

FUNERALS

INTRODUCTION: The Norms for funerals, including cremation, are to be followed as they are found in the Order of Christian Funerals and the Appendix referring to cremation (November 2, 1997).

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY:

Mandated:

1. Because the local church is the center of the sacramental life of the faithful, the parish church is ordinarily the proper place for funerals (Canon 1177).
2. Funeral arrangements are to be made in consultation with the parish priest/parish life coordinator, who is to be reasonably available for making such arrangements. A special sense of pastoral sensitivity in consoling and comforting the bereaved at this time of grief is particularly helpful.
3. Laypersons may be delegated to conduct the wake service in the absence of a priest or deacon.
4. Although the Order of Christian Funerals allows for a funeral Mass on Sunday, a funeral Mass may not be possible because of the restrictions on the number of Masses a priest may celebrate on Sundays.

Approved +Michael J. Jernell

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