

Funeral Planning Packet

Attached, please find the following:

- Planning a Funeral at St. Rose
- Readings, Participants, and Music fill-in worksheet
- Funeral Music Ideas
- H1 & H2 choices for intercessions. Choose one page.
- Guidelines for Words of Remembrance

When we plan the funeral, we will need the following information.

- Was the deceased Catholic?
- Full name of the deceased (first, middle, (*maiden*), last)
- How you would like the name written on the worship guide
- Birth date and birth city/state of deceased
- Date of death and city/state of deceased
- Age at death (include cause if you would like)
- Family contact name, relationship, phone number, and email address
- Will this be a body with a casket or cremation with an urn?

It is best to type this information into an email and send it to both Christine Jeffrey and Remi Bauer.

Once we choose a date, we will need to know the approximate number of guests. The Historic Chapel can only hold about 60-70 people comfortably – fewer if we are distancing. This number also helps know how many worship guides to print.

If you would like to have a picture of the deceased on the cover of the worship guide, please scan one into an email for us. The best pictures have plain, light backgrounds. Avoid too much darkness or too many objects around the person's head. If you would not like to use a picture, we have lovely sketches of our chapel or other religious symbols.

We are sorry for your loss, and we are honored to help at this time.

Blessings,

Christine & Remi

Preparing for a Funeral at St. Rose of Lima

We realize that during this difficult time there are many details to be covered and questions to be answered, so we hope this information will help families as they make funeral plans. Please know the staff at St. Rose of Lima is with you in prayer and we are available to offer assistance to you.

Choosing a day:

After a loved-one dies, funeral arrangements are often made in conjunction with the funeral home. The funeral director will call us to set up a time, or sometimes this call will be initiated by a family member. If you are not going through a funeral home, or if there is a long time between death and the funeral, families often call the church to set up a date. The time is set based on church and clergy availability.

Choosing readings and music:

The family will meet with the directors of liturgy and music to choose readings and music. There will be three readings (First, Second, and Gospel), and a set of general intercessions chosen from a book you will be given as a resource. For the music, we will help you choose four main songs and a Psalm. A special prelude or meditation song may also be added. All music must be appropriate for a Catholic liturgy.

Participants:

There are many opportunities for family and friends to participate in the liturgy.

You may invite family and friends who will read the first and second readings, and possibly the intercessions if you want them spoken. Chanted intercessions will be handled by the cantor. You may also choose people to act as greeters handing out worship guides and people to bring up the gifts if the funeral liturgy will be a Mass. If filling these roles with family and friends is not possible, St. Rose will help you.

The parish will provide a cantor and pianist. There is a fee associated with this service. Please see below.

Words of Remembrance:

Please review the attached sheet.

Fees:

Fee to St. Rose Parish for a funeral \$200

Cantors \$150

Accompanist \$150

It is customary to offer a stipend to the celebrant. The suggested offering is the same as that for musicians.

As you go through this process, please feel free to call the music and liturgy offices with any questions. We are here to help. (301)948-7545

Funeral Readings and Participants

Please type out the information & send to Christine & Remi

Readings:

First Reading from Section FR # _____ Scripture citation _____

Second Reading from Section SR # _____ Scripture citation _____

Gospel from Section G # _____ Scripture citation _____

Intercessions H1/H2 _____

Participants:

Choose family and friends for the following:

Words of Remembrance, (optional) _____

Greeters (2) _____

Pall Bearers (6-8 for casket, 1 for urn)

Placing the Pall (coffin only) (2+) _____

Reader of 1st Reading _____

Reader of 2nd Reading _____

Reader of Intercessions _____

Gift Bearers (min. 2) _____

Eucharistic Ministers (if you have family or friends who are EMs) (1-2)

Music Selections

You will be able to choose the following:

Gathering song _____

Psalm _____

Offertory song _____

Communion song _____

Closing song _____

Optional: Prelude or Meditation Song after Communion

Funeral Music Ideas

(the numbers correspond to our hymnal pages)

GENERAL

Amazing Grace (586)
Be Not Afraid (596)
Carry Me Home (OCP)
Christ Be Our Light (512)
City of God (663)
Eye Has Not Seen (616)
Fly Like a Bird (OCP)
Here I Am, Lord (671)
How Great Thou Art (496)
I Am the Bread of Life (822)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Jesus, Hope of the World (WLP)
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You (520)
Let There Be Peace on Earth (723)
Let Us Be Bread (808)
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (613)
May We Know the Peace of Christ
(Bauer)
Now In This Banquet (825)
On Eagles Wings (593)
One Bread, One Body (813)
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (847)
Shall We Gather at the River

Soon and Very Soon (758)
Taste and See (827)
The Servant Song (661)
We Shall Rise Again (762)

PSALMS:

Ps 138 In the Sight of the Angels
(Novelly)
Ps 103 Loving and Forgiving (Soper,
OCP)
Ps 23 Shepherd Me O God (23)
Ps. 25 To You O Lord (26)
Ps 40 Here I Am, Lord (35)
Ps 103 The Lord Is Kind and Merciful
(59)

PRELUDE/MEDITATION CHOICES (optional) A few examples...

