

**St. Joseph's Church**  
**East Wall – North Strand**



**Guidelines for Funerals**

**Scripture Readings**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

The community of the Parish of East Wall and North Strand wishes to extend deep sympathy to you on the death of your loved one. Our parish and the Church of St. Joseph will support you in every way possible, especially in prayer.

This booklet has been prepared by our parish team to guide you through the funeral arrangements in St. Joseph's Church.

When a death occurs, **a funeral director should be contacted**. S/he will contact the parish and together with family members, will help make the necessary funeral arrangements.

Our Funeral Ministry team will also be available to accompany and support you, helping family members arrange Readings, Prayers and music for the funeral.

## IN YOUR TIME OF GRIEF

### Contact your Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group

**Tel:** 087 9505600

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a voluntary Parish-based ministry. It aims to help the bereaved and grieving. Understanding the stages of grief can be helpful and reassuring. It is normal to feel anger, guilt, fear and depression as well as the awful pain of loss. It can help the healing process to talk with a trained listener about your loss; someone outside the circle of family and friends.

**Parish Office :** 01 8560980

**The Samaritans:** 872 7700 or 1850-609090

**Deora Project:** Tel: 855 0730 or 087-974 2742

(Bereavement, Suicide, Loss, Addiction) St. Laurence's Place East, Seville Place, Dublin 1

**Oasis Counselling Centre:** 01-836 4524 or [info@oasiscentre.ie](mailto:info@oasiscentre.ie)

Seville Place, Dublin 1. One to one counselling to individuals, couples, and families in the area of bereavement, loss or separation.

*Counselling for **children** who are bereaved can be arranged through the local school, East Wall and Inner City Area*

**Aware :** 1890 30 33 02 (24hrs - Depression Helpline)

**Beginning Experience:** 679 0556

**In extreme cases it may be necessary to consult your doctor**

It is always useful to pray.

## PARISH GUIDELINES AND THE FUNERAL MASS IN ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus Christ redeemed humanity and gave perfect glory to God, principally by the Paschal Mystery of his Blessed Passion, Resurrection from the Dead, and Glorious Ascension.

In celebrating the Christian Funeral Liturgy, we offer worship, praise and thanksgiving for the gift of a life, which has now been returned to God.

The Mass, the memorial of Christ's Death and Resurrection, is the Principal Celebration of the Christian Funeral.

On certain occasions it may be more appropriate to celebrate a Liturgy of the Word.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

With the help of this Booklet, it is hoped that you will be able to participate as fully as possible in the Christian Funeral Liturgy. You will find a selection of Scripture Readings from the Old Testament and New Testament appropriate for Christian Funeral Celebrations.

You may choose:

- a Reading from the Old Testament – pages 9-12
- or New Testament – pages 17-25
- and/or a reading from both the Old and the New Testament

Whenever an Old Testament Reading is picked it is always the First Reading.

A Responsorial Psalm (*Pages 26-29*) comes after the First Reading. The singer may sing a Responsorial Psalm *or the Psalm may be read.*

**Non-Biblical Readings should not replace Biblical (*Scripture*) Readings.**

There would normally be a Homily, and following consultation with the priest, a few words may be spoken by a family member at the start of the Mass.

**Tips for readers – the following are a few tips which the reader may find helpful:**

1. Practice the reading a out loud a number of times the night before the Mass
2. Ensure that you know which reading you are proclaiming
3. Read slowly and clearly – try not to rush through the reading
4. Make sure you have the reading with you when you come to the Church
5. Speak clearly **into the microphone** – your mouth should be six inches away from the microphone when you are speaking into it.

**OUTLINE OF THE FUNERAL MASS**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Introductory rites</b>       | Reception and Blessing<br>Entrance Procession and Hymn<br>Greeting<br>Thanks and Eulogy – if requested<br>Penitential Rite<br>Opening Prayer  |
| <b>Liturgy of the Word</b>      | First Reading (Old Testament)<br>Responsorial Psalm (Sung – when singer present)<br>Second Reading ( New Testament)<br>Gospel Acclamation<br>Gospel<br>Homily<br>Prayer of the Faithful |
| <b>Liturgy of the Eucharist</b> | Offertory Procession<br>Eucharistic Prayer<br>Communion   |
| <b>Final Commendation</b>       | Prayer<br>Blessing and Incensing of the coffin<br>Song of Farewell  |

A single photograph may be place on the coffin and any other mementos of the deceased person may be left on the Table provided either before or at the beginning of the Mass. Please request a table for this purpose.

## Prayer of the Faithful

You may like to be involved in the Prayers of the Faithful, of which, suggested forms can be found in the booklet you will receive.

## EUCCHARIST GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE

You may also like to participate in the Funeral Liturgy by bringing the Eucharistic Gifts of bread and wine to the Altar at the Presentation of the Gifts (*Offertory*).

## MUSIC & HYMNS

Whenever there is music or singing at a Funeral it should be in keeping with the Liturgical occasion. **Only appropriate Church Music and Hymns are allowed.**

Secular music or a person's favourite song is normally unsuitable to the Church Celebration. You are requested not to ask for Secular Music or a person's favourite song, so as not to put the Celebrant or other Members of the Funeral Support Group in the embarrassing position of having to say No.

