

ORDER OF A FUNERAL MASS

Introductory Rites

Greeting
Sprinkling the Casket with Holy Water
Placing of the Pall (sometimes done by family members)
Opening Song
Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading (taken from the Old Testament)
Psalm (sung by cantor)
Second Reading (taken from the New Testament)
Gospel Acclamation (sung by cantor)
Gospel Reading
Intercessions/Petitions

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Christians are baptized into the paschal mystery of Christ's death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sin and fullness of salvation. This mystery is celebrated in every Mass, remembering Christ's loving deed and giving thanks and praise to God. The celebration reaches its high point as the priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, lifting up the vessels containing the Body and Blood of Christ.

Offertory/Presentation of Gifts

Gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar table (by members of the deceased family if they so choose), and everything is prepared for the celebration.

Communion Rite

Communion ministers from the parish will assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. Family members or friends of the deceased who serve as Eucharistic Ministers in their home parish may assist with the distribution of communion. This should be arranged beforehand with the priest.

Communion Song (solo or congregational)
Meditational Song (Optional)
Eulogy (Optional)

Final Commendation

Invitation to Prayer
Song of Farewell (solo)
Prayer of Commendation
Closing Song and Procession to the Place of Committal (cemetery)