Ave Maria (Schubert or Bach)
Fly Like A Bird
An Irish Blessing (a few choices)
I Am Here (Bauer)
Carry Me Home (Modlin)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CHOOSE EITHER H-1 OR H-2 FOR INTERCESSIONS (We can have either a sung or spoken response).

General Intercession: H-1 (Through Death to Life, J. Champlin)

Presider: Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to his:

Reader: The response is: Lord hear our Prayer

Reader: In baptism _____ received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead her/him over the waters of death.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

Our sister/brother _____ was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome her/him into the halls of the heavenly banquet.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

Many friends and relatives who have helped us have gone before us. We ask that they may have the reward of their faith and goodness.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

Many people die by violence, war and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love, and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

The family and friends of _____ seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our sister/brother _____. Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming.

Let us pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our Prayer*

Presider: Lord God,
Giver of peace and healer of souls,
Hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ,
And the voices of your people,
Whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb.
Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ
And grant them a place in the kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. *R. Amen.*

CHOOSE EITHER H-1 OR H-2 FOR INTERCESSIONS (We can have either a sung or spoken response).

General Intercessions: H-2 (Through Death to Life, Champlin)

Priest: God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead;
With confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead.

Intercessor: For N., who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life,
that he/she may now be admitted to the company of saints.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life,
that he/she may be raised up on the last day.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped
us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again,
that they may see God face to face.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the family and friends of our brother/sister N., that they may be
consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his
friend Lazarus.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.]

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be
gathered together again in God's kingdom.
We pray to the Lord. R. Lord, hear our prayer.

(...continued on next page).

Priest: God, our shelter and our strength,
you listen in love to the cry of your people:
hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters.
Cleanse them of their sins
and grant them the fullness of redemption.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Words of Remembrance

The Order of Christian Funerals suggests that during the funeral service “*a member or friend of the family may speak in remembrance of the deceased.*” Our experience here at St. Rose has been that when properly prepared and delivered, such words of remembrance can be a wonderful addition to the service. The priest’s homily is not meant as a time to make specific remarks about the deceased. Rather, the homily is to be based on the scripture readings and should be about the great truths of our Christian faith that sustain us in times of grief: the promise of resurrection, God’s compassionate love, and how the mystery of Jesus’ victorious death and resurrection are present in our own lives. Thus, words of remembrance from the family are an excellent way to personalize the service and remind those who gather about the Christian journey of the one who has died.

Experience has made clear to us what is appropriate and what isn’t in the “words of remembrance” that are part of the funeral liturgy. The following guidelines should help those who prepare the remarks to do so in a way that will make them meaningful to all present.

Do’s:

- Please limit the remarks to no more than five minutes.
- Write out the text for delivery rather than rely on memory or spontaneous thoughts. You may wish to share the text in advance with the priest who will preside at the funeral.
- Tell the story of a person’s life from birth to death, highlighting what was most important, but not every detail.
- Be personal and honest, describing the deceased in way that those who knew him/her will recognize the truth of what is being stated.
- Remember that this is a liturgical service; mention should be made of the faith that sustained the spiritual journey of the deceased.

Do not’s:

- Avoid reading poetry or other pieces of literature. This is a time for a personal remembrance of a specific individual.
- Do not speak directly to the deceased. The audience for the words of remembrance is the community gathered for the funeral.
- The context for these remarks is a liturgical one; therefore, some stories about the deceased—however cherished—may not be appropriate in this setting. The informality of the wake and other home gatherings afford an excellent opportunity for story-telling that may not be appropriate as part of the church service.
- In choosing who will deliver the words of remembrance, do not ask someone who will be too overwrought with grief to speak effectively in public. Loss of control while delivering the remarks detracts from their intended purpose.
- Do not make the words of remembrance into a eulogy. (Note: A eulogy is defined as “word of high praise.”) Rather than simply offering words of praise, the words of remembrance tell the story of God’s goodness revealed in the life of the deceased.