



***ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY PARISH***

***FUNERAL PLANNING INFORMATION***

Dear Friend,

The Word of God is a source of encouragement and consolation for the faithful of God.

In our tradition, we recognize that readings from Scripture are not just readings. When the scriptures are proclaimed in church, when we gather for prayer, Jesus himself is present. Ours is an invitation to listen for the voice of the Lord of life.

We offer you this information as an opportunity to help prepare the funeral liturgy of your loved one, but it can also serve as a source of spiritual readings in the days and weeks that follow the funeral service.

We recommend that you take your time to read through the various readings offered. You will find several choices to choose from the Old Testament and New Testament. Each one has something to say about us, the experience of death, the life of the faithful, and the mystery of resurrection.

As you read through the Scripture passages, please select one from each section. A selection of hymns is also provided to assist you in choosing music for the liturgy.

You will also find a planning sheet where you can indicate your preferences for readings and music. Once you have chosen your readings and hymns for the funeral mass, please drop it off at the parish center as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about the liturgy, or if we can be of any assistance to you in any way, please feel free to contact us at the parish center. Please be assured of our prayers today and in the weeks and months ahead.

Peace and All Good,

The Community of St. Joseph University Parish

**ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY CHURCH**  
**3269 MAIN STREET BUFFALO, NY 14214**  
**716-833-0298**  
**[www.stjosephbuffalo.org](http://www.stjosephbuffalo.org)**

FUNERAL LITURGY FOR \_\_\_\_\_

PLACING THE PALL \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURES \_\_\_\_\_

READER \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO THE DECEASED \_\_\_\_\_

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (SUNG) SELECTION \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES \_\_\_\_\_

READER \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO THE DECEASED \_\_\_\_\_

GOSPEL (READ BY PRIEST OR DEACON) \_\_\_\_\_

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL SELECTION \_\_\_\_\_

READER \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO THE DECEASED \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS \_\_\_\_\_

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS (AFTER COMMUNION) \_\_\_\_\_

RELATION TO THE DECEASED \_\_\_\_\_

MUSIC SELECTIONS

ENTRANCE \_\_\_\_\_

PSALM \_\_\_\_\_

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNION \_\_\_\_\_

RECESSIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

MISC \_\_\_\_\_

## OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Proverbs 3:5-8:13

Proverbs 31:10-31

Job 1:20-21

Job 19:23-17

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11-14

Wisdom 3:1-9

Wisdom 4:7-15

Isaiah 25:6-9

Isaiah 35:3-6,10

### **A Reading from Proverbs** 3: 5-8:13

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the Lord in everything you do, and he will show you the right way. Never let yourself think that you are wiser than you are; simply obey the Lord and refuse to do wrong. Happy is the one who becomes wise – who comes to have understanding.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the book of Proverbs** 31:10-31

We have known a valiant woman, worth far more than rubies. She worked with eager hands, getting up while it was still dark to provide food for her family. She set about her work vigorously, her arms strong for her tasks. She opened her arms to the poor and extended her hands to the needy. Clothed with strength and dignity, she could laugh at the days to come. She spoke with wisdom and faithful instruction was on her tongue. Her children arise and call her blessed. Many women do noble things, but she surpassed them all. Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who loves the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the book of Job** 1:20-21

Then falling to the ground Job worshipped and said: "Naked I came forth from my Mother's womb, and naked I shall go back again. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord!"

The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the book of Job** 19:23-27

Job, in his wisdom spoke: “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! “I know that my redeemer 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.

**A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes** 3:1-8, 11-14

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: 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. There is 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. There is 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 does a person gain for the efforts that they make? I contemplate the task that God gives humankind to labor at. All that God does is apt for its time; but though God has permitted men and women to consider time in its wholeness, they cannot comprehend the work of God from beginning to end. I know there is no happiness for people except in pleasure and enjoyment while they live. And when we eat and drink and find happiness in our work, this is a gift from God. I know that what God does God does consistently. To this nothing can be added, from this nothing taken away; yet God sees to it that people fear him.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A Reading from the book of Wisdom 3:1-9**

The souls of the righteous 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 to others, indeed, they seem 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 judgement, they shall shine and 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 the elect. The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the book of Wisdom 4:7-15**

The just person, 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 silver crown for us, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age. They who pleased God were loved. They who lived among sinners were transported. Having become perfect in a short while, they reached the fullness of a long career, for their soul was pleasing to the Lord. Therefore, they came out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take that into account. Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect. The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah 25:6-9**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines; juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all people, 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. Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!" The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah** 35:3-6, 10

Give strength to the hands that are tired and to the knees that tremble with weakness. Tell everyone who is discouraged: "Be strong, don't be afraid. God is coming to your rescue." The blind will be able to see, and the deaf will hear. The lame will leap and dance, and those who cannot speak will shout for joy. They will reach Jerusalem with gladness, singing and shouting for joy. They will be happy forever, forever free from sorrow, forever free from grief.

The Word of the Lord.



