

*Appropriate Hymns for Funerals That Can be Found in  
The Saint Michael Hymnal*

- *All You Who Seek a Comfort Sure* (#422): this beautiful hymn is for those seeking comfort and consolation in the sacred heart of Jesus.
- *Be Still My Soul* (#451): this was sung at President Regan's Funeral. Its last lines include this text: "when friends depart, and all is darkness in this vale of tears, then shalt thou better know his love, his heart, who comes to soothe thy sorrows and thy fears."
- *Be Thou My Vision* (#452): this is a 1500 year old poem written by the Irish poet St. Dallán Forgaill, and it would work great for Irish families.
- *Eternal Father Strong to Save* (#518): this Navy hymn was FDR's favorite, it was sung as part of the funeral rites of both President John F. Kennedy and his wife Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.
- *God of Our Fathers* (#538): this hymn speaks of the God who brings those who keep the true religion through the battle and darkness to never ending day. It was used in the funeral procession of General Schwarzkopf and was also sung at the funeral of President Lyndon B. Johnson.
- *How Firm a Foundation* (#567): This was a favorite hymn during the American Civil War on both sides. It was also sung at the funeral of General Robert E. Lee and at the funerals of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.
- *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say Come Unto Me & Rest* (#572): this is a XIX century Scottish hymn that alludes to finding rest in Christ. The Order of Christian Funerals recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.

• *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* (#587): This hymn set to an American folk melody speaks of the restful Promise Land of heaven. The Order of Christian Funerals recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.

• *Lead Kindly Light* (#607): this beautiful hymn by Cardinal Newman was played at the funeral procession of President Eisenhower. It acknowledges that God has led us through the mistakes of our youth, and asks the Lord to lead us on the “angles” of those who have gone before us in death.

• *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (#627): the beautiful text of this hymn makes it perfect for funerals. It was sung at Baroness Margaret Thatcher’s Funeral.

• *Merciful Savior* (#633): this is a funeral hymn that prays for God’s mercy upon his servants who have past beyond life’s cares. The Order of Christian Funerals recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.

• *Nearer My God to Thee* (#637): this hymn was played as they cleared the dead from the battlefield of Gettysburg, as the Titanic sank, and at the funeral of presidents

• *O God Beyond All Praising* (#659): this was sung at the funeral of Princess Diana, and it was the closing hymn at the funeral of Cardinal George of Chicago. It speaks of our responsibility to make a sacrifice of praise to God even in our sorrow.

• *O God Our Help in Ages Past* (#661): There are many verses, but this hymn is otherwise a beautiful option for a funeral, as it speaks of the enduring aid of God, who survives us all. This was sung at the funeral of Winston Churchill, and played at the funeral of President Lyndon B. Johnson. The Order of Christian Funerals recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.

• *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (#784): this hymn is set to the familiar Irish melody “St. Columba” and it was sung at the funeral

of Princess Diana and at the funeral of Cardinal Egan of New York City. The Order of Christian Funerals also recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.

- *Ultima* (#807): This chant is part of the Benedictine tradition. The monks sing it on feast days at the end of meals, but also at funerals. Many of our monasteries were founded from mother houses in German speaking lands, so it is often sung in Latin, German and English. It is a prayer that Mary will lead us home to her Divine Son.

- *What Wondrous Love is This* (#828): is a beautiful piece of southern folk music that expresses the hope that we shall sing in heaven's glory. The Order of Christian Funerals also recommends this as a suitable hymn for a funeral.