

# The Parish of St. Brigid

85 Post Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590

## mass schedule

### Saturday Vigil at St. Brigid's Church

- 5:00 p.m. (English)
- 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

### Sunday at Saint Brigid's Church:

- 8:00 a.m. (English/Italian)
- 10:00am (English)
- 11:45 am (English)
- 2:30pm (Kreyol)
- 6:00 pm (English)

### Sunday at Our Lady's Chapel (101 Maple Avenue)

- 7:30 am (Spanish)
- 9:15 am (English)
- 11:00 am (Spanish)
- 12:45pm (Spanish)

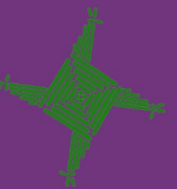
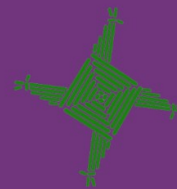
**Monday through Friday:** 7:00am and 12:10 at St. Brigid's Church (English)

**Wednesday:** 7:30 p.m. Church (Spanish)

**Saturday:** 8:00am Church (English)



**FUNERAL LITURGY**  
Planning Booklet



*O Lord,  
support us all the day long  
of this troublous life,  
until the shadows lengthen,  
and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed,  
and the fever of life is over,  
and our work is done.  
Then, Lord, in thy mercy,  
grant us a safe lodging,  
holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.*  
-St. John Henry Newman



# Bereavement Group

Sometimes coming together with others who have faced a difficult loss provides both support and an opportunity to offer support to others.

And, of course, our parish wants to accompany you as well!

To learn more - not necessarily to join - about this outreach in our parish contact us at [wesupport@saintbrigid.net](mailto:wesupport@saintbrigid.net) or contact the office at 516-334-0021 and a team member will contact you.



*“Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral.”*

-General Introduction, Order of Christian Funerals, 5

As you begin the process of planning your loved one's funeral know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of our entire parish community. We look forward to accompanying you in the days ahead.

First, and most important, do not worry. Sometimes when it comes to planning the Funeral Mass we get nervous and afraid we don't know this information or that detail. This is why the Ministry of Consolation exists. We will help you every step of the way.

A member of the Ministry of Consolation will call to set a time to meet with you and the members of your family who will assist with the funeral planning. This person will walk you through the entire process, assist you with the details and will be with you at the Vigil and the Funeral Mass. Look forward to their outreach and welcome them in the spirit they come – a spirit of compassion and mercy.

In the meantime, look through this book with your family members. **DO NOT BE OVERWHELMED.** Go at your own pace. The Ministry of Consolation will help you with all of the details.

Let us pray for the mercy of God for one another and for your loved one in these days.

In Christ's peace –

The Ministry of Consolation at St. Brigid's

Please note the contents of this booklet as well as additional readings can be found here: <https://saintbrigid.net/worship/funeral-consolation-ministry> so you can share with other family members and friends.

(Revised 4/2025)



# Planning the Funeral Liturgy

We ask you to help us in selecting the hymns and readings for the funeral liturgy. You may choose to have the Funeral Mass or the Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass (without communion). The companion from our Ministry of Consolation will meet with you and walk through this part of the process.

You will, with the help of your companion, need to choose:

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** Page 5

**FIRST READING:** Outside Easter Time: Pages 6-10

During Easter Time (from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday): Pages 11-13

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Page 14

**SECOND READING:** Pages 15-21

**GOSPEL:** Pages 22

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER:** Pages 23-25

**PREPARATION HYMN:** Page 26

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Page 26

**SONG OF FAREWELL:** Page 27

**HYMN FOR THE PROCESSION TO PLACE OF COMMITMENT:** Page 27

## **Scripture Readings**

*A member of your family or a loved one may proclaim (or read) one of the readings if they are comfortable doing so. If not, our parish's readers will gladly assist your family. Readings at a Funeral Mass or Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass may only be from Sacred Scripture.*

## **Music**

*Hymns are found throughout this booklet. While other liturgical (i.e. Church) hymns may be used, secular music – sung or recorded – is not permitted at the Funeral Mass. This music, which can be both beautiful and meaningful, is best used after the vigil service at the funeral home.*

## **Eulogies/Words of Remembrance**

*Words of remembrance may be offered at the wake service, at the Rite of Committal, or at a family reception after. They are not permitted to be offered during the Funeral Mass or at the Church.*

## **Worship Aid**

*A worship aid is prepared for each funeral at St. Brigid's. This includes the hymns and readings you have chosen. If you would like to include a picture of your loved one, we are happy to assist with this.*

## • **The Tree of Life**

- A leave may be purchased for the Tree of Life displayed in the back of St. Brigid's Church.
- For more information, contact the Parish Office.

