

Funeral Planning Guide for Mass of Christian Burial

St. Edward Church
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In loving memory of:

(Name of Deceased)

Who was born on _____

and who entered the fullness of life

on _____

Mass of Christian Burial

(date)

St. Edward Church
Ashland, Ohio

Presider: _____

*The St. Edward Parish Community
extends its sympathy to you in this time of grief.*

It is often through its liturgy that the Church can best reach out to those who have lost a love one. This booklet has been prepared to assist your family in planning the Mass of Christian Burial for your loved one. We hope that by choosing Scripture readings, music, and ritual movements from the Church's liturgy, you and your family might share more fully in prayer, and express your care and love for your deceased family member.

Enclosed with this booklet is a ***“Mass of Christian Burial Planning Form”*** to be returned to the priest presiding at the funeral Mass. Please fill out the form and return it to the priest at the wake or as soon as possible. If you need assistance, please call the parish (419.289.7224) and the priest or a parish staff member will gladly provide help. Our parish secretary will contact the organist and altar servers. Please let us know if you have any special requests. (This booklet is yours to keep.)

We understand that this is a difficult time; therefore, you should not feel pressured to make any selections. If this is the case, just let us know and we will plan the liturgy for you.

Be assured of our prayers and the concern of our parish during this time of sorrow.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What Can You Expect?.....	3
Scheduling the Funeral	3
Planning the Liturgy	4
How You Can Be Involved.....	5
Eulogies/Words of Remembrance.....	5
Funeral Books/Programs.....	6
About Cremation.....	6
Honoraria	7
How to Use the Rest of This Booklet	8
Outline of the Mass of Christian Burial.....	9
Old Testament Readings (Optional)	14
Responsorial Psalms.....	19
New Testament Readings	27
Gospels.....	32
Prayers of the Faithful.....	38
Hymns and Responsorial Psalms	40
Memorial Gifts.....	42

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

All baptized Christians are entitled to the Rites of Christian Burial. There are three distinct parts to these rites.

The Wake: This takes place during the visiting hours at the funeral home. A minister from the church will lead a prayer service and invite you, your family, and your friends to share memories of your loved one.

The Funeral Liturgy: This takes place in the church, normally in the context of a Mass. The body, or cremated remains, of the person are honored by being brought to the church and the memory and spirit of the deceased are joined to the greater mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

The Committal: This is the graveside service committing the body to its final resting place where the deceased awaits the glory of the resurrection.

SCHEDULING THE FUNERAL

According to our diocesan guidelines, funerals can be held on most days of the year except a Sunday or a Holy Day and a few other special days. The normal time for funerals at St. Edward is 10:00am. The funeral director will coordinate with St. Edward concerning days and Mass times. If, for personal or pastoral reasons, you need a service in the funeral home, please make arrangements with a priest.

Normally Catholic parishes assist with the funerals of parishioners. We do not exclude anyone who is not formally registered or who has not contributed financially to the parish. We will also do our best to accommodate your family members and/or former parishioners. Your loss is a time for our community to gather and pray, and we are committed to assist you in your time of need.

PLANNING THE LITURGY

If you are able, we encourage you to participate in the funeral liturgy. Being involved not only honors your loved one, but it can also help you in the grieving process. Please review “How You Can Be Involved” on the next page.

To help you, there are some choices of Scripture readings and music selections appropriate for the funeral liturgy cited later in this booklet. These are only suggestions and you may certainly choose others which might better express the faith of the deceased and the hope of those gathered.

Please record each selection on the “*Mass of Christian Burial Planning Form*” in the back of this booklet. The priest will review your choices with you either at the wake or sometime before the funeral. If you have time, you may want to call and make an appointment to come to the Parish Office and talk to the priest celebrating the funeral liturgy.

The priest will want to gather ideas about the deceased for the homily. Family members may wish to write some thoughts on the sheet of paper marked “Notes” provided on the reverse side of the Planning Form.

If you have a family member or friend that is either a priest or deacon, please know that they are most welcome to take part in the funeral liturgy; just let us know in advance.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

Each person grieves the loss of a loved one in his or her own way. It is best to let each person participate, or not participate, in the manner in which they are comfortable.

Here are some ways you can honor your loved one by participating in his or her funeral liturgy:

- Choose the Scriptures to be read at church
- Select hymns to be used for worship
- Serve as pall bearers (arrange with funeral director)
- Place the pall on the casket (arrange with funeral director)
- Place a Christian symbol on the casket
- Proclaim the Scriptures at the funeral
- Prepare and read the Prayers of the Faithful
- Present the gifts of bread and wine
- Be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, if you are trained and commissioned as such

EULOGY/WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

In the Catholic rite, it is preferable to offer a eulogy at the wake, at the cemetery, or at a luncheon after the ceremonies. Eulogies during the Mass are no longer allowed at St. Edward Church.

