

Music Selections for the Mass of Christian Burial

For All the Saints [opening hymn]

1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who you by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;
you, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
you in the the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. O blest communion, family divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one within your great design.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amazing Grace [opening or closing hymn]

1. Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
3. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

[continued]

4. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is [opening hymn]

1. The King of Love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he's leading,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feeding.
3. Confused and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with you, dear Lord, beside me,
your rod and staff my comfort still,
your cross before to guide me.
5. You spread a table in my sight;
your saving grace bestowing;
and O what transport of delight
from your pure chalice flowing!
6. And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever.

O God Our Help in Ages Past [opening or closing hymn]

1. God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
2. Under the shadow of your throne,
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
6. God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Jesus, Lead the Way [opening hymn]

1. Jesus, lead the way through our life's long day,
when at times the way is cheerless,
help us follow, calm and fearless;
guide us by your hand to the promised land.
2. Jesus, be our light in the midst of night,
let not faithless fear o'ertake us,
let not faith and hope forsake us;
may we feel you near as we worship here.
3. When in deepest grief, strengthen our belief.
When temptations come alluring,
make us patient and enduring;
Lord, we seek your grace in this holy place.
4. Jesus, still lead on 'til our rest is won:
If you lead us through rough places,
grant us your redeeming graces.
When our course is o'er, open heaven's door.

Lord of All Hopefulness [opening or closing hymn]

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Eat This Bread (refrain; communion)

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you shall not thirst.

I Received the Living God (refrain; communion)

I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.
I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

Take and Eat (refrain; communion)

Take and eat, take and eat:
this is my body, given up for you.
Take and drink, take and drink:
this is my blood, given up for you.

Psalm 27 (responsorial psalm)

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
of whom should I be afraid?
Of whom should I be afraid?

1. The LORD is my light and my help; whom should I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
before whom should I shrink?
2. There is one thing I ask of the LORD; for this I long:
to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.
3. I believe I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
Hope in God and take heart; hope in the LORD!

Psalm 23 (responsorial psalm)

My shepherd is the LORD; nothing indeed shall I want

1. LORD, you are my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where you give me repose.
Near restful waters you lead me, to revive my drooping spirit.
2. You guide me along the right path;
you are true to of your name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.
4. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me
all the days of my life;
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Psalm 25 (responsorial psalm)

To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; to you, I lift my soul.

1. LORD, make me know your ways,
teach me your paths and keep me in the way of your truth,
for you are God my savior.
2. For the LORD is good and righteous,
revealing the way to those who wander,
gently leading the poor and the humble.
3. To the ones who fear the LORD,
who look to God's word and live God's love,
God will always be near and will show them mercy.

Psalm 103 (responsorial psalm)

The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the LORD,
all my being, bless his holy name!
My soul, give thanks to the LORD,
and never forget all his blessings.
2. It is he who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.
3. The LORD is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our sins.