

## Burial Office

The Priest meets the body (if not already in the church) and goes before it into the church or towards the grave saying or singing: "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord: "he whoever believes in Me, though he is dead, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." *Jn 11:25-26*.

I know that my redeemer lives and that He shall stand at the Last Day upon the earth: and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God, Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger. *Job 19:25-27*.

We brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out. *1 Tim 6:7*. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

When they arrive at the rear of the church or the grave, the Priest says:

You are praised in Zion, O Lord, and unto You shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem. You Who hears prayer, unto You shall all flesh come. *Ps 65*. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

## Processional Hymn

The People stand and may sing a hymn as the casket is carried into the church. If a clergyman, before setting it down, the casket is turned so that the head is toward the Altar. The Priest may then cense the casket on both sides, beginning at the head.

## Opening Prayer for the Departed

O God, Whose property is always to have mercy and to forgive, we humbly pray on behalf of the soul of Your *servant, N*, which has departed out of this world: Do not deliver it into the hands of the enemy or forget it at the last, but command that it be received by Your holy Angels and carried into the land of the living and, since *he* hoped and believed in You, count *him* worthy to rejoice in the communion of Your Saints. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

## Kyrie

Lord, have mercy.		Kyrie eleison.
<i>Christ, have mercy.</i>	or	<i>Christe eleison.</i>
Lord, have mercy.		Kyrie eleison.

## Prayer for the Soul of the Departed

Almighty and everlasting God, again we humbly entreat Your mercy: that You will command that the soul of Your *servant, N*, for whose body we perform the Burial Office, be laid in the bosom of Your Patriarch, Abraham; that when the day of Your recognition shall arrive, he may be raised up at Your bidding among the Saints and Your elect. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

## Epistle

The people sit as the Reader announces the Epistle Lesson: A reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

I do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are asleep, brethren, so that you will not sorrow like those who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, God will bring with Him also those who sleep in Jesus. We say this to you by the word of the Lord: we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord shall not precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we shall be with the Lord for ever. Therefore, comfort one another with these words. *1 Thess 4:13-18.*

This is the Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

***Quemadmodum***

Psalm 42

As the deer pants for the water, \* so my soul longs for You, O God.

*As the deer pants for the water, \* so my soul longs for You, O God.*

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. \* When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

*As the deer pants for the water, \* so my soul longs for You, O God.*

As the deer pants for the water,  
*So my soul longs for You, O God.*

## Gospel

All stand as the Priest announces the Gospel Lesson:  
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According  
to St. John.  
*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that, even now, whatever You ask God, He will give You." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life: he who believes in Me, though he may be dead, yet he will live. And whoever lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord: I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, Who is to come into the world." *Jn 11:21-27.*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

The People sit and say or sing:

### ***Dominus regit me***

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; \* I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \* He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; \* He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; \* for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; \* Thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \* and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### **Nicene Creed**

Priest and People together:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light; Very God of Very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father; Who, with the Father and the Son together, is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

## Sermon

A hymn may be sung. The Priest then either preaches a sermon or reads the Troparia of St. John of Damascus:

What pleasure is there in our life that is not mixed with sorrow? What glory on earth that lasts? All are more fleeting than shadows, and more deceitful than a dream! In one moment death takes all away. But, You O Christ, in the light of Your face, in the beauty of Your holiness, give peace to our *brother* You have chosen, for You are the Lover of Mankind.

What struggle my soul will have to sustain when its time will come to be separated from my body! What suffering I shall have to endure alone! No one will be at hand to have mercy on me. If I turn my eyes even to Angels, I will be pleading in vain. If I stretch out my hands to my fellow men, I will find no one to help. Beloved brethren, let us then consider how short is our life and look up to Christ who alone grants mercy and peace.

All human things are vain since they cannot survive the grave. Will riches survive, or glory attend us beyond the tomb? No! When death approaches, all these vanish. Let us then cry out to Christ, our immortal King, that He may give rest to *him* who has departed from us, and place *him* in the joy of heaven.

Where are the affections of the world? Where are the vain dreams of delight? Where is gold or silver? Where is the multitude of servants and attendants? All is dust and ashes, or a shadow that passes away. Brethren, let us then pray to Christ our Immortal King and say: "O Lord, grant Your blessings to Your departed *servant*, and give rest to *his* soul in Your everlasting happiness of heaven."

