

At the Burial of a Child

The Minister meets the casket and goes in front of it either into the church or to the grave, saying:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me, shall never die.

Jesus called them unto Him and said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God."

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arms, and carry them in His bosom.

When they go into the church, all stand and recite:

Dominus regit me

Ps 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 annointest 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 forever.

Gloria Patri

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

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

Gospel

A Lesson from the eighteenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew.

At the same time came the Disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto Him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in My Name receives Me. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven.

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.

Minister and People together:
Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy
Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Blessed are the pure in heart;
For they shall see God.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord;
Henceforth, world without end.

Lord, hear our prayer;
And let our cry come unto Thee.

The following or other appropriate Prayers are said:
O merciful Father, Whose face the angels of Your
little ones always behold in heaven: Grant that we
may steadfastly believe that this Your child has been
taken into the safekeeping of Your eternal love.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and merciful Father, Who grants to children
an abundant entrance into Your Kingdom: Grant us
grace so to conform our lives to their innocency and
perfect faith; that, at length, united with them, we may
stand in Your presence in fullness of joy. Through
Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

When they come to the grave, the Priest says:
Jesus said to His Disciples, "You now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man can take from you."

While the earth is being shoveled on the casket, the Priest says:
In sure and certain hope of Resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commit the body of this child to the ground. The Lord bless *him* and keep *him*, the Lord make His face to shine upon *him* and be gracious unto *him*, the Lord lift up His countenance upon *him*, and give *him* peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*

The People say or sing:
Therefore they are before the Throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He Who sits on the Throne shall dwell among them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the Throne shall feed them, and shall lead them to living fountains of water: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, Whose most dear Son took little children into His arms and blessed them: Give us grace, we beseech You, to entrust the soul of this child to Your neverfailing care and love, and bring us all to Your heavenly Kingdom. Through the same Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God, Father of mercies and Giver of all comfort: Deal graciously with all those who mourn, we pray You; that, casting every care on You, they may know the consolation of Your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing

May Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you, now and for evermore. *Amen.*