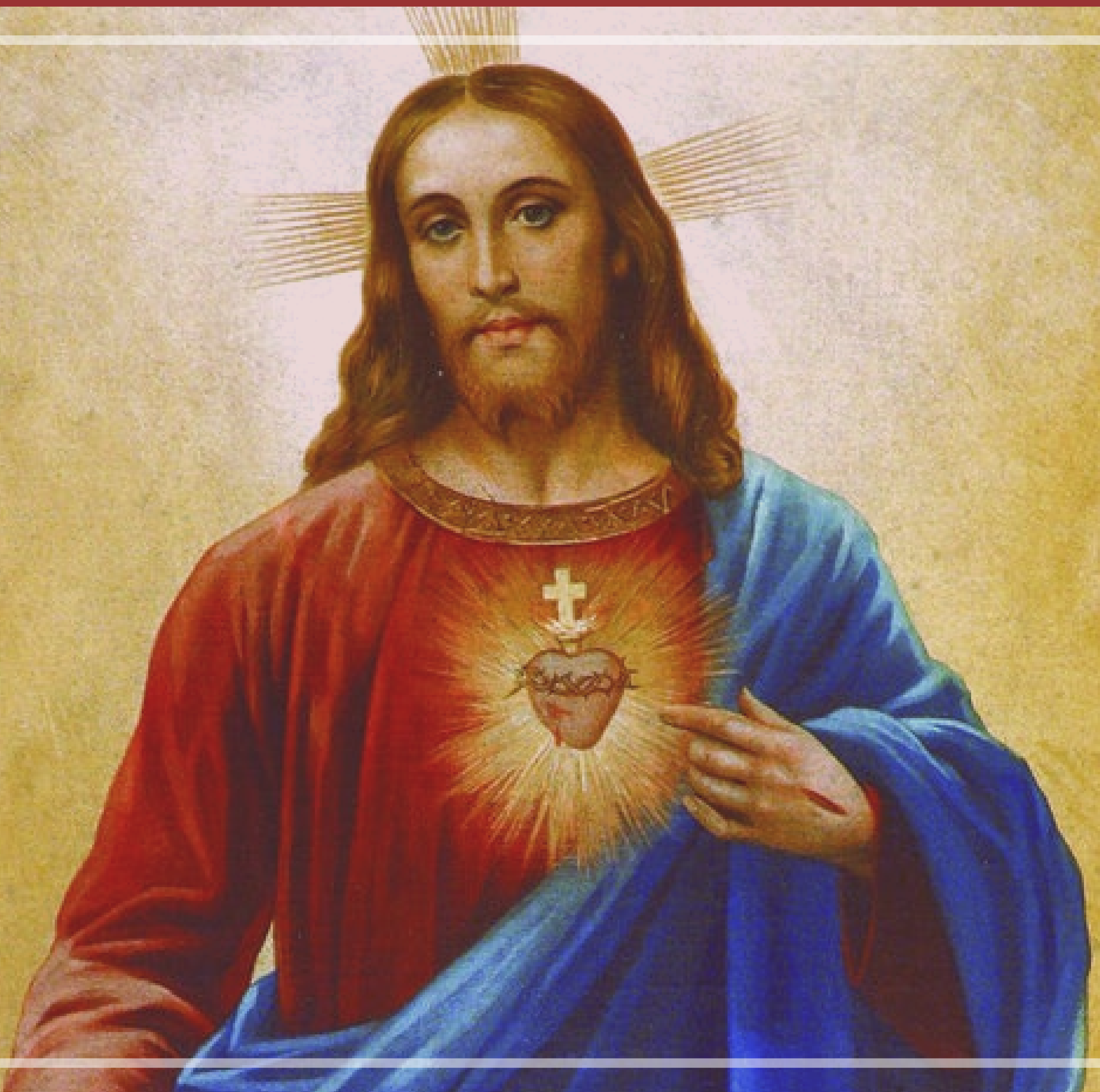


Saint Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church

Funeral

PLANNING GUIDE



"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."

- JOHN II:25-26

Family and Friends of St. Gregory the Great Parish,

The peace and promise of the Risen Christ Jesus be with you. Jesus said to His dear friend Martha at the death of her brother Lazarus "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" (John 11:25-26). It is our Christian faith that Jesus will bring all who believe in Him to eternal life. The priests, deacons and members of our parish family extend to you and your family our heartfelt sympathy during this time of sorrow and hope you find comfort in Jesus' promise and your loved one is now with Him for the eternal life.

We are honored to provide this planning booklet to assist you in preparing the Funeral Liturgy. You will find choices of appropriate readings, music selections, and other liturgical actions. Please choose one First Reading, Responsorial Psalm and Second Reading. During the Easter Season we ask that you select a First Reading from that section beginning on page 12. You may also choose a Gospel passage if one of them is special to you, or you may leave the Gospel selection to the priest. Regarding the Prayer of the Faithful, you may use the appropriate option from this book or compose your own, subject to the priest's approval.

