

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. St. Ambrose Music Director, Mr. Darren Modde, can help you choose music, or is happy to make the selections for your loved one's funeral Mass. 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. If you have a favorite song that cannot be used during Mass, you may want to play it during the luncheon or during a slide show at the wake.

The entrance hymn, Communion hymn, and recessional hymn are music that the congregation should be encouraged to sing, as well as the usual service music and responses. Solos are more appropriate during offertory, or as a Communion meditation.

Your selections should include the following:

Entrance

Responsorial Psalm

Offertory

Communion

Final Commendation or Song of Farewell

Recessional

Please make your selections, write them on the Funeral Liturgy music worksheet, and give them to your funeral director and music minister. The music minister will post the hymn numbers at Mass. The cantor will announce the song and hymn number at Mass. If you have other suggestions not listed, please contact the music minister who will assist you. These songs are from the 2022 Breaking Bread Hymnal.

These songs are appropriate for Entrance or Recessional:

All Creatures of Our God and King

City of God

Alleluia Sing to Jesus

Lead Me Lord

Amazing Grace

Lord of All Hopefulness

Be Not Afraid

On Eagle's Wings

Canticle of the Sun

To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King

Christ Be Our Light

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

These psalms are appropriate:

Psalm 23: The Lord is My Shepherd (Crandal)

Psalm 23: Shepherd Me O God (Haugen)

Psalm 25: I Lift Up My Soul (Manion)

Psalm 25: To You O Lord (Soper)

Psalm 33: Lord Let Your Mercy (Dufford)

Psalm 63: My Soul is Thirsting (Angrisano)

Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Colson)

These songs are appropriate for Offertory or Communion:

Abide with Me

All Is Well with My Soul

All My Days

As the Deer Longs

Ave Maria

Beyond the Moon and Stars

Bread of Angels

Come to the Water

Eat this Bread

Eye Has Not Seen

Give Me Ears to Listen

Hail Mary Gentle Woman

Here I Am

Hosea

How Can I Keep from Singing

How Great Thou Art

I Am the Bread of Life

In Christ Alone

In This Place

Irish Blessing

One Bread One Body

Only in God

Open My Eyes

Prayer of St. Francis

Precious Lord Take My Hand

Seek Ye First

Servant Song

Stand By Me

Taste and See

The Cry of the Poor

The Servant Song

The Summons

These Alone Are Enough

This Alone

These songs are appropriate for the Final Commendation:

Go in Peace

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

O Loving God

Song of Farewell (Old Hundredth)

Song of Farewell (Sands)

St. Ambrose Funeral Liturgy

Date _____ Time _____

Deceased _____

Funeral home _____

Family member contact _____

Music Ministers _____ organist

_____ cantor

Entrance: _____

Responsorial Psalm: _____

Offertory: _____

Communion: _____

Song of Farewell: _____

Recessional: _____

Notes for music ministers (Gospel acclamation; mass parts, 2nd Communion or meditation song):