Let us call to mind the words of the Prophet who said: "I am dust and ashes." *Gen 18:27; Job 30:19*. Let us also look at the graves, and at the bones they contain. Is there a difference between king and beggar? Where is the rich and where the poor? Where is the just and where the sinner? O Lord our God, give rest to the soul of Your *servant* and number *him* among the just.

O Lord my God, You have endowed me with two elements—one visible and the other invisible. You have formed my body from clay, and breathed into me a soul from Your divine breath. O Christ our God, give rest to the soul of Your *servant* in the Kingdom of those who live forever in the company of the just.

In the beginning You made man in Your image and likeness. You placed him in paradise and gave him power over the whole creation. But he was deceived by the devil and transgressed Your command by tasting of the forbidden fruit. You sentenced him to return to that dust from which he had been taken, wherefore we pray to You, O our God, to grant peace and rest to the soul of Your departed *servant*. I weep and lament when I consider death, and when I think of those who are laid in the grave. Where is now that moving beauty created in the likeness of God? Where is the glorious form? Oh, wonder, what happened that we are now delivered up to corruption? And how did death come into our life? God alone by His will and command has power to grant peace and rest to our souls.

O Christ, with the Saints grant rest to the soul of Your *servant* that *he* may repose in a place where there is no pain, no grief, no sighing, but everlasting life.

### Offertory

If there will be no Communion, the Service continues with the Lord's Prayer and then the Commendation and Committal. Otherwise, a hymn may be sung while the Priest prepares the Altar and offerings. He lifts the burse off the top of the chalice, extracts the corporal from it, sets the burse on the far Gospel side, and then sets the corporal on top of the burse. After lifting off the chalice veil, he folds it on the far Epistle side, removes the ciborium veil and sets it on the chalice veil, unfolds the corporal in the middle of the Altar and spreads it even with the front edge.

The Priest brings the chalice, purificator, and paten to the credenza, if there be one, where he pours wine into the chalice and then makes the sign of the Cross over the uncovered water cruet, blessing it:

The Lord, from **X** Whose side came forth blood and water: by Him be it blessed.

After pouring water in the form of the Cross into the chalice, the Priest removes any drops of water separated from the wine with the purificator, places the required number of breads in the ciborium (or under the Priest's Host on the paten) and sets the paten (covered with the pall) back upon the chalice. Taking up the chalice with the folded purificator at the node, the Priest places it in the center of the corporal, sets the ciborium (if used) behind and to the Epistle side of it, and then places the purificator, pall, and ciborium cover outside the corporal on the Epistle side. The Priest then prays:  
O Lord Jesus Christ, King of Glory: Deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the hand of hell and from the deep pit. Deliver them from the lion's mouth: that hell not swallow them up; that they not fall into the darkness. Let St. Michael the Standard-bearer bring them into the holy light which You promised of old to Abraham and his seed.

The Priest may again cense the casket on both sides, beginning at the head. After washing his hands, the Priest lifts the chalice and paten as he prays:

We offer to You oblations and prayers, O Lord, for the souls whose memory we keep this day: that they may pass from death to life. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Receive the Sacrifice which You graciously offered to God the Father for us, O Lord, on behalf of the soul of Your *servant, N*, and because You came down from Heaven for the sake of men, when You come again, let the soul of Your *servant, N*, be counted worthy to be united to the assembly of Your Saints. Through Thee, O Savior of the world, Who lives and reigns with Your Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### **General Confession**

Priest and People, all kneeling:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed against Your Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. The remembrance of them is grievous to us: the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Forgive us all that is past and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your Name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Absolution of Sins**

Standing, the Priest prays for the People, still kneeling:  
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Who of His great mercy promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn to Him: Have mercy upon you, and pardon and **X** absolve you of all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **Sursum Corda**

The Lord be with you.  
*And also with you.*  
Lift up your hearts.  
*We lift them up to the Lord.*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*It is fitting, just, and right to give Him thanks and praise.*

## **Preface**

It is very fitting, right, just, and our duty to always and everywhere give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

## **Proper Preface**

The Priest says the Proper Preface, if appointed, and then continues:  
And therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of the Heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore saying:

## **Sanctus and Benedictus**

Priest and People together:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory: Glory be to You, O Lord Most High. Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosannah in the highest.

