

# Burial Service

*with Scripture Readings  
and Hymns*

Rite II

RITE II



# THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

## RITE TWO

*All stand while one or more of the following anthems are sung or said.  
A hymn, psalm, or some other suitable anthem may be sung instead.*

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on  
are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit,  
for they rest from their labors.

*Or else this anthem*

In the midst of life we are in death;  
from whom can we seek help?  
From you alone, O Lord,  
who by our sins are justly angered.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.*

Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;  
shut not your ears to our prayers,  
but spare us, O Lord.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.*

O worthy and eternal Judge,  
do not let the pains of death  
turn us away from you at our last hour.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.*

*The Celebrant then says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Collects*

*At the Burial of an Adult*

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant N., being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*or this*

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant [N.], and grant *him* an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*or this*

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our *brother* [N.] We thank you for giving *him* to us, *his* family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *At the Burial of a Child*

O God, whose beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them: Give us grace to entrust [N.] to your never-failing care and love, and bring us all to your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant may add the following prayer*

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with [NN.] in their grief. Surround them with you love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

*One or more of the following passages from Holy Scripture is read. If there is to be a Communion, a passage from the Gospel always concludes the Readings.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*From the Old Testament*

Isaiah 25:6-9 (*He will swallow up death in victory*)

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

or this

Isaiah 61:1-3 (*To comfort all that mourn*)

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

*or this*

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

*(The Lord is good unto them that wait for him)*

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

*or this*

Wisdom 3:1-5,9

*(The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God)*

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

*or this*

Job 19:21-27a *(I know that my Redeemer liveth)*

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? "O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I

know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!”

*A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow.*

Psalm 42:1-7

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, \*  
so longs my soul for you, O God.  
My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; \*  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?  
My tears have been my food day and night, \*  
while all day long they say to me,  
“Where now is your God?”  
I pour out my soul when I think on these things; \*  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the  
house of God,  
With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, \*  
among those who keep holy-day.  
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?  
Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

*or this*

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, \*  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, \*  
and though the mountains be toppled into the  
depths of the sea;  
Though its waters rage and foam, \*  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.  
The LORD of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold



The LORD of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold  
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, \*  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of her;  
she shall not be overthrown; \*  
God shall help her at the break of day.  
The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; \*  
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.  
The LORD of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.  
Come now and look upon the works of the LORD, \*  
what awesome things he has done on earth.  
It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; \*  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.  
“Be still, then, and know that I am God; \*  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth.”  
The LORD of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

*or this*

Psalm 90:1-1

Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.  
Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.  
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday  
when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.  
You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.  
In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.  
Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance  
When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.  
The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.  
Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?  
So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

*or this*

### Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?  
My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.  
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;  
The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,  
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.  
The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.  
The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

*or this*

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.  
If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, \*  
O LORD, who could stand?  
For there is forgiveness with you; \*  
therefore you shall be feared.  
I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; \*  
in his word is my hope.  
My soul waits for the LORD,  
more than watchmen for the morning, \*  
more than watchmen for the morning.  
O Israel, wait for the LORD, \*  
for with the LORD there is mercy;  
With him there is plenteous redemption, \*  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

*or this*

Psalm 139:1-11

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.  
You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.  
You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.  
Where can I go then from your Spirit? \*  
where can I flee from your presence?  
If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
Even there your hand will lead me \*  
and your right hand hold me fast.  
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, \*  
and the light around me turn to night,"  
Darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day; \*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.  
So teach us to number our days, \*  
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

*From the New Testament*

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

*(The glory that shall be revealed)*

For all 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 have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*or this*

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58

*(Raised in corruption)*

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: 'Death has been 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.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

*or this*

II Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (*Things which are not seen are eternal*)

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though 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. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

*or this*

John 3:1-2 (*We shall be like him*)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what 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 will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

*or this*

Revelation 7:9-17 (*God shall wipe away all tears*)

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in whitewith palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

*or this*

Revelation 21:2-7 (*Behold, I make all things new*)

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’ And the one who was seated on

the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

*After the New Testament Lesson, a suitable canticle or hymn, or one of the following Psalms may be sung or said*

### Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.  
He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake  
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who  
trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

*or this*

### Psalm 23, King James Version

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.



He restoreth my soul; \*  
    he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
    for his Name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
    death, I will fear no evil; \*  
    for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff,  
    they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me  
    in the presence of mine enemies; \*  
    thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
    all the days of my life, \*  
    and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

*or this*

### Psalm 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? \*  
    the LORD is the strength of my life;  
    of whom then shall I be afraid?  
Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
    yet my heart shall not be afraid;  
And though war should rise up against me, \*  
    yet will I put my trust in him.  
One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; \*  
    that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days  
    of my life;  
To behold the fair beauty of the LORD \*  
    and to seek him in his temple.  
For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe  
in his shelter; \*  
    he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling  
    and set me high upon a rock.  
Even now he lifts up my head \*  
    above my enemies round about me.  
Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation  
with sounds of great gladness; \*

I will sing and make music to the LORD.  
Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; \*  
    have mercy on me and answer me.  
You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*  
    Your face, LORD, will I seek.  
Hide not your face from me, \*  
    nor turn away your servant in displeasure.  
You have been my helper; cast me not away; \*  
    do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.  
Though my father and my mother forsake me, \*  
    the LORD will sustain me.  
Show me your way, O LORD; \*  
    lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.  
Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, \*  
    for false witnesses have risen up against me,  
    and also those who speak malice.  
What if I had not believed  
that I should see the goodness of the LORD \*  
    in the land of the living!  
O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;  
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; \*  
    wait patiently for the LORD.

