



CATHOLIC FUNERAL AND BURIAL WORKBOOK

Please take time to consider the options outlined in this form. You may fill it out yourself or contact a parish representative in order to help you plan your funeral. Once you have completed the form, be sure to share the information with your family and/or friends, especially those you have chosen to carry out a ministerial role in the rites. At the time of death, the contact person should notify the parish priest before making arrangements with the funeral home. Also make sure your parish office has a copy of this form.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ I am a parishioner at: _____

If You Are Planning a Funeral For Someone Else

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Contact person at time of death: *(Family member or friend who understands your wishes regarding your funeral and will help coordinate details with the parish)*

Contact phone # - Cell: _____ Work: _____

Relationship of contact person to you: _____

Have you made arrangements with a particular funeral home? If so, which one?

Have you made arrangements with a particular cemetery? If so, which one?

If your preference is cremation, please indicate that here and speak with your parish priest or deacon for more details. Yes: _____ No: _____

Family Members (names and addresses):

Spouse: _____

Son(s): _____

Daughter(s): _____

Grandchildren: _____

Brothers/Sisters: _____

Others: _____

THE VIGIL AND RELATED RITES AND PRAYERS

If circumstances allow, would you like for your family to gather for:

Prayers after Death (this rite may be used when the minister first meets with the family after death) and/or Gathering in the Presence of the Body (this rite may be used when the family first gathers in the presence of the body).

Yes: _____ No: _____

The Vigil

Place (church or funeral home): _____

Liturgy of the Word: _____ Office of the Dead: _____ Rosary: _____

Who would you prefer to preside at the vigil? Please give name.

Priest: _____ Deacon: _____

(If clergy is not available, a family member or friend may preside. Please give name and contact information.)

THE FUNERAL MASS

Place (your parish church): _____

Celebrant: _____

Concelebrating Priest/s *(other priests you would like to invite to celebrate the Funeral Mass):*

If you would like family members or friends to place the pall on the coffin, indicate their names and contact information here: _____

Pall Bearers - the usual number is 6, there can be 4 or 8 - (names and contact information):

Servers: _____

Processional Hymn: _____

First Reading: _____ Lector: _____

Responsorial Psalm: _____ Cantor: _____

Second Reading: _____ Lector: _____

Gosple: _____

Homily Notes for the Priest *(Is there anything you would like the priest to mention during his homily pertaining to your life in Christ?):* _____

Offertory Hym: _____

Gift Bearers: _____

Communion Hymn: _____

Recessional Hymn: _____

Other requests for planning the Liturgy and the involvement of person(s) or groups and their function in the liturgy. For ex: Knights of Columbus, military, etc...

Following the prayer after communion, if a member of friend of the family wishes to speak words of remembrance of the deceased, the funeral rite indicates this should be done before the Final Commendation begins. Guidelines for such words are:

- Clearly not a eulogy
- Very brief (Parish should suggest a definite length of time.)
- Be positive in nature
- Demonstrates how the faith life of the deceased was portrayed in their lived experience
Speaks to the Christ-like attitudes/values that were important in their life.
- A copy of the text is shared ahead of time with a member of the parish staff.

Do you wish to have someone speak? No: _____ Yes: _____

If so, indicate a name and contact information:

RITE OF COMMITTAL

If the Final Commendation takes place at the end of the Funeral Mass, the Rite of Committal is used at the graveside. In this case, the intercessions may be led by a family member or friend.

Do you wish to indicate who that will be? No: _____ Yes: _____

If so, name and contact information:

Please share this information with your family and/or friends, and leave a copy in your parish office. Be sure to update this form with your parish staff and/or family and friends when necessary.

These are general guidelines. If you have questions that have not been addressed, speak with your pastor, deacon or parish representative.

I have given this information to (please indicate family members or friends who have a copy of this document and their contact information):

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor: _____ Date: _____

A full guide to Catholic Funeral Planning with Reading and song suggestions can be found online at the Catholic Cemeteries Office

cdom.org/catholic-cemeteries-office/

901-373-1200