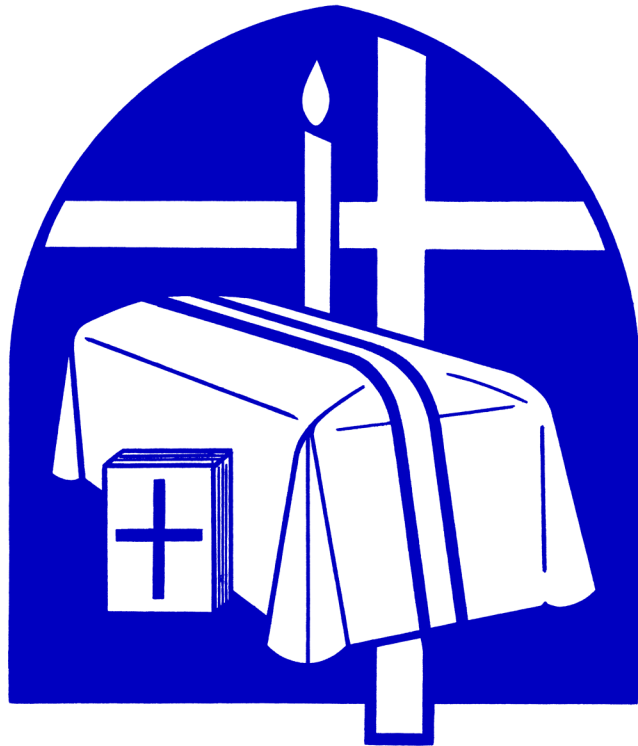


Funeral Liturgy

Scripture Selections



Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption
480 McIntyre Street West
North Bay, ON
P1B 2Z4



A reading from the book of Job

Job said to those who reproached him:

"Ah, would that these words of mine were written down, inscribed on some monument with iron chisel and engraving tool, cut into the rock for ever.

"This I know: that my Lord lives, and he, the Last, will take his stand on earth. After my awaking, he will set me close to him, and from my flesh I shall look on God. He whom I shall see will take my part."

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them. In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us, like 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 will their blessings be. God has put them to the test and proved them worthy to be with him; he has tested them like gold in a furnace, and accepted them as a holocaust.

When the time comes for his visitation they will shine out; as sparks run through the stubble, so will they. They shall judge nations, rule over peoples, and the Lord will be their king for ever. They who trust in him will understand the 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

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The virtuous man, though he die before his time, will find rest. Length of days is not what makes age honorable, nor number of years the true measure of life; understanding, this is a man's grey hairs, untarnished life, this is ripe old age.

He has sought to please God, so God has loved him; 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.

Coming to perfection in so short a while, he achieved long life; his soul being pleasing to the Lord, he has taken him quickly.

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

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain,
the Lord God 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 for ever.

The Lord God
will wipe away the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's pain 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.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the book of Lamentations

My soul is shut out from peace; I have forgotten happiness. And now I say, "My strength is gone, that hope which came from the Lord." Brooding on my anguish and affliction is gall and wormwood. My spirit ponders it continually and sinks within me. This is what I shall tell my heart, and so recover hope:

The favors of the Lord are not all past, his kindnesses are not exhausted; every morning they are renewed; great is his faithfulness.

"My portion is the Lord," says my soul, "and so I will hope in him."

The Lord is good to those who trust him, to the soul that searches for him. It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel

In those days I, Daniel,
was doing penance and heard this word of the Lord:

"At that time Michael will stand up,
the great prince who mounts guard over your people.

There is going to be a time of great distress,
unparalleled since nations first came into existence.
When that time comes,
your own people will be spared,
all those whose names are found written in the Book.

"Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth
many will awake.

The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven,
and those who have instructed many in virtue,
as bright as stars for all eternity."

The Word of the Lord

789 (7) It Is Good and Holy to Think of the Dead Rising Again
(2 Mac. 12)

A reading from the second book of Maccabees

Judas, Israel's leader, took a collection, amounting to nearly two thousand drachmae, 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 was why he had this atonement sacrifice offered for the dead, so that they might be released from their sin.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to break down, and a time to build up.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones,
and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace,
and a time to refrain from embracing.

A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

A time to love and a time for peace.

The Word of the Lord

NEW TESTAMENT READING

790 (1) **God Has Appointed Jesus to Judge Everyone, Living and Dead**

(Acts 10)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter said: "The truth I have now come to realize is that God does not have favorites, 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.

"You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.

"Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself; and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterward God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand.

"Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - 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

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

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

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

You have been taught that when we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized in his death; in other words, when we were baptized we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a child of God.
The spirit you received
is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again;
it is the spirit of children,
and it makes us cry out, "Abba, Father!"

I think that what we suffer in this life
can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed,
which is waiting for us.
The whole creation is eagerly waiting
for God to reveal his children.

From the beginning till now the entire creation,
as we know,
has been groaning in one great act of giving birth;
and not only creation,
but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit,
we too groan inwardly
as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us?

Since God did not spare his own Son,
but gave him up to benefit us all,
we may be certain, after such a gift,
that he will not refuse anything he can give.
Jesus Christ not only died for us - he rose from the dead,
and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ,
even if we are troubled or worried,
or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes,
or being threatened or even attacked.

These are the trials through which we triumph,
by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this:
neither death nor life,
no angel, no prince,
nothing that exists,
nothing still to come,
not any power, or height or depth,
nor any created thing,
can ever come between us
and love of God made visible
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord.

This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and the living.

The Word of the Lord

790 (8) All Men Will Be Brought to Life in Christ (1 Cor. 15)

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are of all people the most pitiable.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father.

For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet. Though when it is said that everything is subjected, this clearly cannot include the One who subjected everything to him.

And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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,
and we shall be changed as well,
and this mortal nature will put on immortality.

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

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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 man of ours may be falling into
decay, the inner man 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 the heavens.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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 the heavens.

We are always full of confidence, then,
when we remember that to live in the body
means to be exiled from the Lord,
going as we do by faith and not by sight -
we are full of confidence, I say,
and actually want to be exiled from the body
and make our home with the Lord.

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it,
we are intent on pleasing him

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

For us, our homeland is in heaven,
and from heaven comes the savior we are waiting for,
the Lord Jesus Christ,
and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours
into copies of his glorious body.

He will do that by the same power
with which he can subdue the whole universe.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

We want you to be quite certain, brothers and sisters, 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. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever.

With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

Remember the Good News that I carry, "Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David". It is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear; even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.
If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.
We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful,
for he cannot disown his own self.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the first letter of John

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.

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

A reading from the first letter of John

We have passed out of death and into life,
and of this we can be sure
because we love our brothers and sisters.

This has taught us love -
that he gave up his life for us;
and we, too, ought to give up our lives
for our brothers and sisters.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven 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

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw a great white throne and the One who was sitting on it.

In his presence, earth and sky vanished, leaving no trace.

I saw the dead, both great and small, standing in front of his throne, while the book of life was opened, and other books opened which were the record of what they had done in their lives, by which the dead were judged.

The sea gave up all the dead who were in it; Death and Hades were emptied of the dead that were in them; and every one was judged according to the way in which he had lived.

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the burning lake.

This burning lake is the second death; and anybody whose name could not be found written in the book of life was thrown into the burning lake.

Then I 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.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and 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 make 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 am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. 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

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

For I am already being poured out like a libation,
and the time of my departure is at hand.

I have competed well;
I have finished the race;
I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits
me, which the Lord the just judge, will award to me
on that day, and not only to me,
but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them.

"How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle;
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn;
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right;
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful;
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart;
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers;
they shall be called the sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of evil against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus exclaimed, "I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do.

"Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep.

But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived.

Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later.

"Lord, Lord," they said, "Open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you. So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.

"Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" "And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

"Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me."

"Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?"

"Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment and the virtuous to eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?"

When some of those who stood by heard this, they said, "Listen, he is calling on Elijah." Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down". But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, "In truth this man was a son of God."

When the Sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" But when they looked they could see that the stone, which was very big, had already been rolled back.

On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, "There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

793 (5) Young Man, I Say to You, Get Up

(Lk. 7)

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her.

When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. "Do not cry," he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said "Young man, I tell you to get up." And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, "A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people." And this opinion of his spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

"See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready.

"You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn,
they went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared.

They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb,
but on entering they could not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

As they stood there puzzled about this,
two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side.

Terrified, the women bowed their heads to the ground.

