

The background of the slide is a soft-focus image of autumn leaves. A large, vibrant red maple leaf is prominent on the left side, with several smaller yellow and orange leaves scattered around it. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of red, orange, and yellow.

FUNERAL LEADERS

SESSION 2

PRAYER MOMENT



Revelation 21:4 (NRSV)

God will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”



LAST MONTH'S HOMEWORK

- Spend some time in prayer with the Jesus image
- Read your notes and look over slides
- Chat with others about aspects of the course
- Attend a Graveside/Crematorium Service
- Watch an online service
- Find out where your sound system is in the parish and how it works
- Find out where the Liturgical books for Funerals are kept in the parish
- Notice...Notice...Notice

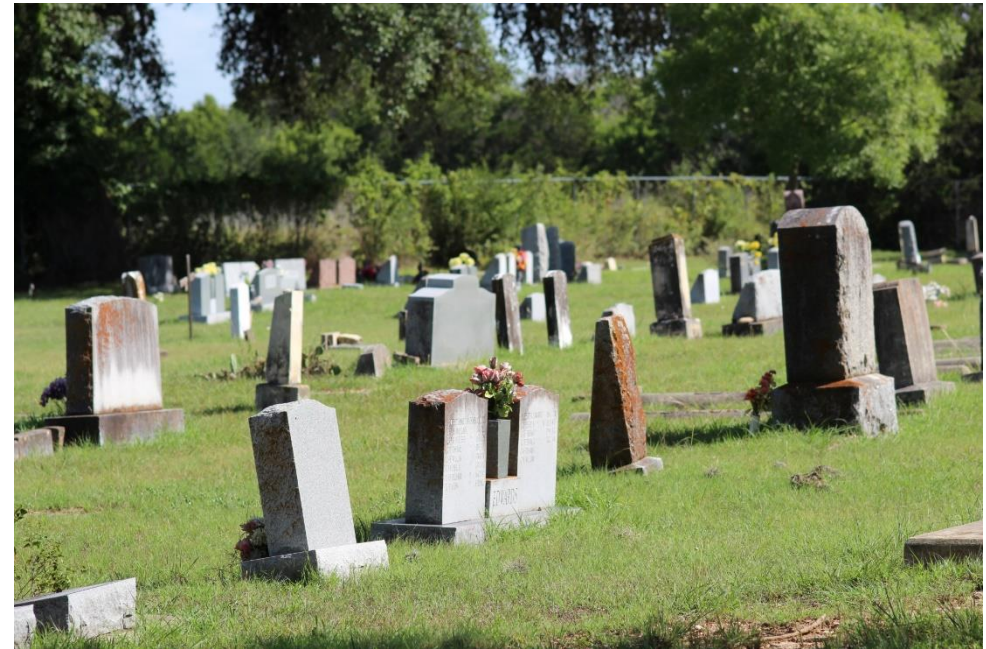


ELEMENTS OF COURSE

- Session 1 Leading Prayer
 - Inner disposition/Personal prayer
 - Communication skills
- Session 2 Scripture
 - Texts used in Rites
 - Other helpful texts
- Session 3 Symbols
 - Cross/Candle/Bible/Water/Incense
 - Symbolic actions
- Session 4 Rites
 - Exploration of Order of Christian Funerals
 - Diocesan Resource Books

RITE OF COMMITTAL IN OCF (P.99 - 105)

- One of the following verses **or** another brief Scripture verse is read
- How do you choose between the four?
- What other choices are there?
- **We read in sacred Scripture**





SCRIPTURE QUOTES
RITE OF COMMITTAL
(P. 99.119)
GROUP ONE

Come, you whom my
Father has blessed, says the
Lord; inherit the kingdom
prepared for you since the
foundation of the world.

Matthew 25:34



SCRIPTURE QUOTES
RITE OF COMMITTAL
(p. 99.121)
GROUP TWO

This is the will of my
Father, says the Lord, that I
should lose nothing of all
that he has given to me,
and that I should raise it up
on the last day.

John 6:39



SCRIPTURE QUOTES
RITE OF COMMITTAL
(P. 99.124
GROUP 3

Our true home is in
heaven, and Jesus Christ
whose return we long for
will come from heaven to
save us.

Philippians 3:20



SCRIPTURE QUOTES
RITE OF COMMITTAL
(p. 99.126)
GROUP FOUR

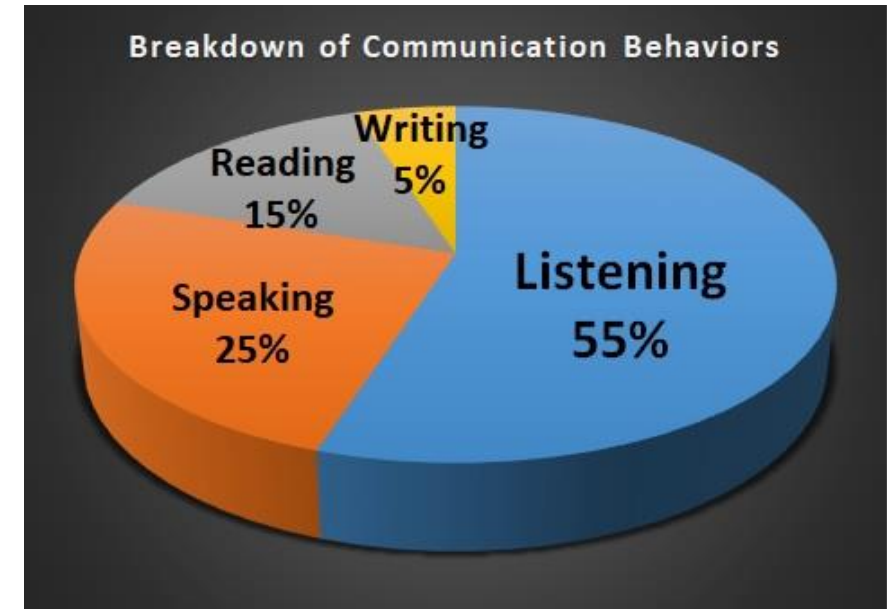
Jesus Christ is the
firstborn of the dead;
glory and kingship be his
for ever and ever.

