

ORDER FOR VISITING A CEMETERY

This order is a solemn commemoration of the departed whose bodies lie in a cemetery.

GREETING

A minister who is a priest or deacon greets the people:

**The grace and peace of God our Father,
who raised Jesus from the dead,
be with you always.**

All respond:
And Also with you.

A lay minister greets those present in the following words:

**Praise be God our Father,
who raised Jesus from the dead.
Blessed be God for ever.**

All respond:
Blessed be God for ever.

The minister, using these words, says:

**My dear friends,
we gather today to pray for our brothers and sisters
whose bodies lie here in rest.
They have passed from death to life
in company with the Lord Jesus,
who died and rose to new life,
and are purified now of their faults.
We pray that God may welcome them
among all the saints of heaven.**

READING OF THE WORD OF GOD

A reader or the minister reads a text of sacred Scriptures.

Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of the first letter of 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.

PSALM

A responsorial psalm may be sung, or some other suitable songs.

TO YOU, O LORD, I LIFT UP MY SOUL.

In you I trust; let me not be put to shame,
let not my enemies exult over me.
No one who waits for you shall be put to shame;
those shall be put to shame who heedlessly break faith.

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior,
and for you I wait all the day.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord,
and your kindness are from of old.
The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;
In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
he teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy
toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
For your name's sake, O Lord,
you will pardon my guild, great as it is.

LITANY

The litany is sung or recited, the minister sprinkles the graves with holy water, if desired, may also incense them.

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Holy Mary, Mother of God
Saint Michael
Saint John the Baptist
Saint Joseph
Saint Peter and Saint Paul
Saint Andrew
Saint Stephen
Saint Andrew
Saint Ann
Saint Teresa
Saint Lorenzo Ruiz
Saint Ferdinand
Blessed Pedro de Zuniga
Blessed Pedro Calungsod

pray for them
pray for them
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The names of other saints may be added.

All holy men and women

pray for them

Christ, pardon all their faults	Lord, hear our prayer
Christ, remember the good they have done	Lord, hear our prayer
Christ, receive them into eternal life	Lord, hear our prayer
Christ, comfort all those who mourn	Lord, hear our prayer
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy

LORD'S PRAYER

The minister then invites those present to pray the Lord's Prayer, in these words:

**With Christ there is mercy and fullness of redemption;
let us pray as Jesus taught us:**

All:

Our Father, in heaven,
holy be your name,
your kingdom come;
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not bring us to the test
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

PRAYER

The minister then says the prayer:

All-powerful God,
whose mercy is never withheld
from those who call upon you in hope,
look kindly on your servants **(N. and N.)**,
who departed this life confessing your name,
and number them among your saints for evermore.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All respond:

Amen.

Or:

Almighty God and Father,
by the mystery of the cross, you have made us strong;
by the sacrament of the resurrection
you have sealed us as your own.
Look kindly upon your servants,
now freed from the bonds of mortality,
and count them among your saints in heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All respond:

Amen.

Or:

Almighty God and Father,
it is our certain faith
that your Son, who died on the cross,
was raised from the dead,
the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep.
Grant that through this mystery
your servant **N.**, who has gone to his/her rest in Christ,
may share in the joy of his resurrection.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All respond:

Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

The minister says:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

All respond:

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

All respond:

Amen.

**May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

All respond:

Amen.

A priest or deacon adds:

**May the peace of God,
which is beyond all understanding,
keep your heart and minds
in the knowledge and love of God
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.**

All respond:

Amen.

Then he bless all present:

**And may almighty God bless you all,
the Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

All respond:

Amen.

The service may be concluded by a suitable psalm or other song.