

Dear Friends,

We hope this booklet has been helpful to you in planning the funeral liturgy of your Loved One.

If you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Business Office at (440) 449-4242, ext. 101.

You may also contact your priest directly at his extension:

Fr. Klasinski, ext. 105

Fr. Cosgrove, ext. 107

Please know you are in the prayers of our parish community.  
May you know God's presence and love in your life.

The peace of Christ to you always.

The Church Of St. Clare



5659 Mayfield Road  
Lyndhurst, OH 44124  
Phone: (440) 449-4242  
Fax: (440) 646-9648

*In Loving Memory*



ORDER  
OF  
CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

PLANNING GUIDE

The Church of St. Clare  
5659 Mayfield Road  
Lyndhurst, OH 44124  
(440) 449-4242

### **Regarding Mass Offerings and Memorial Gifts**

The Church of Saint Clare welcomes Mass Intentions offered for your loved one throughout the year. Please call the Business Office at 440-449-4242 ext. 101 to schedule a date.

Many families have chosen to honor their loved one by donating to the Church of St. Clare or to our school scholarship fund which supports parish students attending Corpus Christi Academy. These donations are far more enduring than floral tributes and provide a living memorial to your loved one through critical tuition assistance to our students. Please consider requesting donations to the Church of St. Clare or our school fund in your loved one's death notice. Each gift is acknowledged by a letter from the pastor.

While acknowledging the sentiment, we cannot accept gifts of vestments and chalices.

Additionally, the church is appropriately decorated for the liturgical seasons of the year. We request that funeral flower arrangements not be brought to the church, please.

Thank you very much for your understanding.

### **THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS**

"Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just.

The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. The celebration of the Christian funeral brings hope and consolation to the living."

- Order of Christian Funerals  
NCCB-1989

IN CHRIST  
WE  
LIVE  
FOREVER



This booklet has been prepared by the Church of Saint Clare to facilitate the planning of the funeral liturgy by the family and friends of the deceased loved one.

Hopefully, it will enable you to plan a Funeral Liturgy that actively involves the assembly in giving praise and thanks for the gift of life and the promise of resurrection.

By no means is this booklet meant to be a burden to you at a difficult time. Our parish does wish to offer you the consolation of the Catholic rites of burial, and invites your planning and participation to the extent that is appropriate for you and your family. Our staff will be happy to assist you in planning or will assume the task of planning for you, if that is your wish.

## **I. RITE OF RECEPTION**

During the Rite of Reception, the priest greets the family and friends and blesses the body/casket of the loved one with holy water. A white pall (a symbol of the person's baptismal garment) is placed over the casket.

Then, all will process to the front pews while singing a hymn of consolation. When all have reached their places, the priest invites the assembly to pray, to be seated, and to be attentive to the Word of God.

## **II. LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In every celebration for the dead, the Church attaches great importance to the reading of the Word of God. A careful selection of readings from Sacred Scripture will provide the family and the community with an opportunity to hear God speak to them in their need, sorrows, fears, and/or hopes.

For your convenience, scripture readings are included in this booklet to facilitate your selection. The Gospel reading is always proclaimed by a priest or deacon. You may invite family members or friends to proclaim the first reading (Old Testament Readings) and second reading (New Testament Readings).

### **Homily**

The purpose of the homily is not to eulogize the deceased, but to offer the hope of the resurrection to all who are present. Still, information about the deceased is helpful in prayerful preparation of the homily. The focus of the information should be on how the deceased lived out the gospel message. Your personal reflections will be welcomed by the homilist when you meet.

## **SONG SELECTIONS**

(continued)

### **COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
I Am the Living Bread  
I Received the Living God  
Jesus, Lamb of God  
The Lord is My Hope  
Unless a Grain of Wheat

### **RECESSIONAL**

For All the Saints  
Grant Them Eternal Rest  
Holy God We Praise Thy Name  
How Blest are They  
How Great Thou Art  
I Heard the Voice of Jesus  
Nearer My God to Thee  
On Eagle's Wings  
Song of Farewell

## **SONG SELECTIONS**

Please select **one song for each liturgical movement**.

Note: Some songs may be used interchangeably in other parts of the Mass. Please consult your priest with any questions.

### **PROCESSIONAL**

Amazing Grace  
Be Not Afraid  
Come to Me  
Here I Am, Lord  
Holy Darkness  
Shall We Gather at the River  
Shelter Me, O God  
Sing with All the Saints in Glory  
We Will Rise

### **PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

As the Deer Longs  
Ave Maria  
Because the Lord is My Shepherd  
I Know that My Redeemer Lives  
Keep in Mind  
Like a Shepherd  
The Lord is My Light  
O God, You Search Me  
Only in God  
Only This I Want  
The Strike is O'er  
Prayer of St. Francis  
There is a Longing  
This Alone  
Yes, I Shall Arise

## **III. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Preparation of the Gifts**

Following the General Intercessions/Petitions, the Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated according to the familiar norms experienced at Sunday Mass. The Preparation of the Gifts, which involves the presentation of the bread and wine to the priest, can be brought forward by family members of your choosing.

## **IV. FINAL COMMENDATION**

Following the reception of Holy Communion, prayers are offered that express our trust and hope in the love of Christ, which conquers all things and destroys even death itself. A song of farewell, incense, and the prayer of commendation are offered so that the loved one may be granted eternal rest and that God's loving and perpetual light may lead all souls to paradise.



## **OLD TESTAMENT READINGS**

Please select **one**.

