



November Blessing Of Graves

After the Post-communion Prayer at the Requiem Mass, the congregation are invited to gather at the cemetery. The priest, using these or similar words, says:

My dear friends, we gather today to pray for our brothers and sisters whose ashes are interred here. They have passed from death to life in company with the Lord Jesus, who died and rose to new life, and are purified now of whatever sins they committed. We pray that God may welcome them among the saints in heaven.

Let us pray:

**God of all consolation,
in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death
into the dawn of new life.
Your son, by dying for us, conquered death
and, by rising again,
restored to us eternal life:
may we then go forward eagerly to meet our Redeemer
and, after our life on earth,
be reunited with our brothers and sisters
in that place where every tear is wiped away
and all things are made new;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

The priest sprinkles the cemetery with holy Water, after which is sung the Russian Kontakion (NEH 526 – words and music overleaf)

CONCLUDING RITE

**Priest: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Priest: May they rest in peace.
All: And rise in glory.**

**Priest: May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**