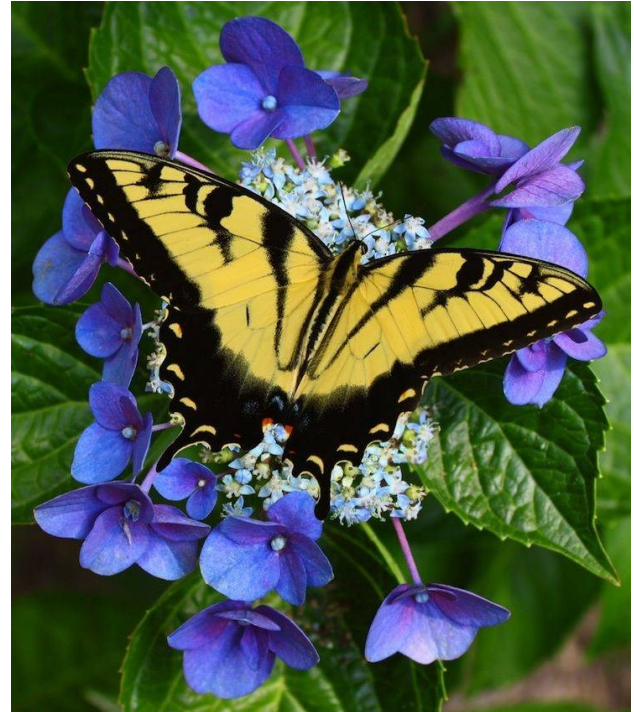


*Divine Savior Catholic Church*  
*Funeral Planning Guide*



*"I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies,  
will live."*

*- John 11:25*

Revised April 11, 2019

Dear Friends,

This booklet is offered to assist you in preparing the various components of the *Order of Christian Funerals*, so that it will be a meaningful and appropriate experience for you and your family. Since every situation is different, the Church offers a number of different options to meet those needs.

In addition to this planning guide, when you meet with one of our staff, you will be given “Through Death to Life,” a book with specific readings and prayers for the service.

Please know that the parish shares your sorrow at the death of one who was close to you. As you make preparations, know that the Lord gives us hope and strength in times of trial and brings consolation to those who mourn.



#### CATERERS:

O'Connor's Santa Maria Grill	916-988-0112
www.woodpit.com	
Affairs to Remember by Veronica Schwalbach	916-502-6006
veronicaschwalbach@yahoo.com	
La Rosa Blanca Mexican Restaurant	916-673-9085
<a href="http://larosablancarestaurant.com/catering/">http://larosablancarestaurant.com/catering/</a>	

#### THINGS TO DO AND REMEMBER

- Select 3 readers, for 2 scriptures and Prayers of the Faithful
- Select 2 people to bring up the bread and wine
- Select one person for remarks of remembrance/eulogy
- Consider designating Divine Savior Church as the recipient of any donations in lieu of flowers, in honor of your loved one (optional)
- Bring pictures/memorabilia 1 hour before the service
- Bring a personal Bible and Crucifix (optional)
- Bring donation to funeral coordinator or office before the service

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#### **Suggested Donation for Funerals:**

*The Funeral Coordinator will discuss this with the family at the funeral planning meeting. This amount helps to defray the costs of utilities and liturgical supplies and preparations for funerals. If a **vigil/wake** is held in the church, an additional amount will be suggested.*

*All checks can be made payable to Divine Savior, and dropped off at the office or given to the coordinator any time prior to the service.*

Notes

## FAQs

+ Funerals are not celebrated during the time of the regular weekend liturgies, nor on Good Friday, but they can be scheduled at any other time depending on the availability of the church, funeral home, and the family's needs.

+ Catholics believe in the resurrection of the body at the end of time. For this reason, the presence of the full human body during the funeral rites better expresses this belief. Although the presence of the full human body is preferred for the funeral rites, cremation is an acceptable option for Catholics. The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they came. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires. Please see pages 113-114 of the "Through Death to Life" book for more information on cremation.

