

Funeral Planning Form

This form is to assist you either in pre-planning your own funeral, or preparing for the funeral of a loved one who has recently died. It should be completed under the guidance of your parish priest. The priest may need to make pastoral or theological judgments which take precedence over the wishes designated in this form.

NAME: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
Immediate Family Members: _____

BURIAL

Have you purchased burial rights in a cemetery? No__ Yes__ Which one? _____

The Catholic Church has always preferred traditional burial over cremation, as it better expresses the reverence and beliefs we hold regarding the human body. Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. Anyone choosing cremation should understand that whenever possible, the body should be present in a casket for the funeral liturgy. In addition, cremated remains must be buried or entombed in a mausoleum.

Traditional burial (in a casket) or cremation? _____

Clothes to be buried in: _____

VIGIL (WAKE)

Do you wish to have a vigil (wake) prior to the funeral liturgy? _____

The priest prepares a simple prayer service with scripture and prayers for the person who has died. Additional elements may be included in the vigil. Designate any which are preferred:

Rosary_____ Sharing of Memories_____ Display of Memorabilia_____ Video/Slideshow_____

Eulogy (please designate who will give) _____

Other _____

FUNERAL LITURGY

The funeral should usually be a Mass because the Mass is the most powerful prayer we are able to offer for those who have died. It is also the closest possible way for us to be united with those who have died. However, for pastoral reasons, the funeral liturgy may be celebrated outside of the context of a Mass.

Do you wish to celebrate a funeral Mass? _____ Name of Church _____

Pall Bearers:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____

Funeral Planning Form (side 2)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

This section may be left blank if pre-planning.

Organist: _____

Cantor/Choir: _____

Readers:

1st Reading: _____

2nd Reading: _____

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Altar Servers: _____

Gift-Bearers (bring bread and wine at offertory)

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

For a list of suggested readings, visit www.dnu.org/funeral-readings, or contact your priest.

1st Reading (Old Testament except during Easter):

2nd Reading: (New Testament):

Responsorial Psalm:

Gospel Reading:

MUSIC SELECTIONS:

The music chosen for a funeral should be sacred music; that is, it should have both sacred words and a sacred sound. It should also reflect the specific character of a funeral, reflecting the themes of resurrection, heaven, salvation, faith, hope, and love. Music selections must be approved by the priest celebrating the funeral.

See pages 4-5 for guidance in choosing music.

A solo or choral piece is most appropriate at offertory or after communion.

Entrance Chant (select one)

☐ "Grant Them Eternal Rest"

☐ Other _____

Offertory/Preparation of the Gifts:

A particular Mass setting is often designated by the parish. This may be left blank if pre-planning.

Mass Setting: _____

Communion Chant: _____

Hymn or Solo: _____

Song of Farewell (select one):

☐ "Come to his/her Aid o Saints of God"

☐ Other _____

Recessional Song (select one):

☐ "May the Angels Lead You into Paradise"

☐ "In Paradisum"

☐ Other _____



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