

**Immaculate Heart of Mary
Additional Funeral Readings**

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First Reading Options (Old Testament)

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.
A time to 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.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts
without man's ever discovering
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah 57: 18-19

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I saw their ways,
but I will heal them and lead them;

I will give full comfort
to them and to those who mourn for them,

I, the Creator, who gave them life.

Peace, peace to those who are far and near,
says the Lord; and I will heal them.

The Word of the Lord

Isaiah 60:19-20

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

No longer shall the sun be your light by day,
Nor the brightness of the moon shine upon you at night.

The Lord shall be your light forever,
Your God shall be your glory.

No longer shall your sun go down,
Or your moon withdraw,

For the Lord will be your light forever,
And the days of your mourning shall be at an end.

The Word of the Lord.

Sirach 6:5-6, 14-17

A reading from the Book of Sirach

A kind mouth multiplies friends and appeases enemies
and gracious lips prompt friendly greetings.

Let your acquaintances be many,
but one in a thousand your confidant.

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter;
he who finds one finds a treasure.

A faithful friend is beyond price,
no sum can balance his worth.

A faithful friend is a life-saving remedy;
such as he who fears God finds.

For he who fears God behaves accordingly,
and his friend will be like himself.

The Word of the Lord

Lamentations 3: 22-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
his mercies are not spent;

They are renewed each morning—
great is his faithfulness.

My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
therefore I will 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

Proverbs 31:10- 13,19-20, 30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil,
all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax
and cloth with skillful hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor
and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Give her a reward for her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

A reading from the Book of Sirach

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.

Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.

When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children,

and when he prays, is heard.

Whoever reveres his father will live a long life;
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his
mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.

Even if his mind fails, be considerate of him;
revile him not all the days of his life;

Kindness to a father will not be forgotten;
Firmly planted against the debt of your sins
A house raised in justice to you.

The Word of the Lord

Sirach 44:1, 10-15

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Now will I praise these godly men,
our ancestors, each in his own time;

These were godly men
whose virtues have not been forgotten;

Their wealth remains in their families,
their heritage with their descendants;

Through God's covenant with them

their families endures,
their posterity for their sake.

And for all time their progeny will endure
their glory will never be blotted out;

Their bodies are peacefully laid away,
but their names lives on and on.

At gatherings their wisdom is retold,
and the assembly proclaims their praise.

The Word of the Lord

Wisdom 4: 7-8, 13-14a

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early,
shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not
with the passing of time,
nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Having become perfect in a short while,
he reached the fullness of a long career;
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD.

The Word of the Lord

Second Reading Options (New Testament)

Colossians 3: 12-17

A reading from a letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,
if one has a grievance against another;
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love,
that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,
the peace into which you were also called in one Body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13

A reading from the first letter of Saint 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.
It is not jealous, it 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.

Love never fails.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

Philippians 4: 4-9

A reading from a letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and Sisters,

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!
Your kindness should be known to all.
The Lord is near.
Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God.
Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true,
whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.
Keep on doing what you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me.
Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

I, Paul, 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 Lord stood by me and gave me strength,
so that through me the proclamation might be completed
and all the Gentiles might hear it.

And I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

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

The Word of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4: 16-18

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

Brothers and sisters:

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.

The Word of the Lord.

1 John 4: 7-10

A reading from the first Letter of Saint 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.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Peter 1: 3-9

A reading from the first letter of Saint Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,
kept in heaven for you
who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith,
to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.
In this you rejoice, although now for a little while
you may have to suffer through various trials,
so that the genuineness of your faith,

more precious than gold that is perishable
even though tested by fire,
may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Although you have not seen him you love him;
even though you do not see him now yet believe in him,
you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

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

A reading from the Book of Revelation

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

I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“Behold, God’s dwelling is with
the human race.

He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them
as their God.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning,
wailing or pain,
for the old 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.