### **(A-1) A reading from the book of Wisdom** (Wisdom 3:1-9)

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead: and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if to others, indeed, they seem punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their judgment they shall shine and dart about as sparks through stubble; They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

### **(A-2) A reading from the book of Wisdom** (Wisdom 4:7-14)

The righteous one, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding passes for gray hair, and an unsullied life is the attainment of old age. The one who pleased God was loved, living among sinners, was transported— Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind. Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore, he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take that consideration into account.

### **(C-9) John 14:1-6** - *“I am going to prepare a place for you...”*

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.”



**(C-7) John 11:21-27** - *“I am the Resurrection and the Life.”*

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

**(C-8) John 12:23-26** - *“Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground...”*

Jesus said to His disciples, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.”

**(A-3) A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

(Isaiah 25:6-9)

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. A feast of rich foods and choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; He will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken. On that day it will be said: “Indeed, this is our God; we looked to him, and He saved us! This is the Lord to whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

**(A-4) A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

(Isaiah 49:8-15)

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I answer you, on the day of salvation I help you; I form you and set you as a covenant for the people, to restore the land and allot the devastated heritages, to say to the prisoners: Come out! To those in darkness: Show yourselves! Along the roadways they shall find pasture, on every barren height shall their pastures be. They shall not hunger or thirst; nor shall scorching wind or sun strike them; For he who pities them leads them and guides them beside springs of water. I will turn all my mountains into roadway, and make my highways level. See, these shall come from afar: some from the north and the west, others from the land of Syene. Sing out, heavens, and rejoice, earth, break forth into song, you mountains, for the Lord comforts his people and shows mercy to his afflicted. But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me.” Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you.

**(A-5) A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes** (Eccl. 3:1-11)

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. What profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

**(A-6) A reading from the book of Sirach** (Sir 26:1-4,13-16)

Blessed the husband of a good wife; twice-lengthened are his days; a worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life. A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the Lord. Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, a smile is ever on his face. A gracious wife delights her husband; her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones. A gift from the Lord is her governed speech, and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth. Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste soul. A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace; indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul. Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens, the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**(C-5) John 6:37-40** - *"I will not lose anyone who comes to me."*

Jesus said to the crowds: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it [on] the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

**(C-6) John 6:51-58** - *"Whoever eats the bread of eternal life..."*

Jesus said to the crowds: I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

**(C-3) Matthew 25:31-40** - “*What you did for these, you did for me.*”

Jesus said to his disciples: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’”

**(C-4) Luke 24:13-16, 28-35** - *The Road to Emmaus*

That very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their

**(A-7) A reading from the book of Sirach**

(Sir 44:1-15)

I will now praise the godly, our ancestors, in their own time, the abounding glory of the Most High’s portion, his own part, since the days of old. Subduers of the land in kingly fashion, renowned for their might, counselors in their prudence, seers of all things in prophecy, resolute princes of the flock, lawgivers and their rules, sages skilled in composition, authors of sharp proverbs, composers of melodious psalms, writers of lyric poems; Stalwart, solidly established, at peace in their own estates— All these were glorious in their time, illustrious in their day. Some of them left behind a name so that people recount their praises, of others no memory remains, for when they perished, they perished, as if they had never lived, they and their children after them. Yet these also were godly; their virtues have not been forgotten. Their wealth remains in their families, their heritage with their descendants. Through God’s covenant their family endures, and their offspring for their sake. and for all time their progeny will endure, their glory will never be blotted out; Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives on and on. At gatherings their wisdom is retold, and the assembly proclaims their praises.





### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM SELECTIONS**

Please select **one**.

#	Psalm	Refrain
1	Psalm 23 - A	The Lord is my shepherd. There is nothing I shall want.
2	Psalm 23 - B	Shepherd me, O God, Beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.
3	Psalm 25 - A	Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord. Remember your people and have mercy on us Lord.
4	Psalm 25 - B	To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul, my God.
5	Psalm 25 - C	To You, O Lord, I lift my soul, To You, I lift my soul.
6	Psalm 27 - A	The Lord is my light and my salvation. Of whom should I be afraid?
7	Psalm 27 - B	I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
8	Psalm 43	Yes, I shall arise! I shall gaze upon the loveliness of God forevermore.
9	Psalm 63	I will lift up my eyes at the name of the one who knows me well.
10	Psalm 90 - A	In every age, O God, you have been our refuge. In every age, O God, you have been our hope.
11	Psalm 90 - B	In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
12	Psalm 103 - A	The Lord is kind and merciful.
13	Psalm 103 - B	Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord. Slow to anger, rich in kindness, loving and forgiving are you.
14	Psalm 130	Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord.

### **GOSPEL READINGS**

Please select **one**.

#### **(C-1) Matthew 5:1-12 - The Beatitudes**

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 falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

#### **(C-2) Matthew 11:25-30 - “Come to me... and I will give you rest.”**

At that time Jesus said, “I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

**(B-7) A reading from the 1st letter of St. John** (1 Jn 3:1-2)

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

**(B-8) A reading from the book of Revelation** (Rev 14:13)

I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

**(B-9) A reading from the book of Revelation** (Rev 21:1-17)

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Then he said, "Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true." He said to me, "They are accomplished. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.

**NEW TESTAMENT READINGS**

Please select **one**.

**(B-1) A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

(Rom 6:3-9)

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

**(B-2) A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

(Rom 8:31b-35, 37-39)

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**(B-3) A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

(Rom 14:7-12)

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.

**(B-4) A reading from the 2nd letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

(2 Cor 5: 1,6-10)

Brothers and sisters: For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. So we are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

**(B-5) A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians**

(Phil 4:4-9)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

**(B-6) A reading from the 2nd letter of St. Paul to Timothy**

(2 Timothy 4:1-8)

Beloved: I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity, will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths. But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry. 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.