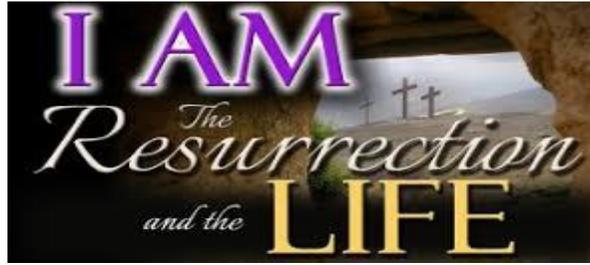


# Funeral Liturgy Preparation Guide



**Group A:** First Reading - Old Testament (Readings can be found on pages 2 through 7)

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Verse \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Group B:** Second Reading - New Testament (Readings can be found on pages 8 through 14)

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Verse \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Group C:** Gospel Reading (Readings can be found on pages 15 through 19)

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Verse \_\_\_\_\_

Read by the Priest or Deacon

**Group D:** Intercessions – Choose one set (Sets can be found on pages 20 through 22)

Set Number \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

# GROUP A – FIRST READING - OLD TESTAMENT

**#1 Job 19:1,23-27a** I know that my vindicator lives.

## **A reading from the Book of Job**

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

## **The word of the Lord.**

**#2 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8** Everything has its time; life has "seasons."

## **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 of war, and a time of peace.

## **The Word of the Lord**

**#3 Wisdom 3:1-6, 9** As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

**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 in the eyes of men, indeed, they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality;  
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
because God tried them,  
and found them worthy of himself.  
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.  
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with his elect.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#4 Wisdom 4:7-10, 13-15** The blessedness of the good person despite an early death.

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom:**

Though they die early, the just 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 crown that earns our respect  
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.  
The one who pleased God was loved;  
He who lived among sinners was transported--  
Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul  
was pleasing to the LORD,  
therefore God sped him out of the midst of wickedness.  
But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account. Because grace  
and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with the elect.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#5 Sirach 3:2-9, 3:14-15** The virtues of a good husband and father

**A reading from the book of Sirach:**

For the LORD sets a father in honor over his children;  
a mother's authority he confirms over her children.  
They who honor their father atone for sins;  
they store up riches who revere their mother.  
They who honor their father are gladdened by children,  
and when they pray they are heard.  
They who revere their father will live a long life;  
they obey the LORD who bring comfort to their mother.  
They who fear the LORD honor their father,  
and serve their parents as rulers.  
In word and deed honor your father  
that his blessing may come upon you;  
For a father's blessing gives a family firm roots,  
and a mother's love nurtures the growing plant.  
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,  
it will serve as a sin offering--it will take lasting root.  
In time of tribulation it will be recalled to your advantage,  
like warmth upon frost it will melt away your sins.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#6 Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16** The virtues of a good wife and mother

**A reading from the book of Sirach:**

Happy the husband of a good wife, twice-lengthened are his days;  
A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life.  
A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the LORD;  
Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband, her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;  
A gift from the LORD is her governed speech, and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.  
Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste person.  
Like the sun rising in the LORD'S heavens,  
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#7 Isaiah 25:6-9** God will destroy death forever; heaven will be an eternal banquet

**A reading from the book of Isaiah:**

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 God will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
The web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.  
The Lord GOD will wipe away  
the tears from all faces;  
The reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.  
On that day it will be said:  
"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the LORD for whom we looked;  
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

**The Word of the Lord**

**#8 Isaiah 40:28-31** God's people must not give way to discouragement.

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah:**

Do you not know or have you not heard?  
The LORD is the eternal God, creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint nor grow weary,  
and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.  
He gives strength to the fainting;  
for the weak he makes vigor abound.  
Though young people faint and grow weary,  
and youths stagger and fall,  
They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength,  
they will soar as with eagles' wings;  
They will run and not grow weary,  
walk and not grow faint.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#9 Book of Lamentations 3:17-26** It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord

**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 homes poverty is wormwood and gall; Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, His mercies are not spent;  
They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness.