From our experience, we know that this can be very emotional. Out of pastoral concern for all who will be present during the funeral liturgies, personal comments about the deceased are better handled in more private settings.

FUNERAL BOOKLETS/PROGRAMS

Often families ask if they are required to have a Funeral Booklet (Program) for people attending the funeral. While the idea of such booklets has merit, experience has shown these to be more of a burden to families, adding more stress to an already stressful time. As such, Funeral Booklets are not allowed for funeral services at the church.

ABOUT CREMATION

In recent years, the Catholic Church has lifted the prohibition against the practice of cremation, and has revised the rites for services with cremated remains. While the Church would prefer that cremation occur after the funeral liturgy, it realizes that financial constraints or other circumstances often result in the desire for cremation before the funeral service. However, the Church encourages cremation after the funeral liturgy. Grieving in the presence of the body over several days can help people to deal with their loss.

The cremated remains can be brought into the church for the funeral Mass. Typically, a priest will accompany the cremated remains to the cemetery for committal after the funeral. The Church discourages the practice of dividing or scattering cremated remains. It is important to note that the cremated remains should be buried in a cemetery or placed in a mausoleum.

Please talk to a priest, as well as the funeral director, about the procedures for funerals with cremated remains. The practice is still fairly new within the Church, and we want to proceed in as respectful and holy a manner as possible.

HONORARIA

Typically, part of the fees paid to the Funeral Director are the stipends that are paid to St. Edward (Organist, church Cantor, Donation to Parish, two altar servers). The Funeral Directors have been provided with the suggested stipend amounts. Please check with your Funeral Director regarding how arrangements may have been made.

If the family wishes to hire additional musicians, those arrangements are to be made separately, in cooperation with our Music Director or Organist.

Finances should not be the deciding factor on the burial of your loved one. If there are any questions or concerns regarding the stipends, please consult the priest.

HOW TO USE THE REST OF THIS BOOKLET

Each section of this booklet contains a variety of options from which to choose. The music and readings printed here are those most commonly chosen for funerals. If there is a particular piece of music or reading that you would prefer, please consult the priest beforehand.

Please record each selection on the “*Mass of Christian Burial Planning Form*” and return to the priest. The priest may have a meeting with you to finalize any details. If we can assist you in planning this special liturgy or in any other way, please don’t hesitate to call us at 419.289.7224.

Christian Symbols Used in the Funeral Mass

Blessed Holy Water: Reminds us of the saving waters of baptism. Its use calls to mind the deceased’s baptism and initiation into the community and the newness of life into which he or she is now called.

The Pall: A reminder of the baptismal garment of the deceased and a sign of Christian dignity, it is placed over the coffin. Christian symbols are to be used during the Mass; flags should not be used during the church service.

Placing of Christian Symbols: Family members may choose to place a Christian symbol on top of the casket during the Mass. A favorite cross, rosary, or prayer book of the deceased would be most appropriate.

The Paschal Candle: A sign of the light of Christ and the eternal life into which we are born and die with him. It represents Christ’s saving presence in our midst and is a reminder that Christ is with the deceased, and with the worshipping community.

White Vestments: The priest wears white vestments as a symbol of holiness and joy in celebration of our loved one’s being called home to God.

OUTLINE OF THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Introductory Rites

- Greeting
- Sprinkling with Holy Water
- Placing of the Pall
- Placing of Christian Symbols (Optional)
- Opening Song
- Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

- Old Testament Reading (Optional)
- Responsorial Psalm - Sung or Recited
- New Testament Reading
- Gospel
- Homily by Celebrant or Concelebrant
- Prayers of the Faithful

Liturgy of the Eucharist

- Offertory Song
- Presentation of the Gifts
- Holy, Holy, Holy and Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Rite

- The Lord's Prayer
- Communion Song
- Song of Reflection (Optional)

Final Commendation

- Closing Song

Introductory Rites

Greeting

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Placing of the Pall – After the body has been blessed with Holy Water a white cloth, or “Pall,” is placed on top of the casket. This cloth symbolizes the baptismal garment of our Catholic faith. Family members are encouraged to take part in this ritual at the Liturgy; however, the funeral director may also do this on behalf of the family.

