

FIRST READING OPTION # 3 [Daniel 12:1-3]

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 Daniel. // At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; // it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since the nation began until that time. // At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. // Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; // some to everlasting life, others to reproach and everlasting disgrace. // But those with insight shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, // and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever. // 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.