But the two said to them,

'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?

He is not here; he has risen.

Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee:

that the Son of man was destined to be handed over into the
power of sinful men and be crucified, and rise again on the third
day.'

And they remembered his words.

The Gospel of the Lord

NOT PART OF SMALL BOOK
MSGR. MURPHY ASKED FOR THIS VERSION FOR A FU-
NERAL FOR FRANK MARUSICH DECEMBER 2013

(Luke 24: 1-8)

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. One of the criminals hanging there abused him. "Are you not the Christ?" he said. "Save yourself and us as well."

But the other spoke up and rebuked him. "Have you no fear of God at all?" he said. "You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong.

"Jesus," he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom."

"Indeed, I promise you," he replied, "today you will be with me in paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

793 (8) **Father, into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit**

(Lk. 23, 24)

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

It was about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." With these words he breathed his last.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, "This was a great and good man." And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened they went home beating their breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen. On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, they went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering discovered that the body of the Lord Jesus was not there.

As they stood there not knowing what to think, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side. Terrified, the women lowered their eyes. But the two men said to them, "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he has risen"

The Gospel of the Lord

**793 (9) Was It Not Necessary that the Christ Should Suffer
and so Enter into His Glory? (Lk. 24)**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

That very same day, that is, on the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognizing him.

He said to them, "What matters are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, "You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days."

"What things?" he asked. "All about Jesus of Nazareth," they answered, "who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free.

"And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened: and some women from our group have astounded us; they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive.

Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing."

Then he said to them, "You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?" Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. "It is nearly evening," they said, "and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?"

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, "Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognized him at the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I shall not turn him away; because I have come from heaven, not to do my own will, but to do the will of the one who sent me.

"Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. Yes, it is my Father's will that whoever sees the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and that I shall raise him up on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world."

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" they said. Jesus replied:

"I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

"For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats my will draw life from me.

"This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever."

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus arrived at Bethany and found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathize with them over their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you."

Martha said, "I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said:

"I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes Lord, she said "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world."

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Mary, the sister of Lazarus, went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came from the heart, "Where have you put him?" They said, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept; and the Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" But there were some who remarked, "He opened the eyes of a blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?"

Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, "Take the stone away." Martha said to him, "Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day." Jesus replied, "Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

"Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I know indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me."

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, "Lazarus, here! Come out!" The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, let him go free."

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Now the hour has come for the son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

"If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honor him.

Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say: Father save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven,
"I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

When the time had come
for him to pass from this world to the Father,
Jesus said to his disciples:

Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am going now to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.

Thomas said,
“Lord, we do not know where you are going,
so how can we know the way?”

Jesus said:

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, saying:

"Father, I want those you have given me
to be with me where I am,
so that they may always see the glory you have given me
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Father, Righteous One,
the world has not known you,
but I have known you,
and these have known that you have sent me.

I have made your name known to them
and will continue to make it known
so that the love with which you loved me may be in them,
and so that I may be in them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgothat, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciples he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, "Woman, this is your son." Then to the disciple he said, "This is your mother." And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfill the scripture perfectly he said:

"I am thirsty."

A jar full of vinegar stood there, so, putting a sponge soaked in the vinegar on a hyssop stick, they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, "It is accomplished," and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

People were bringing little children to Jesus,
for him to touch them.

The disciples turned them away,
but when Jesus saw this he was indignant
and said to them,

“Let the little children come to me;
do not stop them; for it is to such as these
that the kingdom of God belongs.

I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome
the kingdom of God like a little child
will never enter it.”

Then he put his arms round them,
laid his hands on them
and gave them his blessing

The Gospel of the Lord

793 (20) Father, into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit

(Lk. 23 vs. 44—46, 52-53)

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."

He 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

JOHN 14: 1-6

“Do not be worried and upset,” Jesus told them.

“Believe in God and believe also in me.

**There are many rooms in my Father’s house,
and I am going to prepare a place for you.**

I would not tell you this if it were not so.

And after I go and prepare a place for you,

**I will come back and take you to myself,
so that you will be where I am.**

You know the way that leads to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him,

**“Lord, we do not know where you are going;
so how can we know the way to get there?”**

Jesus answered him.

***“I am the way,
the truth and the life;
no one goes to the Father except by me.”***

