

*Honouring Life*

**Funeral Liturgy Guide**

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## PLANNING THE FUNERAL MASS - WHAT TO DO FIRST

1. Choose the first and second readings. Codes are included for each one.
2. Choose the Prayers of the Faithful.
3. Choose the Gospel reading.
4. Choose the music / hymns to be included. Start with the entrance hymn followed by the Psalm (if sung), Offertory Hymn, Communion Hymn, Final Blessing & Recessional Hymn.

(Your priest will help you choose the readings and the Gospel)

## NEXT TO INCLUDE (OPTIONAL)

1. Choose a reflection.
2. Symbols of life.
3. Photographs. Pictures really make a booklet special. We can include as many as you like.
4. Layout/ Cover style.

Amount of pages in the booklet will depend on the amount of information and pictures supplied.

## THE PERSONAL TOUCHES (OPTIONAL)

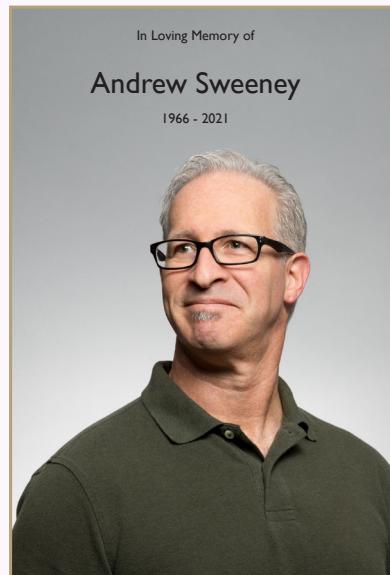
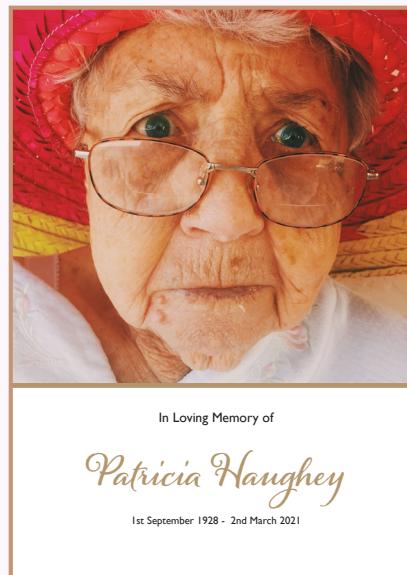
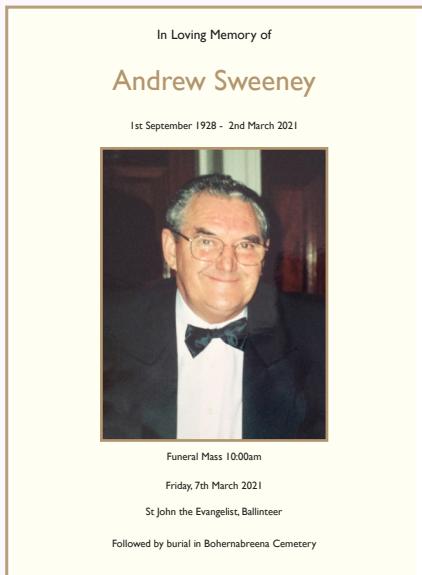
1. The names of the readers 1st & 2nd Reading & Prayers of the Faithful.
2. The names of the people presenting the Offertory Gifts
3. A special thank you note from the family

## COVER STYLES & LAYOUT

You can go for a very traditional look or something a bit more modern.

The choice is your personal preference.

If you have a really nice picture we can create a very special design.



Cover style 1

Cover style 2

Cover style 3

Our booklets typically come in three styles, a four page, an eight page or a twelve page version.

All booklets are bespoke and made to reflect the life and personality of your loved one.

They can be packed with special pictures if desired or they can be quite plain and simple.

