

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

I-1 *First reading: 2 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.

I-2 *First reading: Job 19:1, 23-27a*

A reading from the Book of Job.

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:
Oh, would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:
That with an iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that my Vindicator will at last
stand forth upon the dust;
Whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold God;
And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

I-3 *First reading: 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 people, 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.

As gold in the furnace, God proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings God took them.
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 God shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with God in love:
Because grace and mercy are with God's holy ones,
and God's care is with God's elect.

The Word of the Lord.

I-4 *First reading: Wisdom 3:1-6, 9*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The souls of the just are in the hand of God
and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.
But they are in peace.
For if before humanity, 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.
As gold in the furnace, God proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings God took them.
Those who trust in God shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with God in love:
Because grace and mercy are with God's holy ones,
and God's care is with the elect.

The Word of the Lord.

I-5 *First reading: Wisdom 4:7-15*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The just, though they 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,
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.
Those who pleased God were loved;
those who lived among sinners were transported—
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert their minds
or deceit beguile their souls;
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is
right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent
mind.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

Having become perfect in a short while,
the just one reached the fullness of a long career;
for this soul was pleasing to God,
therefore God sped the just one 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.

I-6 *First reading: 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 God will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations;
God will destroy death forever.
The Lord God will wipe away
the tears from all faces,
and remove the reproach of the people from the
whole earth; for God 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 God has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

I-7 *First reading: 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,
God’s mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning,
so great is God’s faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in God.
Good is the Lord to one who waits for God,
to the soul that seeks God;
It is good to hope in silence
for the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

I-8 *First reading: 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.

I-9 *First reading: 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 God and acts
uprightly is acceptable to God.
You know the word that God sent to the Israelites
as God 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.
Jesus 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 Christ Jesus all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

I-10 *First reading: 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 God
and acts uprightly is acceptable to God.
You know the word that God sent to the Israelites
which proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all.
Jesus 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 Christ Jesus all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The Word of the Lord.

I-11 *First reading: 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.

I-12 *First reading: 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 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.

I-13 *First reading: 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.
God will dwell with them
and they will be God’s people
and God himself will always be with them
as their God.
God 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 victors will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be their God,
and they will be my children.”

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

I-a *First reading: Jeremiah 29:11-14*

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you,
says the Lord,
plans for your welfare, not for woe!
Plans to give you a future full of hope.
When you call me, when you go to pray to me,
I will listen to you.
When you look for me, you will find me.
Yes, when you seek me with all your heart,
you will find me with you, says the Lord,
and I will change your lot;
I will gather you together from all the nations
and all the places to which I have banished you,
says the Lord, and bring you back
to the place from which I have exiled you.

The Word of the Lord.

I-b *First reading: Lamentations 3:21-26*

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
God's mercies are not spent;
they are renewed each morning,
so great is God's faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord says my soul;
therefore will I hope in God.
Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,
to the soul that seeks God;
it is good to hope in silence
for the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

I-c *First reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

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 be born, 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.

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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.

The Word of the Lord.

I-d *First reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-14*

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 be born, 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 for war, and a time for peace.
What advantage have the workers from their toil?
I have considered the task which God has appointed
for everyone to be busied about.
God has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts
without their understanding,
from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.
I recognized that there is nothing better than to be
glad
and to do well during life;
For everyone, moreover, to eat and drink
and enjoy the fruit of all their labors is a gift
of God.
I recognized that whatever God does will endure
forever; there is no adding to it, or taking
from it;
Thus has God done, that God may be revered.

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

I-e *First reading: Isaiah 42:1-9*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put my spirit;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,
not crying out, not shouting,
not making his voice heard in the street.
A bruised reed he shall not break,
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,
until he establishes justice on the earth;
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spreads out the earth with its crops,
Who gives breath to its people
and spirit to those who walk on it:
I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice,
I have grasped you by the hand;
I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the
people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes of the blind,
to bring out prisoners from confinement,
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.
I am the Lord, this is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

The Word of the Lord.

