken*)
Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
Faith Of Our Fathers
For All The Saints
Hail Holy Queen (*closing*)
Holy, Holy, Holy
Holy God We Praise Thy Name (*closing*)
How Great Thou Art
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Lift High The Cross
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Now Thank We All Our God
O God, Our Help In Ages Past
On Eagle's Wings
Praise My Soul, The King Of Heaven
Praise To The Lord
The Church's One Foundation

Reader: For all the children of the world, that they are revered,
respected and have every door opened to them, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: That we who are children of God, no matter what our age, may
be convinced that if we share Christ's suffering in this life, we will also
share his glory in the next, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Priest: Father, we now commend our little one (name) to you and your
loving care. Give him/her a place of honor in your heavenly kingdom as
your humble children, we ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.



CATHOLIC RITUAL AT THE TIME OF DEATH

The Order of Christian Funerals (OCF) consists of three parts or
stations.

1. The Vigil/"Wake" for the deceased
2. The Funeral Liturgy
3. The Rite of Committal/Cemetery Service

1. **The Vigil or "Wake Service" for the deceased** is when "the Christian community keeps watch with the family in prayer to the God of mercy and finds strength in Christ's presence." (OCF, 56) The vigil or wake is a service that includes prayers, bible readings, responses and words of consolation. The priest or his representative leads the prayers at the vigil which usually takes place in the funeral home during visitation hours.
2. **The Funeral Liturgy** is "the central liturgical celebration of the Christian community for the deceased." (OCF, 128) Whenever possible this rite includes the celebration of the Mass. However, the Funeral Service of the Word only may take place in the funeral home when no Mass is to be celebrated. The Funeral Liturgy is not permitted on holy days of obligation, Sundays or during the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday).

The Funeral Liturgy is a beautiful expression of our Christian faith carried out with the use of symbols, gestures, and actions. We encourage you and your family to fully and actively take part in the Funeral Liturgy by reviewing and selecting the scripture selections, Prayers of the Faithful and Hymns to be used at the liturgy. It takes many, working together to glorify God to make the liturgy a faith filled experience. The liturgy gives honor to the one who has died and offers comfort and hope to all present.

3. **The Rite of Committal/Cemetery Service** "is the final act of the community of faith in caring for the body of its deceased member." (OCF, 204) This part is celebrated immediately after the Funeral Liturgy. Family and friends journey from the church to the final place of committal. A prayer service is offered at the graveside. The rite of committal is an expression of the communion that exists between the church on earth and the church in heaven. The deceased passes with the farewell prayers of the community of believers into the welcoming company of those who need faith no longer but see God face to face. (OCF, 108)

4. **Cremation:** The Catholic Church has officially allowed cremation since 1963. This change in church norms was incorporated into canon law in 1983, with the expectation that the body would be present in the church for the funeral liturgy, with cremation following the liturgy. More recently, the Holy See has authorized celebration of funeral liturgies in the United States when cremation and committal take place before the liturgy. The church still prefers the practice of the burial of the body of the deceased. However, if cremation is chosen, it is preferred that it take place after the actual funeral liturgy. The presence of the body for the funeral liturgy is the clearest reminder of the life and death of the person and better expresses the values the Church affirms in its rites.
5. **Music:** A list of suggested hymns is provided. Other music options are permitted within liturgical guidelines. St. Pius X provides the organist and cantor for the Funeral Mass. A standard fee for this service is included in the Funeral Home account.
6. **Flowers:** Except during Advent and Lent, fresh flowers used in moderation can enhance the setting of the funeral rites.



Set D (for an elderly person)

Priest: Like Martha, we too are confident that God will grant whatever we ask. With sincere confidence we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: We are grateful for (name) and for all the goodness and treasures he/she gave so generously to us, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For the family, relatives and friends of (name) that we find consolation in our sincere belief that Christ is the resurrection and the life, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For all those who are gravely ill and will soon die, that they be given strength to face death without fear, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: We pray for all those people who share generously of themselves daily in caring for others and revealing the Good Shepherd's compassion, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Priest: God of life and death, we thank you for giving us your Son Jesus Christ who, like us, suffered and died. We thank you for promising to raise us up as you raised your Son Jesus after his death and burial. This is our prayer through the same Jesus Christ who lives and reigns forever and ever. AMEN.

