

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
Office of Sacred Music
Stephen J. Smith, Director of Sacred Music
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On behalf of the music staff at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, please know of our prayers and deepest condolences.

Music Selection

Please make one selection from each category on the [Funeral Mass Music Planning Sheet](#) (found on the second page of this document). Hymn suggestions can be found at the bottom of the planning sheet if you would like to also select hymns. If the family does not feel comfortable selecting the music, the Director of Sacred Music can select appropriate music for the Mass.

A note about the antiphons: You will notice on the planning sheet that you have the option for each of the antiphons (Entrance, Communion, Recessional) to be sung in English or Latin. We sing these antiphons because they are beautiful uplifting prayers that have accompanied Catholic funerals for centuries. These powerful prayers call on the intercession of the angels, the martyrs, and the saints, asking them to come to our assistance and present our dearly departed to God the Father, that He may forgive their sins and grant them eternal rest with the saints and angels in new and eternal Jerusalem. By singing these antiphons, we accomplish the work appointed unto us in praying for the soul of the deceased. The antiphons also parallel the prayers that are recited at our baptism, through which we receive the “perpetual light” or “eternal light” of salvation. This is the same salvation that comes to us through our baptism and in the resurrection of Christ Jesus. The candle that we receive at our baptism (or that our parents and Godparents receive for us) is lit from the Easter candle itself, and that light shines forth even at our death.

The funeral liturgy is a special time for family, friends, and members of the parish to pray for the soul of our deceased loved one. In that same spirit, the music should also reflect that same sense of prayer. That is why secular music is inappropriate within the context of the Mass of Christian Burial. Secular music (favorite songs of the family or deceased, etc.) should be reserved for the viewing or reception.

Musicians

Each funeral is staffed with an organist and professional vocalist. Additional instruments and/or singers may be requested for an additional fee and are subject to availability.

Programs

The Director of Sacred Music will make and print programs (at no cost) for the funeral Mass. The program will contain the hymns, antiphons, and congregational responses. You will be asked to provide an approximate number of attendees on the [Funeral Mass Music Planning Sheet](#) so an appropriate number of programs are printed.

Any questions regarding funeral music can be directed towards Stephen Smith, the Director of Sacred Music.

Once again, please know of our deepest condolences and prayers for you and your loved one.

Stephen J. Smith

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Funeral Mass Music Planning

Name of deceased: _____

Funeral Mass Date: _____ Funeral Mass Time: _____ Approximate number of attendees: _____

The Entrance Chant

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

- ☐ Sung in Latin
- ☐ Sung in English

The Responsorial Psalm

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> D1: Ps. 23 - <i>The Lord is my shepherd...</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> D6: Ps. 103 - <i>The Lord is kind and merciful.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D2: Ps. 25 - <i>To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> D7: Ps. 116 - <i>I will walk in the presence...</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D3: Ps. 27 - <i>The Lord is my light and my salvation.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> D8: Ps. 122 - <i>Let us go rejoicing...</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D4: Ps. 42 - <i>My soul is thirsting for the living God...</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> D9: Ps. 130 - <i>Out of the depths, I cry to you...</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D5: Ps. 63 - <i>My soul is thirsting for you...</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> D10: Ps. 143 - <i>O Lord, hear my prayer.</i> |

The Offertory

- ☐ Option 1: (*Antiphon*) *O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed.*
- ☐ Option 2: (*Antiphon*) *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!*
- ☐ Option 3: Hymn:

Communion

Let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord, with your Saints forever, for you are merciful.

- ☐ Sung in Latin
- ☐ Sung in English

If the family wishes, an appropriate hymn or vocal solo may be sung after the above antiphon. If so, write the title here:

Recessional Chant

May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem. May choirs of angels welcome you and lead you to the bosom of Abraham; and where Lazarus is poor no longer may you find eternal rest.

- ☐ Sung in Latin
- ☐ Sung in English

Suggested Hymns

The following hymns, or other appropriate pieces of hymnody, may be used at the Offertory and Communion.

Offertory	Communion	Other Suggested Hymns
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	Ave Maria (Schubert) - <i>vocalist solo</i>	O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Jerusalem, My Happy Home	Panis Angelicus (Franck) - <i>vocalist solo</i>	Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
Lord of All Hopefulness	Pie Jesu (Fauré) - <i>vocalist solo</i>	O God, Beyond All Praising
The King of Love My Shepherd Is	Dies Irae (chant) - <i>vocalist solo</i>	I Know That My Redeemer Lives (<i>Duke Street</i>)
Abide With Me	Soul of My Savior	Now Thank We All Our God
Be Still My Soul	Jesus My Lord, My God, My All	God of Our Fathers (<i>National Hymn</i>)
Be Thou My Vision	Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Beautiful Savior	Gift of Finest Wheat	Salve Regina (<i>chant</i>)