Remembrance Prayer Service

For

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Grant eternal rest unto him O Lord**

Invitation to Prayer

*In this moment the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word. Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted. Lord of all gentleness, surround us with you care and comfort us in our sorrow for we grieve at the loss of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

***Amen***

**A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.**

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

*A time to be born, and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance a time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together. A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to seek, and a time to lose, a time to keep, and a time to cast way, a time to rend, and a time to sew, a time to keep silence, and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. God has made everything beautiful in its time.*

*The word of the Lord.*

***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Reflections

*Our hearts are heavy at the loss of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. Yes my yoke is easy and my burden light.*

*It is hard to believe that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will live forever. I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.*

*We pray in hope that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has found peace. Only I God is my soul at rest, from him comes my hope. He alone is my rock, my fortress. Unburden your hearts onto him for God is our shelter.*

*It is difficult to understand why our family and friends must die. St. Paul says: “God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. It is when I am weak that I am strong, for I feel the power of Christ shining through my human weakness”.*

*Prayers of the Faithful*

*We pray for our friend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, may he now enjoy everlasting rest in the Lord’s kingdom.*

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

*We pray for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_family at this time. May the spirit of God console them and in time help them to bear the loss of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

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

Gone only from Our Sight

*I am standing on the seashore. Suddenly a ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze, and starts out for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength, and I stand and watch her until at length she is only a ribbon of white cloud just above where sea and sky mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, ‘There! She’s gone!’*

*Gone where? Gone from my sight – that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her, and just at the moment when someone at my side says, ‘There! She’s gone!’. There are other voices ready to take the glad shout, ‘There! She comes!’.*

*And that is dying.*

*Words found in the wallet of Colonel Marcus, of the Israeli Army, when he was killed in action on June 11th, 1948.*