Set E (for a child)

Priest: Let us pray to our Lord for all little ones; they are precious to Him and hold a very special place in His Kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: That Christ may take (name) by his/her little hand and lead him/her to the heavenly kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: As a child (name) lived life here on earth to the fullest; may he/she now enjoy the fulfillment of life in the kingdom of God, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For all of us who grieve over his/her death, that through faith in Christ, our sorrow may be changed into joy, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For all of us who knew and loved (name), that we may draw lessons and be inspired because of his/her life, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Priest: Lord, be with us all day long, till the shadows lengthen, and the evening falls, and the busy world is quiet and our work here on earth is done. Lord, in your mercy, grant us safety and a holy resting place with you in your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Set C (General)

Priest: God the Almighty father raised Christ His Son from the dead, with confidence we ask Him to be with all of us, living and dead.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For (name) who in Baptism received hope of eternal life, that he/she now be in the company of all the Saints, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For the family and friends of (name), that we may be consoled in our grief by Christ our Lord, who wept for His friend, Lazarus, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

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

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have journeyed with us, that they be rewarded for their goodness, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Priest: God, our refuge and our strength, hear our prayers as we cry to you. Listen and hear the prayers we offer to you for our dearly beloved. Cleanse our sins and grant us redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

We encourage active participation in planning the ritual at the time of death by selecting Scripture readings, Prayers of the Faithful and Hymns. We encourage family members to proclaim the readings, lead the Prayers of the Faithful and offer the gifts at the Funeral Liturgy. Following Holy Communion, it is proper for a member of the family or a friend to share a eulogy ("Farewell Remembrance") about the deceased. We suggest it be typed or written as emotions can often overtake one when presenting a reflection. It should be a maximum of FIVE minutes.

A priest will assist the family in planning the Funeral Liturgy. Usually he will meet with you in the rectory or other convenient place and will:

- ◆ Review the funeral protocol and customs
- ◆ Collaborate with your family and friends
- ◆ Assist you with the selection of Scripture readings, Prayers of the Faithful and Hymns, and completing the Funeral Liturgy Planning Form
- ◆ Assist you with picking family members who will participate in the Liturgy by doing the scripture readings and Prayers of the Faithful
- ◆ Ask you to provide information about your loved one to aid in preparing a homily

MASS REMEMBRANCE

It is customary in our Catholic tradition to remember the dead by offering a Mass intention in their sacred memory. Mass cards and intentions can be obtained at the Parish Office.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Often times a loved one has a favorite charity that can be supported in their memory. We have a great need right here at home in our faith community. You may wish to make a donation to the parish in memory of a loved one or assist the parish in its ongoing projects.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Please select from ONE of the following: (1-8)

1. A Reading from the Book of Job (19:1, 23-27)

Job answered 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.

2. 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.

3. A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8, 11)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die: a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; A time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

Reader: For they who bear the cross of pain in body, mind and spirit, that they may never feel abandoned by God, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: That (name), who proved himself/herself a good and faithful servant in this life, may now hear those beautiful words from Christ, "Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Master," we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For all the faithful departed, especially our relatives and friends, that they may dwell in the house of the Lord forever, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Priest: Through suffering Lord, may we remember that it is out of pain that we grow to eternal life. May we recognize that it is through suffering that the door of life eternal with you is opened. We offer these prayers through your Son Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us. AMEN.

Set B (for an older adult)

Priest: Lord, we turn to you at this hour of our sadness, may all who have lived in Christ be transformed, for it is in Christ that we may have the crown of eternal life, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For the Church, that it may always be a community of brothers and sisters who help, support, and pray for one another, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: (Name) fought a good life; he/she finished the race; he/she kept the faith; may he/she now receive from Christ the crown of eternal glory that He won for us with His death and resurrection, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: (Name) has finally reached the shore of eternity; now that all his/her earthly tasks are completed, may he/she enjoy rest from all his/her labors, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

12. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (14:1-7)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

13. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (10:13-15)

And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Please choose ONE of the following sets of Prayers of the Faithful. Mark your selection on the Funeral Planning Sheet. Please indicate the name of the person selected to proclaim them at the Liturgy.

SET A (for one who suffered greatly)

Priest: Heavenly Father we call to you in this hour of sorrow. We turn to you this day of sadness. We are confident your strength will be our consolation today and everyday, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For (name) who received the water of Baptism, that he/she may be cleansed of suffering and welcomed into heavenly banquet of the Lord, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Reader: For all of us, the family and friends of (name) that we may find God's comfort in the midst of our pain and loss, we pray to the Lord.

RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

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 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 the 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)

I, Daniel, mourned and I 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.

8. A Reading from the second Book of Maccabees (12:43-46)

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 spleen did 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Please select ONE of the following:

Psalm 23 - Shepherd Me, O God (*M. Haugen*)

Response:

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Response

Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Response

Surely your kindness and mercy
follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Response

heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, If you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

10. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (11:32-45)

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?" So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to the crowd, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and had seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

11. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (12:23 - 26)

Jesus said to his disciples: "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life will lose it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, And where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord

7. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:37-40)

Jesus said to the crowds: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord.

8. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:51-58)

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his Blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.

The Gospel of the Lord.

9. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (11:17-27)

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha

Psalm 23

Response:

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

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

Response

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side. With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

Response

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

Response

Psalm 25 - To You, O Lord (S. Soper)

Response:

***To you, O Lord, I lift up,
I lift up my soul, my God.***

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth, for you are my God, and for you I will wait.

Response

Good and upright is the Lord; he shows us the way. He guides the meek to justice, he teaches the humble to follow his ways.

Response

Your way, O Lord, is kindness to those who are true. Your friendship is with those who love you; you reveal to them your Word.

Response

Psalm 27

Response:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

Response

One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: To dwell in the house
of the Lord all the days of my life, That I may gaze on the
loveliness of the Lord and contemplate his temple.

Response

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land
of the living. Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted,
and wait for the Lord.

Response

Psalm 42 - As the Deer Longs (B. Hurd)

Response:

***As the deer longs for running streams, so I long, so I long,
so I long for you.***

Athirst my soul for you, the God who is my life! When shall I
see, when shall I see, see the face of God?

Response

Defend me God, send forth your light and your truth, they will
lead me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling place.

Response

Then I shall go unto the altar of my God. Praising you, O my
joy and gladness; I shall praise your name.

Response

4. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:35-40)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your loins and light your
lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a
wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.
Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and
proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third
watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants.
Be sure of this: If the master of the house had known the hour when the
thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You
also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man
will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

5. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (23:44-46,50-53;24:1-6a)

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land until
three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of
the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said
this, he breathed his last. Now there was a virtuous and righteous man
named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to
Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus. After he had taken the Body
down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb
in which no one had yet been buried. At daybreak on the first day of the
week the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the
tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they
entered, they did not find the Body of the Lord Jesus. While they were
puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to
them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.
The men said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the
dead? He is not here, he has been raised."

The Gospel of the Lord.

6. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (24:13-16,28-35)

That very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of
Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from
Jerusalem, and they were conversing about all the things that had
occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and
debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes
were prevented from recognizing him. As they approached the village
to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on
farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and
the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it

2. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (11:25-30)

Jesus said: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy and my burden light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

3. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (25:31-46)

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least ones of mine, you did it for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Please select ONE of the following: (1-21)

1. A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (10:34-43)

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

"In truth, see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, 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 prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

2. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (5:5-11)

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For, Christ, while we were still helpless, yet 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 through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

3. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (5:17-21)

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

4. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (6:3-9)

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.

5. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:14-23)

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children 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 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.

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things anew. 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.

21. A Reading from Paul’s letter to the Colossians (3:12-1)

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one Body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

THE GOSPEL **(To be proclaimed by the Priest)**

The Gospel Reading of the Day can be used.

However, if you wish, you may choose one of the following readings: (1-13) (Note: Usually, the Priest chooses the Gospel Reading.)

1. †A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:1-12)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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.

17. A Reading from the first letter of John (3:14-16)

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 Jesus laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

18. A Reading from the book of Revelation (14:13)

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.

19. A Reading from the book of Revelation (20:11-21:1)

I 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.

20. A Reading from the book of Revelation (21:1-5a,6b-7)

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."

6. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8:31b-35, 37-39)

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how 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.

7. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (14:7-9, 10b-12)

None of us 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. 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 account of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord.

8. A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (15:20-23, 24b-28)

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. 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 he 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.

**9. A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians
(15:51-57)**

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, 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.

**11. A Reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians
(4:14-5:1)**

We know 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.

**12. Reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians
(5:1,6-10)**

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.

So 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 one may receive recompense,

according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

13. A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (3:20-21)

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.

**14. A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians
(4:13-18)**

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, 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.

15. A Reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy (2:8-13)

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.

16. A Reading from the first letter of 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