## FIRST READINGS

### A Reading from the Book of Wisdom (3:1-6.9)

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, and 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 blessing 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. 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

Code FR001

### A Reading from the Book of Wisdom (4:7-15)

The virtuous man, though he died 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 a persons grey hairs, untarnished life, this is ripe old age. He has sought to please God, 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

Code FR002

### 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. exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The Word of the Lord.

Code FR003

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3: 1-8)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to give birth, 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.  
God has made everything suitable to its time.

The Word of the Lord

Code FR004

A Reading from the Book of Revelation (14:13)

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 forever after their work,  
since their good deeds go with them.

The Word of the Lord

Code FR005

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

A faithful friend is a sure shelter, whoever finds one has found a rare treasure. A faithful friend is something beyond price, there is no measuring their worth. A faithful friend is the elixir of life, and those who respect the Lord will find one. Whoever respects the Lord makes true friends. For as one is, so is their friend.

The Word of the Lord

Code FR006

## A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

Death was not God's doing, God takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living. God created us for life and the virtuous live forever. Their reward lies with the Lord. The Most High takes care of them. So they shall receive a kingdom of glory, and a crown of beauty at the hand of the Lord, for he will shelter them with His right hand and shield them with His arm.

The Word of the Lord

Code FR007

## A Reading from the Book of Tobit (4: 1-5, 15-17, 20)

Tobit thought; I have come to the point of praying for death; I should do well to call my son Tobais and talk to him; When I die , give me an honourable burial. Honour your mother, and never abandon her all the days of your life. Do all that she wants, and give her no reason for sorrow. Remember, my child, all the risks she ran for your sake when you were in her womb. And when she dies, bury her at my side in the same grave. My child, be faithful to the Lord all your days. Never entertain the will to sin or to transgress his laws. Do good works all the days of your life, never follow ways that are not right; for if you act in truthfulness, you will be successful in all your actions, as all men are if they practice what is right.. 'Be careful, my child, in all you do, well disciplined in all your behaviour. Do to no one what you would not want done to you. Do not drink wine to the point of drunkenness; do not let excess be your travelling companion. Give your bread to those who are hungry, and your clothes to those who are naked. Whatever you own in plenty, devote a proportion to almsgiving; and when you give alms, do not do it grudgingly, So now, my child, remember these precepts and never let them fade from your heart. Tobais then answered his father Tobit, 'Father; he said I will do everything you have told me.

The Word of the Lord.

Code FR008

## A Reading from the Book of Ruth

Wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God too. Wherever you die I will die. And there I shall be buried beside you. We shall be together forever. And our love will be the gift of our life.

The Word of the Lord.

Code FR009

## RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

### Responsorial Psalm 1 (Psalm 22)

Response: The Lord is my shepherd,  
there is nothing I shall want

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;  
with 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 kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. R

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### Responsorial Psalm 2 (Psalm 26)

Response: The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be shrink? R

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long;  
to live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to saviour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold His temple. R

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face. R

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart,  
Hope in the Lord. R

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### Responsorial Psalm 3 (Psalm 114)

Response: 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 one 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

## Responsorial Psalm 4 (Psalm 102)

Response: 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  
for repay us according to our faults. R

As a father has compassion on his children,  
the Lord has pity of 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  
upon those who fear him;  
His justice reaches out to children's children  
when they keep his covenant in truth. R

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## Responsorial Psalm 5 (Psalm 41)

Response: My soul is thirsting for God,  
the God of my life.

Like a deer that yearns  
for running streams,  
so my soul is yearning  
for you, my God. R

My soul is thirsting for God,  
the God of my life;  
when can I enter and see  
the face of God? R

These things will I remember  
as I pour out my soul  
how I would lead the rejoicing crowd  
into the house of God,  
amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving,  
the throng wild with joy. R

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## Responsorial Psalm 6 (Psalm 83)

Response: My soul is long for the courts of  
the Lord.