## **Prayer of Consecration**

The Priest uncovers the ciborium, places its cover outside the corporal, and bowing profoundly with joined hands, prays:

All glory be to You, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, that You, of Your tender mercy, gave Your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption, Who there (by His own oblation of Himself once offered) made a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world, and instituted, and in His holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of His precious death and sacrifice until His coming again: We beseech You, that You will vouchsafe, in all respects, to bless, approve, ratify, and make this oblation reasonable and acceptable, sending down upon it Your Holy Spirit, the witness of the Passion of Your most dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that it may become to us His **X** Body and His **X** Blood;  
For in the night in which He was betrayed, He took bread,

Holding or placing a hand on the Host, the Priest continues:  
and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is My Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of Me."

The Priest places the Host on the paten, covers the ciborium, uncovers the Chalice, placing the pall outside the corporal on the Epistle side, and continues:

Likewise, after supper, He took the cup,

Holding or placing a hand on the Chalice, the Priest continues: and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this, for this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins: Do this as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Priest places the Chalice on the corporal, covers it with the pall, stands with hands extended, and continues:

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father: According to the institution of Your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, Your humble servants, offer to Your Divine Majesty from Your own bounty these **X** gifts on behalf of all.

Bowing with hands joined, the Priest continues:

And we most humbly beseech You, O merciful Father, to hear us and, of Your almighty goodness, vouchsafe to **X** bless and **X** sanctify with Your Word and Holy Spirit these Your gifts and creatures of bread and wine: that all who receive them may partake of the most sacred Body and Blood of Your Son, be filled with Your grace and heavenly **X** benediction, and in unity as one body with Him, that He may dwell in us, and we in Him, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, by Whom and with Whom be to You all honor and glory, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

## **Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Jesus Christ taught us, we are bold to pray:

Priest and People together:

Our Father Who is in heaven, holy is Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Fracture**

The Priest uncovers the Chalice, makes the sign of the Cross with the Host over the Chalice, breaks it down the middle and, after pausing a moment, places the right side on the paten, breaks a particle from the bottom of the left side with his right hand and, still holding the particle over the Chalice, places the left side on the paten joined to the right side. Making the sign of the Cross over the Chalice with the particle, the Priest lets it fall into the Chalice as he prays silently.

## **Prayer of Humble Access**

Bowing with hands joined and eyes on the Host, the Priest prays: We do not presume to come to this Your Table trusting in our own righteousness, merciful Lord, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your Table. But You are the same Lord Whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, to eat the Flesh of Your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink His Blood: that our sinful bodies may be made clean by His Body, our souls washed by His most precious Blood, and we may evermore live in Him and He in us. *Amen.*

## Holy Communion

A hymn may be sung as the Priest as the Priest makes his own communion. He then uncovers the ciborium, takes it up in his left hand at the node and, holding one Host above it, goes to the rail. Making the sign of the Cross with each Host over the ciborium, the Priest communicates the People, saying:

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, keep your body and soul in everlasting life.

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, keep your body and soul in everlasting life.

For the Body and Blood administered together:

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given and shed for you, keep your body and soul in everlasting life.

If necessary, the Priest consecrates additional Bread or Wine using the Prayer of Consecration, beginning at *All glory be to You ...* and ending with *... His Body and His Blood.*

## Post-Communion Prayer

Grant, we beseech You, O Lord: that the soul of Your *servant, N*, for whose body we have this day performed the Burial Office, may be cleansed by this Sacrifice, and give thanks to You for the perpetual gift of Your salvation. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

The Priest standing, the People devoutly kneeling:  
Almighty and everliving God, we thank You for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy Mysteries of Your favor and goodness towards us and that we are living members of the Body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people, and are also heirs through hope of Your eternal Kingdom by the merits of His most precious death and passion. Assist us with Your grace, Heavenly Father: that we may continue in that holy fellowship and do the good works that You have prepared for us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, are all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A hymn may be sung as the Priest and Pallbearers take their places at the casket.

## Commendation

O God, Who has authority of life and death, God of spirits and Master of all flesh, God who kills and makes alive, Who brings down to the gates of Hades and brings up, Who creates the spirit of man within him and takes to Yourself the souls of the Saints and gives rest, Who alters and changes and transforms Your creatures, as is right and expedient, being Yourself alone incorruptible, unalterable and eternal: Grant repose and rest of this Your *servant*, *N.* Give rest to *his* soul, *his* spirit, in places of verdure, in chambers of rest with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob

and all Your Saints. Raise up *his* body in the day which You have ordained, according to Your promises which cannot lie, that You may render to it also the heritage of which it is worthy in Your holy pastures. Remember not *his* transgressions and sins and cause *his* going forth to be peaceful and blessed. Heal the grief of those who love *him* with the spirit of consolation, and grant us all a good end through the grace of Your Only-begotten Son, with Whom You are blessed, and Your All-holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen*.

