

St. Ambrose Funeral Liturgy

Music Selection

As a parish family, we want to begin by offering our condolences on the loss of your loved one. Because the Mass is a public act of worship of the church, the parish takes the selection for the music in the funeral liturgy very seriously. Music should be sacred and reflect the idea of resurrection and hope.

You may have in mind some specific songs which may or may not be appropriate during the Mass. Below is a song list with suggestions for various points during the Mass. There are many songs not listed that may also be appropriate. Jen Meehan is the St. Ambrose liturgist and funeral coordinator. She will assist you in choosing your music. St. Ambrose Music Director, Mr. Darren Modde, has the final decision on what songs are appropriate to play/sing. He will assign a parish cantor to lead the congregation in prayer and song. A family may choose to hire their own cantor if this person has experience singing for Catholic funeral liturgies or is well versed in Catholic music repertoire.

Some music is not appropriate for a funeral Mass. For example, *O Danny Boy* is a wonderful song, but because it does not have sacred words, it is not appropriate for a Catholic Mass. The sacred and communal nature of our Catholic Funeral Mass requires careful planning in the selection of music. This planning will ensure the ability of all those gathered to actively participate in the celebration. Because of the sacredness of the Mass, secular instrumental or vocal music, or the use of recorded music of any kind may not be used.

The entrance, Communion, and recessional hymns should be selections that the congregation should be encouraged to sing. Solos are more appropriate during offertory, or as a Communion meditation.

Your selections should include the following:

Entrance

Responsorial Psalm (text only)

Offertory

Communion

Final Commendation

Recessional

These songs are appropriate for Entrance or Recessional:

All Creature of Our God and King #	Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee #
Alleluia Sing to Jesus #	Lead Me Lord #
Amazing Grace #	Let There Be Peace on Earth #
Be Not Afraid #	Lord of All Hopefulness #
Canticle of the Sun #	O God Beyond All Praising #
Christ Be Our Light #	On Eagle's Wings #
City of God #	The King of Love My Shepherd Is #
Holy God We Praise Thy Name #	To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King #
I Know that My Redeemer Lives #	We Shall Rise Again #

These responsorial psalms (texts) have music settings:

Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want
Psalm 25: To you O Lord I lift my soul
Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation
Psalm 40: Here I am Lord I come to do your will
Psalm 42: As a deer longs for running streams, so I long for you O Lord
Psalm 103: The Lord is kind and merciful
Psalm 130: Out of the depths I cry to you Lord

These songs are appropriate for Offertory or Communion:

Abide With Me #	In This Place #
All Is Well with My Soul #	One Bread One Body #
All My Days #	Only In God #
Ave Maria	Open My Eyes Lord #
Bread of Angels (Panis Angelicus) #	Prayer of St. Francis #
Come To Jesus	Seek Ye First #
Come to the Water #	Servant Song #
Eye Has Not Seen #	Stand By Me #
Give Me Ears to Listen #	Taste and See #
Hail Mary Gentle Woman #	The Summons #
Here I Am Lord #	These Alone Are Enough #
How Can I Keep From Singing #	This Alone #
How Great Thou Art #	You Are Near #
I Am the Bread of Life #	
In Christ Alone #	

These songs are appropriate for the Final Commendation:

Go In Peace #	O Loving God #
Go Light Your World	Peace I Leave With You #
I Know That My Redeemer Lives #	Song of Farewell (Old Hundredth) #
Irish Blessing #	Song of Farewell (Sands) #
Litany of the Saints #	

There are appropriate Italian songs that you may want played instrumentally or sung at the funeral:

Col sole che nasce	Mira il tuo popolo
Di Te Vorrei	Nome dolcissimo
La Vera Gioia	Pane di vita nuova
Laudamus Te	Santa Lucia
Lodate dio	T'Adoriam ostia divina
Luce divina	Vi Adoro