The sparrow finds herself a home  
and the swallow a nest for her brood;  
she lays her young by your altars,  
Lord of hosts, my kind and my God. R

They are happy, who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.  
They are happy, who strength is in you,  
in whose hearts are the roads to Sion. R

As they go through the Bitter Valley  
they make it a place of springs.  
They walk with every growing strength,  
they will see the God of gods in Sion. R

For the Lord God is a rampart, a shield;  
he will give us his favour and glory.  
The Lord will not refuse any good  
to those who walk without blame. R

## SECOND READINGS

A Reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (4,6-8)

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but to all who have longed for his appearing.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR001

A Reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (4,13-18)

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, 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 forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR002

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 to be revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The Word of the Lord.

Code SR003



### A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (10:34-43)

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 people. 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 afterwards 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

Code SR004

### A Reading from the first letter of John (4:7-12.17)

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and know God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean; not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away. My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. Love will come to its perfection in us when we can face the day of judgement without fear.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR005

A Reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (13:4-14)

Love is patient and kind, it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill -mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope and patience never fail. Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gift of knowledge is only partial, but when what is perfect comes, that which is partial will disappear.

When I was a child, my speech, feelings and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am an adult, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror, then we shall see face to face.

What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete, as complete as God's knowledge of me.

Meanwhile, these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR006

A Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Love is patient, love is kind.

Love is patient; Love is kind; Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrong doing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love

The Word of the Lord

Code SR007 (short version)

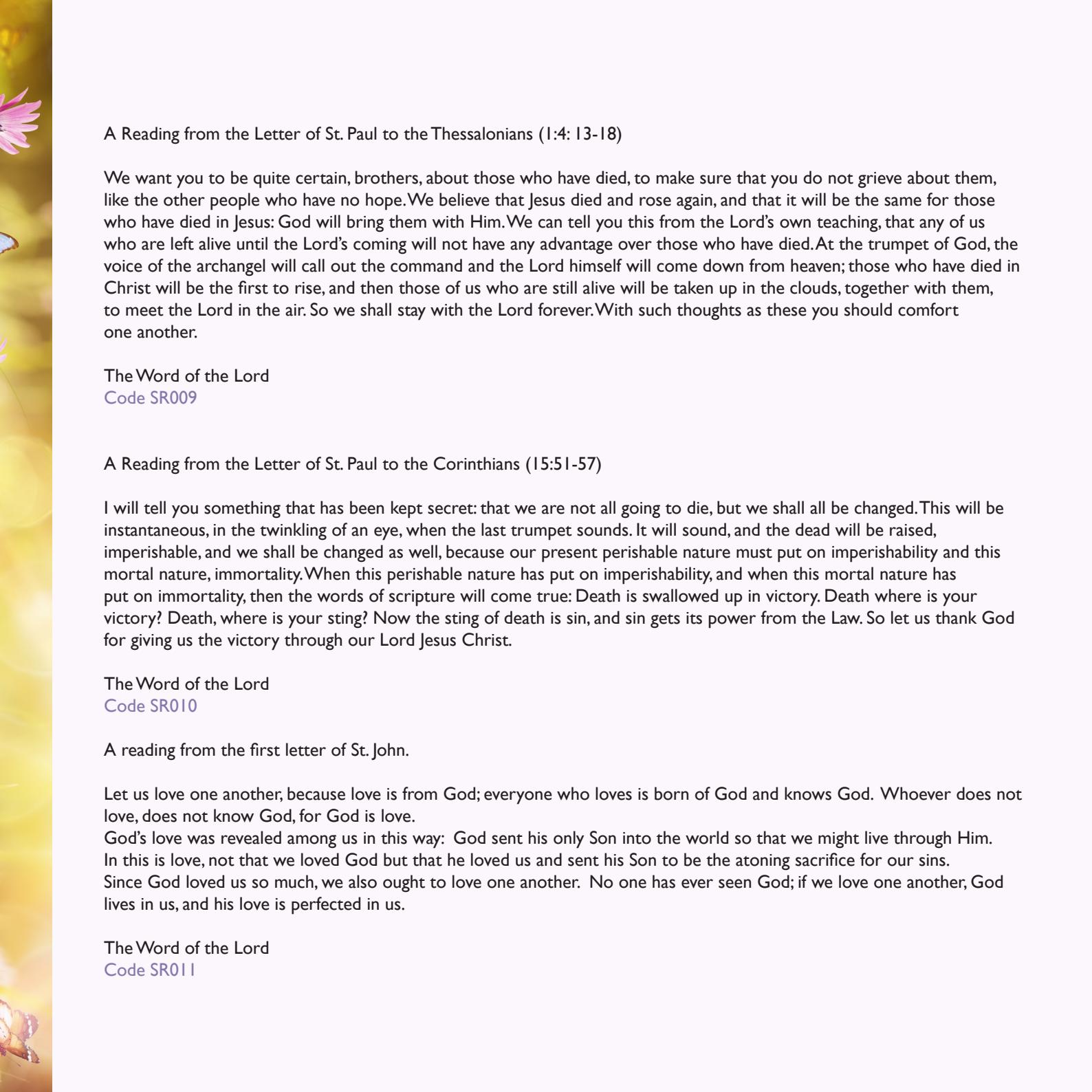
A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (6:3-4, 8-9)

