

GOSPEL READINGS

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUNERALS

St. Mary, Hyde Park

Updated May 2021



Matthew 5: 1-12a

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 11: 25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

“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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 25: 31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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 from one 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 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.’

Then he will say to those on his left,

‘Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food,

I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,

a stranger and you gave me no welcome,

naked and you gave me no clothing,

ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’

Then they will answer and say,

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,

and not minister to your needs?’

He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you,

what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.’

And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Mark 15: 33-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

which is translated,

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

"Look, he is calling Elijah."

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,

and gave it to him to drink, saying,

"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said,

"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 12: 35-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Gird your loins and light your lamps
and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding,
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.

Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,
have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.

And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way,
blessed are those servants.

Be sure of this:

If the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming,
he would not have let his house be broken into.

You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 23: 33, 39-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified Jesus and the criminals there,
one on his right, the other on his left.

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,
“Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us.”

The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
“Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?

And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,
but this man has done nothing criminal.”

Then he said,
“Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

He replied to him,
“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 24: 13-16, 28-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week,
two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus,
seven miles from Jerusalem,
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 eyes were opened and they recognized him,
but he vanished from their sight.
Then they said to each other,
"Were our hearts not 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 6: 37-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 6: 51-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 11: 21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 Christ, the Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 12: 23-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 will lose 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 14: 1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.

John 17: 24-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
“Father, those whom you gave me 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.