

Our Lady Star of the Sea

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS FOR FUNERALS

OT 1 - FIRST READING

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

*The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torments shall touch them.*

*They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.*

But they are in peace.

*For if before men, indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality;
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them worthy of himself.*

*As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

*In the time of their visitation they shall shine,
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord shall be their King forever.*

*Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with his elect.*

The Word of the Lord.

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OT4. A blameless life is a ripe old age (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.*

OT5. The Lord God will destroy death forever (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.

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OT-EC. There is an appointed time for everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

*There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair 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.*

The Word of the Lord.

OT-PROV. The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10, 25-31)

A reading from the book of Proverbs

*When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls.
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 kindly 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 a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.*

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The Word of the Lord.

READINGS FOR FUNERALS – NEW TESTAMENT

2ND READING

NT 1 – A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and 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.

NT5. *What will separate us from the love of Christ? (Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39)*

A reading from the letter of St. 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.

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NT6. *Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. (Romans 14:7-9)*

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

Brothers and sisters:

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.*

The Word of the Lord.

NT12. *Thus we shall always be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)*

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

*We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.*

*For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,
so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.*

*Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,
that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.*

*For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,
will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.*

*Then we who are alive, who are left,
will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.*

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

NT-TI. *I have finished the race, I have kept the faith (2 Timothy 4:6-8)*

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

*I, Paul, 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