

FIRST READING OPTION # 5 [Isaiah 25:6, 7-9]

Instructions for Reader: *It is good to sit next to the center aisle so that it is not necessary for you to pass awkwardly through a row of people on your way up to do the reading. In the beginning of the funeral Mass, after the casket is placed in the sanctuary by the Altar and the musicians have stopped playing and singing, the priest will pray the opening prayer and the congregation will respond, "Amen." Immediately, as all the people sit down you should walk up the center aisle until you reach the step up into the sanctuary. Stop. Genuflect (bend the right knee to the ground). Step up. Go over to the pulpit to your left (the big wooden 'booth' with the microphone), adjust the microphone to be close to your lips and read slowly and clearly. Pause at the // symbol (which is also a good time to catch your breath in the course of your reading.).*

Reader: 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: "Indeed, this is our God; we looked to him, and he saved us! // This is the LORD to whom we looked; // let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us! // The Word of the Lord.

After you finish the reading and the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God," be careful stepping down from the pulpit. Please return to that very spot in front of the sanctuary, where you initially proceeded toward the pulpit, facing the Tabernacle and Crucifix. Bow. Return to your seat.