

Introductory Rites

Greeting
Sprinkling with Holy Water
Placing of the Pall
Entrance Procession
Placing of Christian Symbols
Collect

Greeting



(OCF, 159)

The Priest, with assisting ministers, goes to the door of the church and, using one of the following formulas, or in similar words, greets those present.

A

(RM, 2)

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

R. And with your spirit.

B

(RM, 2)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. And with your spirit.

C

(OCF, 69-C)

The grace and peace of God our Father, who raised Jesus from the dead, be always with you.

R. And with your spirit.

D

(OCF, 69-D)

May the Father of mercies, the God of all consolation, be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Sprinkling with Holy Water

(OCF, 160 and 433)

The Priest then sprinkles the coffin with holy water, saying:

In the waters of baptism

N. died with Christ and rose with him to new life.

May he (she) now share with him eternal glory.

When the body has been cremated, the Priest sprinkles the remains with holy water, saying:

**As our brother/sister N. has died with the Lord,
so may he (she) lie with him in glory.**

Placing of the Pall

(OCF, 161)

[If it is the custom in the local community, the pall is then placed over the coffin by family members, friends, or the Priest.]

Entrance Procession

(OCF, 162)

The Easter candle may be placed beforehand near the position the coffin will occupy at the conclusion of the procession. The Priest and assisting ministers precede the coffin and the mourners into the church. During the procession a psalm, song, or responsory is sung.

Placing of Christian Symbols (optional) (OCF 163, 86)

[A symbol of the Christian life, such as a Book of the Gospels, a bible, or a cross, may be carried in procession, then placed on the coffin, either in silence or accompanied by one of the following or similar prayers recited by the minister.]

Book of the Gospels or Bible (OCF, 400-1)

In life N. cherished the Gospel of Christ.
May Christ now greet him (her) with these words of eternal life:
Come, blessed of my Father!

Cross (OCF, 400-2)

In baptism N. received the sign of the cross.
May he (she) now share
in Christ's victory over sin and death.

Cross in Case of an Unbaptized Child (OCF, 400-3)

The cross we have brought here today was carried by the Lord Jesus in the hour of his suffering.
We place it now on [near] this coffin as a sign of our hope for N.

As the cross is placed on (or near) the coffin, the minister says:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you loved us unto death.
Let this cross be a sign of your love for N.
and for the people you have gathered here today.

Collect (OCF, 163-64)

On reaching the altar, the Priest, with the assisting ministers, makes the customary reverence, kisses the altar, and (if incense is used) incenses it. Then he goes to the chair. When all have reached their places, the Priest invites the assembly to pray in silence for a period of time and then sings or says one of the following prayers.

Please choose one of the following prayers and record it on your selection sheet using the page number and the letter-number coding that appears as the heading of each prayer.