The casket is carried out of the church to the hearse and taken to the cemetery. At the cemetery, while the casket is carried from the hearse to the grave, the Priest follows, saying or singing:

### **Trisagion Prayers**

Blessed is our God, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *Amen*.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen*.

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!  
O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!  
O Master, pardon our transgressions!  
O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

Our Father Who is in heaven, holy is Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

At the grave, if the cemetery has not been consecrated, the Priest prays:

### **Blessing of a Grave**

Let us pray.

O Master, Lord our God, through Whose mercy faithful souls are given rest: Bless the grave of this Your servant, *N*, and send down Your holy Angel to guard it; that the body which shall be buried in it may receive a place of repose even unto Your Second Coming and the Resurrection of this Your servant; While the soul, loosed from every sinful bond, may be granted everlasting joy in Your heavenly and holy Courts; For You are the King of peace, and the Savior of our souls, and to You we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Priest sprinkles the grave or tomb with Holy Water.

## Litany for the Dead

Give rest to the soul of Your *servant*, O Savior, with the spirits of the righteous made perfect. Guard *N* for the blessed life with You, O Lover of mankind. In Your rest where all Your saints repose, O Lord, give rest also to the soul of Your *servant*, *N*, for You alone are immortal.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

You are the God Who descended into the realm of death and destroyed the suffering of those imprisoned there. Give rest also to the soul of Your *servant*, *N*.

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Only pure and undefiled Virgin who conceived God without seed, pray that the soul of your *servant* may be saved.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

Again we pray for the repose of the soul of the *servant* of God, who is fallen asleep: that *he* may be pardoned all *his* sins, both voluntary and involuntary.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

Again we pray that the Lord God will establish *his* soul where the Just repose.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

For the mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of *his* sins, let us ask of Christ, our immortal King and God.  
*Grant this, O Lord.*

Let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

O God of spirits and of all flesh, Who has trampled death and made the devil powerless, and has given life to Your world: Give rest to the soul of Your *servant, N*, who has fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all suffering, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You are a good and loving God, pardon every transgression which *he* has committed, whether by word, or deed or thought, for there is no one who lives yet does not sin, for only You are without sin: Your righteousness is eternal and Your word is truth. For You are the resurrection, the life, and the repose of Your *servant, N*, who has fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your Father, Who is without beginning, and Your most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word, true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Glory to You, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to You!

May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles, of our pious and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, place the soul of His departed *servant, N*, in the mansions of the righteous. May He grant *him* repose in the bosom of Abraham and number *him* with the righteous. And may He have mercy on us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Give rest eternal in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul of Your *servant, N*, who has departed this life, and make *his* memory to be eternal!  
*Memory eternal! (3X)*

### **Litany for a Dead Child**

Give rest to the soul of Your *servant*, O Savior, with the spirits of the righteous made perfect. Guard *N* for the blessed life with You, O Lover of mankind. In Your rest where all Your saints repose, O Lord, give rest also to the soul of Your *servant, N*, for You alone are immortal.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

You are the God Who descended into the realm of death and destroyed the suffering of those imprisoned there. Give rest also to the soul of Your *servant, N*.

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Only pure and undefiled Virgin who conceived God without seed, pray that the soul of your *servant* may be saved.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

Again we pray for the repose of the soul of the *servant* of God, who is fallen asleep: that *he* may be pardoned all *his* sins, both voluntary and involuntary.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

Again we pray that the Lord God will establish *his* soul where the Just repose.  
*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

For the mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of *his* sins, let us ask of Christ, our immortal King and God.  
*Grant this, O Lord.*

Let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who has promised to bestow the Kingdom of Heaven upon those who have been born of water and of the Spirit, and in a blameless life are translated unto You, and has said, "Let the children come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven": We humbly ask You to grant, according to Your unfailing promise, the inheritance of Your Kingdom to Your *servant*, the blameless child, *N*, now removed from us. And grant that we also may blamelessly pass through and make a Christian ending of our life, and be

established in the heavenly mansions with all Your Saints. For You are the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of all Your servants, and of Your *servant*, this child, *N*, now departed from us, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen*.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word, true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Glory to You, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to You!