I-f *First reading: Isaiah 43:1-7*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, who created you, O
Jacob,
and formed you, O Israel:
Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name: you are mine.
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and in the rivers you shall not drown,
when you walk through fire,
you shall not be burned;
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord, your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in return for you.
Because you are precious in my eyes and
glorious,

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and because I love you,
I give men in return for you
and peoples in exchange for your life.
Fear not, for I am with you;
from the east I will bring back your
descendants, from the west I will gather you.
I will say to the north: Give them up!
and to the south: Hold not back!
Bring back my sons from afar,
and my daughters from the ends of the earth:
Everyone who is named as mine,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.

The Word of the Lord.

I-g *First reading: Isaiah 43:1-3a, 4a*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, who created you, O
Jacob,
who formed you, O Israel:
Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have
called you by name: you are mine.
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
And in the rivers, you shall not drown.
When you walk through fire,
you shall not be burned;
the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One
of Israel, your savior;
Because you are precious in my eyes and
glorious, and I love you.

The Word of the Lord.

I-h *First reading: Isaiah 49:15-16a*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Can a mother forget her infant,
be without tenderness for the child of her womb?
Even should she forget, I will never forget you.
See, upon the palms of my hands
I have written your name.

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – First Readings

I-i *First reading: Isaiah 55: 12-13*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

In joy, you shall depart,
In peace you shall be brought back;
mountains and hills
shall break out in song before you,
and all the trees of the countryside
shall clap their hands.
In place of the thorn bush the cypress shall grow;
instead of nettles, the myrtle.
This shall be to the Lord's renown,
an everlasting, imperishable sign

The Word of the Lord.

I-j *First reading: Isaiah 60:1-2*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Rise up in splendor!
Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the Lord shines,
and over you appears God's glory.

The Word of the Lord.

I-k *First reading: Proverbs 31:10-12, 25-31*

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 is clothed with strength and dignity and she
laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in
wisdom and on her tongue is kindly counsel. She
watches the conduct of her household and eats not
her food in idleness. Her children rise up and praise
her, her husband, too, extolls her. Many are the
women of proven worth, but you have excelled them
all. 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-1 *Second reading: 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
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 great 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 Christ,
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.

II-2 *Second reading: Romans 5:17-21*

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

Brothers and sisters:
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 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 might also reign
through justification for eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

II-3 *Second reading: 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 God,
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 Christ,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to 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.

II-4 *Second reading: 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-5 *Second reading: 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 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 Christ
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.

II-6 *Second reading: 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?
God who did not spare his own Son,
but handed him over for us all,
how will God not also give us everything else
along with Christ?
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.

II-7 *Second reading: 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 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 sister?
Or you, why do you look down on another?
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 ourselves to God.

The Word of the Lord.

II-8 *Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28*

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

Brothers and sisters:
Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
Since death came through a human being,
the resurrection of the dead also came 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:

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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,
when Christ has destroyed every sovereignty and
every authority and power.
For Christ 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 Christ 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.

II-9 *Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-23*

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

Brothers and sisters:
Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since death came through a 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, all those who belong to Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

II-10 *Second reading: 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 this which is corruptible
must clothe itself with incorruptibility,
and this 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.

II-11 *Second reading: 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1*

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:
Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus
will raise us also with Jesus
and place us with you in God’s 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-12 *Second reading: 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.
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 Christ,
whether we are at home or away.
For we must all appear
before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each may receive recompense,
according to what one did in the body,
whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

II-13 *Second reading: 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 to his glorified Body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the Lord.

II-14 *Second reading: 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 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 Christ Jesus.
Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

II-15 *Second reading: 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 the Lord 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 Christ
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
Christ remains faithful,
for he cannot deny himself.*

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-16 *Second reading: 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 God,

for we shall see God as God is.

The Word of the Lord.

II-17 *Second reading: 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 and sisters.

Whoever does not love remains in death.

Everyone who hates their brother or sister
is a murderer,

and you now that no murderer
has eternal life remaining in them.

