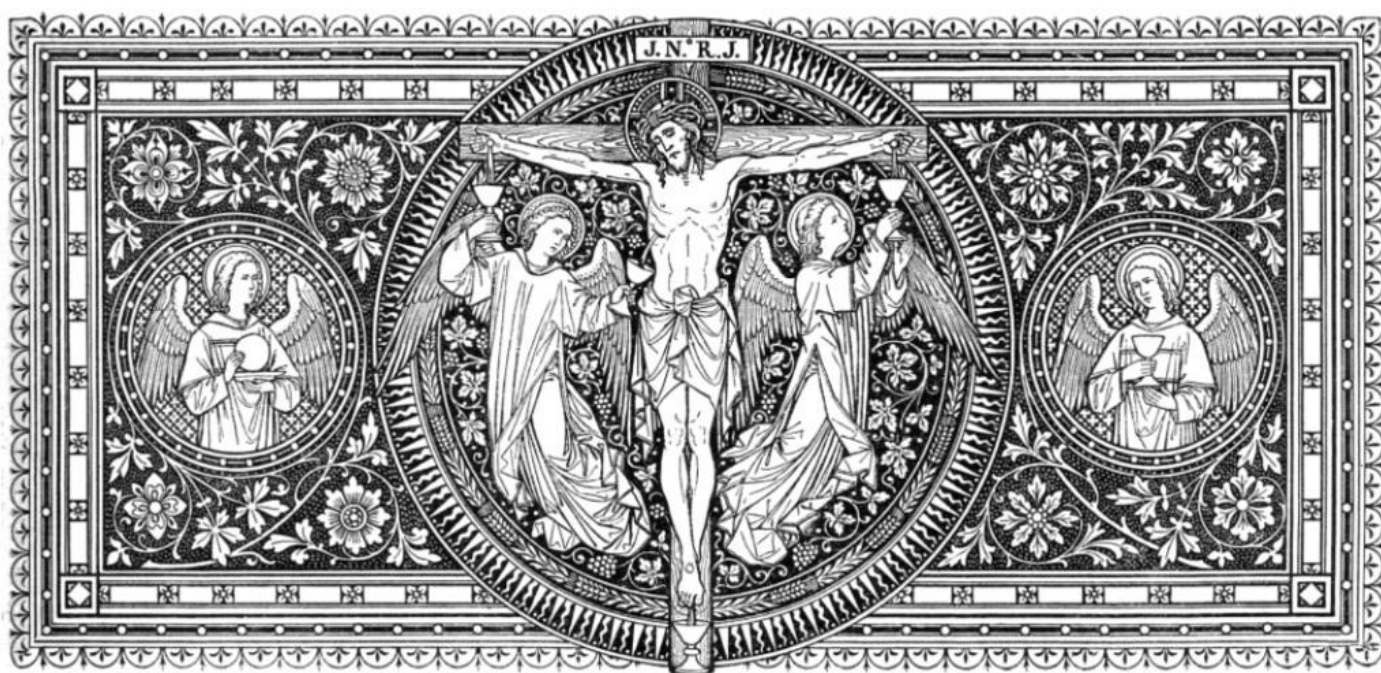




Cemetery Prayers

Johnstown/Walterstown Parish

Opening Hymn

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And with your spirit.

Welcome

C: We come on this annual pilgrimage to stand together on this sacred ground; ground that holds the mortal remains of our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of the cross of Jesus Christ.

We come here in faith, hope and love:

Faith — because we believe that those who lie here are destined for eternal life, and that, in the words of Jesus, "their names are written in heaven".

Hope — because we share the hope that God will bring us together again in the joy of his Kingdom;

Love — because our love for those who have died has not been extinguished by their death

May our prayer here today strengthen and confirm all of us in that faith, hope and love.

Let us pray:

God, our creator and redeemer,

by your power Christ conquered death

and returned to you in glory.

May all your people who have gone before us in faith

share his victory and enjoy the vision of your glory for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

If the Responsorial Psalm is not to be sung (e.g. The Lord is my Shepherd), the following may be used:

The response is: **The Lord fills the earth with his love.**

1/ They are happy, whose God is the Lord the people he has chosen as his own.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love.