May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles, of our pious and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, place the soul of His departed *servant*, *N*, in the mansions of the righteous. May He grant *him* repose in the bosom of Abraham and number *him* with the righteous. And may He have mercy on us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Give rest eternal in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul of Your *servant*, *N*, who has departed this life, and make *his* memory to be eternal!  
*Memory eternal! (3X)*

## **Committal**

The casket is lowered into the grave, the Priest saying:  
The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world and all they that dwell therein.

As earth is shoveled onto the casket, the Priest says:  
Open wide, O earth, and receive what was formed from you by the Hand of God. Receive that which returns to you, its mother, for the Creator has taken away that which was of His image. Receive this body, O earth, as it is your own.

## **Burial at Sea**

The same office is used, but instead of the above Committal, the Priest says:

Unto Almighty God we commend the soul of our *brother* departed and we commit *his* body to the deep in sure and certain hope of Resurrection unto eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ, at Whose coming in glorious majesty to judge the world the sea shall give up her dead, and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed and made like His glorious body according to the mighty work whereby He is able to subdue all things to Himself.

## Graveside Service

### Trisagion Prayers

Blessed is our God, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!  
O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!  
O Master, pardon our transgressions!  
O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

Our Father Who is in heaven, holy is Your Name.  
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

If the cemetery has not been consecrated, the Priest prays:

### **Blessing of a Grave**

Let us pray.

O Master, Lord our God, through Whose mercy faithful souls are given rest: Bless the grave of this Your servant, *N*, and send down Your holy Angel to guard it; that the body which shall be buried in it may receive a place of repose even unto Your Second Coming and the Resurrection of this Your servant; While the soul, loosed from every sinful bond, may be granted everlasting joy in Your heavenly and holy Courts; For You are the King of peace, and the Savior of our souls, and to You we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Priest sprinkles the grave or tomb with Holy Water.

### **Commendation**

Man born of woman lives but a short time, which is full of misery. He comes up like a flower and then withers away; like a fleeing shadow, does not last. *Job 14:1-2.* In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we seek succor but of You, O Lord, Who for our sins are justly displeased? Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour: Deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death. You know, Lord, the secrets of our hearts: Do not shut Your merciful ears to our prayer, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Savior, most worthy Judge eternal. Let us not fall from You at our last hour in the pains of death.

All that the Father gives Me shall come to me and he who comes to Me I will not cast out. *Jn 6:37*. He Who raised Jesus up from the dead will also raise up your mortal bodies by the Spirit Who dwells in you. *Rom 8:11*. Therefore, my heart is glad and my glory rejoices: my flesh also shall rest in hope. You shall show me the path of life; in Your presence is the fullness of joy and at Your right hand there is pleasure for evermore. *Ps 16:9-11*.

As earth is shoveled onto the casket, the Priest says:  
Unto Almighty God we commend the soul of our *brother* departed and we commit *his* body to the ground: Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, at Whose coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed and made like His own glorious body; according to His mighty ability to subdue all things to Himself.

I Heard a voice from heaven, saying to me, "Write, 'From henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord:'" even so says the Spirit; "for they rest from their labors." *Rev 14:13*.

The Lord be with you.  
*And also with you.*  
Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Priest and People:

Our Father Who is in heaven, holy is Your Name.  
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it  
is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And  
forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against  
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil. *Amen.*

The Priest says one or more of the following prayers:

O God, Whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept  
our prayers on behalf of the soul of Your departed  
*servant* and grant *him* an entrance into the land of  
light and joy, in the fellowship of Your Saints; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, with Whom live the spirits of those who  
depart in the Lord, and with Whom the souls of the  
faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the  
flesh, are in joy and felicity: We give You hearty thanks  
for the good examples of all Your servants, who,  
having finished their course in faith, now rest from their  
labors. And we beseech You: that we, with all those  
who are departed in the true faith of Your holy Name,  
may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in  
body and soul, in Your eternal and everlasting glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who is the Resurrection and the Life; In Whom whoever  
believes shall live, though he die; and whoever lives and  
believes in Him shall not die eternally; Who also hath  
taught us, by His holy Apostle Saint Paul, not to be  
sorry, as men without hope, for those who sleep in Him:  
We humbly beseech You, O Father, to raise us from the

death of sin to the life of righteousness; that, when we shall depart this life, we may rest in Him; and that, at the general Resurrection in the Last Day, we may be found acceptable in Your sight; and receive that blessing, which Your well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all who love and fear You, saying, "Come, you blessed children of My Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world." *Mt 25:34*. Grant this, we beseech You, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen*.