## • **Walk of Life**

- The St. Brigid's Walk of Life leads pilgrims through the statues of Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Brigid. You may wish to memorialize a brick in memory of a loved one.
- For more information, contact the Parish Office.

## **TAKING CARE OF YOU!**

We want to support you after the day of your loved one's funeral. Please reach out to a member of the Pastoral Team if we can be of support in any way. Sometimes taking some time in conversation and prayer can be of support.

Come and find some peace in the sacred spaces here, particularly our church building.

## REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONE

Many times, family members want to offer something to the Church in remembrance of their loved one. This is a beautiful sign of our prayers for those who have gone before us!

Here are some ways you can remember a loved one:

- **Praying at Mass**
  - Often, a family member or friend will want to pray in a special way for a loved one. This is sometimes referred to as the Mass intention.
  - The loved one's name is generally announced during the Universal Prayer
  - Contact the Parish Office for information about this.
  -
- **Offering for the Poor**
  - A family may wish to remember a loved one by donating to our Parish Social Ministry efforts (Outreach, Ernie's Place – our Food Pantry Ministry, Street Ministry, etc.)
  - Contact our Parish Social Ministry Office – 516.334.0021 for more information about this.
- **Supporting the Saints**
  - We enshrine the major statues in our church with special devotional candles. A family member may have had a particular love for one of the saints.
  - Contact the Parish Office for more information about this.
- **Altar Bread and Wine**
  - The materials of bread and wine are necessary for the our daily and Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.
  - For more information, contact the Parish Office.
- **Vestments and Liturgical Items**
  - At times, a family wishes to donate a vestment (the garment the priest wears) or another item to be used at Mass.
  - We respectfully ask that you contact the parish BEFORE purchasing an item. This will allow us to provide you with a list of what the parish in need of and what can be used here.
  - You can contact the Parish Office at 516.334.0021 more information.

## THE ENTRANCE HYMN

The Entrance Hymn takes place after the pall is placed and the casket (or the created remains) is brought into the church.

(Select one)

- **Here I Am Lord**

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night .  
I will go, Lord, if you need me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

- **I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto Me and rest;  
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, Weary and worn and sad;  
I found in Him a resting place, And He has made me glad.*

- **Shelter Me, O God**

*Shelter me, O God.  
Hide me in the shadow of your wing.  
You alone are my God.*

- **Be Thou My Vision**

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Readings

*Below are some of the more popular selections for funerals. Additional readings may be found at [www.saintbrigid.net/](http://www.saintbrigid.net/) During the Easter season (from the Easter Vigil through Pentecost Sunday), a New Testament reading must be chosen. They are found after the Old Testament readings on page 10. You need to select one first reading.*

*The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.*

### OT-1

*Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife,  
her value is far beyond pearls.  
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,  
has an unfailing prize.  
She brings him good, and not evil,  
all the days of her life.  
She obtains wool and flax  
and makes cloth with skillful hands.  
She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her fingers ply the spindle.  
She reaches out her hands to the poor,  
and extends her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;  
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
Give her a reward of her labors,  
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: This reading is a beautiful reflection of the worthy woman who has used the gifts of God well in her life.*

## SONG OF FAREWELL

*This hymn takes place while the priest incenses the deceased's casket or cremated remains. Please select one. (When we are celebrating a Memorial Mass, a song of farewell is not included.)*