Please ask family and friends to assist with readings, bringing the gifts to the Altar, and placing the pall on the casket. Also, please choose four hymns from the selections found on the separate Music for Funerals

Sheet. Someone from the Parish will contact you to answer any questions and help finalize your selections. They will also obtain some personal background about your loved one for the priest to use in his homily. Please bring the completed Funeral Liturgy Planning sheet to your meeting or drop the completed planning sheet off at the Parish Office.

Our Parish offers continued support through our Grief and Bereavement Ministry. Please contact the Parish Office for dates and times either now or at a later time when you feel the need for support.

You have our sincere sympathy and a promise of our personal prayer.

Sincerely,

The Priests of St. Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church

Please note: Anyone unable to attend the Funeral Liturgy is welcome to view the service from the St. Greg's live stream by visiting our website. (www.stgregs.org)

ABOUT CREMATION

Although the Catholic Church permits cremation, the Church prefers that the body be present for the funeral liturgy. The body of the deceased was washed in Baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Blessed Sacrament, the Bread of Life. We honor the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit and want our loved ones to rest in peace as they journey home to the Lord. Accordingly, it is inappropriate to scatter the cremated remains of the deceased, leave their remains on display in one's home, and to place the cremated remains in jewelry. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium so that our deceased loved one may rest in peace. Please feel free to contact the priest who will be celebrating the funeral Mass if you have any questions.

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First Reading

(Outside of the Easter Season: Old Testament)

A1

Wisdom 3: 1 - 9

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 before 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. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

A2

Wisdom 4: 7 - 15

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. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved; He who lived among sinners was transported, snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind. Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

A3

Isaiah 25: 6a, 7 - 9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

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 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!"

A4

Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 14

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes (E-klee-zee-assteez)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to give birth, 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. What profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done. I recognized that there is nothing better than to rejoice and to do well during life. Moreover, that all can eat and drink and enjoy the good of all their toil—this is a gift of God. I recognized that whatever God does will endure forever; there is no adding to it, or taking from it. Thus has God done that he may be revered.

A5

Isaiah 35: 1 - 6, 10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you.

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; Then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

A6

Isaiah 49: 8, 13 - 16

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the LORD: In a time of favor I answer you, on the day of salvation I help you; I form you and set you as a covenant for the people, to restore the land and allot the devastated heritages.

Sing out, heavens, and rejoice, earth; break forth into song, you mountains, for the LORD comforts his people and shows mercy to his afflicted. But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. See, upon the palms of my hands I have engraved you; your walls are ever before me.

A7

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

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Who can find a woman of worth? Far beyond jewels is her value. Her husband trusts her judgment; he does not lack income. She brings him profit, not loss, all the days of her life. She seeks out wool and flax and weaves 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 praise. Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates.

A8

Sirach 2: 1 - 11

A reading from the book of Sirach

My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for trials. Be sincere of heart and steadfast, and do not be impetuous in time of adversity. Cling to him, do not leave him, that you may prosper in your last days. Accept whatever happens to you; in periods of humiliation be patient. For in fire gold is tested, and the chosen, in the crucible of humiliation. Trust in God, and he will help you; make your ways straight and hope in him. You that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy, do not stray lest you fall. You that fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not be lost. You that fear the LORD, hope for good things, for lasting joy and mercy. Consider the generations long past and see: has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed? Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken? Has anyone called upon him and been ignored? For the Lord is

compassionate and merciful; forgives sins and saves in time of trouble.

A9

Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

For thus says the Lord GOD: Look! I myself will search for my sheep and examine them. As a shepherd examines his flock while he himself is among his scattered sheep, so will I examine my sheep. I will deliver them from every place where they were scattered on the day of dark clouds. I will lead them out from among the peoples and gather them from the lands; I will bring them back to their own country and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and every inhabited place in the land. In good pastures I will pasture them; on the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down on good grazing ground; in rich pastures they will be pastured on the mountains of Israel. I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest—oracle of the Lord GOD. The lost I will search out, the strays I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, and the sick I will heal; but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd them in judgment.

First Reading

(During the Easter Season - Between Easter and Pentecost)

A10

Acts 10: 34 - 43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

“In truth, I see that God shows no particularity. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is 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, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us. The witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 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.”

A11

Acts 10: 34- 36, 42 - 43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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A12

Revelation 14: 13

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.”

A13

Revelation 20: 11 - 21: 1

A reading from the book of Revelation

I saw a large white throne and one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The

former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.

A14

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

A reading from the book of Revelation

I 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 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."

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

- Psalm 23** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing
I shall want.
- Psalm 23** Shepherd Me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.
- Psalm 25** To You, O Lord, I lift my soul.
- Psalm 27** The Lord is my light and my salvation.
- Psalm 27** I believe that I shall see the good things of
the Lord in the land of the living.
- Psalm 63** My soul is thirsting for You, O Lord, my
God.
- Psalm 103** The Lord is kind and merciful.
- Psalm 116** I will walk before the Lord in the land of
the living.
- Psalm 122** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- Psalm 130** Out of the depths, I cry to You, O Lord.