*or this*

Psalm 106:1-5

I will sing of mercy and justice; \*  
    to you, O LORD, will I sing praises.  
I will strive to follow a blameless course;  
oh, when will you come to me? \*  
    I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.  
I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; \*  
    I hate the doers of evil deeds;  
    they shall not remain with me.  
A crooked heart shall be far from me; \*  
    I will not know evil.

Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; \*  
those who have a haughty look and a proud  
heart I cannot abide.

*or this*

### Psalm 116

I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my  
supplication, \*

because he has inclined his ear to me whenever  
I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*

I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: \*

“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

Gracious is the LORD and righteous; \*  
our God is full of compassion.

The LORD watches over the innocent; \*

I was brought very low, and he helped me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul. \*

for the LORD has treated you well.

For you have rescued my life from death, \*

my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the LORD \*

in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said,

“I have been brought very low.” \*

In my distress I said, “No one can be trusted.”

How shall I repay the LORD \*

for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation \*

and call upon the Name of the LORD.

I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*

in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD \*

is the death of his servants.

O LORD, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.  
I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.  
I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people,  
In the courts of the LORD's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

### *The Gospel*

John 5:24-27 (*He that believeth hath everlasting life*)

Jesus said, 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell 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 will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.'

*or this*

John 6:37-40 (*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me*)

Jesus said, 'Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

*or this*

John 10:11-16 (*I am the good shepherd*)

Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.'

*or this*

John 11:21-27 (*I am the resurrection and the life*)

Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though 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 believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

*or this*

John 14:1-6 (*In my Father's house are many mansions*)

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.'

And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, 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.'

*Here a homily is preached, the congregation being seated.*

*The Apostle's Creed may then be said, all standing. The Celebrant may introduce the Creed with these or similar words*

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

*Celebrant and People*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*If there is not to be a Communion, the Lord's Prayer is said here and the service continues with the Prayers of the People.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed  
be your Name, your  
kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and  
the glory are yours, now and  
for ever. Amen.

For our brother (sister) N., let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, 'I am Resurrection and I am Life.'

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for [N.], and dry the tears of those who weep.

*Hear us, Lord.*

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

*Hear us, Lord.*

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother (sister) eternal life.

*Hear us, Lord.*

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our *brother* (sister) to the joys of heaven.

*Hear us, Lord.*

Our *brother* (sister) was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

*Hear us, Lord.*

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

*Hear us, Lord.*

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our *brother* (sister); let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Celebrant concludes with one of the following or some other prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother (sister) [N.], who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

*or this*

Father of all, we pray to you for N., and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

*When there is no Communion, the service continues with the Commendation, or with the Committal.*



## AT THE EUCHARIST

*The service continues with the Peace and the Offertory.*

### *Preface of the Commemoration of the Dead*

*In place of the usual post communion prayer, the following is said*

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

### *The Commendation*

*The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the body or at the chancel steps.*

*This anthem, or some other suitable anthem, or a hymn, may be sung or said.*

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s) with your saints,  
*where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying,

‘You are dust, and to dust you shall return.’ All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s) with your saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

*The Celebrant, facing the body, says*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant N. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant, or the Bishop if present, blesses the people.*

*As the body is borne from the church, a hymn, or one or more of these anthems may be sung or said.*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to  
those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

The Lord will guide our feet into the way of peace, having  
taken away the sin of the world.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in  
his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the  
kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead you. At your coming may  
the martyrs receive you, and bring you into the holy city  
Jerusalem.

## *The Committal*

*The following anthem is sung or said*

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;  
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
will also give new life to our mortal bodies  
through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*Then, while earth is cast on upon the coffin, the Celebrant says these words*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our *brother* [N.], and we commit *his* body to the ground [or the deep, or the elements, or its resting place]; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep *him*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *him* and be gracious to *him*, the Lord lift up his countenance upon *him* and give *him* peace.  
*Amen.*

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed  
be your Name, your  
kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and  
the glory are yours, now and  
for ever. Amen.

*Other prayers may be added. (Some additional prayers may be found beginning on the next page of this booklet.)*

*Then may be said*

Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;  
*And let light perpetual shine upon him.*

May his soul, and the souls of all the departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*or with the following*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We give you heartfelt thanks for the good examples of all your servants, who, having finished their course in faith, now find rest and refreshment. May we, with all who have died in the true faith of your holy Name, have perfect fulfillment and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a religious and holy hope, in favor with you, our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, the King of saints, we praise and glorify your holy Name for all your servants who have finished their course in your faith and fear: for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs; and for all your other righteous servants, known to us and unknown; and we pray that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away thy sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. *Amen.*

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life: Raise us, we humbly pray, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; that when we depart this life we may rest in him, and at the resurrection receive that blessing which your well-beloved Son shall then pronounce: "Come, you blessed of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world." Grant this, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*





## St. James' Church

865 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10021

212.288-4100 [www.stjames.org](http://www.stjames.org)