

# Selecting Scripture Readings for the Funeral Mass

1. 1<sup>st</sup> reading from the OLD Testament,
2. Responsorial Psalm from the book of Psalms (not a song)
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading from the NEW Testament,
4. Gospel reading from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Choice **A**

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Wisdom 3: 1—6, 9

*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

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.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Choice **B**

Isaiah 25: 6a, 7—9

*He will destroy death forever.*

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, The web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away 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!”

## Responsorial Psalm Choice **A**

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Psalm 23: 1—3, 4, 5, 6

**Refrain:** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. **Ref.**
2. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage. **Ref.**
3. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **Ref.**
4. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come. **Ref.**

## Responsorial Psalm Choice **B**

Psalm 27: 1, 4, 7 & 8b & 9a, 13—14

**Refrain:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? **Ref.**
2. One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, that I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord and contemplate his temple. **Ref.**
3. Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call: have pity on me and answer me. Your presence, O Lord, I seek. Hide not your face from me. **Ref.**
4. I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord. **Ref.**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Choice **A**

Romans 8: 31b—35, 37—39

*What will separate us from the love of Christ?*

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised. Who is also 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.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Choice **B**

I Corinthians 15: 20—23

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

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through 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.

## Gospel Choice **A**

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John 6: 37—40

*Everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life and I shall raise him on the last day.*

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 he gave 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 him on the last day.”

## Gospel Choice **B**

John 14: 1—6

*In my Father's house there are many dwellings.*

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.” 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.”

# Prayer of the Faithful (Petitions)

*Immediately following the Homily*

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(Our response is **“LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER”**)

- For the Church throughout the world, that we may always proclaim our faith in the Resurrection. *We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**
  
- For \_\_\_\_\_, who in Baptism and Holy Communion was given the pledge of eternal life, that s/he may now enjoy the company of his/her Savior. *We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**
  
- For \_\_\_\_\_’s family and friends as they give back the gift s/he was to them. *We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**
  
- For those who have gone before us in death, especially \_\_\_\_\_ (family members). *We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**
  
- For the safety of those family and friends who have traveled to be here with us as we mourn. *We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**
  
- For all of us who remain, that we may share the eyes of faith to look beyond \_\_\_\_\_’s death to the eternal life s/he now enjoys.  
*We pray to the Lord:*     **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

*(Turn off microphone and be seated...)*

# *Music Suggestions*

## *For Funeral Liturgies*

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### *Breaking Bread Hymnal 2016-17*

*Published by Oregon Catholic Press*

1. Opening Hymn
2. Offertory Hymn
3. Communion Hymn
4. Recessional Hymn

#### **TIER ONE**

*(Most commonly selected, best known to the Saint Al's Community and Catholics in general)*

Amazing Grace  
Be Not Afraid  
Blest Are They  
City of God  
Eye Has Not Seen  
For All the Saints  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
Here I Am, Lord (Schutte)  
I Am the Bread of Life  
I Have Loved You (DUKE STREET)  
I Know that My Redeemer Lives  
I, the Lord  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
Now We Remain  
One Bread, One Body  
On Eagle's Wings  
Prayer of Saint Francis  
Taste and See (Moore)  
We Have Been Told  
We Will Rise Again  
You Are Mine  
You Are Near

## TIER TWO

*(General Hymns, still appropriate)*

Alleluia Sing to Jesus (**NOT** during Lent)  
Be Thou My Vision  
Holy God We Praise Thy Name  
How Great Thou Art  
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
In Every Age (Whitaker)  
Jesus the Bread of Life  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
Like A Shepherd  
Look Beyond  
Loving and Forgiving  
Only This I Want  
Seek Ye First  
Shepherd Me O God (**NEVER** as a Responsorial Psalm)  
Sing With All the Saints in Glory  
The Summons  
Take and Eat  
This Day God Gives Me  
We Are Many Parts  
We Remember

*Be sure that all numbers listed are from the 2016 edition of Breaking Bread, not 2015, not the former Gather Comprehensive Hymnal.*

*Neither secular music nor recorded music is permitted during the Liturgy.*

*During the season of Lent (February 10—March 23, 2016) no songs with “Alleluia” may be sung.*