My portion is the Lord; says my soul; therefore will I hope in him.  
Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him;  
It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

**The word of the Lord**

**#10 Daniel 12:1-3** Many of those who sleep in the dusk of the earth shall awake

**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**

**#11 Micah 6:8** Do right, love goodness and walk humbly with God.

**A reading from the prophet Micah:**

You have been told, O people, what is good,  
and what the LORD requires of you:  
Only to do right and to love goodness,  
and to walk humbly with your God.

**The word of the Lord**

**#12 Revelation 21:1-5a,6b-7** There shall be no more death.

**A reading from the Book of Revelation**

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

**The word of the Lord**

## **GROUP B – NEW TESTAMENT – SECOND READINGS**

**#13**      **1 John 3:1-2**      We are God's children.

### **A reading from the first letter of John**

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

### **The word of the Lord**

**#14**      **1 John 4:7-12, 16**      Life without love is life without God.

### **A reading from the first letter of John:**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God in them.

### **The Word of the Lord**

**#15**      **Acts 10:34-36,42-43**      Jesus Christ gives peace and forgiveness

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is receive forgiveness of sins through his name. acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

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**

**#16 Romans 5:5-11** Since we are now justified by his Blood, we will be saved through Him.

**A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**The word of the Lord**

**#17 Romans 6:3-9** Through baptism, we are united with Christ.

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans:**

Brothers and Sisters:

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

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

**The Word of the Lord**

**#18 Romans 8:14-23** We groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption/redemption.

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,  
but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "*Abba, Father!*"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,  
and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,  
if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing  
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was  
made subject to futility,

not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it,  
in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption  
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now;  
and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit,  
we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

**The word of the Lord.**

**#19 Romans 8:31-39** Nothing can separate us from God's love.

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans:**

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

"For your sake we are being slain all the day;  
we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

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**

**#20 Romans 14:7-12**

Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.**

Brothers and Sisters; We do not live for ourselves; we do not die for ourselves. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ... For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

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

So then each of us shall give an account of him or herself to God.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#21 1 Corinthians 13:1-13** The highest achievement of life is to love.

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians:**

Brothers and Sisters:

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. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs; it is not snobbish. Love is never rude; it is not self-seeking; it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice in what is wrong but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

There are in the end three things that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.

**The word of the Lord**

**#22 1 Corinthians 15:20-23** Christ the Firstfruits

**A reading from the first letter 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 man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

**The word of the Lord**

**#23 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1** What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal

**A reading from the second letter from Paul to the Corinthians:**

Brothers and sisters:

We know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;

for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, Eternal in heaven.

**The word of the Lord**

**#24 Philippians 3:20-21** He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

Brothers and sisters:

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

**The word of the Lord**

**#25 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** The glory of the resurrection

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians**

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

**The word of the Lord**

**#26 2 Timothy 2:8-13** If we have died with him we shall also live with him.

**A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy:**

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;

If we persevere we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

**The Word of the Lord**

**#27 2 Timothy 4:6-8** I have finished the race and kept the faith.

**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**

**#28 1 John 3:1-2** We are God's children.

**A reading from the first letter of John**

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

**The word of the Lord**

**#29 1 John 4:7-12, 16** Life without love is life without God.

### **A reading from the first letter of John**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God in them.

### **The word of the Lord**

**#30 Revelation 14:13** Happy are those who die in the Lord

### **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**

**#31 Revelation 21:2-7** God will make all things new.

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

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." Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true." He said to me, "These words are already fulfilled. 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**

## GROUP C - GOSPEL READINGS

**#32 Matthew 5:1-12**            The Beatitudes: Jesus' recipe for happiness.

### A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

When he 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

**#33 Matthew 11:25-30**            Come to Me, you who are weary and burdened.

### A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

At that time Jesus said in reply, "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 your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

### The Gospel of the Lord

**#34 Matthew 25:31-46**

Come, you who are blessed by my Father

**A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for the least of my people, you did for me.' "

Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me." Then they will answer and say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?" He will answer them, "Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me." And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

**The Gospel of the Lord****#35 Mark 16:1-6**

He has been raised

**A reading from the Gospel of Mark**

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 young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed. He 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**

**#36**      **Luke 12:35-40**      Be prepared

**A reading from the Gospel of Luke**

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

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**#37**              **Luke 24:13-35**              They recognized Him in the breaking of the bread

**A reading from the Gospel of Luke**

Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, 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?" 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 day 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 indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that 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 that the prophets spoke! as it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he 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**

**#38 John 6:37-40** All who believe in the Son will have eternal life

### **A reading from the Gospel of John**

"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 any of those he gave me, but that I should raise them 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**

**#39 John 6:51-58** Those who eat this Bread will live forever.

### **A Reading from the Gospel of John**

"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."