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 and sisters.

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-a Second reading: Acts 10:34 – 36, 42 – 43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:
“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears God and acts
uprightly
is acceptable to God.
You know the word that he sent to the Israelites
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.

II-b Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the
Corinthians.

I give thanks to my God always on your account
for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus,
that in him you were enriched in every way,
with all discourse and all knowledge,
as the testimony to Christ
was confirmed among you,
so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift
as you wait for the revelation
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He will keep you firm to the end,
irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God is faithful, and by him
you were called to fellowship with his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

II-c Second reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the
Corinthians.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues
but do not have love,
I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.
And if I have the gift of prophecy
and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith so as to move mountains
but do not have love, I am nothing.
If I give away everything I own,
and if I hand my body over so that I may boast
but do not have love, I gain nothing.
Love is patient, love is kind.
It is not jealous, (love) is not pompous,
it is not inflated, it is not rude,
it does not seek its own interests,
it is not quick-tempered,
it does not brood over injury,
it does not rejoice over wrong doing
but rejoices with the truth.
It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.
Love never fails.
So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

II-d Second reading: 2 Corinthians 4:14 – 5:1, 6-9

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the
Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:
Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus
will raise us also with Jesus
and place us with you in God’s 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.

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

and go home to the Lord.
Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.

The Word of the Lord.

II-e *Second reading: Ephesians 2:4-10*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love
love he had for us, even when we were dead in our
transgressions, brought us to life with Christ (by
grace you have been saved), raised us up with him,
and seated us with him in the heavens with Christ
Jesus, that in the ages to come he might know the
immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us
in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and
this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not
from works, so no one may boast. For we are his
handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works
that God has prepared in advance, that we should live
in them.

The Word of the Lord.

II-f *Second reading: Revelation 14:13*

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this:
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord
from now on".

"Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their
labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord.

II-g *Second reading: Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b*

A reading from the book of Revelation

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

The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make
all things new. 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 Word of the Lord.

II-h *Second reading: Revelation 21:6b-7*

A reading from the book of Revelation

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.

II-i *Second reading: Romans 11:33-36*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and
knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his
judgments and how unsearchable his ways!

"For who has known the mind of the Lord or who
has been his counselor?"

"Or who has given him anything that he may be
repaid?"

For from him and through him and for him are all
things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

II-j *Second reading: Romans 14:7-12*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

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. Why then do you judge your
brother or sister? Or you, why do you look down on
your brother or sister? 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Second Readings

II-k *Second reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8*

A reading from the second letter of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

II-l *Second reading: Timothy 2:1-7*

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

So you, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And what you heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will have the ability to teach others as well. Bear your share of hardship along with me like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. To satisfy the one who recruited him, a soldier does not become entangled in the business affairs of life. Similarly, an athlete cannot receive the winner's crown except by competing according to the rules. The hardworking farmer ought to have the first share of the crop. Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

The Word of the Lord.

II-m *Second reading: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.
It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

The Word of the Lord.

II-n *Second reading: Phil 2:6-11*

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

III-1 *Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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.

III-2 *Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time Jesus answered:
“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.

III-3 *Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told his disciples this parable:
“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins
who took their lamps and went out
to meet the bridegroom.
Five of them were foolish and five were wise.
The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,
brought no oil with them,
but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.
Since the bridegroom was long delayed,
they all became drowsy and fell asleep.
At midnight, there was a cry,
‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’
Then all those virgins got up
and trimmed their lamps.
The foolish ones said to the wise,
‘Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out.’
But the wise ones replied,
‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you.
Go instead to the merchants
and buy some for yourselves.’
While they went off to buy it,
the bridegroom came
and those who were ready
went into the wedding feast with him.
Then the door was locked.
Afterwards the other virgins came and said,
‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’
But the bridegroom said in reply,
‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’
Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-4 *Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:
“When the Son of Man comes in glory
with all the angels,
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,
the sheep on the right and the goats on the left.
Then the King will say to those on the right,

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

‘Come, you who are blessed by God.
Inherit the realm 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 brothers and sisters of mine,
you did for me.’
Then he will say to those on the left,
‘Depart from me, you accursed,
into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil
and the fallen 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.

