

ST. MARY MAGDALENE FUNERAL PLANNING



Old Testament Readings

2 Maccabees 12:43-46	He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.	Page 1
Job 19:1, 23-27a	I know that my Vindicator lives.	Page 2
Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31	She works with loving hands.	Page 3
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11	There is a time for everything under the heavens.	Page 4
Wisdom 3:1-9	As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.	Page 5
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First Reading

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees.

Judas, the ruler of Israel,
took up a collection among all his soldiers,
amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,
which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,
inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward
that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,
it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead
that they might be freed from this sin.

The word of the Lord.

First Reading

A reading from the Book of Job.

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;

And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil,
all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax
and works with loving hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward for her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

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

A time to be born, 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 advantage has the worker from his toil?

I have considered the task that God has appointed
for the sons of men to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts,
without man's ever discovering,
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The souls of the just 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 before men, indeed they be 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 visitation they shall shine,
and shall 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.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The just man, 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 is the hoary crown for men,
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved;
he who lived 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 this into account.

The word of the Lord.

First Reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will provide for all peoples.

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:

"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the LORD for whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

To whom can you liken me as an equal?
says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high
and see who has created these things:

He leads out their army and numbers them,
calling them all by name.

By his great might and the strength of his power
not one of them is missing!

Why, O Jacob, do you say,
and declare, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

Do you not know
or have you not heard?

The Lord is the eternal God,
creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint nor grow weary,
and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.

He gives strength to the fainting;
for the weak he makes vigor abound.

Though young men faint and grow weary,
and youths stagger and fall,

They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength,
they will soar as with eagles' wings;

They will run and not grow weary,
walk and not grow faint.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,

Upon whom I have put my Spirit;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,

Not crying out, not shouting,
not making his voice heard in the street.

A bruised reed he shall not break,
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,

Until he establishes justice on the earth;
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spreads out the earth with its crops,

Who gives breath to its people
and spirit to those who walk on it:

I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice,
I have grasped you by the hand;

I formed you, and set you
as a covenant of the people,
a light for the nations,

To open the eyes of the blind,
to bring out prisoners from confinement,
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Lamentations.

My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;

I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the LORD.

The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall;

Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.

But I will call this to mind,
as my reason to have hope:

The favors of the LORD are not exhausted,
his mercies are not spent;

They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.

My portion is the LORD, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the LORD to one who waits for him,
to the soul that seeks him;

It is good to hope in silence
for the saving help of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Now will I praise those godly men,
our ancestors, each in his own time.

But of others there is no memory,
for when they ceased, they ceased.

And they are as though they had not lived,
they and their children after them.

Yet these also were godly men
whose virtues have not been forgotten;

Their wealth remains in their families,
their heritage with their descendants;

Through God's covenant with them their family endures,
their posterity, for their sake.

And for all time their progeny will endure,
their glory will never be blotted out.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel.

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned
and heard this word of the Lord:

At that time there shall arise
Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;

It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;

Some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.

But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,

And those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

The word of the Lord.