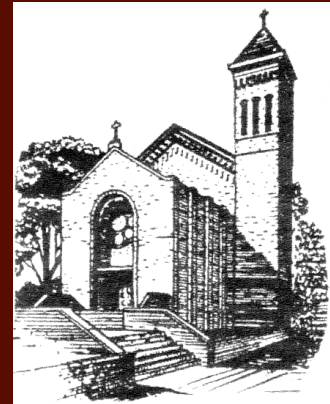


FUNERAL PREPARATION

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY



Co-Pastors:
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Letter
The Funeral Liturgy
Readings from Old & New Testament
Music Selections
Suggestion for Responsorial Psalms

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Dear Family Member,

On behalf of the Church of Holy Trinity and St. Michael's, I want to extend my condolences. No matter the circumstances, the death of a loved one comes as a shock. I hope that you feel the love and support of family and friends during this difficult time.

The purpose of this letter is to answer a few questions about the funeral liturgy. There are undoubtedly many decisions yet to be made.

The Funeral Liturgy:

The Funeral Liturgy is an ancient ritual that expresses the fundamental Christian belief in the Resurrection and eternal life. It consists of three main parts: The Vigil or Wake, the Mass and the Committal.

The Wake is a time for us to reflect on the person's past life. This is an opportunity for people to console each other and recall the impact the deceased had on them. It is also a fitting time to offer words of remembrance or a eulogy. I also make myself available for anyone who would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Sometimes people have been away from Church and would like to receive Holy Communion at the Funeral Mass. Please do not hesitate to ask me when I come to lead prayers at the Wake.

The Funeral Mass is the principal part of the Funeral Liturgy. At the Mass, we offer worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God" (OCF, No. 5). We turn our gaze from death to the promise of eternal life. In our current state of grieving we face the Lord who is the Resurrection and the Life. You will see and hear many symbols at the Mass, holy water, incense, Paschal Candle, music, bells all of which help us to encounter our Risen Lord. Scripture and music are also very integral parts of the Funeral Mass. The Liturgy of the Word at funerals follows the same pattern of a weekend Mass. We welcome family members and friends of the deceased to choose the readings and also to proclaim them.

Finally, at the **Committal** or burial we entrust our loved one to the earth. We bless the grave and ask the Lord to watch over them while they rest in peace awaiting the Resurrection of the Body.

Eulogies: At Holy Trinity Church and St. Michael's eulogies are typically given right before the start of Mass. In keeping with the policies of the Diocese of Albany, one person may offer a brief (2-3 minutes) Eulogy. If the Eulogy is to be given at church, it should be spiritual in nature and appropriate for a Church setting.

Fees: As the priest, I do not get paid for funerals, nor do I expect to be. I am honored to celebrate the funeral of your loved one. All expenses for the funeral Mass are handled by the funeral director.

I hope this information has helped to answer some of your questions regarding the funeral Liturgy. Again, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions. Know that I, along with the parish community, will keep you and your loved ones in my prayers.

In the Risen Christ,

Co-Pastors

Fr. Brian Kelly

Fr. Don Rutherford

If you would like to choose the readings for the Funeral Mass, below are some appropriate suggestions. Please choose:

- 1 reading from the Old Testament
- 1 reading from the New Testament

Old Testament Readings (First Reading) (Please check the box next to the reading you choose)

1. Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the book of Job

Then 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 or 3:1-6, 9 (**Short version**)

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. 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.

3. Wisdom 3:1-9 (**Long version**)

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 people, 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.

The word of the Lord.

4. Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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 .

5. Isaiah 25: 6. 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.

6. Isaiah 61:10-11

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

I rejoice heartily in the Lord. In my God is the joy of my soul; For He has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in the mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all nations.

The Word of the Lord.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. Sirach 6:14-17

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

When one finds a faithful friend, his value is far beyond gold. He is clothed with strength and dignity, and he laughs at the days to come. A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price. No sum can balance his worth. Let your acquaintances be many, but one in a thousand your faithful friend. For he who loves his friends behaves accordingly, and his friends will be like himself.

The Word of the Lord.

10. Proverbs 3:1-6

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years, and bring you peace and prosperity. Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your path straight.

The Word of the Lord.

11. Proverbs 31:10-31 (Short version)

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

Who can find a woman of worth? Far beyond jewels is her value. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom; kindly instruction is on her tongue. "Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

12. Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 (Long version)

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 rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household. She picks out a field to purchase; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She is girt with strength, and sturdy are her arms. She enjoys the success of her dealings, and at night her lamp is undimmed. She reaches out her hand to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. She fears not the snow for her household; her charges are doubly clothed. She makes her own coverlets; fine linen and purple are her clothing. Her husband is prominent at the city gates as he sits with the elders of the land. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom, and on her tongue is kind counsel. She watches the conduct of her household, and eats not her food in idleness. Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her. "Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." Give her reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

13. Ecclesiastes 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every purpose 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. God has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the time-less into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

During the Easter Season

1. Revelation 14:13

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord.