- **May the Angels Lead You Home**  
*May the angels lead you into Paradise. May God's love be with you as you go. As your soul is carried to the arms of Christ, may the angels lead you home.*
- **Songs of the Angels**  
*May songs of the angels welcome you, and guide you along your way. May the smiles of the martyrs greet your own as darkness turns into day. Every fear will be undone and death will be no more, as songs of the angels bring you home before the face of God.*
- **I Know that My Redeemer Lives**  
*I know that my Redeemer lives, the one who calls me home. I long to see God face to face to see with my own eyes. I know that my Redeemer lives, that I shall rise again*

## PROCESSION TO PLACE OF COMMITTAL

(Select one)

- **On Eagle's Wings**  
*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn  
Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand*
- **Sing With All the Saints in Glory**  
*Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song. Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, to the former days belong. All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease; in God's likeness we, awaking, know the everlasting peace.*
- **How Great Thou Art**  
*Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION HYMN

(Select one)

- **This Alone**  
*One thing I ask, this alone I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord, all my days. For one day within your temple heals everyday alone. O Lord, bring me to your dwelling.*
- **Hosea**  
*Come back to me with all your heart. Don't let fear keep us apart.  
Long have I waited for your coming home to me and living deeply our new life.*
- **Prayer of St. Francis**  
*Make me a channel of your peace, Where there is hatred let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord, And where there's doubt, true faith in you*
- **O God, You Search Me**  
*O God, You search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze  
When I walk or lie down, you are before me, ever the maker and keeper of my days*

## COMMUNION HYMN

*(The hymn must be related to the Eucharist.)*

(Select one)

- **I Am the Bread of Life**  
*And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.*
- **Bread for the World**  
*Bread for the world, a world of hunger. Wine for all people, people who thirst.  
May we who eat be bread for others. May we who drink pour out our love.*
- **Behold the Lamb**  
*Behold, behold the Lamb of God. All who eat, all who drink shall live. And all, all  
who dwell in love shall come to know his glory.*

*There is an appointed time for everything.*

OT-2

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-11*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every affair under the heavens.  
A time to give birth, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to tear down, and a time to build.  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.  
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;  
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.  
A time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.  
A time to rend, and a time to sew;  
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.  
A time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time of war, and a time of peace.

What profit have workers from their toil?  
I have seen the business that God has given to mortals  
to be busied about.  
God has made everything appropriate to its time,  
but has put the timeless into their hearts  
so they cannot find out, from beginning to end,  
the work which God has done.

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: The love and mercy of God are present in all times and moments—in sickness and  
health, in good times and bad times.*

*As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.*

**OT-3**

*Wisdom 3:1-9*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
 and no torment shall touch them.  
 They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
 and their passing away was thought an affliction  
 and their going forth from us, utter destruction.  
 But they are in peace.  
 For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
 yet is their hope full of immortality;  
 Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
 because God tried them  
 and found them worthy of himself.  
 As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
 and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.  
 In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
 and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;  
 They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,  
 and the LORD shall be their king forever.  
 Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
 and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
 Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
 and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: This reading speaks to us of the grace and mercy of God for his beloved.*

**FORM C**

Our response will be: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the bishops and priests of the Church, and all who preach the Gospel, may be given the strength to express in action the word they proclaim. We pray to the Lord:

That those in public office may promote justice and peace. We pray to the Lord:

That those who bear the cross of pain in mind or body may never feel forsaken by God. We pray to the Lord:

That God may establish *(name of deceased)* in light and peace. We pray to the Lord:

That God may call *(name of deceased)* to happiness in the company of all the saints. We pray to the Lord:

That God may welcome into his glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life. We pray to the Lord:

That God may give a place in the kingdom of heaven to all the faithful departed, (remembering especially

\_\_\_\_\_ )

We pray to the Lord:

**FORM D: Personally-composed Intercessions**

*You have the option of composing your own original set of intercessions. Your Companion can assist you with this, to make sure they are written in the proper format.*

**Note:** *one or two personally-composed intercessions can also be added to Forms A– C above.*

**FORM B**

Our response will be: Lord hear our prayer.

