

BEREAVEMENT PLANNING GUIDE FOR THE FAMILY OF THE DECEASED

FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON

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

A time to keep, and a time to cast away.

Ecclesiastes 3, 1-2, 4

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

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BEREAVEMENT MINISTER

Holy Redeemer Church and the Bereavement Ministry
donate their services in loving memory of your loved
one.

INTRODUCTION

In the past, you have loved others, comforted them, and shared their losses. During the hours ahead, it will be your turn, your time to be loved, to be comforted, to let others share your grief.

The Catholic funeral liturgy provides courage and comfort for those mourning the death of one they loved. However, the more family, relatives and friends actively plan and participate in the ceremony itself, the deeper will be the consolation and strength they experience.

The time spent selecting readings and music will help you discover how the treasury of faith can address the questions which tear at your heart. Your effort will provide a direction in which to look for comfort throughout the season of grief. And your planning will invite the people who gather with you to pray for your needs. Thus, the funeral itself will be truly prayer for you.

LITURGY PLANNING

Holy Redeemer invites the family to use the church for the wake, and welcomes the opportunity to help with the wake service if that is your choice.

There are numerous funeral liturgy alternatives. The most commonly practiced is the Rite of Christian Burial.

In addition to readings and music, we encourage family and friends to participate in the liturgy as readers, gift bearers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers, cross bearers and Ministers of Hospitality. There is a planning sheet at the back of this booklet to assist you.

READINGS

As you prepare the liturgy, we offer the following list of selected readings:

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Job 19:1, 23-27a (789:1). The suffering Job speaks his conviction that he will see God face-to-face.

Wisdom 3:1-9 (789:2, long form). The future glory of the dead who have placed their trust in God.

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9 (789:2, short form). Those who have trusted in God will abide with him after death.

Wisdom 4:7-14 (789:3). Even a short life can achieve perfection in God's eyes.

Isaiah 25: 6a, 7-9 (789:4). God will destroy death and comfort his people.

Lamentations 3:17-26 (789:5). The depths of sorrow and the compassion of God.

Daniel 12:1-3 (789:6). The resurrection of the dead.

II Maccabees 12:43-46 (789:7). We pray for the dead because they will live again.

PSALMS: (See Page 12)

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 10:34-43 (790:1, long form). Peter retells the story of Jesus and speaks of the apostles' commission to preach salvation in his name.

Acts 10:34-36, 43-43 (790:1, short form). The promise of salvation the apostles are commissioned to preach.

Romans 5:5-11 (790:2). God will have mercy on us, since his Son willingly gave his life for sinners.

Romans 5:17-21 (790:3). The hope that was lost through Adam's disobedience is restored through Jesus' obedience.

Roman 6:3-9 (790:4, long form). In Baptism we died with Jesus; with him we have already risen to new life; we will rise again after our physical death.

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9 (790:4, short form). We who have died with Christ in Baptism will live with him forever.

Romans 8:14-23 (790:5). With Christ, we are God's heirs, waiting for this sad world to give way to glory.

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 (790:6). God has given his Son as a pledge of his love for us; nothing can separate us from his care.

Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12 (790:7). In life and in death, we are the Lord's.

I Corinthians 15:20-28 (790:8). The promise that death's power will, in the end, be broken and all who belong to Christ raised when he comes again.

I Corinthians 15:51-57 (790:9). Christ's victory over death.

- II Corinthians 5:1, 6-10 (790:10). The promise of everlasting life in heaven.
- Philippians 3:20-21 (790:11). The promise of bodily resurrection.
- I Thessalonians 4:13-18 (790:12). The hope of reunion with those who have died.
- II Timothy 2:8-13 (790:13). Christ's faithfulness to His gift of new life which we received in Baptism.
- I John 3:2-1 (790:14). The indescribable future waiting for those who are already God's children.
- I John 3:14-16 (790:15). Love as the sign that we already have eternal life.
- Revelation 14:13 (790:16). The happiness of the dead who believed in Christ.
- Revelation 20:11-21-1 (790:17). The Last Judgment.
- Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7 (790:18). The birth of a new world in which sorrow and death do not exist.
- I Corinthians 15:20-23. Resurrection has been achieved for all through Christ.
- II Corinthians 4:14-5:1. The promise of eternal life beyond the confines of our mortal bodies.

GOSPELS

- Matthew 5:1-12a (793:1). The Beatitudes.
- Matthew 11:25-30 (793:2). Jesus' offer of comfort to the weary and burdened.
- Matthew 25:1-13 (793:3). The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids.
- Matthew 15:31-46 (793:4). The Last Judgment.

Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6 (793:5, long form). St. Mark's account of Jesus' death on the cross.

Luke 7:11-17 (793:6). Jesus raises a widow's son from the dead.

Luke 12:35-40 (793:7). Jesus warns his disciples to be ready.

Luke 23:33, 39-43 (793:8). Jesus promises paradise to the thief crucified beside him.

Luke 23:43-49; 24:1-6 (793:9, short form). St. Luke's account of Jesus' death on the cross.

Luke 24:13-35 (793:10, long form). Two disciples walk with the risen Lord and do not recognize him until he breaks bread for them.

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 (793:10 short form). A shorter version of the same event, focusing on the disciples' recognition of Jesus.

