

REQUIEM MASS FOR THOSE WHO DIED DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

March 2020 – October 2020

1. LOGISTICS

- a. (Arch)dioceses may consider sending out personalized invitations.
- b. Acknowledgement of those who have died during the pandemic – in the liturgy.
 - i. Care should be taken to determine if something is included in the liturgy itself that it not be of such great length as to interrupt the momentum of the connection between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (e.g. if the naming of the deceased is longer than the Introductory Rites and the Liturgy of the Word).
 - ii. With this in mind it would be preferable that, if the names of those who have died are to be read aloud, that this take place immediately following the Entrance Procession. This allows for those present to call to mind their loved one(s) who have died, together with all others within the Diocese, as they prepare to be instructed by God's word and nourished by Christ's Body and Blood.
 - iii. Proper care and concern should be given to the gathering of names, accuracy of spelling (and pronunciation), and, most importantly, to ensure no one is missed.
 - iv. Consideration must also be given to personal information and privacy laws, as these will inform appropriate processes for recognizing the deceased.
- c. If the pandemic is still raging at the time of the proposed celebration:
 - i. Should consideration be given for this effort to be made into an annual celebration so that all who die during the pandemic can receive proper restitution?
 - ii. If restrictions on the number of people permitted in the Cathedral remain in place in November and the number of the faithful departed during the pandemic is larger than the capacity of the Cathedral consideration should be given to **i)** if the celebration should take place and **ii)** how best those who have lost loved ones can participate at the Cathedral.¹

¹ Perhaps consider inviting one representative per parish. Alternately the (Arch)Diocese might consider celebrating a Mass like this every Sunday in November, or a monthly Mass of Remembrance, in different areas of the (Arch)Diocese especially if unfavourable driving conditions could prevent the participation of faithful who have lost loved ones.

- iii. What kind of outreach might be enacted for individuals who are restricted to a long-term care homes and are unable to attend this memorial for their loved one?

2. SUGGESTED CELEBRATION

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession:	<i>All You Who Seek A Comfort Sure</i> ²
Words of Introduction:	
Naming the Deceased:	<i>optional, perhaps with giving of a (large) votive candle</i>
Sign of the Cross:	
Greeting:	
Penitential Act:	
Collect:	<i>For Several Deceased Persons or For All the Dead</i> ³ Roman Missal: Third Edition, page 1390

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:	1011(5) – Ritual Lectionary, page 838 Isaiah 25.6a, 7-9 <i>The Lord will swallow up death forever.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	1013(1) – Ritual Lectionary, page 845 Psalm 23 <i>The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.</i> CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
Second Reading:	1014(13B) – Ritual Lectionary, page 861 1 Peter 1.3-7 <i>God has given us a birth into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.</i>

² If the faithful are permitted to participate in singing the Entrance Chant should be one that is familiar to those gathered, that will foster their sung participation, unify their voices and drawn them into the mystery of the celebration.

³ Any of the Masses for the Dead B. For Several Deceased Persons or For All the Dead are appropriate for this celebration. These are found in *Roman Missal: Third Edition* on pages 1386-1394.

Gospel Acclamation:	1015(11) – Ritual Lectionary, page 863 Revelation 14.13 <i>Blessed are the dead who died in the Lord; they will rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them.</i>
Gospel:	1016(17) – Ritual Lectionary, page 878-879 John 14.1-6 <i>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.</i>
Homily:	
Intercessions:	<i>See suggestions at end of this document.</i>

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and Presentation of Gifts:	<i>Now Know We Not the Meaning of Life’s Sorrow⁴</i>
Payer over the Gifts:	<i>For Several Deceased Persons or For All the Dead⁵</i> Roman Missal: Third Edition, page 1390
Preface:	<i>Preface I For the Dead: The Hope of Resurrection in Christ</i> Roman Missal: Third Edition, page 598-599 ⁵
Eucharistic Prayer:	
Communion Song:	<i>Shelter Me, O God⁶</i>
Prayer after Communion:	<i>For Several Deceased Persons or For All the Dead⁵</i> Roman Missal: Third Edition, page 1390

CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing:	
Dismissal:	

⁴ If the assembly is able to participate in singing the song chosen here should be familiar and foster their sung participation. It should echo the message of the Liturgy of the Word while preparing to give thanks to God.

