

Funeral Information Pack



The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St Peter's and St Columba's

Arranging a Funeral

This pack has been provided in order to give you the information you need to help you arrange a funeral Mass at St Peter's or St Columba's Roman Catholic Church.

For questions or support when filling out this pack, please speak the Parish Priest.

Contact Details: Parish Priest

77 Falcon Avenue,
Edinburgh
EH10 4AN

Email and Tel: see [Contact us](#) page on website

Instructions:

- Please read all of the information found in this pack.
- You must complete the page entitled Funeral Mass: Order of Service and **return it** to the Parish Priest at **least two days** prior to the Funeral.
- This booklet also contains a selection of readings and responsorial psalms for you to choose from. If you would like to choose a different reading, please confirm this with the Parish Priest.

Requirements for the Funeral Liturgy

Music

Please choose one hymn for

- *Entrance*
- *Preparation of the Gifts*
- *Exit from the Church*

Please also choose one or two hymns for *Communion*. Note that hymns to Our Lady can be sung at any time.

If you would like the *Responsorial Psalm* to be sung, please choose a suitable psalm.

At your request, the undertaker will arrange an organist for the Funeral Mass. Alternative musical arrangements should only be made after consultation with the Parish Priest.

We ask that you choose only **religious music** for the funeral liturgy. Please note that we do not have a PPL License and therefore cannot play any recorded music. *All music choices must be noted on the attached form and returned to the Parish Priest*

Readings

This folder contains a selection of scripture readings which are appropriate for the funeral liturgy. Please choose at least two:

- *First Reading*
- *Responsorial Psalm*
- *Second Reading* (optional)

You may ask family members or friends to proclaim the readings. If this is not possible, please let us know and a parishioner will proclaim them. *All chosen readings must be noted on the attached form and returned to the Parish Priest.*

Offertory Procession

Two or more people can bring forward the gifts at the offertory procession. Please make sure the Priest knows how many people you would like in the procession by *filling in the attached form.*

Contact Details:

Parish Priest
77 Falcon Avenue,
Edinburgh
EH10 4AN

Email: See [Contact us](#) page on website
Telephone 0131 447 2502

Please speak to the Parish Priest.
if you would like details about the local Bereavement Group.

Suggested Fees

The Church makes no charge for a funeral; however we would suggest the following points for your consideration:

- **Priest:** An offering is usually made to the priest who celebrates the funeral. This is a contribution towards his upkeep. The amount given varies according to your means.
- **Organist:** An offering is normally given to the organist. This should be £50.
- **Parish:** Although there is no fee for the church as such, if you do not normally come to Mass you may wish to make a contribution for the use of the church, heating and lighting etc. This should be put in a separate envelope from the priest's offering.

Funeral Mass: Order of Service

To be returned to the Parish Priest at least 2 days before the funeral.

Name of Deceased: _____

HYMNS

Entrance Hymn	
Presentation of Gifts	
Communion 1	
Communion 2	
Recessional	

READINGS

First Reading	
Second Reading	

Offertory Procession (2,3 or 4 people)	
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Suggested Liturgical Texts

First Reading from the Old Testament Outside the Easter Season

Reading 1

A reading from the book of Wisdom

3:1-9

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God,
no torment shall touch them.
In the eyes of the unwise they did appear to die,
their going looked like a disaster,
their leaving us like an annihilation;
But they are in peace.
If they experienced punishment as men see it,
their hope was rich with immortality;
slight was their affliction, great was their blessing be.
God has put them to the test;
He has tested them like gold in the furnace,
And accepted them as a holocaust.
When the time comes for his visitation they will shine out,
as sparks run through the, so will they;
they shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and the LORD shall be their King forever.
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
Those who are faithful will live with him in love;
For grace and mercy await those he has chosen.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

How gracious is the Lord and just;
Our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. R.

I trusted even when I said;
'I am sorely afflicted,'
And when I said in my alarm;
'No man can be trusted.' R.

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
Is the death of his faithful
Your servant Lord, your servant am I;
You have loosened my bonds. R.