SECOND READING

B1

Romans 5: 17 - 21

A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

If, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person, Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

B2

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B3

Romans 6: 3 - 9

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

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.

B4**Romans 8: 14 - 23**

A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Those 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 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 to 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 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 firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

B5**Romans 8: 31b - 35, 37 - 39**

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

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? 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.

B6

Romans 14: 7 - 9, 10b - 12

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

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. 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, the 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 himself to God.

B7

1 Corinthians 15: 20 - 23, 24b - 28

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead

came also through a human being. 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; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet". But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the One who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the One who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

B8

1 Corinthians 15: 51 - 57

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

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

“Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

B9

2 Corinthians 4: 14 – 5: 1

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

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.

B10

2 Corinthians 5: 1, 6 - 10

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

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.

So we are always courageous, although 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. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

B11

Philippians 3: 20 - 21

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

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.

B12

1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - 18

A reading from the first letter of St. 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.

B13

1 John 3: 1 - 2

A reading from the first letter of St. 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.

B14

1 Corinthians 2: 1 - 10

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling, and my message and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of spirit and power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet we do speak a wisdom to those who are mature, but not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away. Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew;

for if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: "What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him," this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

B15

Colossians 3: 12 - 17

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Put on then, 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.

GOSPEL READINGS

C1

Matthew 5: 1 - 12a

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

When he saw the crowds, Jesus 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."

C2

Matthew 11: 25 - 30

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

On one occasion Jesus spoke thus: "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 yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

C3

Matthew 25: 1 - 13

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight there was a cry, 'Behold the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'" But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

C4

Luke 12: 35 - 40

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

“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 whom 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.”

C5

Luke 23: 44 - 46, 50, 52 - 53; 24: 1 - 6a

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus called out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen

cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

But at daybreak on the first day of the week the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.

C6

Luke 23: 44 - 46, 50, 52 - 53

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus called out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

C7

Luke 24: 13 – 16, 28 - 35

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Now that very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples 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. 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.

C8

John 5: 24 - 29

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the Jews:

“Amen, amen I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life. Amen, amen, I say to 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 also he gave to his Son the possession of life in himself. And he gave him power to exercise judgment, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this, because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and will come out, those who have done good deeds to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked deeds to the resurrection of condemnation.

C9

John 6: 37 - 40

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowd:

“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.”

C10

John 6: 51 - 58

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowd:

“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.” The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. 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.”

C11

John 11: 17 - 27

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany 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."

C12

John 11: 32 - 45

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me."

And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

C13

John 12: 23 - 28

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus told his disciples:

"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. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his 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."

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then, a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."

C14

John 14: 1 - 6

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

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."

C15

John 17: 24 - 26

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

Father, (my disciples) 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."

C16

John 19: 17 - 18, 25 - 30

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus carrying the cross himself went out to what is now called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Standing by the cross were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom

he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After that, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

D1

Male

When arriving at the microphone the reader should announce:

“Our response is: Lord Hear Our Prayer”

1. For _____ who in Baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he may now be admitted to the company of all the saints, we pray to the Lord.
Lord Hear Our Prayer.
2. For our brother who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he may be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
3. 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.
Lord Hear Our Prayer.
4. 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. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
5. For the family and friends of our brother, _____, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus, we pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
6. 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. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**

Wait at the microphone until the Priest finishes the concluding prayer.

D2

Female

When arriving at the microphone the reader should announce:

“Our response is: Lord Hear Our Prayer”

1. For ____ who in Baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that she may now be admitted to the company of all the saints, we pray to the Lord.
Lord Hear Our Prayer.
2. For our sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that she may be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
3. 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.
Lord Hear Our Prayer.
4. 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. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
5. For the family and friends of our sister, ____, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus, we pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**
6. 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. **Lord Hear Our Prayer.**

Wait at the microphone until the Priest finishes the concluding prayer.

“TESTIMONY OF FAITH” (EULOGY) AT ST. GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH

Before requesting a eulogy, please keep in mind the following rules:

- Eulogies are allowed at the Pastor's discretion.
- Eulogies must be written and provide to the priest for review and approved prior to the Funeral Liturgy. This usually takes place when the priest attends the wake service.
- Only one person is allowed to speak.
- Eulogies should be no longer than **three (3) minutes**.

At St. Gregory's we ask that the eulogy celebrate your beloved one's life in Christ. The eulogy should reflect the nature of your loved one's belief in God and their relationship with Jesus Christ as a member in the Roman Catholic Church. This would include how your loved one lived out their Faith, religious practices and prayers.

In preparing your remarks please follow these guidelines:

- What role did your loved one's faith play in their family life, workplace, community, or volunteer work? An example of how they placed their trust in God would be appropriate.
- The person speaking should be comfortable with speaking in front of a large assembly and using a microphone system.
- Due to time limitations we ask that you focus on highlights and keep life stories, tributes, or funny anecdotes for the funeral luncheon.

Saint Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church

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