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***On behalf of the Parishioners of Ballygall, the Parish Funeral Ministry Team extends sincere sympathy to you on your bereavement. We will accompany you through this sad and difficult time in whatever way we can in preparing the Funeral Liturgy***



# RECEPTION OF THE BODY

The reception of the body usually takes place on the evening before the Funeral Mass. The community gathers to pray for the deceased and to support you the bereaved. The body is received by the priest at the entrance to the church and is blessed with holy water. The family follows into the church and an opening prayer is said



**The Pall** is a white cloth, which is a symbol of Baptism may be placed on the coffin by family members or friends.



**A Bible** is also placed on the coffin to remind us that Christians are called to live by the Word of God.



**The Paschal Candle** is lit to remind us that Christ is our light.



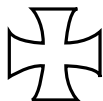
**Flowers:** Family flowers may be placed on a table near the coffin



**Scripture Readings:** A reading from Scripture, a psalm and prayers will be read by the priest or by a member of the Funeral Ministry Team



**Rosary:** A decade of the Rosary will be recited by the priest or by a member of the Funeral Ministry Team.



**Eulogy** Before the concluding rite, a few words or short eulogy may be given by a family member to the congregation who has gathered in sympathy with them.

# THE FUNERAL MASS

The priest or a member of the Parish Funeral Team will discuss the funeral Mass with designated member/member(s) of the family.

**Readings:** The Family is invited to choose Readings from the funeral Booklet which will be given to them. The first reading is usually chosen from the Old Testament and the second reading from the New Testament. The Responsorial Psalm comes after the first reading. If there is a singer, the Responsorial Psalm will be sung. A member of the Funeral Ministry Team will be available to help organize the liturgy.

**Homily:** A homily will be given by the priest. There is no eulogy during the Mass.

**Prayer of the Faithful:** The family decides on suitable prayers. There are samples at back of Funeral Booklet.

**Music and Singing:** In keeping with the dignity of the funeral Mass celebrated in Church only sacred hymns and music should be chosen.

**Photograph and appropriate memorabilia:** A photograph and appropriate memorabilia can be placed on a small table close to the coffin or they may be carried in the Entrance Procession.

**Offertory Procession:** The bread and the wine are brought to the altar by members of the family.

**The Pall** is taken off the coffin by family members at the end of Mass

**Final prayers:** After the final prayers of commendation the family follow the coffin out of the church as the final hymn is sung.

# **THE FUNERAL MASS**

## *Outline of the Rite*

### **Introductory Rites**

**Entrance Procession and Song**

**Greeting**

**Penitential Rite**

**Opening Prayer**

### **Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Second Reading**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Gospel**

**Homily**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Offertory Procession**

### **FINAL COMMENDATION**

**Invitation to Prayer**

**Silence**

**Song of Farewell**

**Prayer of Commendation**



# Old Testament Readings

## Reading 1.

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

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 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.**

## **Reading 2.**

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

The virtuous man, though he dies before his time, will find rest.

Length of days is not what makes age honourable nor numbers of years the true measure of life: understanding, this is man's grey hairs, untarnished life, this is ripe old age.

He has sought to please 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.**

## **Reading 3**

### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah (25: 6-9)**

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich foods.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy death forever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; He will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said; See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation:

The Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

**The word of the Lord.**

## **Reading 4.**

### **A reading from the book of Sirach (2: 1-9)**

When you come to serve the Lord,  
prepare yourself for testing. Set your  
heart right and be steadfast, and do not  
be impetuous in time of calamity. Cling  
to Him, and do not depart, so that your  
last days shall be prosperous.

Accept whatever befalls you, and in  
times of humiliation be patient. For gold  
is tested in the fire, and those found  
acceptable, in the furnace of humiliation.  
Trust in Him, and He will help you;  
make your ways straight, and hope in  
Him.

You who fear the Lord, wait for His  
mercy; do not stray, or else you may fail.  
You who fear the Lord, trust in Him, and  
your reward will not be lost. You who  
fear the Lord, hope for good things, for  
lasting joy and mercy.

### **The word of the Lord**



## **Reading 5**

### **A reading from the book of the Apocalypse (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**

## **Reading 6**

### **A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes**

There is a season for everything, a time for every occupation under heaven:

A time for giving birth, a time for dying;  
a time for planting, a time for uprooting what  
has been planted.

A time for killing, a time for healing;  
a time for knocking down, a time for building.

A time for tears, a time for laughter;  
a time for mourning, a time for dancing.

A time for throwing stones away, a time for  
gathering them up;

a time for embracing, a time to refrain from  
embracing.

A time for searching, a time for losing;  
a time for keeping, a time for throwing away.

A time for tearing, a time for sewing;  
a time for keeping silent, a time for speaking.

A time for loving, a time for hating;  
a time for war, a time for peace.

### **The word of the Lord.**

# Responsorial Psalms

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM (1)

**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;  
before whom shall I shrink?

**(R)**

2. 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 savour the sweetness of the Lord  
to behold His temple.

**(R)**

3. 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)**

4. 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)**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (2)**

**Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

1. How gracious is the Lord and just;  
our God has compassion,  
the Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so He saved me.

**Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

2. I trusted even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted',  
and when I said in my alarm:  
'No man can be trusted'

**Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

3. 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.

**Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (3)**

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

1. 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)**

2. 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)**

3. 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)**

4. 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)**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(4)**

**Response: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

1. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love You have shown from of  
old.  
In Your love remember me,  
because of Your goodness, O Lord.

