

MUSIC SUGGESTIONS – Funeral Liturgies

At the funeral liturgy planning meeting, St. John’s staff will listen to your memories of your loved one. They will walk you through what is needed for the liturgy and suggest scripture readings and sacred music that reflects your loved one’s life in Christ, their faith, and what they held dear. St. John’s staff will also create and print a simple worship guide to facilitate everyone’s participation in the songs and responses. **This list of music in the St. John’s pew resources is intended to be a starting point. You do not need to make any decisions before the planning meeting.**

Responsorial Psalms

The Responsorial Psalm is a text from the Book of Psalms in the bible. At a Catholic liturgy, the Responsorial Psalm between the first and second readings is sung. These are some musical settings of psalms frequently chosen for funeral liturgies. You may choose settings of psalm texts not listed here. You may also choose a different text from the Book of Psalms.

- 19: Lord, You Have the Words of Everlasting Life (Joncas) – #121
- 23: My Shepherd Is the Lord (Gelineau, SJ) – #128
- 27: The Lord Is My Light (Portz, SJ) – reprint in worship guide
- 27: In the Shadow of Your Wings (O’Connor, SJ) – reprint in worship guide
- 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Manalo, CSP) – #182
- 116: I Will Walk Before the Lord (Proulx, Guimont, & Gelineau, SJ) – reprint in worship guide

Gospel Acclamations

The Gospel Acclamation announces the Gospel reading at any Catholic liturgy, especially Mass. Except during Lent, any “Alleluia” from a Mass setting (as below) or noted as a “Gospel Acclamation” in a hymnal can be used. Popular choices include:

- Celtic Alleluia (Walker & O’Carroll) - #84
- Plainchant – St. John’s hymnal supplement

During Lent, any noted as “Lenten Gospel Acclamation” in a hymnal can be used. Popular choices include:

- Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ (Portz, SJ & Dufford, SJ) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Lenten Gospel Acclamation (Walker) – #85

Service Music (Mass parts)

Mass settings should be published after the 2010 translation changes. These include the Holy, Memorial Acclamations, Amen, and Lamb of God. It’s best to choose the musical setting that the majority of your congregation will know. Pew resources at St. John’s include these common choices, among others:

- Mass of Renewal (Stephan) – # 93-101; includes Gospel Acclamations
- Mass of God’s Promise, 2010 (Schutte) – St. John’s hymnal supplement; includes Gospel Acclamations
- Mass of the Body of Christ (Ward) – St. John’s hymnal supplement; includes Gospel Acclamations
- Mass of Charity and Love (Warner) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Plainchant (Roman Missal) - #7-19
- Mass of Creation, 2010 (Haugen) – reprint in worship guide

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Songs for Eucharist (Communion)

These texts are especially appropriate to Communion at a Catholic funeral, but you may choose other sacred music for that moment.

- Bread for the World (Farrell) – #483
- Bread of Life (Farrell) – #482
- Eat This Bread (Berthier) – #505
- Gift of Finest Wheat (BICENTENNIAL, Kreutz) - #487
- I Am the Bread of Life (Toolan, RSM) – #493
- Like a Shepherd (Dufford, SJ) – # 765 – especially during Advent.
- Love One Another (Dufford, SJ)– #665 – especially vs. 3
- One Bread, One Body (Foley, SJ) – #498
- Take and Eat (Joncas) – reprint in worship guide
- Taste and See (Kendzia) – #504
- Taste and See (Moore, Jr.) – #511
- The Cry of the Poor (Foley, SJ) – #526
- Ubi Caritas (Hurd) – #510
- Ubi Caritas (Berthier) – St. John’s hymnal supplement

Song of Farewell

This is a musical setting of a particular text at the moment when the priest blesses the person’s remains and the Paschal candle with incense at the end of the funeral liturgy.

- Song of Farewell (OLD HUNDREDDTH) - #438
- Songs of the Angels (Dufford, SJ) - #428
- Song of Farewell (Sands) - #442

After the Song of Farewell and incense, it is traditional to use the simple, short chant May Choirs of Angels / In Paradisum - #437 as the funeral procession leaves the church on the way to the burial. At St. John’s it lasts about as long as it takes the family to gather around the remains and begin walking to main entrance the church. Another song of sending forth may be used in addition to accompany the rest of the congregation as they join the procession.