+ You are encouraged to invite adult family members or friends to participate in the funeral mass as lectors, altar servers, or extraordinary ministers of holy communion. Children ages 8 and up may bring up the gifts of bread and wine, and may also hand out worship aids or prayer cards. In addition, it is possible for one person to speak following communion about the one who has died. This talk should be limited to three minutes, should be written out, and should focus on the evidence of Christianity in the life of the deceased, and what Christian examples and lessons he/she leaves to family and friends. When you meet with our team member, we will walk through all of the planning steps with you, and provide guidelines for this speaker.

+ Some families wish to encourage family and friends to donate to a non-profit organization in lieu of sending flowers. If you opt for this, please consider Divine Savior Church as the recipient of these donations in honor of your loved one.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Orangevale Copy (for all your printing needs) 916-987-1090

10 www.ovcopy.com

## Steps to Planning the Funeral

**Step One:** Contact the Parish office to let them know your loved one's name, date of death, and any ideas you may have for the date and time of the funeral services. Consider the needs of any family from out of town who may wish to attend. Also consider the extended time it may take for cremation services to be completed.

**Step Two:** Contact a Funeral Home or Cremation Service. The parish staff can make recommendations if you wish. Find out if there are any days or times to avoid for their services and availability. Funeral Directors often assist you with many arrangements, including obituary writing, prayer cards, choosing caskets or urns, cemetery coordination, and sometimes offer cremation services as well.

**Step Three:** Contact the Cemetery or Burial Site, unless this is a service of your Funeral Home. Note any days or times that may be restrictive for their availability.

**Step Four:** A Funeral Ministry Team Member will contact you usually within 24 hours to set up a time to meet to plan the service and answer the many questions you are sure to have.

**Step Five:** Talk openly with your family and note any names of people who wish to participate in a special way in the service, and any suggestions for readings or songs. We understand that families come to us in many stages of emotions and grief, and that this quite possibly is the most difficult task you have ever undertaken. We understand the effect of grief and exhaustion can be profound during this time. You may receive many suggestions or orders from family or you may receive none. Anywhere on that spectrum is okay, and our team will help you through the entire process.

**Step Six:** Meeting with Funeral Coordinator:

At this meeting we will:

- ◆ Confirm date/time/location of services
- ◆ Walk through the planning process for the service
- ◆ Assist you in the selection of scripture readings, prayers, and music
- ◆ Record all the information and give you a copy.

### Funeral Coordinator

Elaine Bauer, Dir. Of Liturgy, [elaine@divinesavior.com](mailto:elaine@divinesavior.com)  
916-989-7400 x 227

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### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

Parish Website [www.divinesavior.com](http://www.divinesavior.com)



### Psalm

23

25

27

27

42

63

103

116

122

130

### Refrain Lyrics

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Remember your mercies, O Lord

I believe I shall see the things of the Lord in the land of the living.

The Lord is my Light and my salvation.

As the deer longs for running streams, so I long for you.

My soul is thirsting for you O Lord, my God

The Lord is kind and merciful.

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Let us go rejoicing, let us go to the house of the Lord.

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.



### Song of Farewell Options

Go In Peace (Hart)

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

O Loving God (tune of "Danny Boy")

Song of Farewell (Old Hundredth)

Song of Farewell (Sands)

## Music Suggestions for Funeral

*\*\*this list includes suggestions; the funeral team member will assist you in making final selections*

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus  
All Creatures of  
Our God and King  
Amazing Grace  
Ave Maria  
Because the Lord  
is My Shepherd  
Behold the Lamb

Bread of Life  
City of God  
Fly Like a Bird  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
Hail Mary: Gentle Woman  
Here I Am (Booth)  
Here I am, Lord  
Hosea  
How Great Thou Art  
I Am the Bread of Life  
I Am the Living Bread  
I Have Loved You  
I Know That My Redeemer Lives  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
Lead Me, Lord  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
Like A Child Rests  
Like A Shepherd  
Loving and Forgiving  
Morning Has Broken