For \_\_\_\_\_ who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that she/he may now be admitted to the company of the saints. We pray to the Lord:

For \_\_\_\_\_ who ate the Body of Christ, the bread of life, that she may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord:

For all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord:

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, remembering especially:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord:

For our family and friends, that we may be consoled in our grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord:

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's Kingdom. We pray to the Lord.

*An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.*

**OT-4**

*Wisdom 4:7-15*

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early,  
shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not  
with the passing of time,  
nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,  
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved;  
he who lived among sinners was transported—

Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind  
or deceit beguile his soul;

For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right  
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent  
mind.

Having become perfect in a short while,  
he reached the fullness of a long career;  
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,  
therefore he sped him out of the midst of  
wickedness.

But the people saw and did not understand,  
nor did they take this into account.

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: This reading is most appropriate for one who has died at an early age and/or whose passing is sudden.*

*He will destroy death forever.*

OT-5

*Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts  
will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
The web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.

The LORD GOD will wipe away  
the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth, for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the LORD for whom we looked;  
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: The prophet provides us with a glimpse of heaven  
and the promises of God fulfilled.*

## universal prayers

*“Having heard the Word of God proclaimed and preached, the assembly responds at the vigil and the funeral liturgy with prayers of intercessions for the deceased and all the dead, for the family and all who mourn, and for all in the assembly. The holy people of God, confident in their belief in the communion of saints, exercise their royal priesthood by joining together in this prayer for all those who have died.”*

**-Order of Christian Funerals, 29**

*After reviewing the options, please choose one form from choices (A-D)*

### FORM A

**Our response will be: Hear Our Prayer**

In Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead her/him over the waters of death. Lord, in your mercy;

Our brother/ sister \_\_\_\_\_ was nourished at the table of the savior. Welcome \_\_\_\_\_ into the halls of the heavenly banquet. Lord in your mercy;

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. Lord, in your mercy;

Many people die by violence, war, and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace. Lord, in your mercy;

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone, remembering **especially** \_\_\_\_\_. Lord, in your mercy;

The family and friends of \_\_\_\_\_ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. Lord, in your mercy;

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for \_\_\_\_\_. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. Lord, in your mercy;

## Gospels

Generally at funerals, the Presider will pick the Gospel for the funeral. If there is a particular Gospel your family wishes, let the companion know.

The citations for some are below. Additional readings are on the parish website.

Please select one Gospel. The Presider may change this reading.

If there is passage that you or your family desire, please make sure you tell your companion.

- G-1** *Matthew 5:1-12a*  
*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*
- G-2** *Matthew 11:25-30*  
*Come to me and I will give you rest.*
- G-3** *Matthew 25:31-46*  
*Come, you who are blessed by my Father.*
- G-4** *John 14:1-6*  
*In my Father's house there are many dwellings.*

**Additional readings can be found at [www.saintbrigid.net](http://www.saintbrigid.net).**

**Go to the worship tab and then click on Funerals.**

*From Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday,  
the first reading must be selected from one of these readings.*

*He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.*

### **NTE-1 (Short Form)**

*Acts of the Apostles 10:34-36, 42-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel

as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

*Reflection: God's mercy, through Jesus Christ, is the basis of our judgment.*

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.*

### **NTE-2**

*Revelation 14:13*

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”

“Yes,” said the Spirit, “let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them.”

The word of the Lord.

*The dead were judged according to their deeds.*

**NTE-3**

*Revelation 20:11-21:1*

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it.

The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them.

I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened.

Then another scroll was opened, the book of life.

The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls.

The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead.

All the dead were judged according to their deeds.

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire.

(This pool of fire is the second death.)

Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

The word of the Lord.

*We shall see him as he is.*

**NT-7**

*1 John 3:1-2*

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

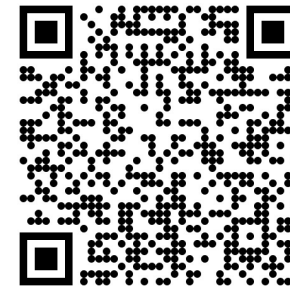
The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

**Additional readings can be found at [www.saintbrigid.net](http://www.saintbrigid.net).  
Go to the bottom of the page and click on Funerals.**



*I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.*

**NT-6**

*2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18*

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

For I am already being poured out like a libation,  
and the time of my departure is at hand.  
I have competed well;  
I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.  
From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,  
which the Lord, the just judge,  
will award to me on that day,  
and not only to me,  
but to all who have longed for his appearance.

