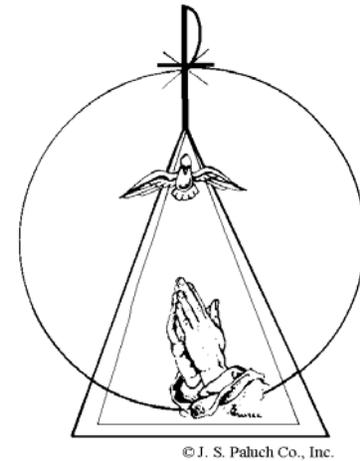


Funeral Liturgy Planning Booklet



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The Church of St. James

184 S. Finley Ave.
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
908-766-0888

_____ Jerusalem, My Happy Home	_____ Song of the Body of Christ
_____ Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (outside of Lent)	_____ Taste and See
_____ Jesus Remember Me	_____ The Cry of the Poor
_____ Keep in Mind	_____ The King of Love My Shepherd Is
_____ Like a Shepherd	_____ The Strife is O'er (Outside of Lent)
_____ Now Thank We All Our God	_____ There is a Balm in Gilead
_____ O God Our Help Ages Past	_____ To Be Your Bread
_____ On Eagles Wings	_____ To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
_____ One Bread One Body	_____ We Remember
_____ Only This I Want	_____ We Will Rise Again
_____ Panis Angelicus	_____ You are Mine
_____ Peace Is Flowing Like a River	_____ You Are Near
_____ Prayer of St. Francis	_____ Hark the Herald Angels Sing (Christmas Season)
_____ Precious Lord, Take My Hand	
_____ Ave Maria	_____ For All the Saints (Outside of Lent)

From the Pastoral Staff of St. James

Dear Bereaved,

The parish community of St. James wishes to share its sympathies with you at this time of pain and sorrow. May you know the Lord's care and concern for you as you mourn the loss of your loved one.

The General Introduction to the Order of Christian Funerals says: "Whenever possible, ministers should involve the family in planning funeral rites." "In every celebration for the dead, the Church attaches great importance to the reading of the word of God. The readings proclaim to the assembly the paschal mystery, teach remembrance of the dead, convey hope of being gathered together again in God's kingdom, and encourage the witness of Christian life. Above all, the readings tell of God's design for a world in which suffering and death will relinquish their hold on all whom God has called his own."

"Music is integral to the funeral rites. It allows the community to express convictions and feelings that words alone may fail to convey. It has the power to console and uplift the mourners and to strengthen the unity of the assembly in faith and love."

This booklet will assist you in preparing for the funeral of your loved one.

Please do not hesitate to call upon us for any assistance that you need in preparing the funeral.

You can reach us at 908-766-0888.

**** During the Easter Season, reading 1, 17, 18 or 19 is used as the first reading instead of a reading from the Old Testament.**

Old Testament Readings

1. Job 19:1, 23-27

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered and said: Oh, would that my words were written down! Would that they were inscribed in a record: That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust; Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him, and from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

2. 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 the elect.

The Word of the Lord

Choose ONE Old Testament Reading as the first reading for the funeral Mass except during the Easter Season.

Funeral Planning Sheet

(please tear out and return to the parish office)

Name of deceased: _____

First Reading: _____

Read by: _____

Second Reading: _____

Read by: _____

Prayer of the Faithful read by: _____

Gifts of Bread & Wine brought up by: _____

Music: We will schedule the organist and soloist for the funeral Liturgy. Should you decide to make arrangements on your own with persons other than those we have scheduled, a bench fee of \$150 will be requested from you.

You may choose specific songs for the funeral liturgy. Our parish music ministers have listed some suggestions below. (If you do not wish to choose the songs, the music ministers will gladly do so for you.) Please choose no more than **four** songs:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| _____ Amazing Grace | _____ Here I Am Lord |
| _____ Be Not Afraid | _____ How Great Thou Art |
| _____ Blest Are They | _____ I Am the Bread of Life |
| _____ Eat This Bread | _____ I Heard the Voice of
Jesus Say |
| _____ Eye Has Not Seen | _____ I Know that My
Redeemer Lives |

Old Testament Readings

3. 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.

4. 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!"

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE Old Testament Reading as
the first reading for the funeral Mass
except during the Easter Season.**

Old Testament Readings

5. Lamentations 3: 17-26

A reading from the book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the LORD. The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope: The favors of the LORD are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness. My portion is the LORD, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him. Good is the LORD to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord

6. Daniel 12: 1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

[I, Daniel, mourned and I heard this word of the Lord:]
"At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE Old Testament Reading as
the first reading for the funeral Mass
except during the Easter Season.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Reader: Please respond, Lord, hear our prayer.

For N., who in Baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that s/he may now be admitted to the company of the saints.

We pray to the Lord. R.

For our brother/sister N., who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that s/he may be raised up on the last day.

We pray to the Lord. R.

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. R.

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. R.

For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., 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. R.

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. R.

New Testament Readings

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.

The Word of the Lord

19. Revelation 21: 1-5a, 6b-7 **

A reading from the book of Revelation

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. 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 the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
the second reading for the funeral Mass.
(** see inside cover)**

Old Testament Readings

7. 2Maccabees 12: 43-46

A reading from the book of Maccabees

Judas [the ruler of Israel] then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE Old Testament Reading as
the first reading for the funeral Mass
except during the Easter Season.**

New Testament Readings

1. Acts 10: 34-43 **

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. 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."

The Word of the Lord

2. Romans 5: 5-11

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

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
the second reading for the funeral Mass.
(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

16. 1John 3: 14-16

A reading from the first letter of St. John

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The Word of the Lord

17. 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."

The Word of the Lord

18. Revelation 20: 11—21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a large white throne and the 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

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(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

14. 2Timothy 2: 8-13

A reading from the second letter of St. Timothy

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him he will deny us. If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The Word of the Lord

15. 1John 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.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
the second reading for the funeral Mass.
(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

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

3. Romans 5: 17-21

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

For 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 ⁶ 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.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
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(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

4. 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.

The Word of the Lord

5. 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 for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the

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(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

12. 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.

The Word of the Lord

13. 1Thessalonians 4: 13-18

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

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, 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.

The Word of the Lord

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the second reading for the funeral Mass.
(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

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.

11. 2Corinthians 5: 1, 6-10

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

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.

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.

The Word of the Lord

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(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

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

6. 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? As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered." 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.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
the second reading for the funeral Mass.
(** see inside cover)**

New Testament Readings

7. 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, that 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.

The Word of the Lord

8. 1Corinthians 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.

The Word of the Lord

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
the second reading for the funeral Mass.**

New Testament Readings

9. 1Corinthians 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. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this 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.

The Word of the Lord

10. 2Corinthians 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

**Choose ONE New Testament Reading as
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