

FUNERAL PLANNING

(please complete as much as possible before your meeting with the priest or deacon)

Eulogy: One eulogist may speak at the Funeral Mass in the Church. However, as many speakers as desired may eulogize at the Wake or at the Graveside. The Eulogy is a 3-5 minute talk which expresses love of the deceased, hope and faith in this hour, and often includes a few favorite memories. A good place to start is, "What did we love, what will we miss, about this person ...?"

Mass Eulogist: _____ *optional but very encouraged*
one name only

Mass Music: If there is a religious hymn that was special to the deceased or that would be meaningful to the family, we are happy to include it in the Mass if at all possible. Otherwise the parish music director will choose appropriate funeral music. *Please note that only religious hymns are included as part of the Funeral Mass. Also, only live, not recorded, music is done at the Funeral Mass.*

Hymn Request/s if any: _____ *optional*
_____ *optional*
_____ *optional*

Readers: The priest will read the Gospel, but readers are needed to offer the First (Old Testament) and Second (New Testament) readings. If you only have one person to read, that person may offer both readings. Usually readings are chosen when you meet with the clergy, but please try to find readers even before then. Do not be afraid to ask people to read – most often they are complimented to be given a role in the Funeral Mass.

First Reader (OT): _____ *required*

Second Reader (NT): _____ *required*

Gifts: Just as at a Sunday Mass, at a Funeral the gifts of bread and wine are brought forth by members of the worshipping community. A minimum of two gifts must be brought forward, but as many as four gifts may be arranged if you want to include more people in this moment. The funeral director will assist those chosen to bring the gifts to the altar when the time comes.

Gifts (Bread): _____ *required* _____ *optional*

Gifts (Wine): _____ *required* _____ *optional*

Other Departed: If someone close to the deceased has already gone home to God, please provide their name so that we can include them in the Eucharistic Prayer.

Other Departed: _____ *optional*

Flowers: A gift of flowers may be made to the parish to decorate the church sanctuary for the Funeral Mass. Usually two to three of the arrangements (if any) from the Wake are used for this. Flowers given to the parish for the Funeral Mass then remain in the church adding beauty and acting as a visible reminder of the deceased at other celebrations. The exceptions are Lent, when flowers are not allowed in the church, and the octaves of Christmas and Easter, when because of the flowers already present there is simply no room for more. Please coordinate any flower gifts through the Funeral Director.