R/

2/ Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
In him do our hearts find joy.

We trust in his holy name. **R/**

3/ May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **R/**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
whoever believes in me, will never die. Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

It was about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit'. With these words he breathed his last. Then a member of the council arrived, an upright and virtuous man named Joseph. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He then took it down, wrapped it in a shroud and put him in a tomb which was hewn in stone in which no one had yet been laid. On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering discovered that the body of the Lord Jesus was not there. As they stood there not knowing what to think, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side. Terrified, the women lowered their eyes. But the two men said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he has risen.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

ROSARY

GRAVES ARE SPRINKLED WITH HOLY WATER DURING ROSARY

The First Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

As we pray this decade, we pray for the happy repose of the souls of all our relatives and friends who are buried in this cemetery.

Our Father, Hail Mary x 10 ... Glory be

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

The Second Glorious Mystery: The Ascension of our Lord

As we pray this decade, we pray for the happy repose of the souls of those buried in this cemetery who have nobody to remember and pray for them.

Our Father Hail Mary x 10 ... Glory be

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

The Third Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

As we pray this decade, we pray for the happy repose of the souls of relatives and friends buried in other cemeteries at home and abroad.

Our Father Hail Mary x 10 ... Glory be

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

The Fourth Glorious Mystery:

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

As we pray this decade, we pray for the happy repose of the souls of those who do not find burial and for their relatives who have no place to mourn.

Our Father Hail Mary x 10 ... Glory be

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

The Fifth Glorious Mystery:

The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Heaven

As we pray this decade we pray for the happy repose of the souls of those interred here since last year.

Our Father Hail Mary x 10 ... Glory be

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray for our dead, for those buried in this cemetery, for those who were close and dear to us, and for all the faithful departed. We pray for those who have been interred here since last year (if including names.....)

1. Let us pray for all who are buried in this cemetery.

Lord Jesus Christ, the three days you lay in the tomb, made holy the graves of all who believe in you. Give the bodies of our brothers and sisters peaceful rest in these graves, until that day when you, who are the Resurrection and the Life, will raise them up in glory. Then may they rejoice in your presence for ever.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

2. Let us pray for our parents buried here:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living Father, You lived subject to Mary and Joseph. Give to our parents the reward of their labours in the happiness of your heavenly home. Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

3. Let us pray for all our relatives buried here:

Jesus, victorious King, through your cross and resurrection, You won immortal life. Grant to our relatives the joys of your eternal kingdom.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

4. Let us pray for children buried here:

Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers for our sons and daughters who have been called from this life. As we entrust them to your Sacred Heart, we ask that you hold the hearts of parents and siblings in the hope of being reunited with their deceased children in Your Kingdom where every tear is wiped away. Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

5. Let us pray for all the dead:

Risen Christ, because of your infinite love, You were obedient even unto death on a cross. Bring to life all who are sleeping in peace. Keep all the dead in your care, those we have loved and those no one remembers.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Concluding Prayer

Lord God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies are beyond counting, keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown. Let your Spirit guide our days on earth in the ways of holiness and justice, that we may serve you in union with the whole Church, sure in faith, strong in hope, perfected in love. And when our earthly journey is ended, lead us rejoicing into your kingdom, where you live for ever and ever. **Amen**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

Amen.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Words of Thanks

Before we disperse, may I express thanks to all who helped in any way to prepare for today's ceremony: The Cemetery Committee that manages and cares for the cemetery throughout the year. Let us pray too for the souls that will be interred in this cemetery during this coming year, that they may receive a Provided For Death, and leave behind the gift of peace to those who are left behind.

BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the God of all consolation bless you with faith in the resurrection of his Son, and with the hope of rising to new life.

Amen

To us who are alive, may he grant forgiveness, and to all who have died, a place of light and peace.

Amen.

As you believe that Jesus rose from the dead, so may you live with him for ever in joy.

Amen.

May almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN