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in His death; in other words, when we were baptised we went in to 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. 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 more power over Him anymore.

The Word of the Lord.

Code SR008



### A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (1:4: 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 forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR009

### A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (15:51-57)

I will tell you something that has been kept 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, 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

Code SR010

### A reading from the first letter of St. John.

Let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

The Word of the Lord

Code SR011

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONS

## 1) Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth;  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.  
Alleluia!

## 2) Matthew 25:34

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'Come, you whom my Father has blessed,  
says the Lord;  
take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you  
since the foundation of the world.'  
Alleluia!

## 3) John 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'God loved the world so much  
that we gave his only Son;  
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.'  
Alleluia!

## 4) John 6:39

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'It is my Father's will, says the Lord,  
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,  
and that I should raise it up on the last day.'  
Alleluia!

## 5) John 6:40

Alleluia, alleluia!  
' It is my Father's will, says the Lord,  
that whoever believes in the Son shall have eternal life,  
and that I shall raise him up on the last day.'

Alleluia!

## 6) John 6:51–52

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord:  
whoever believes in me will never die.'  
Alleluia!

## 7) John 11:25–26

Alleluia, alleluia!  
' I am the living bread which has come down from heaven,  
says the Lord.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'  
Alleluia!

## 8) Philippians 3:20

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'Our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the  
Saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ.'  
Alleluia!

## 9) 2 Timothy 2:11–12

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'If we have died with Christ, then we shall live with him;  
if we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.'  
Alleluia!

## 10 )Apocalypse 1:5–6

Alleluia, alleluia!  
' Jesus Christ is the First-born from the dead;  
to him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen '  
Alleluia!

## 11) Apocalypse

Alleluia, alleluia!  
'Happy are those who die in the Lord!  
Now they can rest for ever after their work,  
since their good deeds go with them.'  
Alleluia!

## GOSPELS

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (14:1-6)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

GO001

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (5: 1-12)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind  
of evil against you because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GO002

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John (17:24-26)

Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

GO003

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John (11:32)

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping and the people who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Sir, come and see.” And Jesus wept. So the people said, “See how he loved him.” But some of them said, “Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?” So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him, “Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me.” And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them “Untie him and let him go.” Now many of the people who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GO004

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John 17

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: “Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

GO005

## SUGGESTED PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(Choose 5/6 prayers. All prayers can be altered to suit)

1) We pray for those who care for the sick and housebound. We give thanks for the skills and the commitment of doctors, nurse and carers. May they continue to reflect the compassion and healing of God who is made known to us in Christ.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

2) We pray for all who mourn. May their tears be wiped away, and may their mourning be turned into joy.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

3) We remember and pray for those who do not have access to basic health care, adequate food or shelter. We give thanks for our blessings and pray that the ways of justice and peace may prevail throughout the world.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

