Scripture Readings for Funerals

The Church of St. Patrick

Bay Shore, New York

Two readings are to be chosen for the Funeral. Your Companion will help you make the proper choices. You will need to choose:

- **A FIRST READING**

Outside Easter Time: OT 1-9, pages 8-16
During Easter Time: NTE 1-4, pages 18-22

- **A SECOND READING**

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FIRST READINGS:
Outside Easter Time

"He acted in an excellent and noble way
as he had the resurrection of the dead in view."

OT-1

Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

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.

OT-2 *Job 19:1, 23-27a*

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad and 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.

"The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised."

OT-3

Proverbs 31:10-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls.
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil,
all the days of her life.
She obtains wool and flax
and makes cloth with skillful hands.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

"There is an appointed time for everything."

OT-4

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.
A time to give birth, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and 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.

What profit have workers from their toil?
I have seen the business that God has given to mortals
to be busied about.
God has made everything appropriate to its time,
but has put the timeless into their hearts
so they cannot find out, from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

OT-5 *Wisdom 3:1-9*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.
But they are in peace.
For if before men, indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality;
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them worthy of himself.
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
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.

"An unsullied life, the attainment of old age."

OT-6

Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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.

OT-7 *Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will provide for all peoples.
On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.
The LORD GOD will wipe away
the tears from all faces;
The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth, for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:
"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the LORD for whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The word of the Lord.

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

OT-8

Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

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.

"Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake."

OT-9

Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

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.

FIRST READINGS:
During Easter Time

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

NTE-1 (Long Form) *Acts 10:34-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly
is acceptable to him.
You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all,
what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism
that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power.
He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the Devil,
for God was with him.
We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by handing him on a tree.
This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,
not to all 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.

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

NTE-1 (Short Form) *Acts 10:34-36, 42-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts
uprightly
is acceptable to him.
You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all.
He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

NTE-2

Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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.

"The dead were judged according to their deeds."

NTE-3

Revelation 20:11-21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was
sitting on it.
The earth and the sky fled from his presence
and there was no place for them.
I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing
before the throne,
and scrolls were opened.
Then another scroll was opened, the book of life.
The dead were judged according to their deeds,
by what was written in the scrolls.
The sea gave up its dead;
then Death and Hades gave up their dead.
All the dead were judged according to their deeds.
Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire.
(This pool of fire is the second death.)
Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life
was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.

The word of the Lord.

"There shall be no more death."

NTE-4

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

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.
I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
"Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them as their
God.
He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning,
wailing or pain,
for the old order has passed away."

The One who sat on the throne said,
"Behold, I make all things new."
I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.
To the thirsty I will give a gift
from the spring of life-giving water.
The victor will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be his God,
and he will be my son."

The word of the Lord.

SECOND READINGS

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

NT-1 *Romans 5:5-11*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
For Christ, while we were still helpless,
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.
Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,
    though perhaps for a good person
    one might even find courage to die.
But God proves his love for us
    in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.
How much more then,
    since we are now justified by his Blood,
    will we be saved through him from the wrath.
Indeed, if, while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
    how much more, once reconciled,
    will we be saved by his life.
Not only that,
but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

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

NT-2 *Romans 5:17-21*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
If, by the transgression of the one,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive
the abundance of grace
and 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.

"We too might live in newness of life."

NT-3 (Long Form) *Romans 6:3-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
Are you unaware that we who were baptized
into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?
We were indeed buried with him
through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him
through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.
We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.
For a dead person has been absolved from sin.
If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.
We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

NT-3 (Short Form) *Romans 6:3-4, 8-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
Are you unaware that we who were baptized
into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?
We were indeed buried with him
through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.

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.

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

NT-4

Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption,
through which we cry, *Abba,* "Father!"
The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and, if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.
I consider that the sufferings of this present time
are as nothing
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.
For creation awaits with eager expectation
the revelation of the children of God;
for creation was made subject to futility,
not of its own accord
but because of the one who subjected it,
in hope that creation itself
would be set free from slavery to corruption
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.
We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains
even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves,
who have the first fruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

NT-5 *Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
If God is for us, who can be against us?
He did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for us all,
will he not also give us everything else along with him?
Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?
It is God who acquits us.
Who will condemn?
It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.
What will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly
through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

NT-6 *Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:
No one lives for oneself,
and no one dies for oneself.
For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.
For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
Why then do you judge your brother?
Or you, why do you look down on your brother?
For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;
for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee
shall bend before me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself
to God.

The word of the Lord.

NT-7 (Long Form) *1 Corinthians 15:20-28*

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

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 a 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.

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

NT-7 (Short Form)

1 Corinthians 15:20-23

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

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 a 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.

NT-8

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

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

Brothers and sisters:
Behold, I tell you a mystery.
We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed,
in an instant, in the blink of an eye,
at the last trumpet.
For the trumpet will sound,
the dead will be raised incorruptible,
and we shall be changed.
For that which is corruptible must clothe itself
with incorruptibility,
and that which is mortal must clothe itself
with immortality.
And when this which is corruptible clothes itself
with incorruptibility
and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,
then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

"What is seen is transitory but what is unseen is eternal."

NT-9

2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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

Brothers and sisters:
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.

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

NT-10

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

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

Brothers and sisters:
We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,
should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands,
eternal in heaven.

We are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.
Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body
and go home to the Lord.
Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.
For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each my receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body,
whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

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

NT-11

Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
Our citizenship is in heaven,
and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.
He will change our lowly body
to conform with his glorified Body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The word of the Lord.

NT-12

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,
so too will God, through Jesus,
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,
that we who are alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.
For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,
will come down from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first.
Then we who are alive, who are left,
will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.
Thus we shall always be with the Lord.
Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

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

NT-13

2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:
Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,
a descendant of David:
such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering,
even to the point of chains, like a criminal.
But the word of God is not chained.
Therefore, I bear with everything
for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation
that is in Christ Jesus,
together with eternal glory.
This saying is trustworthy:
If we have died with him
we shall also live with him;
if we persevere
we shall also reign with him.
But if we deny him
he will deny us.
If we are unfaithful
he remains faithful,
for he cannot deny himself.

The word of the Lord.

NT-14

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

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.

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength,
so that through me the proclamation might be completed
and all the Gentiles might hear it.
And I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat
and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

NT-15

1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:
See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.
Yet so we are.
The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.
Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

"We know that we have passed from death to life
because we love our brothers."

NT-16

1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:
We know that we have passed from death to life
because we love our brothers.
Whoever does not love remains in death.
Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,
and you know that no murderer
has eternal life remaining in him.
The way we came to know love
was that he laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Universal Prayer

The priest will introduce the Universal Prayer with a brief statement. Then the reader begins:

Our response is: "Lord, hear our prayer."

1. For our brothers and sisters who are suffering affliction. May God graciously help and comfort them. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

2. For those in public office. May they work to promote justice and peace. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

3. For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped in this time of need. May they have the reward of their goodness. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

4. For (***name of deceased***) who was given the pledge of eternal life in baptism and was fed at the eucharistic table. May he/she now be admitted to the company of the Saints. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

5. For all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again. May they see God face to face. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

6. For all of us gathered here in faith. May our hope be strengthened so that we may live in the expectation of Christ's coming. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

7. For the needs spoken in the silence of our hearts. Let us pray to the Lord. ℟

The reader remains in place until after the priest reads the concluding prayer, then returns to his/her seat.