Revelation 1:5-6

READING/LISTENING

In your group

- Pick two people to read
- No. 1 person read the text out loud
- No.2 person to read the passage again
- What words or phrases strike you in this passage?



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT AS A FUNERAL LEADER
TO PRAY THROUGH SCRIPTURE TEXTS?





BRIEF SCRIPTURE TEXTS

ROMANS 6:3-5

- When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised into his death.
- As Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, (so) we too might live a new life.
- If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in the Resurrection'.

JOHN 11

- 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would never have died' (11:21)
- 'I am the resurrection and the life: those who believe in me, though they should die, will come to life. (11:25)
- ... and those who are alive and believe in me will never die' (11:26)



BRIEF SCRIPTURE TEXTS

JOHN 14:1-7 (EXCERPTS)

JESUS SAID...

- Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
- In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.
- And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again.
- I will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

'Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled' (**Matt 5:3**)

'You have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God.'
(**Colossians 3:3**)

'But when Christ is revealed—and he is your life—you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.'
(**Colossians 3:4**)

WHAT SENTENCE SPEAKS TO YOU MOST? WHY?





COMPLEMENTARY QUOTES FROM THE SAINTS

ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

- “When I die, I will send down a shower of roses from the heavens, I will spend my heaven by doing good on earth.”
- “The world’s your ship and not your home.”
- “Yes, I’m like a tired and harassed traveller, who reaches the end of his journey and falls over. Yes, but I’ll be falling into God’s arms!”

MYSTICS

- ‘Do not fear your death. For when that moment arrives, I will draw my breath and your soul will come to Me like a needle to a magnet.’ (Mechtilde of Magdeburg)
- “There is the music of Heaven in all things.” (Hildegard of Bingen)



USEFUL REFLECTION EXCERPTS

SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

"How blessed will it be if we are, by God's mercy, brought together in a country where all is light and all is known."

"Go forth upon your journey from this world, O Christian soul, in the peace of him in whom you believed."

CARDINAL BASIL HUME

- 'Death is a formidable foe until we learn to make it a friend.'
- 'Death is to be feared if we do not learn to welcome it.'
- 'Death is not the end of the road, but a gateway to a better place.'
- 'It is here that we will understand how our experience of goodness, love, beauty and joy are realities which exist perfectly in God. '



QUOTATIONS

OSCAR WILDE

Angrily spoke the gardener, ‘Who plucked this flower one of the rarest in all my garden?’

Gently answered the Master,

“So dearly did I love it I chose it for my own”.

JOHN O'DONOHUE

- “They are now in a place where there is no more shadow, darkness, loneliness, isolation or pain. They are home. They are with God from whom they came.”
- There will come a day when you will welcome the tears of remembrance... as a sun-shower of the soul... a turning of the tide...a promise of peace.



HOW MIGHT THESE OTHER QUOTES BE USEFUL?

LET ME THINK?



MAYBE?





HOMEWORK

- Read through Rite of Committal in OCF (p.99 - 105)
- Where is the scripture proclaimed in this rite?
- Can you see where the other quotations might complement the scripture?
- Observe a rite of committal and notice how the scriptures are used
- Pray with these texts over the coming month





INTERCESSIONS FROM RITE OF COMMITTAL

- You raised the dead to life; give to our sister eternal life. We pray to the Lord: **Lord have mercy.**
- Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to those who mourn for the victims of the Creeslough tragedy, and dry the tears of those who weep. We pray to the Lord: **Lord have mercy.**
- Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of Catherine; let our faith be our consolation and eternal life our hope. We pray to the Lord: **Lord have mercy.**
- We pray for all who are buried in this cemetery: may their suffering be lessened, may their joy be increased, may the light of glory shine on them and may they rest in peace. We pray to the Lord: **Lord have mercy.**



CONCLUDING PRAYER

- I come back to you again
 - and, bright King, do not condemn us;
 - give me a drink from the well of your humanity
 - or a drop of water that flowed from your right side,
 - which will be enough to clean us and wash us and free us,
 - and may our souls rise up to Heaven in your sight.
- Tá mé ag filleadh arís ort,
 - Is a Rí gheal ná daor sinn;
 - Tabhair dom deoch as tobar na daonnacht',
 - Nó braon den uisce úd do shil as do thaobh deas,
 - A dhéanfadh sinn a ghlanadh, a ghealadh is a shaoradh,
 - Is go rachaidh ár n-anam go Flaithis i d'fhéachaint.



SHELTER ME, O GOD - MICHAEL JONCAS