⁵ One of Preface II-V For the Dead maybe chosen instead of this. These Prefaces are found on pages 600-607 of *Roman Missal: Third Edition* © Concacan Inc., 2011.

⁶ If the faithful are permitted to sing the Communion Song should be very familiar for the assembly and long enough to cover the distribution of communion.

3. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The *Order of Christian Funerals* © 1989 provides a treasury of resources for prayers, readings and intercessions. It may be the case that the Liturgy of the Word prepared for one of the thematic Vigils resonates for a particular (Arch)Diocese as they prepare this celebration. Below are the celebrations provided in the *Order of Christian Funerals*, together with where the readings and Psalms can be found in existing CCCB Publications.

Awaiting the Lord's Coming – Vigil A (pages 44-50)

- Romans 14.7-9, 10c-12 1014(6) - Ritual Lectionary, page 854-855
- Psalm 27 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Luke 12.35-40 1016(7) – Ritual Lectionary, page 868-869

God Is Faithful – Vigil B (pages 51-60)

- Isaiah 49.13-15 995(4) – Ritual Lectionary, page 802
- Psalm 143 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- 2 Timothy 2.11-13 1014(13) – Ritual Lectionary, pages 859-860
- Psalm 116 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 14.16-21 55 – Sunday Lectionary, page 327⁷

Life Is Changed, Not Ended – Vigil C (pages 61-70)

- Daniel 12.1-3 158 – Sunday Lectionary, page 646
- Psalm 103 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Romans 8.14-23 1014(4) – Ritual Lectionary, page 853
- Psalm 63 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 12.23-25 1016(16) – Ritual Lectionary, page 878⁸

I Am the Resurrection and the Life – Vigil D (pages 71-80)

- 1 Corinthians 15.51-57 1014(8) – Ritual Lectionary, page 856-857
- Psalm 27 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- 1 Corinthians 15.20-23 1020(3) – Ritual Lectionary, page 887
- Psalm 116 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 11.17-27 1016(14) – Ritual Lectionary, page 876

⁷ Omit verse 15

⁸ Use shorter version (23-26, and omit 26)

Our Eternal Home – Vigil E (pages 81-90)

- 2 Corinthians 5.1, 6-10 1014(10) – Ritual Lectionary, page 858
- Psalm 23 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Revelation 21.1-5a, 6b-7 1012(4) – Ritual Lectionary, page 844
- Psalm 122 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 14.1-6 1016(17) – Ritual Lectionary, page 878-879

I Am the Light of the World – Vigil F (pages 91-100)

- Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7 14 – Sunday Lectionary, page 55
- Psalm 27 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Ephesians 5.8-14 31 – Sunday Lectionary, page 131
- Psalm 119 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 12.44-46 748(7) – Ritual Lectionary, page 13

Our Hope of Glory – Vigil G (pages 101-110)

- Lamentations 3.17-26 1011(6) – Ritual Lectionary, page 839-840
- Psalm 25 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- 1 Peter 1.3-9 792(14) – Ritual Lectionary, page 202-203
- Psalm 121 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Luke 24.13-27 1016(10) – Ritual Lectionary, page 871-872⁹

God’s Faithful Will Live for Ever – Vigil H (pages 111-118)

- Wisdom 3.1-6, 9 1011(3) – Ritual Lectionary, page 836-837¹⁰
- Psalm 119 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- John 5.24-29 1016(11) – Ritual Lectionary, page 874

God Is With Us – Vigil I (pages 119-129)

- Job 19.1, 23-27 1011(2) – Ritual Lectionary, page 834-835
- Psalm 23 or CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Psalm 130 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities
- Romans 8.31b-35, 37-39 1014(5) – Ritual Lectionary, page 854
- Psalm 62 CBW III or CCCB Psalms for Sundays and Solemnities

⁹ The shortened reading is contained within the full text published on pages 871-872