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength,  
so that through me the proclamation might be completed  
and all the Gentiles might hear it.  
And I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat  
and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom.  
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

*There shall be no more death.*

**NTE-4**

*Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7*

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.  
the former heaven and the former earth had passed away,  
and the sea was no more.  
I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.  
I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
"Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race.  
He will dwell with them and they will be his people  
and God himself will always be with them as their God.  
He will wipe every tear from their eyes,  
and there shall be no more death or mourning,  
wailing or pain,  
for the old order has passed away."

The One who sat on the throne said,  
"Behold, I make all things new."  
I am the Alpha and the Omega,  
the beginning and the end.  
To the thirsty I will give a gift  
from the spring of life-giving water.  
The victor will inherit these gifts,  
and I shall be his God,  
and he will be my son."

The word of the Lord.

**Additional readings can be found at [www.saintbrigid.net](http://www.saintbrigid.net).  
Go to the worship tab and then click on Catholic funerals.**

## RESPONSORIAL psalms

*Please select one psalm.*

Psalm 103

*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Psalm 122

*Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

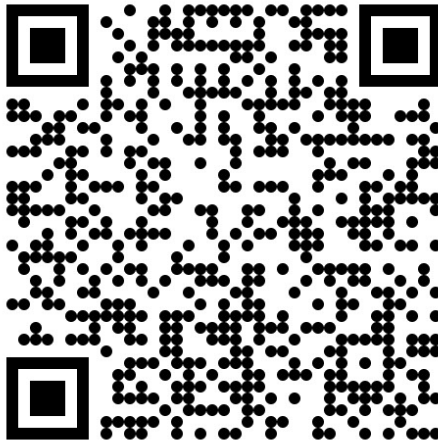
Psalm 27

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.*

**Additional readings can be found at [www.saintbrigid.net](http://www.saintbrigid.net).  
Go to the Worship and then click on Funerals.**



*Thus we shall always be with the Lord.*

**NT-5**

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,  
about those who have fallen asleep,  
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.  
For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,  
so too will God, through Jesus,  
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.  
Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,  
that we who are alive,  
who are left until the coming of the Lord,  
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.  
For the Lord himself, with a word of command,  
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,  
will come down from heaven,  
and the dead in Christ will rise first.  
Then we who are alive, who are left,  
will be caught up together with them in the clouds  
to meet the Lord in the air.  
Thus we shall always be with the Lord.  
Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

*What is seen is transitory but what is unseen is eternal.*

**NT-4**

*2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1*

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

We know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus  
will raise us also with Jesus  
and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,  
so that the grace bestowed in abundance  
on more and more people  
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow  
for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged;  
rather, although our outer self is wasting away,  
our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction  
is producing for us an eternal weight of glory  
beyond all comparison,  
as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;  
for what is seen is transitory,  
but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,  
should be destroyed,  
we have a building from God,  
a dwelling not made with hands,  
eternal in heaven.

The word of the Lord.

## SECOND READINGS

*Please select one reading from this section.*

*Since we are now justified by his Blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath.*

**NT-1**

*Romans 5:5-11*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint,  
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit  
who has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,  
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,  
though perhaps for a good person  
one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us  
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then,  
since we are now justified by his Blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
how much more, once reconciled,  
will we be saved by his life.

Not only that,  
but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

*We too might live in newness of life.*

**NT-2**

*Romans 6:3-4, 8-9*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized  
into Christ Jesus  
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him  
through baptism into death,  
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead  
by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ,  
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

The word of the Lord.

*What will separate us from the love of Christ?*

**NT-3**

*Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?  
He did not spare his own Son  
but handed him over for us all,  
will he not also give us everything else along with him?  
Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?  
It is God who acquits us.  
Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,  
who also is at the right hand of God,  
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly  
through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities,  
nor present things, nor future things,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor any other creature will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.