Reading 2

A reading from the book of Wisdom

4:7-15

The virtuous man though he die before his time, will find rest.
Length of days is not what makes age honourable,
nor number of years the true measure of life;
understanding this is man's grey hairs,
untarnished life this is ripe old age.
He has sought to please, so God has loved him;
As he was living among sinners, he has been taken up.
He has been carried off so that evil may not warp his understanding
Or treachery seduce his soul.
For the fascination of evil throws good things into the shade,
And the whirlwind of desire corrupts a simple heart.
Coming to perfection in so short a while, he achieved long life;
his soul being pleasing to the Lord,
he has taken him quickly from the wickedness around him.
Yet people look on, uncomprehending;
It does not enter their heads
that grace and mercy await the chosen of the Lord
and protection, his holy ones.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil
would I fear, for you are there with me.**

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want
Fresh and green are the pastures
Where he gives me repose;
Near restful waters he leads me,
To revive my drooping spirit. R.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
And these you give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes
My head you have anointed with oil;
My cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,
All the days of my life,
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
For ever and ever. R.

Reading 3

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food.
On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy death forever.
The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved
us.

Responsorial Psalm

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want.**

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Where he gives me repose;
Near restful waters he leads me,
To revive my drooping spirit. R.

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You are there with your crook and your staff;
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You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes
My head you have anointed with oil;
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All the days of my life,
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
For ever and ever. R.

Reading 4

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

12:43-45

Judas, the leader of the Jews, took up a collection among all the people individually, amounting to nearly two thousand drachmas, and sent it to Jerusalem to have a sacrifice for sin offered, an altogether fine and noble action, in which he took full account of the resurrection. For if he had not expected the fallen to rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead, whereas if he had in view the splendid recompense reserved for those who make a pious end, the thought was holy and devout. This is why he had this atonement sacrifice offered for the dead, so that they might be released from their sin.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **The Lord is compassion and love.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
Slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
Nor repay us according to our faults. R.

As a father has compassion on his sins,
The Lord has pity on those who fear him;
For he knows of what we are made,
He remembers that we are dust. R.

As for man, his days are like grass;
He flowers like the flower of the field;
The wind blows and he is gone
And his place never sees him again. R.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting
For those who hold him in fear;
His justice reaches out to children's children
When they keep his covenant in truth. R.

First Reading from the New Testament
Within The Easter Season

Reading 1

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:34-36. 42-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise,' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' 'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men, and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God**

For you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. R.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. R.

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. R.

On my bed I remember you, on you I muse through the night. For you have been my help, in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you, your right hand holds me fast. R.

Reading 2

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

14:13

I, John, heard a voice say to me, 'write down: Happy are those who die in the Lord! Happy indeed, the Spirit says; now they can rest for ever after their work, since their good deeds go with them.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. R.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. R.

My soul is waiting for the Lord; I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than the watchman for daybreak. R.

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption;
Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. R.

Reading 3

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

21:1-7

I John, saw a new heaven and a new earth: the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the one sitting on the throne spoke, 'Now I am making the whole of creation new,' he said. 'I will give water from the well of life free to anybody who is thirsty; it is the rightful inheritance of the one who proves victorious; and I will be his God and he a son to me.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

The response to the Psalm is: **I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house."**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
"Let us go to God's house."
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. R.

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. R.

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgment
of the house of David. R.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
"Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!" R.

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: "Peace upon you!"
For the love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. R.

Second Reading from the New Testament (Optional)

Reading 1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

5:5-11

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Reading 2

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

15:51-57

I will tell you something that has been secret: that we are not all going to die, but we shall all be changed. This will be instantaneous, in the twinkling of an eye, when the last trumpet sounds. It will sound, and the dead will be raised, imperishable, and we shall be changed as well, because our present perishable nature must put on imperishability and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of Scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Reading 3

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 4:14 – 5:1

We know that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

That is why there is no weakening on our part, and instead, though this outer human form of ours may be falling into decay, the inner person is renewed day by day. Yes, the troubles which are soon over, though they weigh little, train us for the carrying of a weight of eternal glory which is out of all proportion to them. And so we have no eyes for things that are visible, but only for things that are invisible; for visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal.

For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in heavens.

The word of the Lord.

Reading 4

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

4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The word of the Lord.

Reading 5

A reading from the first letter of St John 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.