III-5 *Gospel: Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

At noon darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon.
And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
"*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*"
which is translated,
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,
"Look, he is calling Elijah."
One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine,
put it on a reed,
and gave it to him to drink, saying,
"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.
The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two
from top to bottom.
When the centurion who stood facing him
saw how he breathed his last he said,
"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

When the sabbath was over,
Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James,
and Salome bought spices
so that they might go and anoint him.
Very early when the sun had risen,
on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.
They were saying to one another,
"Who will roll back the stone for us
from the entrance to the tomb?"
When they looked up,
they saw that the stone had been rolled back;
it was very large.
On entering the tomb they saw a youth
sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,
and they were utterly amazed.
The youth said to them, "Do not be amazed!
You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.
He has been raised; he is not here.
Behold the place where they laid him."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-6 *Gospel: Mark 15:33-39*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon.
And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
"*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*"
which is translated,
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,
"Look, he is calling Elijah."
One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine,
put it on a reed,
and gave it to him to drink, saying,
"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.
The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two
from top to bottom.
When the centurion who stood facing him
saw how he breathed his last he said,
"Truly this man was the God's own!"

The gospel of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

III-7 *Gospel: Luke 7:11-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.
As he drew near to the gate of the city,
a man who had died was being carried out,
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.
A large crowd from the city was with her.
When Jesus saw her,
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,
“Do not weep.”
He stepped forward and touched the coffin;
at this the bearers halted,
and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!”
The dead man sat up and began to speak,
and Jesus gave him to his mother.
Fear seized them all, and they glorified God,
exclaiming,
“A great prophet has arisen in our midst,” and
“God has visited our people.”
This report about him spread through the whole of
Judea
and in all the surrounding region.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-8 *Gospel: Luke 12:35-40*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

Funeral Planning: Gospel

III-9 *Gospel: Luke 23:33, 39-43*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified Jesus and the criminals there,
one on his right, the other on his left.
Now one of the criminals hanging there
reviled Jesus, saying,
“Are you not the Messiah?
Save yourself and us.”
The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
“Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?
And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received
corresponds to our crimes,
but this one has done nothing criminal.”
Then he said,
“Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.”
He replied to him,
“Amen, I say to you,
today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The gospel of the Lord.

III-10 *Gospel: Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53; 24:1-6a*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

It was now 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.
But 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,

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two figures in dazzling garments appeared to them.
They were terrified
and bowed their faces to the ground.
They said to them,
"Why do you seek the living one among the dead?
He is not here, but he has been raised.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-11 *Gospel: Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53; 24:1-6a*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It was now 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,
"My God, 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.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-12 *Gospel: Luke 24:13-35*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

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.
He asked them,
"What are you discussing as you walk along?"
They stopped, looking downcast.
One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,
"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem
who does not know of the things
that have taken place there in these days?"
And he replied to them, "What sort of things?"

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They said to him,
"The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word
before God and all the people,
how our chief priests and rulers both handed him
over to a sentence of death and crucified him.
But we were hoping that he would be the one
to redeem Israel; and besides all this,
it is now the third days since this took place.
Some women from our group, however,
have astounded us:
they were at the tomb early in the morning
and did not find his body;
they came back and reported
that they had seen a vision of angels
who announced he was alive.
Then some of those with us went to the tomb
and found things just as the women had described,
but him they did not see."
And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are!
How slow of heart to believe all the prophets spoke!
Was it not necessary that the Messiah
should suffer all these things
and enter into his glory?"
Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets
Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him
in all the Scriptures.
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 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

III-13 *Gospel: Luke 24:13-16, 28-35*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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 further.
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 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.

III-14 *Gospel: John 5:24-29*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:
"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word
and believes in the one who sent me
has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,
but has passed from death to life.
Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is
now here when the dead will hear the voice of the
Son of God, and those who hear it will live.
For just as the Father has life in himself,

so also he gave to his son the possession of life in
himself.