¹⁰ Shortened version of reading

4. MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

All My Hope on God Is Founded	CBW III #479
All You Who Seek a Comfort Sure	CBW III #425
Amazing Grace!	CBW III #480
Be Not Afraid	CBW III #481
Behold a Broken World, We Pray ¹¹	CBW III #538
Blest Are the Pure in Heart	CBW III #471
Eye Has Not Seen	CBW III #482
For All the Saints	CBW III #449
God Our Help and Constant Refuge	CBW III #645
Great God, Whose Will Is Peace	CBW III #539
Healer of Our Every Ill	CBW III #363
I Know That My Redeemer Lives	CBW III #647
In the Shadow of Your Wings	CBW III #656
Jesus, Lord	CBW III #365
Litany of the Saints	CBW III #12
Lord God and Maker of All Things	CBW III #485
Lord of All Hopefulness	CBW III #497
My Refuge, My Fortress, My God in Whom I Trust	CBW III #496
Now Know We Not the Meaning of Life's Sorrow	CBW III #635
O God Beyond All Praising	CBW III #561
O God Our Help in Ages Past	CBW III #644
Our Hope Is in the Lord	CiS #6.36
Shelter Me, O God	CBW III #372
Sing with All the Saints in Glory	CBW III #406
Surely It Is God Who Saves Me	CBW III #500
The Lord, My Shepherd, Rules My Life	CBW III #489
The Lord Is Tender and Caring	CBW III #638
The Lord Jesus Christ	CBW III #436
There Is A Longing	CiS #6.15
We Know That Christ Is Raised	CBW III #398
We Shall Go Out	CiS #6.25
We Walk by Faith	CBW III #495
Word of God, From Mary's Womb	CBW III #428
You Are Near	CBW III #487

While "funeral" is the main theme, this is also an opportunity for the faithful to express their trust in God in the face of personal loss and social disorder experienced in this time of pandemic.

¹¹ Especially in November, if around November 11 when we are reminded of the price of peace and as we turn to thoughts of the coming of Christ at the end of the ages.

COMMUNION SONGS

Catholic Book of Worship III

598	Gentle Shepherd
603	Gift of Finest Wheat
606	My Shepherd Is the Lord
607	The Lord Is My Shepherd
609	My Soul Is Thirsting for the Lord
611	Take and Eat
610	Taste and See

Celebrate in Song

6.2	Dona Nobis Pacem
6.7	Our Blessing Cup
6.8	Take and Eat
6.10	Taste and See

5. READINGS

*A variety of selections from Sacred Scripture are available in **Lectionary: Ritual Masses, Votive Masses, Masses for the Dead.***

See supplementary chart for list, together with summary lines.

6. INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions may be chosen, as per the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, i) for the Church, ii) for the salvation of the world, iii) for those in any needs, iv) for the local community; or they may be chosen from Order of Christian Funerals (© Concacan Inc, 1989); or the below may be used as is, or adapted, with two readers offering the intercessions alternating, in litany form.

Bishop: Let us turn to Christ Jesus who is Lord both of the dead and of the living.
As we look forward to the joys of God's kingdom,
we pray with confidence.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Reader: To bishops, priests and deacons of the Church,
and all who preach the Gospel,
grant strength to express in action the word they proclaim.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To all in public office,
and to decisionmakers,
grant wisdom and courage to promote justice and peace.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those who suffer violence, war and famine,
and to all who suffer unjustly,
show your mercy.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those who have lost their livelihood,
and to those who have
grant assurance and stability.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those who have contracted the coronavirus,
and to their family and friends,
grant healing and peace.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To doctors, nurses, EMTs,
and to all health care professionals and caregivers,
grant safety and courage.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those who experience anxiety or mental illness,
and to those who fear for their health and safety,
grant consolation and peace.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those whose health care was interrupted,
and to those whose scheduled surgeries were cancelled,
grant health and strength.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To public safety officers,
and to essential workers,
grant fortitude and comfort.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To those who reach out to others in mercy,
to those who show compassion, understanding and kindness,
grant a place in your kingdom.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

To the hundreds of thousands of people who have died from the coronavirus,
and to our friends and family members who have gone before us,
grant them a place of refreshment, light, and peace.

R. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Bishop: God, our shelter and our strength,
you listen in love to the cry of your people:
hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters.
Cleanse them of their sins
and grant them the fullness of redemption.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.