Opening Song – The list on page 40 includes suggested Opening Songs. Music should always follow the liturgical season, e.g., no Alleluias are sung during Lent. Other song options, or a soloist-only choice, should be made with the priest and organist as early as possible.

Placing of Christian Symbols – Family members may choose to place a Christian symbol on top of the casket during the Mass. A favorite cross, rosary, or prayer book of the deceased would be most appropriate. This is optional.

Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

Family members or friends are encouraged to proclaim the readings at the funeral liturgy. Please try to choose individuals with clear speaking voices as the Word proclaimed is meant to bring comfort to those who have gathered to pray. It is helpful to give your reader(s) a copy of the selected Scripture reading so they may prepare in advance. If you wish the priest to proclaim the readings, please indicate this on the ***Planning Form***. If only one reading is chosen, it should be from the New Testa-

ment (refer to “New Testament Readings” section on page 27).

Old Testament Reading (Optional)– The first reading, if two are chosen, is taken from the Old Testament. Please select one of the readings from the section beginning on page 14 and indicate your choice on the Planning Form. You may choose another appropriate reading; please discuss with the priest beforehand.

Responsorial Psalm – The psalm is usually sung at the funeral liturgy. Please choose one of the selections from page 19, and the organist/cantor will lead the assembly in singing the response.

New Testament Reading – The second reading, if desired, is always taken from the New Testament. Please choose one of the readings from the section beginning on page 27 and indicate your choice on the *Planning Form*. You may choose another appropriate reading; please discuss with the priest beforehand.

Gospel – The Gospel is always proclaimed by the priest or deacon. Please choose one of the Gospel readings from the section beginning on page 32 and indicate your choice on the *Planning Form*. You may choose another appropriate Gospel reading; please discuss with the priest beforehand.

Homily – The priest will meet with the family to gather ideas for the homily. Family members may wish to write down some notes about the deceased to share with the priest. These may be written on the sheet of paper marked “Notes” on the reverse of the *Planning Form*.

Prayers of the Faithful – These prayers may be offered by a family member, friend, or the priest. Suggested petitions are listed on pages 38-39. Please choose five (5). You are also welcome to compose your own petitions. The traditional response to the Prayers of the Faithful is “Lord, hear our prayer.” The priest will introduce and conclude the intercessions with a prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Song – Please choose one of the suggested musical selections to be sung during the Preparation of the Gifts from the list on page 41. Other song options, or a soloist-only choice, should be made with the priest and organist as early as possible.

Gift Bearers – Family members or friends are encouraged to present the gifts of bread and wine at Mass. Please choose two to four individuals to bring up the gifts.

Mass Parts – The Mass parts (e.g., Holy, Holy, Holy; Memorial Acclamation; Great Amen) will be sung, with a musical arrangement chosen by the organist.

Communion Rite

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – Family members or friends who are commissioned ministers are welcome to serve at this time. Please notify the priest if ministers are available. (Usually only one is needed.)

Communion Song – Please choose one of the songs from page 41 to be sung during the sharing in Communion. Other songs are permitted, as long as they have a reference to the Eucharist being shared.

Song of Reflection – Please choose one of the songs from page 41 for a moment of reflection after Communion. This is optional.

Final Commendation

Closing Song – Please choose one of the songs on page 41 to be sung at the conclusion of the Liturgy. Other song options, or a soloist-only choice, should be made with the priest and Music Director as early as possible.

OT READING #1

Wisdom 3: 1-9 (Short) Wisdom 3: 1-6, 9
(For short form, omit passage in brackets.)

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 this elect.**

The word of the Lord.

OT READING #2

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.**

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

**There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every thing under the heavens.
A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build.
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.
A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.**

**What advantage has the worker from his toil?
I have considered the task that God has appointed
for the sons of men to be busied about.
He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts,
without man's ever discovering,
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.**

The word of the Lord.

OT READING #4

Sirach 44: 1, 10-15

A reading from the Book of Sirach

**Now will I praise those godly men,
our ancestors, each in his own time:**

**These were godly men
whose virtues have not been forgotten;**

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

**Through God's covenant with them their family endures,
their posterity for their sake.**

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

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

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

The word of the Lord.

OT READING #5

Proverbs 3: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

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

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

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

**She obtains wool and flax
and makes cloth with skillful hands.**

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

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

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

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

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #1

Psalm 23

REFRAIN: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Or: Shepherd Me O God

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. (REFRAIN)**

**He guides me in right paths
For his name's sake.
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. (REFRAIN)**

**You spread the table before me
In the sight of your foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup overflows. (REFRAIN)**

**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. (REFRAIN)**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #2

Psalm 25

REFRAIN: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;

Teach me your paths,

Guide me in your truth and teach me,

For you are God my savior,

And for you I wait all the day. (REFRAIN)

Good and upright is the Lord;

Thus he shows sinners the way.

