

**St. James Parish
Funeral Liturgy Readings**



If you wish, you may choose one Old Testament Reading and one New Testament Reading . In the Easter Season, both readings should be from the New Testament.

If you have any music requests, please call our Parish Music Director, at (516) 731-3710 x49.

READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT.

1.) 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.

What advantage has the worker from his toil?

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.

The Word of the Lord

2.) 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.

3.) 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 Redeemer lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon
the dust;**

And from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him.

The Word of the Lord.

4.) A reading from the Book of Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples A feast of rich food and choice wines.

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.

READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT.

1.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

**Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.**

**For Christ, while we were still helpless,
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.**

**Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,
though perhaps for a good person
one might even find courage to die.**

**But God proves his love for us
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.**

**How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,
will we be saved through him from the wrath.**

**Indeed, if, while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled,
will we be saved by his life.**

**Not only that,
but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

The Word of the Lord.

2.) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

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.

3) A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters,

What then shall we say ? If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn? It is Christ (Jesus) who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

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

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things,² 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.

4.) A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters,

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being.

For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits;

then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power.

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

5.) A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Then I , John, 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."

Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true."

He said to me, "They are accomplished. 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.