



Most Holy Trinity
St. Mary Church
trinity-stmary.org

Planning a Funeral

Our sincere condolences as you experience this loss in your life. Although these days may be very difficult, they can also be the source of healing for you and your family.

WHEN SOMEONE DIES

It is understood that once a person has passed away it is important to **contact a Funeral Home** that will assist you with the preparation of the body of your loved one, help you arrange for funeral rites and burial and finally assist with various types of documentation you will need for things like banks, courts and government agencies.

RESPECT FOR THE BODY OF THE DECEASED

Catholics believe in the Resurrection of the entire person; **body** and soul. The human body of a deceased person is treated with the greatest respect. Traditionally bodies are buried or placed in a mausoleum. It is permitted to cremate a body as long as it is not done out of disrespect for the body. If cremation is your choice, we strongly suggest that cremation take place **AFTER** the funeral.

The ashes of a person are also treated with respect and buried or placed in a columbarium and never scattered, separated or made into objects such as jewelry.

THE FUNERAL RITES

The Funeral Rites consist of three parts: the Wake, the Mass, and the Commendation at the cemetery. The funeral rites can be a source of comfort and healing for those left behind. Participating in the planning process of a loved one's funeral can make it a more personal, meaningful experience for those attending and an affirmation of our faith. The following instructions are meant to assist you in that preparation. In addition, the friars are available to assist you in whatever way they can at this difficult time for your family and friends.

The Wake/Viewing

This is a time to receive family and friends who want to pay their respect. It's also an opportunity to pray. The friars are honored to offer Vigil Prayer at the wake/viewing. It's also a great time for people who might want to offer some words of eulogy.

The Funeral Liturgy

Usually, the Funeral Mass is offered for deceased. It is possible to have a Funeral without a Mass as well. Please ask the friars if this is something you would like to consider. To make this funeral as personal as possible, here are some choices you and your family may wish to make:

Reading I: Please select one of the following readings and someone (family or friend) to read it at the funeral. If you have difficulty finding someone, please let us know and we can find a parishioner to assist. Only passages from scripture can be used.

You can find these readings in your bible or online at biblegateway.com

Select one from either the Old Testament or during Easter Season from New Testament.

During Ordinary Time, Advent, or Christmas Season:

- 1) 2 Maccabees 12:43-46
- 2) Job 19:1, 23-27a
- 3) Wisdom 3:1-9 *or* 3:1-6, 9
- 4) Wisdom 4:7-15
- 5) Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9
- 6) Lamentations 3:17-26
- 7) Daniel 12:1-3

During the Easter Season:

- 1) Acts 10:34-43 *or* 10:34-36, 42-43
- 2) Revelation 14:13
- 3) Revelation 20:11—21:1
- 4) Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

Responsorial Psalm: The responsorial psalm is sung. The organist will choose a psalm. The family may also request a particular psalm if they wish.

Reading II: OPTIONAL

A second reading may be chosen. Again, non-biblical texts may not replace scriptural readings at Mass. The family should choose a family member or friend to proclaim the reading.

- 1) Romans 5:5-11
- 2) Romans 5:17-21
- 3) Romans 6:3-9 *or* 6:3-4, 8-9
- 4) Romans 8:14-23
- 5) Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39
- 6) Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12
- 7) 1 Corinthians 15:20-24a, 25-28 *or* 15:20-23
- 8) 1 Corinthians 15:51-57
- 9) 2 Corinthians 4:14—5:1
- 10) 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10
- 11) Philippians 3:20-21
- 12) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 13) 2 Timothy 2:8-13
- 14) 1 John 3:1-2
- 15) 1 John 3:14-16

Gospel: Although the presiding priest or deacon proclaims the Gospel, the family may select the one that will be read. **Select a Gospel:**

- 1) Matthew 5:1-12a
- 2) Matthew 11:25-30
- 3) Matthew 25:1-13
- 4) Matthew 25:31-46
- 5) Mark 15:33-39; 16:1-6 *or* 15:33-39
- 6) Luke 7:11-17
- 7) Luke 12:35-40
- 8) Luke 23:33, 39-43
- 9) Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53; 24:1-6a

- or* 23:44-46, 50, 52-53
- 10) Luke 24:13-35 *or* 24:13-16, 28-35
 - 11) John 5:24-29
 - 12) John 6:37-40
 - 13) John 6:51-59
 - 14) John 11:17-27 *or* 11:21-27
 - 15) John 11:32-45
 - 16) John 12:23-28 *or* 12:23-26
 - 17) John 14:1-6
 - 18) John 17:24-26
 - 19) John 19:17-18, 25-39

Homily: The homily is not a eulogy. It is a reflection on the readings but may also draw stories of faith from the deceased's life. Please help the presiding priest or deacon to prepare by sharing some of the qualities, passions, interests and faith of the deceased with the friars. If you have an obituary, please send us a link to that as well.

General Intercessions: During the funeral we will pray for your deceased. Please let us know of other members of your family who have passed away that you would like us to pray for during the Funeral.

Presentation of the Gifts: The family may choose two people to carry the offertory gifts to the altar. The family may also choose not to have an offertory procession.

Remarks of Remembrance: The Catholic liturgy does NOT include eulogies. Eulogies may be offered at the funeral home, grave side or at the reception after the funeral. However, if the family desires, they may have one person come forward after Communion to offer some remarks of remembrance lasting no longer than 3-4 minutes and must be written. The remarks at the liturgy should be focused on the deceased's Christian virtues and not simply memories.

Special Music Requested: If there are particular hymns that the deceased or family would like to suggest they should let us know as soon as possible. If suitable these will be integrated into the liturgy as best possible. It is not possible to include "secular" or "pop" music. The Music Director will organize the music.

The Cemetery

The body or cremains of for your loved one are sacred. As Catholics we believe in the dignity of the body itself and in the Resurrection of the Body. We are only truly ourselves when we complete; body and soul. Therefore, the physical remains of a person should be treated with the utmost respect. The deceased's body or ashes should be buried in the ground or in a mausoleum. Ashes should be placed in a permanent place such a columbarium or buried in the cemetery.

Due to New York City traffic and distances the friars do not normally attend the Commendation and burial. However, if you wish we can try to accommodate this. The burial is also an opportune time for people to offer some words of remembrance or eulogy.

Other Notes:

1. Suggested Offering: Organist: \$125
 Cantor: \$125
 Altar Server - \$25
 Church - \$325

***Please note:** The church offering is a suggested amount. You are free to be more generous if you can or to if you are in financial hardship you can give less.. We are happy to serve you and your family regardless of your financial situation.*

2. Please do not hesitate to contact Friar Rick or Friar Louis if there is anything further that we can assist you with.
3. We will send you an email link to a form where you can add all of your selections for the funeral. If you do not feel comfortable you can use the following page.

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MARK YOUR CHOICES HERE:

Funeral with or without Mass?	
1 st Reading:	
Reader for 1 st Reading:	
2 nd Reading: (OPTIONAL)	
Reader for 2 nd Reading: (can be same as above)	
Gospel:	
Reader for the Intercessions:	
2 people to bring up the Gifts:	
Any deceased family members you would like to pray for during the funeral:	
Person to offer a reflection (OPTIONAL)	

***How would you describe your deceased loved one?
What were their passions in life? Their hobbies? How did they live their faith?***