4) We pray for N... May God receive him/her kindly, with generosity and forgiveness, and the rewards of his/her faith. May he/she continue to inspire us, to intercede for us, and be there at the end to welcome us, in our turn, into eternal life.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

5) We give thanks for the love which N... showed during his/her life. May he/she know the perfection and fulfilment of that love in heaven.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

6) Bring all the dead into the light that no darkness can over power. May we all meet in joy with you.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

7) N... showed much love for others in this life, may he/ she now experience the loving mercy of God.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

8) From his/her place in the kingdom of the Father may he/she intercede for us and continue to help us.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

9): For those who nursed N... in his/her illness, that all of them will be rewarded for their gentleness and care.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

10) For all who mourn today. That they will receive strength to assist them in their sadness and grief.

**Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us**

## REFLECTIONS

Normally read after Holy Communion

### A Letter From Heaven

To my dearest family  
some things I'd like to say,  
But first of all to let you know  
that I arrived ok,

I'm writing this from heaven.  
Where I shall dwell with God above  
Where there's no more tears or sadness  
There is just eternal love.

That day, I had to leave you  
When my life on earth was through,  
God picked me up and hugged me  
And said "I welcome you".

Then God gave me a list of things  
He wished for me to do,  
And foremost on that list of mine  
Is to watch and care for you.

When you are walking down the street  
And you've got me on your mind,  
I'm walking in your footsteps  
Only half a step behind.

And when it's time for you to go  
From that body to be free,  
Remember you're not going,  
You're coming here to me.

I will always love you  
From this land way up above,  
Will be in touch soon again  
ps. God sends his love

### Death Is Not The End

Death is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room. Whatever we were to each other; that we still are. Call me by my old familiar name. Speak to me in the easy way which you always used. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effort. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was; there is absolutely unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight I am but waiting for you, for an interval somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well. Nothing is past; nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as it was before, only better, infinitely happier and forever – we will all be one in Christ.

### Dear Parents

I did not die young. I lived my span of life within your body and within your love. There are many that have lived long lives and not have been loved as me. If you would honour me, then speak my name and number me among your family. If you would honour me, then strive to live in love, for in that love I now live. Never ever doubt that we will meet again. Until that happy day I will grow with God and wait for you.

## **Remember Me**

To the living, I am gone,  
To the sorrowful, I will never return,  
To the angry, I was cheated,  
But to the happy, I am at peace,  
And to the faithful, I have never left.

I cannot speak, but I can listen.  
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.  
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,  
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,  
Remember me.

Remember me in your heart:  
Your thoughts, and your memories,  
Of the times we loved,  
The times we cried,  
The times we fought,  
The times we laughed.  
For if you always think of me, I will never have gone.

## **Choose To Live A Life That Matters**

How will the value of your days be measured?  
So what will matter?  
What will matter is not what you bought,  
but what you built;  
not what you got, but what you gave.  
What will matter is not your success, but your  
significance.  
What will matter is not what you learned,  
but what you taught.  
What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion,  
courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or  
encouraged others.  
What will matter is not your competence,  
but your character.  
What will matter is not how many people you knew,  
but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.  
What will matter is not your memories, but the  
memories that live in those who loved you.  
Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.  
It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice.  
Choose to live a life that matters.

## **Your Mother**

Your mother is always with you.  
She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street,  
she's the smell of certain foods you remember; flowers you pick,  
the fragrance of life itself.  
She's the cool hand on your brow when you're not feeling well,  
she's your breath in the air on a cold winter's day.  
She is the sound of the rain that lull's you to sleep,  
the colors of a rainbow,  
she is Christmas morning.  
Your mother lives inside your laughter.  
She's the place you came from, your first home,  
and she's the map you follow with every step you take.  
She's your first love, your first friend, even your first enemy,  
but nothing on earth can separate you.  
Not time, not space ... not even death.

## **She Is Gone**

You can shed tears that she is gone  
Or you can smile because she has lived  
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back  
Or you can open your eyes and see All that she has left  
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
Or you can be full of the Love that you shared  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
Or you can be happy for Tomorrow because of yesterday  
You can remember her and only that she is gone  
Or you can cherish his memory and let it Live on  
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
Or you can do what she would want:  
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

## SUGGESTED HYMNS

(Please discuss the Hymns/ Music in advance with your singer)

### Entrance Hymns

- I'm on a journey, I'm going home
- I watch the sunrise
- Amazing grace
- Christ be beside me
- Sweet heart of Jesus
- Here I am Lord
- I'll sing a hymn to Mary
- Holy God we praise thy name
- How Great Thou Art
- Christ be beside me
- Make me a Channel of your Peace
- Abide with me
- Morning has broken
- Hail Queen of Heaven

### Responsorial Psalm

- You are mine
- The Lord is my shepherd
- Be not afraid
- Eagles wings
- Here I am Lord
- Only in God
- The Lord is my Light
- The Lord will heal the broken heart
- Like the deer that yearns for running stream
- Be with me Lord
- Listen
- Mo Ghrá Thú (The Hiding Place)

### Offertory Hymns

- The bread of life
- Soul of my Saviour
- Ag Críost an Síol
- As I kneel before you
- In bread we bring you Lord
- Lord accept the gifts we offer
- Take our bread we ask you
- When creation was begun
- Ave Maria

### Communion Hymns

- I watch the sunrise
- There is a place
- You raise me up
- You are mine
- How great thou art
- Queen of the May
- Ave Verum
- Be Still my Soul
- The Hiding Place (Liam Lawton)
- Panis Angelicus
- Pie Jesu (Lloyd Webber/Faure)

### Blessing of the Coffin

- The hand of God shall hold you
- Jesus remember me
- May the road rise to meet you
- May Songs of the Angels
- Quietly Peacefully

### Recessional Hymns

- Nearer my God to thee
- Song of farewell
- Close to you
- Going Home (Dvorak)
- In Paradisium
- I'll walk with God
- Queen of the May
- How Great Thou Art
- Time to Say Goodbye

## PRINTING OPTIONS

Available for all booklet styles

Standard booklets are printed on white 300gsm silk for the cover  
and 170gsm silk for the inside pages.

You can upgrade to an ivory (light cream) colour board for the cover and ivory inside pages.

For a very special look you can add gold or silver foil to the cover to give a very nice  
look and feel to the booklet.

We can use a matt laminate or soft touch velvet on white covers.  
This makes the booklet feel high quality and it also protects the books  
so that they will last forever as a keepsake.

We can also supply a beautiful framed picture for the coffin.  
Saving you the time and trouble of finding a suitable frame and getting a very high quality print done on time.  
(please make sure pictures supplied are of good quality)

A wide range of bespoke Memorial Cards,  
Acknowledgement Cards & Bookmarks are also available on request.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q.** How long does it take to produce a Mass booklet?

**A.** We can deliver same day as long as we have the proof passed before 12am on that day.  
Information / choices should be sent to us asap to avoid any delay with proofing

**Q.** How do we send you the pictures?

**A.** Pictures can be emailed or by text message or whats app. (087 681 2196)

**Q.** I want a very special booklet, do you have any options available?

**A.** We can design to incorporate a theme such as football, rugby or any theme that would suit the personality of your loved one. We can also supply suitable designs for young people/children.

Gold foil or silver foil can also be used to create a very special look.

We can use a matt laminate on white covers to protect them and give them a more premium silk feel.

**Q.** I want a different poem/reading to be included, how do I include that?

**A.** That is no problem, just supply it in a word file and we will include it in the booklet.

# YOUR CHOICES

**Opening Hymn**

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**First Reading**

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**Responsorial Psalm**

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**Second Reading**

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**Gospel**

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**Prayers of the Faithful (numbers)**

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**Offertory Hymn**

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**Communion Hymns**

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**Reflection**

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**Blessing of the coffin**

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**Recessional Hymn**

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