Now We Remain  
On Eagle's Wings  
One Bread, One Body  
Pan de Vida  
Pescador de Hombres  
Praise God From Whom  
All Blessings Flow  
Prayer of St. Francis  
Precious Lord  
Resucito  
Shelter Me, O God  
Shepherd Me, O God  
Sing a New Song  
Spirit and Grace  
The Lord is My Hope  
The Lord is My Shepherd  
The Supper of the Lord  
There is a Longing  
This Day God Gives Me  
(Morning Has Broken)  
To Jesus Christ,  
Our Sovereign King  
Unless a Grain of Wheat  
We Are the Light  
of the World  
We Walk by Faith  
You Are Near

## An Overview of the Catholic Christian Funeral

“Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. The Mass, the memorial of Christ’s death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral.”

*(Order of Christian Funerals, #4)*

The Catholic Church honors Christ’s death and resurrection during the Sacred Triduum as one continuous liturgical celebration lasting three days: the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, the Good Friday Liturgy, and the Easter Vigil. In the same fashion, the Church celebrates one continuous liturgy in three distinct Rites for the Order of Christian Funerals: the Vigil, (and related rites and prayers) the Funeral Liturgy, and the Rite of Committal. Each of these three parts is described below.

### A. The Vigil Service (“the Wake”)

The vigil, normally occurring the night before the funeral liturgy, offers an opportunity to bring the family and friends together in this time of loss to hear God’s Word from the Scriptures and sing of our need in the psalms. The vigil is a time to share memories and to find God’s strength in the Word and in one another. The vigil consists of hymns, prayers and Scripture readings. The vigil service is frequently held at the funeral home but it may be possible for the service to be held at Divine Savior, availability permitting. A priest, deacon, or lay person may preside at the vigil service. The vigil may take place with the casket open or closed, or with the cremated remains present.

The typical order of the vigil service is:

Greeting  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture Reading  
Responsorial Psalm  
Gospel Reading  
Homily  
Remembrance (eulogy)  
Blessing and Dismissal

*\*\*The recitation of all or part of the rosary may precede or*

follow the vigil service, but should not be a substitute for it.\*\*

### **B. The Funeral Liturgy**

The fullest expression of the mystery of Christ's own death and resurrection is best experienced when we celebrate the Mass. The comfort of the Word of God and the spiritual nourishment of the Eucharist help us to continue our own journey in life after our loved one has passed into the next life. The funeral rites may also be celebrated outside of a Mass.

Here is the order of the funeral liturgy:

#### **INTRODUCTORY RITES**

Welcoming of the body  
Sprinkling the casket/urn with holy water  
Clothing the casket/urn with the white pall  
Placing of the Bible and crucifix  
Opening Song

Opening Prayer/Collect

#### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading (frequently from the Old Testament)  
Responsorial Psalm  
Second Reading (frequently from the New Testament)  
Gospel Acclamation  
Gospel Reading  
Homily  
Prayers of the Faithful

#### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST \*\***

Presentation of the Gifts  
Eucharistic Prayer and Sung Acclamations  
Lord's Prayer  
Sign of Peace  
Lamb of God  
Communion  
Prayer after Communion

#### **CONCLUDING RITES**

Remarks of Remembrance (Eulogy)  
Song of Farewell  
Final Commendation of the Bodily Remains  
Recessional

\*\* This section omitted if funeral rites are not held within Mass.

### **C. The Rite of Committal ("Burial")**

After death, the body of a baptized Christian may be embalmed and placed in a casket, or it may be cremated and placed in a sealed urn. Catholics believe in the resurrection of the body at the end of time, and for this reason, the presence of the human body better expresses this belief, which the Church affirms in the rites of Christian Burial. When the choice has been made to cremate a body, it is recommended that the cremation take place after the funeral Liturgy.

The typical order of the burial service is:

Opening Prayer  
Blessing of the grave or crypt space  
Scripture reading  
General Intercessions  
Commendation of the body or cremated remains  
Lord's Prayer  
Closing Prayer