Songs of Comfort and Trust

Often a Catholic funeral liturgy moves from comfort and trust to hope and celebration in the Resurrection. These selections from St. John’s pew resources speak well to comfort and trust for those who are gathered.

- Abide With Me (EVENTIDE, Monk) – #780
- Amazing Grace (NEW BRITAIN) – #614
- As the Deer Longs (Hurd) – #149
- Be Not Afraid (Dufford, SJ) – #600
- Be Still, My Soul (FINLANDIA) – #419
- Bless the Lord (Berthier) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Center of My Life (Inwood) – #591
- Christ Before Us (SUO GÂN, Whitaker) - #586
- Come and Fill Our Hearts / Confitemini Domino (Berthier) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Come to the Water (Foley, SJ) – #770
- Day Is Done (AR HYD Y NOS) – #781
- Eye Has Not Seen (Haugen) – #645
- For You Are My God (Foley, SJ) – #601
- God of Day and God of Darkness (BEACH SPRING, Haugen) – reprint in worship guide

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- Here I Am (Foley, SJ) – #601
- Here I Am, Lord (Schutte) – #539
- Holy Darkness (Schutte) – #420
- I Have Loved You (Joncas) – #772
- In Your Dwelling Place (Ward) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Like a Child Rests (Walker) – #640
- Lord of All Hopefulness (SLANE) – #623
- My Soul Is Thirsting (Brown) – #436
- My Soul Thirsts (Schutte) – #157
- Nada Te Turbe / Nothing Can Trouble (Berthier) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- O God, You Search Me (Farrell) – #620
- On Eagle’s Wings (Joncas) – #606
- Only in God (Foley, SJ) – #611
- Parable (Ridge) – #440
- Peace Prayer (Foley, SJ) – #680
- Prayer of St. Francis (Temple) – #679
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand (PRECIOUS LORD, Dorsey) – #424
- Put Your Trust In God / Fiez-vous en Lui (Taizé) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Restless Is the Heart (Farrell) – #441
- Señor, Hazme un Instrumento de Tu Paz (Warner) – St. John’s hymnal supplement. Bilingual Spanish & English prayer of St. Francis.
- Shall We Gather At the River (HANSON PLACE, Lowry) – #773
- Shelter Me, O God (Hurd) – #649
- Shepherd Me, O God (Haugen) – #642
- The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ST. COLUMBA) – #648
- The Lord Is My Light (Walker) – #443
- These Alone Are Enough (Schutte) – #632. Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
- Though the Mountains May Fall (Schutte) – #619
- With You, O Lord (Berthier) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- You Are Near (Schutte) – #610

Songs of Hope in the Resurrection

Often a Catholic funeral liturgy moves from comfort and trust to hope and celebration in the Resurrection. These selections speak well to the promise of Resurrection to the deceased and to those gathered.

- During Advent:
 - Creator of the Stars of Night (CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM) – #217
 - Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (STUTTGART) – #212
 - O Come, O Come Emmanuel (VENI VENI EMMANUEL) – #228
 - Soon and Very Soon (Crouch) – #750
- During Lent:
 - What Wondrous Love Is this (WONDROUS LOVE) – #668
- All Shall Be Well (Foley, SJ) – #309
- Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem (HOLY ANTHEM) – #317
- Alleluia! Love Is Alive (Angrisano, Manibusan, & Hart) – #314
- Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (HYFRYDOL) – #361
- Behold the Glory of God (O’Connor, SJ) – #316
- For All the Saints (SINE NOMINE) – #388

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- God of Love (Schutte) – #661
- Hearts On Fire (Smith & Ridge) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- How Can I Keep From Singing? (Lowry) – #607
- How Great Thou Art (Hine) – #694
- How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place (DeBruyn) – #430
- I Am the Resurrection (Repp) – #329
- I Know That My Redeemer Lives (DUKE STREET) – #318
- I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Soper) – #431
- I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (HOUSTON, Thomerson) – #682
- Jerusalem, My Happy Home (FOREST GREEN) – #775
- Jesus Lives (Waddell, OCSO) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (HYMN TO JOY) - #726
- Let Heaven Rejoice (Dufford, SJ) – #333
- Live On In My Love (Collegetown) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (HYFRYDOL) – #662
- Now the Green Blade Rises (NOEL NOUVELET) – #328
- Out of Darkness (Walker) – #306
- Resucitó / He Is Risen (Argüello) – #323
- Sing a New Song (Schutte) – #739
- Sing With All the Saints in Glory (HYMN TO JOY) – #774
- Sing, O Sing (Schutte) – #744
- The Heavens and the Earth / In Resurrectione Tua (Taizé) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- The Strife Is O’er (VICTORY, Palestrina) – #336
- This Alone (Manion) – #631
- Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones (LASST UNS ERFREUEN) – #390
- Your Words Are Spirit and Life (Farrell) – #692