He guides the humble to justice,

And teaches the humble his way. (REFRAIN)

All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy

Toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees,

The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear him,

And his covenant, for their instruction. (REFRAIN)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #3

Psalm 27

REFRAIN: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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? (REFRAIN)

Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call;

Have pity on my, and answer me.

Of you my heart speaks;

You my glance seeks. (REFRAIN)

Your presence, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not your face from me;

Do not in anger repel your servant.

You are my helper: cast me not off. (REFRAIN)

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. (REFRAIN)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #4

Psalm 42

REFRAIN: My soul is thirsting for the living God.

Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.

When shall I go and behold the face of God? (REFRAIN)

I went with the throng

**And led them in procession to the house of God,
Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,
With the multitude keeping festival. (REFRAIN)**

Send forth your light and your fidelity;

**They shall lead me on
And bring me to your holy mountain,
To your dwelling place. (REFRAIN)**

Then will I go in to the altar of God,

**The God of my gladness and joy;
Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,
O God, my God! (REFRAIN)**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #5

Psalm 103

REFRAIN: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

And all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

And forget not all his benefits. (REFRAIN)

He pardons all your iniquities,

He heals all your ills.

He redeems your life from destruction,

He crowns you with kindness and compassion. (REFRAIN)

The Lord secures justice

And the rights of all the oppressed.

He has made known his ways to Moses,

And his deeds to the children of Israel. (REFRAIN)

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,

Slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

So surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

(REFRAIN)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #6

Psalm 116

REFRAIN: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said,

“I am greatly afflicted.”

Precious in the eyes of the Lord

Is the death of his faithful ones. (REFRAIN)

O Lord, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;

You have loosed my bonds.

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,

And I will call upon the name of the Lord. (REFRAIN)

My vows to the Lord I will pay

In the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the house of the Lord,

In your midst, O Jerusalem. (REFRAIN)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #7

Psalm 122

**REFRAIN: I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to the
house of the Lord.**

**I rejoiced because they said to me,
“We will go up to the house of the Lord.”
And now we have set foot
Within your gates, O Jerusalem. (REFRAIN)**

**Jerusalem, built as a city
With compact unity.
To it the tribes go up,
The tribes of the Lord. (REFRAIN)**

**According to the decree for Israel,
To give thanks to the name of the Lord.
In it are set up judgment seats,
Seats for the house of David. (REFRAIN)**

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
Prosperity in your buildings. (REFRAIN)**

**Because of my brothers and friends,
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
Because of the house of the Lord, our God,
I will pray for your good. (REFRAIN)**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM #8

Psalm 143

REFRAIN: O Lord, hear my prayer.

**O Lord, hear my prayer,
Hearken to my pleading in your faithfulness;
In your justice answer me.
And enter not into judgment with your servant,
For before you no living man is just. (REFRAIN)**

**I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all your doings,
The works of your hands I ponder.
I stretch out my hands to you;
My soul thirsts for you like parched land. (REFRAIN)**

**Teach me to do your will,
For you are my God.
May your good spirit guide me
On level ground. (REFRAIN)**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint,

**because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**

For Christ, while we were still helpless,

died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,

though perhaps for a good person

one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us

in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,

will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,

we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,

how much more, once reconciled,

will we be saved by his life.

Not only that,

but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

NT READING #2

Romans 6: 3-9 (Short) Romans 6: 3-4, 8-9
(For short form, omit passage in brackets.)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?**

**We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.**

**[For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.**

**We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.**

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.]

**If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.**

**We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.**

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

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

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

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

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

**For creation awaits with eager expectation
the revelation of the children of God;
for creation was made subject to futility,
not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it,
in hope that creation itself
would be set free from slavery to corruption
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.**

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

The word of the Lord.

NT READING #4

1 Corinthians 15: 20-28
(Short) 1 Corinthians 15: 20-23
(For short form, omit passage in brackets.)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

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 a 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;
[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.]**

The word of the Lord.

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

Brothers and sisters:

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

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

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

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

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

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL #1

Matthew 5: 1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.**

He began to teach them, saying:

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.**

**Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will be great in heaven.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

**“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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:

**“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 the 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.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

**“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 who eats this bread will live forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.**

**And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.**

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right,

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

**Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the
world.**

For I was hungry and you gave me food,

I was thirsty and you gave me drink,

a stranger and you welcomed me,

naked and you clothed me,

ill and you cared for me,

in prison and you visited me.’

