

## Funeral Liturgy

First Reading

### **A reading from the Book of Wisdom**

**4:7-15**

*(An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.)*

But the just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.  
For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time,  
nor can it be measured in terms of years.  
Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an  
unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was  
transported--  
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile  
his soul;  
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the  
whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of  
a long career;  
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,  
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.  
But the people saw and did not understand,  
nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the Lord.