## THANK YOUS AND/OR EULOGY

If you would like someone to say a brief 'thank you' and words of remembrance, to those who have come to pray with you at this Christian Funeral Liturgy, please discuss this with the Celebrant, but please remember that **it should be extremely brief, no more than 3 minutes in length.**

Here in St. Joseph's Church, the Celebrant may invite you to do this at the beginning of the Mass.

There are a number of other options as to when and where this may occur:

during the Wake at home,

during the Vigil Service, or

in the funeral parlour

at the end of the Evening Service for the Reception of the Body or

after the Committal prayers in the cemetery or crematorium

If it is agreed with the priest that the Words of Remembrance are to be delivered at the Funeral Mass, then the family member or friend speaks at the invitation of the

Celebrant at the start of the Mass.

The Words of remembrance should be brief – no more than 3 minutes in length – one page. It should be prepared and written out and ideally a copy should be given to the presiding priest before the service. The Words of Remembrance should be about the deceased person's human qualities including his/her life of faith.

In celebrating the Christian Funeral Liturgy, we pray that the deceased may know the fullness of the Resurrection and enjoy the fullness of God's love and mercy.

## OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

**[1] *This I know that my Redeemer lives.***

A reading from the book of Job.

[19:1, 23-27]

**[2] *It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.***

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

[3:17-18; 21-26]

**[3] *The Lord will destroy Death for ever.***

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

[25:6-9]

**[4] *He accepted them as a holocaust.***

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

[3:1-6, 9]

**[5] *The Lord will destroy Death for ever.***

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

[4:7-15]

**[6] *For everything there is a season.***

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

[3:1 - 14]

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*The Responsorial Psalm comes after the First Reading and may be read or sung*

**[1] Responsorial Psalm [Ps 26:1, 4, 7-9, 14]**

**Response:** The Lord is my light and my help.

**[2] Responsorial Psalm [Ps.142:1-2, 5-7, 10]**

**Response:** Lord, listen to my prayer.

**[3] Responsorial Psalm [Ps. 23]**

**Response:** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want

**Response:** *The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

**[4] Responsorial Psalm [Ps.24:6-7, 17-18, 20-21]**

**Response:** Those who hope in the Lord shall not be disappointed.



# NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

[1] ***God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive or dead.***

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. [10:34-36, 42-43]

[2] ***Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.***

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans. [4:7-12]

[3] ***Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us?***

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans. [5:5-11]

[4] ***Let us live a new life.***

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans. [6:3-4; 8-9]

[5] ***Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ.***

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans [8:31-35a; 38b-39]

[6] ***All people will be brought to life in Christ.***

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians [15:20-23]

[7] ***Visible things last only for a time, but the invisible are eternal.***

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. [4:14-5:1]

[8] ***He will transform our bodies like the body of his glory.***

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians. [3:20-21]

[9] ***I have finished the race***

A reading the second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy (4:6-8)

[10] ***We shall stay with the Lord for ever.***

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians. [4:13-18]

[11] ***If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.***

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy. [8-9a; 10-13]

[12] ***We shall see him as he really is.***

A reading from the first letter of St. John. [3:1-2]

**[13]    *God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God.***

A reading from the first letter of St. John.

*[4:13-16]*

**[14]    *Blessed are those who die in the Lord!***

A reading from the book of Revelation.

*[14:13]*

**[15]    *There will be no more death.***

A reading from the book of Revelation.

*[21:1-7]*

*A selection of Prayers of the Faithful is also available in the Booklet.*

# MUSIC FOR FUNERAL MASS

## Entrance Hymn

Abide with me  
When Creation was Begun  
Holy God we Praise thy Name  
How Great Thou Art  
Christ be beside me  
Be Thou My vision  
Be Still  
Walk with me Oh My god

## Psalms

Be not afraid  
The Lord is my Shepherd  
On Eagle's Wings  
In the Shadow of your Wings  
Be with me Lord  
To You O Lord I lift up my Soul  
Shepherd me O God  
The Lord hears the Cry of the Poor

## Offertory

Into Your Hands  
All that we have  
Take our Bread we ask You  
Ag Críost an Síol  
Ave Maria

## Communion

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace  
Panis Angelicus  
Soul of My Saviour  
I am the Bread of Life  
Pie Jesu  
Hiding Place  
The Cloud's Veil  
Nearer My God to Thee  
Amazing Grace  
As I Kneel before You

## Recessional

O Lord My God  
May songs of Angels Welcome You  
Abide with Me  
Day is Done  
I'll Walk with God  
Going Home  
In Paradisum

## **Prayer in time of Bereavement**

Lord, you are close to the broken-hearted.

Be with me now in my grief and loneliness.

Give me the courage to face my loss

and not to grieve in silence.

Be with me as I struggle

With many different and painful feelings.

Ease the hurt in my heart.

Encircle me in your love.

Help me to believe that one day

I will no longer have this deep sorrow.

May I find comfort in sharing my grief

With those who understand the strong bonds of love.

Stay with me, Lord, support me.

Help me to know that your power is at work within me

As I deal with my grief. Amen.