Jesus said to them, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood remain 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**

**#40 John 11:17-27** I am the resurrection and the life.

### **A Reading from the Gospel of John**

When Jesus arrived, 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 he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

**#41      John 12:23-26**      If a grain of wheat dies, it produces a rich harvest.

**A Reading from the Gospel of John**

Jesus answered them, "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. Those who love their life lose it and those who hate 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**

**#42      John 14:1-6**      There are many rooms in my Father's house.

**A Reading from the Gospel of John**

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

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**#43      John 17:24-26**      I wish that where I am they also may be with me.

**A reading from the Gospel according to John**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: "Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my 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**

## **GROUP D – INTERCESSIONS**

### **Set #1**

Please respond, **“Lord hear our prayer.”**

For \_\_\_\_\_, who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of the saints, we pray to the Lord.

For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord.

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness, we pray to the Lord.

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face, we pray to the Lord

For the family and friends of our brother/sister \_\_\_\_\_, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord who, who wept at the death of His friend Lazarus, we pray to the Lord.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God’s kingdom, we pray to the Lord

### **Set #2**

Please respond, **“Lord hear our prayer.”**

That we may all face death with faith and the conviction that we will see God face to face, we pray to the Lord.

That we who await Jesus’ coming in glory may one day be reunited with our loved ones, we pray to the Lord.

That God may welcome \_\_\_\_\_ into heavenly peace and rest, we pray to the Lord.

That we may live our lives in Christian service and come to enjoy God’s reward to the just, we pray to the Lord.

For all the faithful departed, that they may enjoy the blessedness of eternal light, we pray to the Lord.

### Set #3

Please respond, "**Lord, hear our prayer.**"

That the people of God understand death as a doorway to new life, we pray to the Lord.

That peace and justice be the goal of every nation so that the world may enjoy fellowship and trust, we pray to the Lord.

That our brother/sister \_\_\_\_\_, claimed by God in baptism, be welcomed into the reign of lasting joy, we pray to the Lord.

That the family and friends of \_\_\_\_\_, in the long days ahead find comfort and support in the love of their community, we pray to the Lord.

That all who have died recently and all who will die soon find peace in Christ, we pray to the Lord.

That one day all of us here will enjoy glorious new life in the company of \_\_\_\_\_, and all the saints, we pray to the Lord.

### Set #4

Please, respond with, "**Lord hear our prayer**".

For \_\_\_\_\_ that s/he will be raised up on the last day to enjoy the company of all the holy men and women who praise God in the Kingdom of Heaven, we pray.

For the family and friends of \_\_\_\_\_ that they may find consolation remembering the love that s/he shared with them through the grace of God, we pray.

For unity among all Christian people, so that we may build the Kingdom of God in our communities with a shared faith, hope and love, we pray.

For all of our own good intentions, especially for the poor, and for those in need our prayer to carry their heavy burdens, we pray.

For all the faithful departed among our families and friends, that they may all enjoy the warmth and joy of eternal light, we pray.

## Set #5

Please respond with, "**Lord hear our prayer**".

For \_\_\_\_\_ That s/he will be raised up on the last day to enjoy the company of all the holy men and women who praise God in the Kingdom of Heaven, We pray..

For survivors and all the family and friends of \_\_\_\_\_ that they may find consolation remembering the love that s/he shared with them through the grace of God, We pray...

For all those who are now dying, and soon face the end of their good work among us, that there will be those who will help them as they finish their journey into eternal life, we pray...

For deceased family and for all the faithful departed among our families and friends, that they may all enjoy the warmth and joy of eternal light, we pray...

For unity among all Christian people, so that we may build the Kingdom of God in our communities with a shared faith, hope, and love, we pray...

For all of our own good intentions, especially for the poor, and for those in need of our prayer to carry their heavy burdens, we pray...

God of life and love, increase our faith, hope, and love, and grant us the gift of dying without fear when you open for us the door of death and led us through it into the joy and the glory of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen