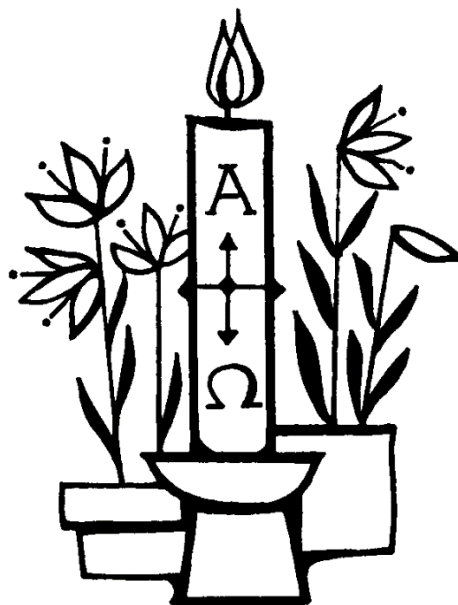


*“I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me shall live,  
and never die....”*

*– John 11:25*



*Funeral Preparation Guide*

*St. Agnes Catholic Church*

*2314 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue*

*Scottsbluff, NE 69361*

*308-632-2541*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**INTRODUCTORY LETTER**

**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS & EMAIL ADDRESSES**

**PREPARING THE VIGIL SERVICE FOR THE DECEASED** 6

**PREPARING THE FUNERAL/MEMORIAL MASS/SERVICE** 7-10

**SUGGESTED MUSIC** 10-14

**OLD TESTAMENT READINGS** 14-18

**NEW TESTAMENT READINGS** 18-24

**GOSPEL READINGS** 25-37

**RESPONSORIAL PSALMS** 37-46

**FUNERAL MEAL INFORMATION** 46

## **FORMS**

---

**VIGIL PREPARATION SHEET**

**FUNERAL/MEMORIAL MASS/SERVICE PREPARATION SHEET**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL – FORM 1**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL – FORM 2**

## **ST. AGNES CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**2314 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue      Scottsbluff, NE 69361**

**Parish Office: 308-632-2541      Fax: 308-632-2146**

**“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 . . . “**

**- Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 2**

My friends,

Preparing a funeral is a very emotional event, whether it is for a loved one who has just died or you are pre-planning your own funeral. When a loved one dies, grieving family members and friends are often confronted with dozens of decisions about the funeral, all of which must be made quickly and often under great emotional distress.

This booklet is meant to be a guide to assist and help individuals in preparing a funeral. The funeral is for the living and is intended to assist us in celebrating the life of the person who has died. No one wants to talk about death and funerals -- too depressing, too macabre. Better to gather with friends and talk about sports or the kids. Certainly, this would be more fun. Unfortunately, death is a fact of life, and there simply is no way to avoid it. Indeed, there is *“a time to be born and a time to die”*.

When someone dies, we hold a funeral, a word related to a Sanskrit term meaning “smoke”, which refers to an ancient custom of cremating the dead. Today, although we also sometimes cremate our dead, the most common disposition is to hold a funeral, or another ceremony, and to bury our dead under or above ground. Through a funeral, we pay our last respects and celebrate the life of a departed loved one.

The Catholic Church has rich symbolism and rituals built around this significant event -- rituals and symbolism that are meant to give hope and faith, supported by the consolation of God and the community. There are **three parts** to the Catholic Order of Funerals. The first part, the Vigil, is a prayer service, usually held the evening before the funeral Mass, in which we recognize and realize that we have suffered a loss and gather to say goodbye to the one who has died. The second part, the Funeral Mass, is a celebration of new life for our loved one, a liturgy that is based upon our faith and our hope of the resurrection. The third part is the Committal, during which we bury the one who has died, either bodily or his/her cremains.

On **page 22** you will find a sheet for preparing the Vigil Service. One **page 23** is a sheet requesting funeral program details, and on **pages 24 – 25** you will find a sheet for preparing a Funeral Mass/Memorial Mass/Service. On these pages, there are various options available from which you may choose. There are page numbers on these forms that refer you to corresponding page numbers in this packet, which will spell out these options more fully.

It is our hope you will find this booklet useful. If we or our parish staff can be of any help to you in any way, please do not hesitate to simply call and ask for assistance.

God’s peace,

Fr. Rayappa Konka

**Pastor:** Fr. Rayappa Konka (308) 632-2541

[fatherkonka@st-agnes-church.com](mailto:fatherkonka@st-agnes-church.com)

## **Important Contact Information**

**Fr. Rayappa Konka**

Pastor

(308) 632-2541

[fatherkonka@st-agnes-church.com](mailto:fatherkonka@st-agnes-church.com)

**Connie Kirchner**

Funeral Coordinator

(308) 637-1442

**Jessica Mikoloyck**

Director of Music

Cell (308) 631-6290

[jes.mikoloyck@gmail.com](mailto:jes.mikoloyck@gmail.com)

**Theresa Trevino**

Parish Office Support Staff

(308) 632-2541

[office@st-agnes-church.com](mailto:office@st-agnes-church.com)

**Parish Fax Number**

(308) 632-2146

**Parish Address:**

2314 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Scottsbluff, NE. 69361

**Parish Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 349, Scottsbluff, NE. 69363-0349

### **Funeral Dinner Coordinator**

**Deb Hilzer**

(308) 641-3801

### **Funeral Homes**

**Bridgman Funeral Home**

2102 Broadway, Scottsbluff

(308) 632-2121

**Duggan Kramer Funeral Home**

3201 Avenue B, Scottsbluff

(308) 632-4101

**Reverence Funeral Parlor**

2002 Char Avenue, Scottsbluff

(308) 633-5763

## Preparing the Vigil Service for the Deceased

**Place:** The usual procedure is for there to be a visitation at the funeral home followed by a Vigil Service the evening before the funeral. The family may elect, if the expectation is that there will be more than 75 people in attendance, to have the visitation and the Vigil Service at St. Agnes Church.

**Presider:** The Presider at the Vigil can be a Priest or a Deacon. This is the person who will lead the service in general and will be a leader of prayer throughout the evening.

**Time:** There is no set time for the Vigil Service. Most vigils begin at 7:00 PM.

**Music:** Generally, at a Vigil Service, we do not have music; but if you request it, we can have (at a minimum) an opening song, a closing song, a sung Responsorial Psalm and an Alleluia. Music may be chosen from the list of music suggestions on **pages 6- 7**. If the Vigil Service is at the church, other music may be possible after approval. We have the ability to play CDs (may be used for listening, not for singing). If you engage musicians for the Vigil, they should be compensated in some way for their contribution toward the Service. Please discuss this with Chris Wolf.

**Readings:** At the wake service there are usually two readings, one from the Old or New Testament and one from the Gospels. The Old and New Testament Readings are found on **pages 9 – 13**. The Gospel readings are found on **pages 14 – 19**. After reading through the choices, write in the # of the reading in the space provided. If there is someone among your family members or friends who can be a Lector and read the readings, there is a space provided to write their names. If there is no one who can do this, the Presider will find one for you or will read the readings himself. The Gospel is always read by a Priest or a Deacon.

**Homily Ideas:** The Presider may or may not know the deceased very well. Therefore, it is always welcomed to have input as to what would be important to be shared at the vigil. This could be interesting stories, anecdotes, favorite things -- however the deceased would like to be remembered. The Presider will interlace these

stories with the scripture chosen to put together a reflection that will celebrate the life of the deceased in the context of our faith.

**Personal Sharing:** After the Presider has finished his homily, there is an opportunity, *if the family so chooses*, for “personal sharing”. This could be anything from a favorite poem, a reflection written by a friend or family member, a favorite song, any type of eulogy, or a combination of any of these. This is optional and entirely up to the family. **Maximum time of sharing suggested is 10 minutes.**

**Rosary:** A Rosary is not a required part of the Vigil Service but is a traditional option that is often included. There are three options if the Rosary is chosen as a part of the service: the full Rosary, three decades of the Rosary (the birth, the death and the Resurrection of Jesus) or just one decade of the Rosary.

**Prayers of the Faithful:** The rite for the Vigil Service provides Prayers of the Faithful (petitions). You may choose someone to read these or you may simply ask the Presider to do so.

### **Preparing the Funeral Mass/Memorial Mass for the Deceased**

**Presider:** If a Mass is to be held for the Funeral Rites, the Presider must be a priest. If a Funeral Service is being held without a Mass, the Presider can be a Priest or a Deacon. If there are family friends or relatives who are clergy, they are invited to participate. Please check with the Presider about this.

**Place:** If the Funeral celebration is going to be a Mass, it must be in the Church. If the Funeral celebration is going to be a Service without a Mass, it can be held either in the funeral home or the Church, whichever the family prefers.

**Altar Servers:** The parish can provide altar servers from our parish volunteers. If the family wishes to have their own servers, please inform the priest as soon as possible.

**Time:** Generally, the time for the Funeral Mass is 10:00 or 10:30 AM. Other times are possible. Please check with the priest before making final arrangements.

**Placing the Pall:** The Pall is the white cloth that covers the casket. It recalls the day of baptism when the deceased was wrapped in a white cloth and given a challenge to bring their Christian Dignity unstained into the Kingdom of Heaven. It is most fitting for family members to place the pall on the casket, if they are willing to do so.

**Other Symbolic Items:** If the family would like to bring forward items that are indicative or symbolic of the deceased, please let the Presider know and work out the logistics with him. These may be carried in the Entrance procession and placed on a table near the casket.

**Readings:** There are usually three readings: one from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament and one from the Gospels. The Old Testament Readings are found on **pages 9 – 10**; the New Testament Readings are found on **pages 10 – 14**; the Gospel Readings are found on **pages 14 – 20**. If there is someone among your family members or friends who can be a Lector and read the readings, there is a space provided to write their names. If there is no one who can do this, the Presider will find one for you or the Presider will read the readings himself. The Gospel is always read by a Priest or a Deacon.

The **Responsorial Psalm** is **SUNG** and is included in the musical choices (**page 6**).

**Homily Ideas:** The Presider may or may not know the deceased very well. Therefore, it is always welcomed to have input as to what would be important to be shared at the Mass or Service. This could be interesting stories, anecdotes, favorite things -- however the deceased would like to be remembered. The Presider will interlace these stories with the scripture chosen to put together a Homily that will celebrate the life of the deceased in the context of our faith.

**Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions):** Two forms are provided for the Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions). Please choose Form #1 or Form #2, which can be found on **pages 27 – 28**. Please fill in the blanks that are provided. If there is someone among your family members or friends who can read the Petitions, there is a space provided to write their name. If there is no one who can do this, the Presider will read them.

**Gift Bearers:** There are gifts of bread and wine that are used during the Eucharist. If the family has family members or friends whom they wish to bring the gifts forward, please write their name on the Preparation Sheet.

**Eucharistic Ministers (EMHC's):** Usually, the parish provides a person to serve as a Eucharistic Minister at the Funeral Mass or Memorial Mass. However, if you have an EMHC among your family members or friends who would like to assist with this ministry, please write their name on the Preparation Sheet.

**Music:** For the most part, music should be chosen from the list of music suggestions on **pages 6 – 7**. If you have other music that you would like included in the Mass, please discuss these selections with our Director of Music, Chris Wolf.

Normally, the organist/pianist and cantor (singer) are St. Agnes music ministers. Although only St. Agnes keyboardists may play the organ, if you have family members or friends who would like to be involved in the music for the funeral, that is possible. Please discuss this with Chris Wolf.

Parish music ministers, who provide music for a Funeral or Memorial Mass, should be compensated for their services. Usually these arrangements are made through the funeral home, with the present customary stipend being \$200 per person. If you do not arrange for the funeral home to pay the music ministers, please arrange for someone to take care of this for you on the day of the funeral.

**Special Instructions:** If there are any other details that have not been covered, please provide them in the space provided

**St. Agnes Catholic Church Funeral Music Possibilities**

(Music with numbers are found in “Breaking Bread” 2018)

<b>Opening Songs:</b>	All Creatures of Our God & King	#537
	Amazing Grace	#433
	Be Not Afraid	#432
	Blest Be the Lord	#431
	City of God	Gather 294
	Come Follow Me	#505
	For All the Saints	#723
	Gather Your People	#313
	Glory and Praise to Our God	#546
	Here I Am, Lord	#379
	Rain Down	#601
	Sing A New Song	#544
	We Walk By Faith	Gather 252

<b>Responsorial Psalms:</b>	Lord, You Have the Words (Ps. 19)	Gather 18
	Shepherd Me, O God (Ps. 23)	Gather 20
	Create In Me (Ps. 51)	Gather 31
	The Lord is My Light (Ps. 27}	Gather 23
	Be With Me Lord (Ps. 91)	Gather 42
	The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Ps. 103)	Gather 46

<b>Preparation of the Gifts:</b>	Amazing Grace	#433
(should be fairly short)	Beyond the Moon and Stars	#46
	Christ Be Our Light	#596
	Come to the Water	#604
	Eye Has Not Seen	Gather 275
	Fly Like a Bird	#464
	Hosea	#666
	How Can I Keep From Singing	#442
	How Great Thou Art	#425
	I Have Loved You	#603
	I Know That My Redeemer Lives	#679
	I, The Lord	#680
	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	#600
	In Every Age	#467
	Jesus, Come to Us	#395

Lord of All Hopefulness	#403
Only This I Want	#499
Peace is Flowing Like a River	#529
Prayer of St. Francis	#523
Rain Down	#601
Seek Ye First	#436
Softly and Tenderly	#658
The Clouds Veil	
These Alone Are Enough	#396

<b>Communion:</b>	Be Not Afraid	Gather 263
	Behold the Lamb	#339
	Beyond the Days	#125
	Blest Are They	Gather 284
	Bread, Blessed & Broken	#329
	Bring Firth the Kingdom	Gather 280
	Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled	
	Eye Has Not Seen	Gather 275
	Gift of Finest Wheat	#324
	Here I Am, Lord	Gather 291
	I Am the Bread of Life	Gather 337
	Miracle of Grace	#359

	No Greater Love	Gather 269
	On Eagle's Wings	Gather 261
	One Bread, One Body	#340
	Open My Eyes/Amazing Grace	
	Seed, Scattered and Sown	#356
	Servant Song	#377
	Song of the Body of Christ	#333
	The Name of God	Gather 342
	We Are Many Parts	#583
	We Have Been Told	Gather 296
	We Remember	Gather 249
	Whatever You Do	#622
	You Are Mine	#457
	You Are Near	#435
<b>Song of Farewell:</b>	Song of Farewell	#683
<b>Closing Songs:</b>	Amazing Grace	#433
	Canticle of the Sun	#426
	Christ Be Our Light	#596
	City of God	Gather 294
	For All the Saints	#723
	Glory and Praise to Our God	#546

Here I Am, Lord	#379
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name	#192
How Great Thou Art	#425
In the Day of the Lord	#575
Sing a New Song	#544
We Are Called	Gather 301
We Will Rise Again	Gather 350

## **Old Testament Readings**

### **OT-1 2 Maccabees 12: 43 – 46**

A reading from the second 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.

### **OT-2 Job 19: 1, 23 – 27a**

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.

**OT-3a Wisdom 3: 1 – 9 (Long Form)**

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 his elect.

The word of the Lord.

**OT-3b Wisdom 3: 1 – 6, 9 (Short Form)**

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 his elect.

The word of the Lord.

**OT-4 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. Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

**OT-5 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!"

8

The word of the Lord.

**OT-6 Lamentation 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.

### **OT-7 Daniel 12: 1 – 3**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel.

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and 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.

### **OT-8 Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 12, 14a**

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.

I have considered the task which God has appointed for men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done. I recognized that there is nothing better than to be glad and to do well during life. I recognized that whatever God does will endure forever.

The word of the Lord.

## **New Testament Readings**

### **NT-1 Acts 10: 34 – 43 (Long Form)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words: “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.

### **NT-2 Acts 10: 34 – 36, 42 – 43 (Short Form)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words: “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. 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.

**NT-3 Romans 5: 5 – 11**

A reading from the letter of 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, 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-4 Romans 5: 17 – 21**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

If, by the transgression of the 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 the one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the 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.

**NT-5a Romans 6: 3 – 9 (Long Form)**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

9

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.

**NT-5b Romans 6: 3 – 4, 8 – 9 (Short Form)**

A reading from the letter of 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 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.

**NT-6 Romans 8: 14 – 23**

A reading from the letter of 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 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.

**NT-7 Romans 8: 31b – 35, 37 – 39**

A reading from the letter of 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? 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.

**NT-8 Romans 14: 7 – 9, 10b – 12**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

No one 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.

**NT-9a 1 Corinthians 15: 20 – 28 (Long Form)**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

10

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits 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 first fruits; 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.

**NT-9b 1 Corinthians 15: 20 – 23 (Short Form)**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits 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 first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**NT-10 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 that which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and that 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.

**NT-11 2 Corinthians 4: 14 – 5: 1**

A reading from the second letter of 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 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.

**NT-12 2 Corinthians 5: 1, 6 – 10**

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

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 always 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 may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.

**NT-13 Philippians 3: 20 – 21**

A reading from the letter of 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.

**NT-14 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 – 18**

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

11

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-15 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.

**NT-16 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.

**NT-17 1 John 3: 14 – 16**

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother or sister 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 and sisters.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Readings**

**G-1 Matthew 5: 1 – 12a**

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.

**G-2      Matthew 11: 25 – 30**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

On one occasion Jesus spoke thus: “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.

**G-3      Matthew 25: 1 – 13**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

12

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight,

there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-4      Matthew 25: 31 – 46**

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.'

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-5a      Mark 15: 33 – 39, 16: 1 – 6 (Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back; it was very large. On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed. He said to them, "Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-5b     Mark 15: 33 – 39 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-6     Luke 7: 11 – 17**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

13

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity

for her and said to her, “Do not weep.” He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!” The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, “A great prophet has arisen in our midst,” and “God has visited his people.” This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-7      Luke 12: 35 – 40**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: “Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-8      Luke 23: 33, 39 – 43**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.” The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, “Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.” He replied to him, “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**G-9a Luke 23: 44 – 46, 50, 52 – 53, 24: 1 – 6a**

**(Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-9b Luke 23: 44 – 46, 50, 52 – 53 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-10a Luke 24: 13 – 35 (Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Now that very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them, who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-10b Luke 24: 13 – 16, 28 – 35 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

That very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other,

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?” So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them, who were saying, “The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!” Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-11     John 5: 24 – 29**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the Jews: “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.

**G-12     John 6: 37 – 40**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

15

Jesus said to the crowd: “Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-13 John 6: 51 – 58**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the crowd: “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 eats this bread will live forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-14a John 11: 17 – 27 (Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-14b John 11: 21 – 27 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **G-15     John 11: 32 – 45**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Sir, come and see.” And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.” But some of them said, “Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?”

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him, “Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me.” And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to the crowd, “Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **G-16a     John 12: 23 – 28 (Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus told his disciples: “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life will lose it, and whoever hates his life in this world will

preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

“I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-16b John 12: 23 – 26 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus told his disciples: “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life will lose it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-17 John 14: 1 – 6**

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.

**G-18 John 17: 24 – 26**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: “Father, your disciples are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-19a John 19: 17 – 18, 25 – 30 (Short Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus carrying the cross himself went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle. Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I thirst.” There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, “It is finished.” And bowing his head, he handed over the Spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**G-19b John 19: 17 – 18, 25 – 39 (Long Form)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus carrying the cross himself went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle. Standing

by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the Spirit.

Now since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath, for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.

An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may come to believe. For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled: Not a bone of it will be broken. And again another passage says: They will look upon him whom they have pierced. After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalms**

**R-1      Psalm 23: 1 – 3, 4, 5, 6**

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

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.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake. (*response*)

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. (*response*)

You spread the table before me

in the sight of my foes;

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows. (*response*)

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. (*response*)

**R-2 Psalm 25: 6 & 7b, 17 – 18, 20 – 21**

**Response:** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord,

and your kindness are from of old.

In your kindness remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord. (*response*)

Relieve the troubles of my heart;

and bring me out of my distress.

Put an end to my affliction and my suffering;

and take away all my sins. *(response)*

Preserve my life and rescue me;

let me not be put to shame,

for I take refuge in you.

let integrity and uprightness preserve me,

because I wait for you, O Lord. *(response)*

**R-3 Psalm 27: 1, 4, 7 & 8b & 9a, 13 – 14**

**Response:** 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? *(response)*

One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek:

To dwell in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life,

that I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord

and contemplate his temple. *(response)*

Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call;

have pity on me, and answer me.

Your presence, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not your face from me. *(response)*

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. *(response)*

**R-4 Psalm 42: 2, 3, 5c-f, 43: 3, 4, 5**

**Response:** My soul is thirsting for the living God.

As the deer longs for the running waters,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul is thirsting for the living God:  
when shall see him face to face?

A thirst is my soul for God, the living God.

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

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. *(response)*

Send forth your light and your fidelity;  
they shall lead me on

And bring me to your holy mountain,  
to your dwelling-place. *(response)*

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! *(response)*

Why are you so downcast, O my soul?  
Why do you sigh within me?  
Hope in God!  
For I shall again be thanking him,  
in the presence of my savior and my God.

*(response)*

**R-5 Psalm 63: 2, 3 – 4, 5 – 6, 8 – 9**

**Response:** My soul is thirsting for you,  
O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts  
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without

water. *(response)*

Thus have I gazed toward you  
in the sanctuary to see your power and your  
For your kindness is a greater good than life;

glory,

my lips shall glorify you. *(response)*

Thus will I bless you while I live;

lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.

as with the riches of a banquet shall my soul

be satisfied,

and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

*(response)*

You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings

I shout for joy.

My soul clings fast to you;

your right hand upholds me. *(response)*

**R-6 Psalm 103: 8 & 10, 13 – 14, 15 – 16, 17 – 18**

**Response:** The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,

slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us,

nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

*(response)*

As a father has compassion on his children,

so the Lord has compassion on those who

fear him.

For he knows how we are formed,

he remembers that we are dust. *(response)*

Man's days are like those of grass;  
like a flower of the field he blooms;  
The wind sweeps over him and he is gone,  
and his place knows him no more. *(response)*

But the kindness of the Lord is from eternity,  
to eternity toward those who fear him,  
And his justice toward children's children  
among those who keep his covenant  
and remember to fulfill his precepts. *(response)*

**R-7Psalm 116: 5, 6, 10 – 11, 15 – 16a**

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

Gracious is the Lord and just;  
yes, our God is merciful.  
The Lord keeps the little ones;  
I was brought low, and he saved me. *(response)*

I believed, even when I said,  
“I am greatly afflicted”;  
I said in my alarm,  
“No man is dependable.” *(response)*

Precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful ones.  
O Lord, I am your servant,  
you have loosed my bonds. *(response)*

**R-8 Psalm 122: 1 – 2, 4 – 5, 6 – 7, 8 – 9**

**Response:** Let us go rejoicing 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. *(response)*

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.  
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. *(response)*

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

Because of my relatives and friends

I will say “Peace be within you!”

Because of the house of the Lord, our God,

I will pray for your good. *(response)*

**R-9 Psalm 130: 1 – 2, 3 – 4, 5 – 6ab, 6c – 7, 8**

**Response:** Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to my voice in

supplication. *(response)*

If you, O Lord, mark iniquities,

Lord, who can stand?

But with you is forgiveness,

that you may be revered. *(response)*

I trust in the Lord’

my soul trusts in his word.

My soul waits for the Lord

more than the sentinels wait for the dawn.

*(response)*

More than the sentinels wait for the dawn,

let Israel wait for the Lord,

For with the Lord is kindness

and with him is plenteous redemption.

And he will redeem Israel

from all their iniquities. (*response*)

### **St. Agnes Catholic Church Funeral Meal Information**

Our Funeral Dinner Coordinator, Deb Hilzer and other members of our Funeral Dinner Committee, will prepare a luncheon for your family members and guests. Please indicate on the funeral preparation form an estimated number of people you believe will attend the funeral luncheon. Please take into consideration the day of the week, whether the luncheon will be immediately after the Mass/Service or if it will take place after returning from the cemetery. All of these considerations will affect the number. Usually, we suggest including family and a few close friends in the count.

The Funeral Committee incurs a cost of **\$3.00 per planned guest** to prepare the meal. A donation the day of the meal, to cover this service, is greatly appreciated.

#### Menu Options:

**Hot Buffet:** Baked Slice Ham and Potatoes Au Gratin

**Cold Buffet:** Cold Sandwiches and Potato Chips

**Sides:** Salads, Dinner Rolls, Dessert Table

**Beverages:** Coffee, water and Lemonade

\*\*\*

**Checks may be made payable the day of the funeral to**

**"St. Agnes Altar Society"**

**St. Agnes Church, 2314 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Scottsbluff, NE 69361**

Should there be questions about the food service, please contact Deb Hilzer (308) 641-8052.