Songs related to Love of Creation / Nature

- All Creatures of Our God and King (LASST UNS ERFREUEN) – #714
- Behold the Glory of God (O’Connor, SJ) – #316
- Canticle of the Sun (Haugen) – reprint in worship guide. Attr. St. Francis of Assisi.
- For the Beauty of the Earth (ADORO TE DEVOTE, Schutte) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- For the Beauty of the Earth (DIX) – #705
- For the Fruits of This Creation (AR HYD Y NOS) – #697
- How Great Thou Art (Hine) – #694
- Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (HYMN TO JOY) - #726
- Morning Has Broken (BUNESSAN) – #778
- Now the Green Blade Rises (NOEL NOUVELET) – #328
- O God, You Search Me (Farrell) – #620
- Sing, O Sing (Schutte) – #744
- The Heavens and the Earth (Taizé) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Up from the Earth (LIBERATOR, Cooney) – #327

Songs related to Love of Family

- All Are Welcome (TWO OAKS, Haugen) – #570
- Faith of Our Fathers (ST. CATHERINE) – #593
- Live On In My Love (Collegetown) – St. John’s hymnal supplement

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- Lord of All Hopefulness (SLANE) – #623
- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (HYFRYDOL) – #662
- Love One Another (Dufford, SJ) – #665
- One Bread, One Body (Foley, SJ) – #498
- Table of Plenty (Schutte) – #463
- The Servant Song (Gillard) – #537
- Women of the Church (Landry) – #577

Songs related to Commitment to Justice

- All Are Welcome (TWO OAKS, Haugen) – #570
- Bread for the World (Farrell) – #483
- City of God (Schutte) – #538
- Come to the Water (Foley, SJ) – #770
- Find Us Ready (Booth) – #761
- Hearts On Fire (Smith & Ridge) – St. John's hymnal supplement
- Here I Am, Lord (Schutte) – #539
- Lord of All Hopefulness (SLANE) – #623
- Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (BEACH SPRING) – #523
- Love One Another (Dufford, SJ) – #665
- Sing a New Church (NETTLETON) – #569
- Table of Plenty (Schutte) – #463
- The Cry of the Poor (Foley, SJ) – #526

Songs related to Love of Sport

- Canticle of the Sun (Haugen) – reprint in worship guide. (dance)
- Join in the Dance (Schutte) – #315
- Lead Me, Lord (Becker) – #760
- Lord of the Dance (SIMPLE GIFTS) – #322 (dance)
- On Eagle's Wings (Joncas) – #606 (perseverance)
- Only This I Want (Schutte) – #562 (run the race)

Songs related to Love of Music

- Canticle of the Sun (Haugen) – reprint in worship guide. Attr. St. Francis of Assisi.
- How Can I Keep From Singing? (Lowry) – #607
- Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (HYMN TO JOY) - #726
- Praise God in This Holy Dwelling (Vermulst) – #737. Based on Psalm 150.
- Servant Song (McGargill, OSM) – #541
- Sing a New Song (Schutte) – #739
- Sing With All the Saints in Glory (HYMN TO JOY) – #774
- Sing, O Sing (Schutte) – #744

Songs related to Literature / Language

- Many and Great (Manalo, CSP) – #546
- O Word of God (Rubalcava) – #690
- Your Words Are Spirit and Life (Farrell) – #692

Songs related to Healing / Healers

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- As the Deer Longs (Hurd) – #149
- As the Deer Longs (O WALY WALY) – #590
- Bread for the World (Farrell) – #483
- Come to Me (Norbet, OSB) – #644
- Come to the Water (Foley, SJ) – #770
- Healing River of the Spirit (BEACH SPRING) – #422
- Here I Am (Foley, SJ) – #601
- I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (KINGSFOLD) – #646
- Like a Shepherd (Dufford, SJ) – #765
- O Jesus, Healer of Wounded Souls (Rubalcava) – #423
- On Eagle’s Wings (Joncas) – #606
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand (PRECIOUS LORD, Dorsey) – #424
- The Lord Is My Light (Walker) – #443

