



The Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes

CATHEDRAL MUSIC GUIDELINES MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

INTRODUCTION

The Mass of Christian Burial is the central celebration of the Order of Christian Burial. This Mass focuses our attention on God's promise to us of everlasting life, and so participation in the Mass offers source of consolation in a time of grief. During the process of funeral planning, you will be guided in the planning of music by the Cathedral's director of music. **A guide is provided on page 2.**

ORDER OF LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Prelude Music—Instrumental, Organ

*** Processional Hymn—See options listed on Page 2**

Psalm—Psalm 23 (22): The Lord is My Shepherd (Gelineau)

Alleluia—If we die with Christ, we shall live with him; and if we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with him.

*** Music at the Preparation of the Gifts—See options listed on Page 2**

Eucharistic Acclamations—Latin, Vatican Mass XVIII, (Mass for the dead)
English, *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx

*** Communion—See options listed on Page 2**

Final Commendation—Song of Farewell (OLD HUNDREDTH)

Burial Procession—*In Paradisum*, chant, followed by Instrumental Music

CATHEDRAL POLICIES

Musicians

Music for a Mass of Christian Burial at the Cathedral is provided by:

- 1) Cantor, who leads congregational song and sings necessary antiphons.
- 2) Organist
- 3) Trumpeter

The Honoraria for Cathedral musicians are dependent upon current professional rates. Please contact the Director of Music for the correct amount.

Guest Musicians

The music for the funeral Liturgy is provided at the family's request by professional staff musicians. These arrangements are made so that the musicians are familiar with common practice at the Cathedral to ensure both artistic music and seamless celebration of the Mass. If a family or friend of the deceased wishes to offer the gift of music for the funeral Mass, he or she is invited to speak with the music director to arrange for the singing of a solo at the appropriate time.

Music Requests

The music list found on the first page has been carefully selected to ensure that the music for the funeral is most appropriate for the funeral Mass. The music director has taken into consideration the statements of the Second Vatican Council, the US Catholic Bishops, and the needs of the parish community in selecting the appropriate music. Appropriate liturgical music requests will be reviewed and considered by the music director.

EXPANDED DESCRIPTION OF THE MUSIC FOR THE MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Introductory Rites

Processional Hymn (*Suggestions provided*)

After the greeting and the introductory prayers, the body is led in procession to its place in front of the altar. This procession of the body, the faithful, and the priest is accompanied by a hymn. By its very nature, a hymn is a song of praise by which the faithful express their gratitude and awe for God. Options for this hymn include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) O God Beyond All Praising | 6) Be Thou My Vision |
| 2) For All the Saints | 7) Lord of All Hopefulness |
| 3) All Creatures of Our God and King | 8) Amazing Grace |
| 4) For All the Saints | 9) Crown Him with Many Crowns |
| 5) Now Thank We All Our God | 10) Holy God, We Praise Thy Name |

Liturgy of the Word

Psalm

After the First Reading, a Responsorial Psalm, often Psalm 23 (22) is sung.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. / He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; / he restores my soul. / He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. / Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. / You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; / you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. / Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, / and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Alleluia

The acclamation *alleluia* (Hebrew for “Praise you the Lord”) calls to mind Christ’s Easter triumph over sin and death and our sure hope of Resurrection with Christ at the end of time.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts (*Suggestions provided*)

At this time, the gathered assembly, having just heard Scripture readings and a homily, turns its attention to the Eucharistic Mystery about to take place. Music options for the Preparation of the Gifts include:

- the singing of a hymn (options are found in the above heading, *Procession Hymn*)
- the singing of a solo vocal work, perhaps a setting of *Ave Maria* (Hail Mary) or *Pie Jesu*
- Instrumental music

Eucharistic Acclamations

For centuries the *Sanctus* (“Holy, holy, holy”) has been sung by the Catholic faithful at Masses for the Dead. We sing the *Holy, holy, holy* following the Priest’s exhortation that we join our voices with the angels who are continually singing God’s praise in the same way in heaven. In singing this hymn, we take our part in the Church universal, participating in the same ritual performed by Catholics for centuries:

*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
Pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloria tua.*

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in Nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Before the reception of Communion, all sing the *Agnus Dei* (“Lamb of God”), echoing the words of St. John the Baptist, who sees Jesus approaching and says, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, misere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; grant us peace.

Communion (*Suggestions provided*)

As the faithful assembled come forward to receive Holy Communion and as non-Catholics come forward to receive a blessing, music options include:

- a familiar Eucharistic hymn, such as *Gift of Finest Wheat*,
- a suitable solo vocal work, including the following recommended works

Panis Angelicus, César Franck

Ave Verum Corpus, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ave Maria, Various

Laudate Dominum, Mozart

Final Commendation

Song of Farewell

Following the Communion Rite, the body is incensed. As this is done, the faithful sing together the Song of Farewell, prayerfully asking the angels and saints to receive and present the soul of the departed to God, the Most High.

In Paradisum

At the end of the Funeral Mass, this venerable antiphon, sung since ancient times, begins the procession of the body out of the Church and to its place of burial. This chant is sung in its original Latin text:

In paradisum deducant te Angeli; in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Ierusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.

(May angels lead you into paradise; upon your arrival, may the martyrs receive you and lead you to the holy city of Jerusalem. May the choirs of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, once a poor man, may you have eternal rest.)

Processional Music

Following the singing of the *In Paradisum*, instrumental music played by organ and trumpet accompanies the Procession out of the Church.