The God of peace, Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Priest may also use any of the following prayers before the final Blessing:

O Almighty God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, Who by a voice from heaven proclaimed, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord": Multiply, we beseech You, to those who rest in Jesus, the manifold blessings of Your love; that the good work which You began in them may be perfected to the day of Jesus Christ. And of Your mercy, O heavenly Father, vouchsafe that we, who now serve You here on earth, may at the last, together with them, be found fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; for the sake of the same Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Most merciful Father, Who has been pleased to take to Yourself the soul of this Your *servant*: Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith that, having served You with constancy on earth, we may be joined hereafter with Your blessed Saints in glory everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who by Your death took away the sting of death: Grant that we, Your *servants*, follow in faith where You have led the way; that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in You and awaken in Your likeness; through Your mercy, Who lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty and everliving God: We yield to You most high praise and hearty thanks for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all Your Saints, who have been the choice vessels of Your grace and the lights of the world in their several generations, most humbly beseeching You to give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness in Your faith and obedience to Your holy commandments; that at the day of the general Resurrection, we, with all those who are of the mystical body of Your Son, may be set on His right hand and hear His most joyful voice: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Grant this, O Father, for the sake of the same Your Son Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## Memorial Service

### Trisagion Prayers

Blessed is our God, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!  
O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!  
O Master, pardon our transgressions!  
O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake!

*Lord, have mercy.* (3X)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. *Amen.*

*Our Father Who is in heaven, holy is Your Name.  
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it  
is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And  
forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against  
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil.*

For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior, to the soul of Your *servant*. Bestow upon it the blessed life which is from You, O loving Lord.

Within Your peace, O Lord, where all Your Saints repose, give rest also to the soul of Your *servant*, for You alone are Immortal.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit:

O Savior, You are our God, Who descended into Hades and delivered from suffering those who were bound there. Grant rest also to the soul of Your *servant*.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*.

Most pure and spotless Virgin, who ineffably gave birth to God: Intercede with Him for the salvation of the soul of your *servant*.

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your great mercy: We pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

Again we pray for the repose of the soul of the departed *servant* of God, *N*, and for the forgiveness of all *his* sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

*Lord, have mercy. (3X)*

May the Lord God grant that *his* soul rest where the righteous repose. Let us ask for the mercies of God, the kingdom of heaven, and the forgiveness of *his* sins from Christ our immortal king and God.  
*Grant this, O Lord.*

Let us pray to the Lord.  
*Lord, have mercy.*

O God of spirits and of all flesh, You have trampled upon death and have abolished the power of the devil, giving life to Your world. Give rest to the soul of Your departed *servant, N*, in a place of light, in a place of repose, in a place of refreshment, where there is no pain, sorrow, and suffering. As a good and loving God, forgive every sin *he* has committed in thought, word or deed, for there is no one who lives and does not sin. You alone are without sin. Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your word is truth. For You are the resurrection, the life, and the repose of Your departed servant, *N*, Christ our God, and to You we give glory, with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

### **Dismissal**

Glory to You, O God, our hope, glory to You.

May Christ our true God, Who rose from the dead and as immortal King has authority over the living and the dead, have mercy on us and save us, through the intercessions of his spotless holy Mother; of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and glorious forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; of His holy and righteous friend Lazarus, who lay in the grave four days; and of all the Saints, establish the soul of

His servant, *N*, departed from us, in the dwelling place of the Saints; grant rest to *him* in the bosom of Abraham and number *him* among the righteous.

May your memory be eternal, dear *brother*, worthy of blessedness and everlasting memory.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us. *Amen*.

## **Scripture Readings for Death and Burial**

### **Monday**

Romans 14:6-9  
John 5:17-24

### **Tuesday**

I Corinthians 15:39-59  
John 5:24-30

### **Wednesday**

II Corinthians 5:1-10  
John 6:35-39

### **Thursday**

I Corinthians 15:20-28  
John 6:40-44

## **Friday**

I Corinthians 15:47-57  
John 6:48-54

## **Saturday**

I Thessalonians 4:13-17  
John 5: 24-30

### **Burial of Infants**

I Corinthians 15:39-57  
John 6:35-39

### **Burial of Laity**

I Thessalonians 4:13-17  
John 5: 24-30

### **Burial of Priests**

I Thessalonians 4:13-17  
John 5:24-30

Romans 5:13-21  
John 5:17-25

I Corinthians 5:1-11  
John 6:35-39

I Corinthians 15:20-28  
John 6:40-44

Romans 14:6-9  
John 6:48-54