**Response: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

2. Relieve the anguish of my heart  
and set me free from my distress.  
See my affliction and my toil  
and take all my sins away.

**Response: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

3. Preserve my life and rescue me.  
Do not disappoint me, You are my  
refuge.  
My innocence and uprightness protect  
me:  
For my hope is in You, O Lord.

**Response: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

**Response: The Lord is Compassion and Love**

1. The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults.

**(R)**

2. As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear Him;  
for He knows of what we are made,  
He remembers that we are dust.

**(R)**

3. 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)**

4. But the love of the Lord is everlasting  
upon those who hold Him in fear;  
His justice reaches out to children's  
children when they keep His covenant in  
truth.

**(R)**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (6)**

**Response: For You my soul is thirsting.  
O Lord, my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for You I long;  
for You my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for You  
like a dry weary land without water.

**(R)**

2. So I gaze on You in the sanctuary  
to see Your strength and Your glory.  
For Your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak Your praise

**(R)**

3. So I will bless You all my life,  
in Your name I shall lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise You with joy.

**(R)**

4. You have been my help;  
in the shadow of Your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to You;  
Your right hand holds me fast.

**(R)**

# New Testament Readings

## READING 1

### **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 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.

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.**





## **READING 2**

### **A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans.**

**(8: 31-35. 37-39)**

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 that He can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He 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 loves us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing exists, nothing still to come, nor any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **The word of the Lord**

## **READING 3**

### **A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans.**

**(14: 7-12)**

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 of the living. We shall all have to stand before the judgement seat of God; as scripture says: By my life – it is the Lord who speaks – every knee shall bend before Me, and every tongue shall praise God. It is to God, therefore, that each of us must give an account of himself.

### **The word of the Lord.**

## **READING 4**

### **A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (15: 20-23)**

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.

### **The word of the Lord**

## READING 5

### **A reading from the first 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 must put on immortality

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**The word of the Lord.**

## **READING 6**

### **A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (5: 1.6 – 10)**

We know that when the tent 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. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

## READING 7

### **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 that 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, and 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 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 are these you can comfort one another.

**The word of the Lord.**

## **READING 8**

### **A reading of the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians (3: 20-21)**

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the Saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will transfigure those 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.**

## **READING 9**

### **A reading from the first letter of St. John (3: 1-2)**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us by letting us be called God's children, and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge Him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is that when it is revealed we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He really is.

**The word of the Lord.**

# Gospel Acclamations

## **Gospel Acclamation**                    1.

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!

## **Gospel Acclamation**                    2.

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we have died with Christ,  
then we shall live with him;  
if we hold firm, then we will reign with him.

Alleluia!

## **Gospel Acclamation**                    3.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord  
whoever believes in me will never die

Alleluia!

## **Gospel Acclamation**                    4.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes  
the Saviour we are waiting for, The Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

## **Gospel Acclamation**                    5.

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!

**(Omit Alleluias during lenten season)**

# Prayer of the Faithful

## *Choose 5/6 prayers*

### **Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

1. Let us thank God for having given (name) the gift of life.  
We pray that He will now grant him/her the greater gift of eternal life.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

### **Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

2. Let us praise God for all he did for (name) during his/her life on earth.  
May he/she have the reward of His goodness.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

### **Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

3. God is full of mercy and compassion. May He forgive (name) any sins he/she committed through human fragility.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

### **Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

4. Let us pray for all those who care for the sick and dying, especially those who cared for (name) during his/her illness.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

### **Response: Lord hear our prayer.**



5. Let us pray especially for the sorrowing relatives and friends, that the pain of their sorrow may be softened, and that the emptiness may be filled with the love of God.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

6. Let us pray for all who care for the sick, especially those who cared for (name) during his/her last illness.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

7. God of all consolation, help us to comfort one another in our grief, finding light in time of darkness and faith in time of doubt.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

8. We remember today all who are terminally ill. Lord be close to them as they enter into the last stage of their journey towards their homeland.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

9. Blessed are we who are saddened by the loss of one we loved; may our hope in the resurrection and promise of eternal life bring us comfort and turn our sadness to joy.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

10. We pray for all our departed brothers and sisters.  
Today we pray for ..... may (name) be  
reunited with them in God's Kingdom where  
there is no more pain or suffering.  
We pray to the Lord:

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

11. For (name) who in Baptism was given the  
pledge of eternal life that he/she may now be  
admitted to the company of the saints.  
We pray to the Lord:

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

12. For all who have fallen asleep in the hope of  
rising again, that they may see God face to  
face.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

13. For all of us assembled here to worship in faith  
that we may be gathered together again in God's  
Kingdom.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

14. In Baptism (name) received the light of Christ.  
Scatter the darkness now and lead him/her over  
the waters of death.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

15. For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, may they have the reward of their goodness.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

16. Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

17. Our brother/sister (name) was nourished at the table of the Saviour. Welcome him/her into the halls of the heavenly banquet.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

18. Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.  
We pray to the Lord.

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

# After the Funeral

## **Remembrance Booklet**

A funeral Mass Booklet will be given to the family. We would appreciate a small photograph to put on the cover of the booklet as soon as possible.

## **Month's Mind Mass**

The family is invited to a Month's Mind Mass at 6.30p.m. the last Saturday of the month. At this Mass we remember all those who have died during the month. We light a candle in their memory and you are invited to bring it home and to remember your loved one when you light it.

## **November Remembrance Mass**

Every November we have a special Mass of Remembrance for all our loved ones who have died during the previous year. You will receive an invitation to join us at this Mass to remember and pray for your deceased loved one.