

+ The Funeral Liturgy at Saint Peter Church +

These guidelines are meant to assist you in planning a funeral liturgy for yourself or another. A detailed listing of scripture readings and liturgical options are in the booklet **Through Death to Life**, available from our Parish Office. In the funeral liturgy, we are given an opportunity to express our own faith through choices of prayer, scripture and music. Active participation in worship can share our beliefs through spoken and sung responses. Music is an integral part of the Roman Catholic liturgy, and our Parish Organist-Choirmaster will assist you in making appropriate choices and planning the liturgy. You are encouraged to invite others to assist in the liturgical roles of Lector, Cantor, Gift Bearer, Eucharistic Minister, Greeter/Usher and Pall Bearer.

The usual liturgy for a Catholic's funeral is the Eucharist (Mass). Other options include a Liturgy of the Word with Final Commendation. When family and congregation may consist primarily of non-Catholics, this service is more inclusive. Ministers from other religious traditions are welcome to assist, at the invitation of the Pastor. A Vigil Service is often held the evening preceding the funeral. With prior arrangement and permission of the Pastor, this may take place at the church, as well as a reception following the funeral liturgy. Before choosing the time for the liturgy, please consider the ability of your family and friends to be present. A late afternoon or early evening hour may permit many more people to attend, and parking is usually easier as well.

The Roman Catholic Church permits cremation, and our parish has a Columbarium for the interment of ashes. A separate brochure about this option is available from the Parish Office.

To invite the participation of all present, especially those from other religious traditions, an *Order of Service* is printed for funerals celebrated at Saint Peter. The names of ministers, family members, and information about the deceased may be included, along with the hymns, service music and scriptures.

There is no fee for the use of the Church nor is a stipend expected by the Pastor. Fees for musicians are handled through the Organist-Choirmaster and customarily range from \$75.00-125.00, depending on the music chosen, rehearsal time required, and involvement of other musicians.

The Clergy and Staff of Saint Peter Church wish to support you and your family before, during and after the loss of a loved one. Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions or desire to discuss funeral arrangements.

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Funeral Liturgy

* *indicates parts of the liturgy usually sung by the Congregation.*

PRELUDE

GREETING AT THE CHURCH DOOR

All stand and face the church doors as the Ministers greet the family and receive the casket. The Sacrament of Baptism is recalled in the sprinkling with holy water and placing of a white pall (optional with cremated remains)

* HYMN

A strong hymn of faith unites the voices of those present into one prayer.

PLACEMENT OF CHRISTIAN SYMBOL (optional)

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING - selected by the family

Suggested scripture passages are listed in the book Through Death to Life, available from the Parish Office.

* RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Preferably sung by the Congregation with the assistance of a Cantor. The Psalm may also be recited, or an appropriate hymn sung by all.

SECOND READING - selected by the family

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Led by the Cantor, this heralds the proclamation of the Gospel. Several musical settings are available.

GOSPEL READING - selected by the family

HOMILY

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS (Prayers of the Faithful)

The family may suggest particular needs or names they wish included. (If the Eucharist is not celebrated, the liturgy continues with the Lord's Prayer and concludes with the Final Commendation.)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

* PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR (Offertory)

The gifts of bread and wine may be presented by Gift Bearers chosen by the family. A hymn or other music may accompany this action.

- * **MASS ORDINARY** (Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, Agnus Dei)
These texts should be sung by all present; familiar settings are preferable

THE LORD'S PRAYER

This prayer held in common by all Christians is usually recited

COMMUNION

Music may include congregational song, vocal or instrumental selections

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

*Brief remarks may be offered at this time by a family member or friend,
or a letter written by the deceased may be read*

FINAL COMMENDATION

- * **SONG OF FAREWELL**

A congregational response which may be sung or said

- * **PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL**

A hymn of faith may be sung or instrumental music played as the procession leaves

Our Hymnal contains a wide range of musical choices, a section for a Funeral Mass (221-224) as well as Funeral hymns (680-689). Texts reflecting faith in God and hope in the Resurrection are most appropriate. Familiar melodies help all to participate. Some settings require a solo Cantor, who can be contacted by the parish Director of Music. Suggested hymns and psalms (*numbers refer to We Celebrate Hymnal*):

Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er (549)	Prayer of Saint Francis (860)
For All the Saints (953)	The King of Love My Shepherd Is (815)
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (551)	I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (852)
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (804)	Amazing Grace (662)
All Creatures of Our God & King (892)	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! (703)
Holy God (900)	God of Love (687)
How Great Thou Art (904)	Jesus, Lord, Have Mercy (682)
I Call You to My Father's House (680)	Be Not Afraid (839)

Psalms and Ritual Music (*most require a solo Cantor to perform*)

My Shepherd Is the Lord/Ps. 23 (387)	May the Angels Lead You (685)
You Are Near/Ps. 139 (857)	My Soul Is Longing/Ps 131 (849)
Here I Am, Lord/Ps. 40 (779)	O God, Our Help/Ps. 90 (829)
On Eagles' Wings/Ps. 91 (836)	The Lord Is My Light/Ps. 27 (392)
Eye Has Not Seen (844)	Keep In Mind (222)

Other choices may include service music sung by the Congregation, as well as solo instrumental or vocal settings, such as *Ave Maria* or *Panis Angelicus*. The parish Director of Music can guide you in planning a liturgy that reflects the faith of the deceased loved one while allowing family and friends to participate more fully in worship.

Funeral Arrangements for:

Name (full legal name) _____

Address _____

Telephone(s) _____ e-mail: _____

Date/Place of Birth _____

Name/contact information of person authorized to handle funeral arrangements:

Funeral Director preferred: _____

Wishes regarding burial/cremation: _____

Wishes regarding a Vigil Service: _____

Time preferred for funeral Mass/Liturgy (day/hour) _____

Reception/visitation pre- or post-liturgy/place _____

Persons to be involved in the liturgy, if possible:

Priest/Minister _____

Lectors _____

Gift Bearers _____

Eucharistic Ministers _____

Cantor/Organist/other musicians _____

Words of Remembrance _____

Ushers/Greeters _____

Pall bearers _____

Scriptures:

Old Testament: _____ New Testament: _____

Gospel: _____ Other _____

Hymns/other musical selections: _____

Information for obituary/Order of Service _____

Memorials sent to _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Copy and send to St. Peter Church, funeral home, significant family and friends

(Revised February 2010)