And he gave him power to exercise judgment
because he is the Son of Man.

Do not be amazed at this,
because the hour is coming in which all who are in
the tombs will hear his voice and will come out,
those who have done good deeds
to the resurrection of life,
but those who have done wicked deeds
to the resurrection of condemnation.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-15 *Gospel: John 6:37-40*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 was given 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 them on the last day."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-16 *Gospel: John 6:51-59*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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
have eternal life,
and I will raise them on the last day.
For my Flesh is true food,

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and my Blood is true drink.
Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in them.
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.

III-17 *Gospel: John 11:17-27*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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.
And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary
to comfort them about their brother.
When Martha 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 they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me
will never die. Do you believe this?"
She said to him, "Yes, I have come to believe that
you are the Messiah, the Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-18 *Gospel: John 11:21-27*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Martha said to Jesus,
"If you had been here,
my brother would not have died.
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,

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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 they die, 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 Messiah, the
Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-19 *Gospel: John 11:32-45*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,
she fell at his feet and said to him,
"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,
"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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

So Jesus said to them,
"Untie him and let him go."
Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary
and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-20 *Gospel: John 12:23-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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 their life, loses it,
and whoever hates their 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.
"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?
'Father, save me from this hour?'
But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.
Father, glorify your name."
Then a voice came from heaven,
"I have glorified it and I will glorify it again."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-21 *Gospel: John 12:23-26*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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 their life, loses it,
and whoever hates their 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.

III-22 *Gospel: John 14:1-6*

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:
"Do not let your hearts be troubled.
You have faith in God; have faith also in me.
In God'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.

III-23 *Gospel: John 17:24-26*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
"Father, those whom you gave me
are your gift to me.
I wish that where I am they also may be with me,
that they may see the glory that you gave me,
because you loved me
before the foundation of the world.
Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.
I made known to them your name
and I will make it known,
that the love with which you loved me
may be in them and I in them."

The gospel of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

III-a *Gospel: Matthew 7:7-8*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-b *Gospel: Matthew 8:23-27*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus got into a boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by waves; but he was asleep. They came and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"

He said to them, "Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?" Then he got up, rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm. The men were amazed and said, "What sort of man is this, whom even the winds and the sea obey?"

The gospel of the Lord.

III-c *Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

"A man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'

(Then) the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said

to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'

Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?'

Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'

The gospel of the Lord.

III-d *Gospel: Matthew 25:31-40*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

"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 brothers of mine, you did for me.'

The gospel of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

III-e *Gospel: Mark 10:13-16*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-f *Gospel: Luke 1:39-55*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

During those days Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For God has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. God's mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. God has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. God has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry God has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. God has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-g *Gospel: Luke 6:36-38*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves;

do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-h *Gospel: Luke 12:22-29*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to (his) disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life and what you will eat, or about your body and what you will wear. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Notice the ravens: they do not sow or reap; they have neither storehouse nor barn, yet God feeds them. How much more important are you than birds! Can any of you by worrying add a moment to your lifespan? If even the smallest things are beyond your control, why are you anxious about the rest?"

Notice how the flowers grow. They do not toil or spin. But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass in the field that grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? As for you, do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not worry anymore.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-i *Gospel: Luke 21:1-4*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

When he looked up he saw some wealthy people putting their offerings into the treasury and he noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-j *Gospel: Luke 24:1-6*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

But 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

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES – Gospel Readings

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. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee."

The gospel of the Lord.

III-k *Gospel: John 1:1-11*

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

A man named John was sent from God.

He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-l *Gospel: John 14:1-4, 6-7*

A reading from the holy gospel according to John
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." Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

The gospel of the Lord.

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III-m *Gospel: John 14:23-27*

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus answered and said to him, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

"I have told you this while I am with you.

The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name--he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

III-n *Gospel: John 19:17-18, 25-30*

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle. Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

The gospel of the Lord.