John 6:37-40 (793:11). Jesus' promise of eternal life to those he feeds in Eucharist.

John 6:51-58 (793:12). Jesus offers himself as the bread which brings eternal life.

John 11:17-27 (793:13, long form). Jesus comforts Martha with the promise that her brother will rise again; she responds with a declaration of faith.

John 11:21-27 (793:13, short form). Martha's declaration of faith in Jesus as Lord and Messiah.

John 11:32-45 (793:14). Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

John 12:23-28 (793:15, long form). Jesus speaks of his approaching death and glorification, comparing life to a grain of wheat which must die to produce a harvest.

John 12:23-26 (793:15, short form). The grain of wheat analogy.

John 14:1-6 (793:16). At the Last Supper, Jesus assures his disciples that his Father's house has many rooms and that he will guide them home.

John 17:24-26 (793:17). At the Last Supper, Jesus prays for the disciples he leaves behind.

John 19:17-18, 25-39. St. John's account of Jesus' death on the cross.

John 5:24-29. Jesus' promise to call forth the dead from their tombs.

READINGS FOR A CHILD'S FUNERAL MASS

Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9 (794:1). God will destroy death and comfort the sorrowing.

Lamentations 3:17-16 (794:2). God's compassion as a reason for hope in great sorrow.

New Testament Readings

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9 (795:1). The promise of everlasting life given at Baptism.

Romans 14:7-9 (795:2). Jesus, Lord of the living and the dead.

I Corinthians 15:20-23 (795:3). The promise of resurrection.

Ephesians 1:3-5 (795:4). We were chosen by God before the world began.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, 18 (795:5). The promise of reunion.

Revelation 7:9-10, 15-17 (795:6). The saved in heaven.

Revelation 21:1a, 3-5a (795:7). The promise of a new world.

Gospels

Matthew 11:25-30 (798:1). Jesus' promise of comfort to the weary and burdened.

John 6:37-40 (798:2). Jesus' promise that no one who believes in him will be lost, but will live again.

John 6:51-58 (798:3). Jesus' promise of life to anyone who receives the Eucharist.

John 11:32-38, 40 (798:4). Jesus weeps at the tomb of Lazarus.

Mark 15:33-46 (799, for an unbaptized child). The death and burial of Jesus.

Mark 10:13-16. Jesus blesses the children.

John 6:37-39. Jesus' promise that no one entrusted to him will be lost.

John 19:25-30. Jesus entrusts his mother to John and surrenders his spirit.

MUSIC

In choosing music, we offer the following suggestions:

Gathering

Jesus Christ is Risen Today	W-442
O God, Our Help in Ages Past	W-579
We Walk By Faith	G-252
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee	W-525
Jesus, Remember Me	W-423
Alleluia, The Strife is O'er	W-451
Alleluia Sing to Jesus	W-737

PSALMS -- (Always Sung)

95	My Soul in Stillness Waits	G-137
16	O Lord, You Are the Center of My Life.	G-251
84	How Lovely is Your Dwelling place O Lord God of Hosts	G-38
103	The Lord is Kind and Merciful.	G-46; G-254; G-52*
130	With The Lord There is Mercy.	G-56; W-71
63	In The Shadow Of Your Wings	G-3
23	The Lord Is My Shepherd: I Shall Not Want	W-32; G-279, G-274; G-20
27	The Lord Is My Light	G-23

*Different settings for the same psalm.

Presentation of Gifts

O Breathe On Me, O Breath of God	W-725
Amazing Grace	W-583
Be Not Afraid	G-263
Instrumental Piece	
I Heard The Voice of Jesus Say	W-607
Lord of All Hopefulness	W-568
What Wondrous Love Is This	W-600

Communion

Eat This Bread	W-734
Gift Of Finest Wheat	W-736
On Eagle's Wings	G-261
I Am The Bread Of Life	G-337
Keep In Mind	MI-652 (2001 ed.)
Eye Has Not Seen	G-275
I Danced In The Morning	G-297
Shelter Me O God	G-276

Recessional

Canticle of the Sun	G-197 vs. 2, 4, 6
Song of Farewell	G-349
We Will Rise Again	G-350
When The King Shall Come Again	W-355
You Are Mine	MI-480
Father We Thank Thee	W-558
What Wondrous Love Is This	W-600
Jerusalem My Happy Home (Tune: Land of Rest)	MI-658 (2001ed)
For All The Saints	W-705
Song Of Farewell (Tune: Old Hundredth)	MI-831

MEMORIAL MASS MUSIC

Gathering:

(See Page 11)

Psalms:

(See Page 12)

Presentation of Gifts:

(See Page 12)

Communion:

(See Page 13)

Recessional:

(See Page 13)

CHRISTIAN FUNERAL LITURGY
PLANNING SHEET

DATE OF SERVICE: _____ TIME: _____

PRESIDER: _____

GATHERING SONG: _____

OLD TESTAMENT READING: _____

READER: _____

PSALM: _____

NEW TESTAMENT READING: _____

READER: _____

GOSPEL READING: _____

GIFT BEARERS: _____

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: _____

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST: _____

COMMUNION SONG: _____

FAMILY PRAYER/COMMENT (OPTIONAL): _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES: _____