2. Revelation 20:11 - 21:1

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, 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 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.

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

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I John, saw a new haven 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.

New Testament Readings (Second Reading) (Please check the box next to the reading you choose)

1. Acts of the Apostles 10:34-36, 42-43 (**Short version**)

(This reading can be used for 1st reading during the Easter Season)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words: "In truth, I see that God shows not 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. 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. Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43 (**Long version**)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying: "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 children of Israel 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.

3. Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the letter of 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 that 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.

4. Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: 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.

The Word of the Lord.

5. Romans 6:3-4. 8-9 (Short version)

A reading from the letter of 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. 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.

6. Romans 6:3-9 (Long version)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you aware 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.

7. Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

For 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 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 first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

8. Romans 8:31-35. 37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: 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.

The Word of the Lord.

9. Romans 14:7-9. 10-12

A reading from the letter of 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.

10. Corinthians 13:1-13

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

11. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interest, it is not quick tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrong doing but rejoices with the truth, It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. (spoken slowly)

The Word of the Lord

12. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 **(Short version)**

A reading from the first letter of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

13. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 **(Long version)**

A reading from the First Letter of 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.

14. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first letter of 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.

15. 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

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.

16. 2 Corinthians 5:1. 6-10

A reading from the second letter of Saint 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.

17. Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

But 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.

18. Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: Rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

19. Paul to Timothy 4:1-2, 6-8

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: Proclaim the word; Be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; Convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity, will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths. But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out like a libation and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord.

20. Paul to the Ephesians 1:3-6

A reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love, he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise and glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

21. Revelation 3:20

A reading from the Book of Revelation

Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends. God himself will be with them. He will remove all of their sorrows, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. For the old world and its evils are gone forever.

The word of the Lord.

22. Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God, Think of what is above, not of what is on earth, For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

The word of the Lord.

23. Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with wisdom, through psalms, hymns and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

24. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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.

25. 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to 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.

26. 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of 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.

27. 1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first letter of 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.

Music Selections

The following are several hymns appropriate for the funeral liturgy based on the themes of hope, strength, and eternal life with God. Please choose up to four **(4) one** hymn from each category from the list below. Other choices may be requested, though the music must be of a sacred nature since the Funeral Liturgy is a Mass.

Hymn Suggestions (You may go to YouTube to hear these hymns)

(Please check the box next to the Music you have chosen)

Entrance:

- Here I Am, Lord
- On Eagle's Wings
- Be Not Afraid
- Come to Me
- Holy, Holy, Holy
- Hosea
- Praise to the Lord

Offertory:

- You Are Near
- Amazing Grace
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Seek Ye First
- Where Charity and Love Prevail
- On Eagle's Wings
- Here I Am, Lord
- Blest Are They
- I Have Loved You
- You Are Mine
- Whatsoever You Do
- Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Communion:

- Amazing Grace
- All I Ask of You
- Ave Maria
- Eye Has Not Seen
- I Am the Bread of Life
- One Bread, One Body
- Prayer to St. Francis
- Panis Angelicus
- You Are Mine
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- Be Not Afraid
- Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Recessional:

- How Great Thou Art
- The Strife is O'er
- For All The Saints
- Glory and Paise to Our God
- Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
- Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
- To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
- Alleluia, Sing to Jesus
- Now Thank We All Our God
- Canticle of the Sun
- Battle Hymn of the Republic

Suggested Responsorial Psalms (You may go to YouTube to hear these hymns)

Please choose one **(1)** Responsorial Psalm. Other choices may be requested, though the music must be of a sacred nature since the Funeral Liturgy is a Mass.

- Psalm 23 – Shepherd Me, O God
- Psalm 23 – My Shepherd is the Lord
- Psalm 23 – To You O Lord, I Lift My Soul
- Psalm 27 – The Lord is My Light
- Psalm 103 – The Lord is Kind and Merciful

We invite two family members or friends to bring up The Offertory (Bread and Wine), which will be consecrated at Mass. If you have anyone in mind, please let us know.

On behalf of the Parish Family here at Holy Trinity and St. Michael's please accept our condolences for your loss.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Brian Kelly
Fr. Don Rutherford

Co-Pastors

Fr. Samuel Bellafiore
Associate Pastor