Then the righteous will answer him and say,

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,

or thirsty and give you drink?

When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,

or naked and clothe you?

When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’

And the king will say to them in reply,

‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did

for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

The Prayers of the Faithful may be offered by a family member or friend. Please choose at least five. You are also welcome to compose your own. The traditional response is “Lord, hear our prayer”, but others such as “Risen Lord, hear our prayer” or “Loving God, hear us” may be used. The priest will introduce and conclude the petitions with a prayer.

Our response is: _____

- A. In baptism, _____ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her to new life. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- B. For _____, who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of the saints. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- C. Our brother/sister was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome him/her to the halls of the heavenly banquet. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- D. For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she be raised up on the last day. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- E. Many friends and family have gone before us in faith. Grant them an everlasting home in paradise. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- F. Those who trusted in the Lord now rejoice with the Lord. Give refreshment, peace, and rest to all whose faith is known to you alone. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- G. For the friends and family of _____, that they may know God’s care at this time of sorrow. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- H. For all who have helped us during this time of sorrow, that they may

know the rewards of their goodness. *We pray to the Lord.*

(response)

- I. For those who have fallen asleep with the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- J. For all of us gathered here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*
- K. For those who care for the sick and suffering, that God may bless and strengthen them in their ministry. *We pray to the Lord. (response)*

HYMNS AND RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

Liturgical music enhances our prayer and reminds us of our hope in the Resurrection. This is why secular music is inappropriate at the funeral Liturgy. Special songs that are personal favorites should be sung at another time (i.e., the wake, committal, or gathering following interment). Note that a song from one category may be used in any other category.

St. Edward Church has a Funeral Choir that will be present for the funeral. If the family desires to have a Cantor, please let the priest know as soon as possible. There is no extra fee for the Funeral Choir.

All the following selections may be found in the worship aids in church.

Opening Song

All Creatures of Our God and King

Be Not Afraid

Glory and Praise to Our God

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

For All the Saints

Amazing Grace

The Strife is O'er

City of God

Lord of all Hopefulness

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Responsorial Psalm (Sung or Recited) - please see pages 19-26

Psalm 23 "The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."

Psalm 23 "Shepherd Me O God."

Psalm 25 "To You O Lord, I lift my soul."

Psalm 27 "The Lord is my light and my salvation."

Psalm 42 "My soul is thirsting for the living God."

Psalm 103 "The Lord is kind and merciful."

Psalm 116 "I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living."

Psalm 122 “I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Psalm 143 “O Lord, hear my prayer.”

Offertory Song

Here I Am, Lord

Be Not Afraid

Amazing Grace

Hosea

On Eagle’s Wings

Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Ave Maria

Communion Song

Gift of Finest Wheat

I Am the Bread of Life

One Bread, One Body

Taste and See

Songs for Reflection (optional after Communion)

Amazing Grace

Ave Maria

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Prayer of St. Francis)

Lord of All Hopefulness

Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Closing Song

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Be Not Afraid

On Eagle’s Wings

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

How Great Thou Art

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise

Jesus, Remember Me

For All the Saints

The Strife is O’er

MEMORIAL GIFTS and OTHER CHURCH DONATIONS

Masses for the intention of the deceased can be presented to our parish or any parish church. Often, the Mass intentions need to be scheduled several months in advance, please contact the Parish Office to arrange for Mass Intentions.

If you, a relative, or friend would like to honor your loved one by making a donation for a memorial gift, we will be happy to help you look at some worthwhile and appropriate options. For several reasons, we discourage the individual purchases of memorial vessels and vestments. Questions of type, size, and color are important considerations for purchasing liturgical vesture. These are usually ordered through specific suppliers. Complimentary designs, colors, and materials are important for choosing sacred vessels, church furnishings, or religious items and is best done by the parish.

Please contact our pastor at 419.289.7224 to discuss a fitting tribute to the memory of your loved one.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture texts from THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE © 1998, 1997, 1970 by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. All

For Personal Notes

Our selections for the Mass of Christian Burial for

_____ (Name of Deceased)

Opening Song _____

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament _____

Proclaimed by _____

Responsorial Psalm _____

New Testament _____

Proclaimed by _____

Gospel _____

Prayers of the Faithful _____

Proclaimed by _____

Offertory Song _____

Communion Song _____

Song of Reflection (optional) _____

Closing Song _____

Please keep this booklet as a keepsake of the funeral
liturgy and a remembrance of your loved one.

**St. Edward Church
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Rev. 7/2020