Songs related to Grace through Suffering / Illness

- Come to the Water (Foley, SJ) – #770
- Jesus Lives (Waddell, OCSO) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- Lead Me, Lord (Becker) – #760
- O Jesus, Healer of Wounded Souls (Rubalcava) – #423
- Only This I Want (Schutte) – #562
- Take, Lord, Receive (Foley, SJ) – #561. Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
- The Cry of the Poor (Foley, SJ) – #526
- These Alone Are Enough (Schutte) – #632. Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
- This Alone (Manion) – #631
- We are the Light of the World (Grief) – #687

Songs related to a particular Saint

- Mary
 - Ave Maria (Schubert or Gounod/Bach or other) – solo
 - O Mary of Promise (Warner) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
 - Hail Mary: Gentle Woman (Landry) – #372
 - Hail, Holy Queen (SALVE REGINA COELITUM) – #376
 - Sing of Mary (PLEADING SAVIOR) – #380
- Duchesne (Sacred Heart) – Coeur de Jesus – reprint in worship guide.
- Sr. Catherine Macauley (Mercy Sisters) – Take From My Heart (Kyler & Kirner) – reprint in worship guide. “Act of Resignation”
- St. Augustine of Hippo – O Beauty, Ever Ancient (O’Connor, SJ) – #582. Based on the Confessions.
- St. Francis of Assisi
 - Peace Prayer (Foley, SJ) – #680. Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.
 - Prayer of St. Francis (Temple) – #679. Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.
 - Canticle of the Sun (Haugen) – reprint in worship guide. Attr. St. Francis of Assisi.
- St. Ignatius of Loyola
 - These Alone Are Enough (Schutte) – #632. Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
 - Take, Lord, Receive (Foley, SJ) – #561. Suscipe prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
 - Hearts On Fire (Smith & Ridge) – St. John’s hymnal supplement
- St. John of the Cross – Holy Darkness (Schutte) – #420
- St. Patrick

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- Christ Be Beside Me (Wasson & Quinn, SJ) - #625. St. Patrick's Breastplate prayer.
- Christ Before Us (SUO GÂN, Whitaker) - #586. St. Patrick's Breastplate prayer.
- St. Theresa of Avila
 - Nada Te Turbe / Nothing Can Trouble (Berthier) – St. John's hymnal supplement.
 - The Eyes and Hands of Christ (Kendzia) – #585
 - Voice of Christ (Smith) – #576

Songs related to a particular culture

- Irish
 - Ag Chriost an Síol / To Christ the Seed – reprint in worship guide
 - Be Thou My Vision (SLANE) – #633
 - Christ Be Beside Me (Wasson & Quinn, SJ) – #625
 - Christ Before Us (SUO GÂN, Whitaker) – #586
 - Each Step of the Journey (Kirner) – reprint in worship guide. *Carmina gadaelica*.
 - Jesus, Be In Our Hearts (arr. Pirtle) – St. John's hymnal supplement.
 - Lord of All Hopefulness (SLANE) – #623
 - May the Road Rise to Meet You / Irish blessing - Kendzia (#639), True (reprint), or others
 - Ps. 23: Sé an Tiarna Maoíre – reprint in worship guide with English antiphon
 - The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ST. COLUMBA) – #648
- Bilingual / Multilingual
 - Resucitó / He Is Risen (Argüello) – #323. Can be used as Gospel Acclamation.
 - Misa Santa Fe (Reza) – #77-81; entire setting can be sung in Spanish, English, or a bilingual mix
 - Amén. El Cuerpo de Cristo (Schiavone) – #479 – bilingual Spanish & English
 - Pan de Vida (Hurd & Moriarty) – #501
 - Señor, Hazme un Instrumento de Tu Paz (Warner) – St. John's hymnal supplement. Bilingual Spanish & English prayer of St. Francis.
- Spanish
 - Entre Tus Manos (Repp) – #602
 - Nada Te Turbe (Berthier) – St. John's hymnal supplement. St. Theresa of Avila.
 - Del Cielo Ha Bajado (LOURDES HYMN) – #371
 - Oración de San Francisco (Temple) – #679
- Spirituals
 - Give Me Jesus (Spiritual) – #435