**NEW TESTAMENT READINGS**

Romans 6:3-9

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

Romans 14:7-12

Corinthians 4:14, 5:1

Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Corinthians 15:51-57

Philippians 3:20-21

Thessalonians 4:13-18

Timothy 4:6-8

Peter 1:3-7

John 3:1-2

Revelation 14:13

Revelation 20:11-21:1

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans** 6:3-9

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized in his death; in other words, when we were baptized we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead, will never die again. Death has no power over him anymore.

The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:31-35,37-39**

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us, he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us. Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, being persecuted or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 14:7-12**

None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master. While we live we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die we die as his servants. Both in life and in death we are the Lord's. That is why Christ died and came to life again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. We shall all have to appear before the judgment seat of God. It is written, "As surely as I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me and every tongue shall give praise to God." Every one of us will have to give an account of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord.



## **A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

4:14, 5:1

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged. Rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary 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.

## **A Reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

5:1, 6-10

We know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens. We are always full of confidence, then, when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight —we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 15:51-57**

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

**A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 3:20-21**

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

The Word of the Lord.

**A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers and sisters about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 4:6-8**

I am already on the point of being sacrificed. The time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved in his appearing.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the first letter of Peter 1:3-7**

Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, He who in his great mercy gave us new birth; a birth unto hope which draws its life from the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; a birth to an imperishable inheritance, incapable of fading or defilement, which is kept in heaven for you who are guarded with God's power through faith; a birth to a salvation which stands ready to be revealed in the last days. There is cause for rejoicing here. You may for a time have to suffer the distress of many trials; but this is so that your faith, which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may in its genuineness lead to praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ appears.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the first letter of St John 3:1-2**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore, it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed, we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The Word of the Lord.

### **A reading from the book of Revelation 14:13**

I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord.

## **A reading from the book of Revelation 20:11-21:1**

I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and the 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.  
The Word of the Lord.



## **Prayer of the Faithful Selection #1**

For \_\_\_\_\_, in thanksgiving to God for the many ways in which his/her life enriched ours, we pray...

For all who mourn \_\_\_\_\_ death, his/her family and friends. We pray ...

For all family members and friends who have preceded \_\_\_\_\_ in death, especially \_\_\_\_\_. We pray..

For the memories of \_\_\_\_\_ that make us smile as we remember \_\_\_\_\_ We pray...

For all that \_\_\_\_\_ taught us by the way he/she lived. We pray...

For all present here today celebrating and giving thanks for \_\_\_\_\_ life, that we may all be gathered together again in the joy of Heaven. we pray...

## Prayer of the Faithful Selection #2

For \_\_\_\_\_, in thanksgiving to God for the many ways in which his/her life enriched ours, we pray...

For \_\_\_\_\_, given the promise of eternal life in Baptism, that he/she may be rewarded for all the good done and sufferings borne well, we pray...

For all who mourn the death of \_\_\_\_\_, all him/her relatives and friends, that all may know the consolation of God's love, we pray...

For all family members and friends who have preceded \_\_\_\_\_ in death, \_\_\_\_\_, that they may be there with Jesus to welcome him/her to eternal life, we pray...

For all our deceased relatives, friends, and benefactors; may their faith, hope, and love live on in us, we pray...

For all of us gathered here in prayer this morning; that we may all be gathered together again in the joy of God's kingdom, we pray...

For all who face their own death with confusion and fear, that they might be strengthened, enlightened, and consoled by the Holy Spirit, we pray...

For all the sick and suffering of our parish, those hospitalized or homebound, those facing and those recovering from surgery, we pray...

For peace in our hearts and peace in our world, we pray...

### Prayer of the Faithful Selection #3

In baptism \_\_\_\_\_ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over the waters of death. Lord, in your mercy:

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

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

Many die by violence, war and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace. Lord, in your mercy:

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, in your mercy:

The family and friends of \_\_\_\_\_ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. Lord, in your mercy:

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

**Music for Funerals St. Joseph University Parish** (WORSHIP 4th ed.)

The Christian faithful who come together as one in expectation of the Lord's coming are instructed by the Apostle Paul to sing together Psalms, hymns, and spiritual canticles. (Col 3:16) Hymns presented here have been chosen for their appropriateness and familiarity. Choose one from each category:

**Hymn: (Optional)**

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name #614      I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #707 O  
God, Our Help In Ages Past #689      Sing With All the Saints in Glory #526  
Crown Him With Many Crowns #571      How Great Thou Art #578  
Come My Way, My Truth, My Life #662  
\*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (*Not sung during Lent*) #953

**Psalm:**

Ps. 23: Shepherd Me, O God #36      Ps. 27: The Lord Is My Light #42  
Ps. 25: To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul #39      Ps. 91: Be With Me, Lord #68

**Preparation of the Gifts:**

Ave Maria (Solo)      Lord of All Hopefulness #686  
You Are Mine #704      Be Not Afraid #680  
Amazing Grace #650      Make Me A Channel of Your Peace  
Go, Silent Friend (Tune of Danny Boy)

**Communion:**

Eat This Bread #943      Here I am Lord #783  
Take and Eat #940      I Am the Bread of Life #950  
Now We Remain #764  
We Remember How You Loved Us #938

**Song of Farewell:**

Saints of God #990

**Recessional:**

In Paradisum #200      Jesus, Remember Me #869  
My Soul Is at Rest – Taize

