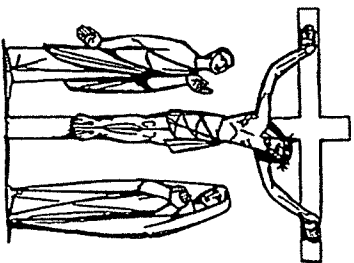


CATHOLIC

FUNERAL MASS



"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE  
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE FOREVER"  
John 11:26

The purpose of this booklet is to assist you in preparing a Funeral Mass.

Although family members are not expected to assume any role which may be made too burdensome by your grief, you are encouraged to help prepare the Funeral Mass. Your options are explained in this book. Please take a few moments to read these pages and complete the section "Record of Funeral Mass Selections". The completed booklet can be given to the Priest on the day before the funeral.

The different options chosen can help shape this liturgy to reflect the situation of the deceased and the hope of the family and friends who pray for eternal rest and peace for their loved one.

There are five parts to the liturgy at the church.

## 1. Introductory Rites

Greeting

Sprinkling with holy water

(Placing of the Pall)

Entrance Procession

(Placing of the Christian Symbols)

Opening prayer

The priest will greet you about halfway down the aisle, bless the body and have the casket covered with the pall. Family members may help place the pall on the casket.

A procession up the main aisle then takes place.

At the head of the main aisle, after everyone is in place, family members may place a symbol of Christian life, e.g. a cross, a bible, on the casket. The symbol should be carried in the procession.

## 2. Liturgy of the Word

Readings from Scripture

Homily

General intercessions

Three scripture readings may be chosen. The first is usually from the Old Testament, the second from the New Testament, and the third from one of the gospels.

Your Funeral Director has books containing the readings for Funerals.

It is appropriate to have family or friends read the scripture readings. If there are two readings before the gospel, it is preferable to have two readers. The priest or a deacon will proclaim the gospel.

The response to the first reading is sung. There is more information regarding musical selections later in this booklet.

The homily, which is given by the priest, (or a deacon), focuses on God's compassionate love and on the Easter mystery of death leading to resurrection.

If you have specific choices for the liturgy of the word, please record these on page 4.

## 3. Liturgy of the Eucharist

A few family members are invited to bring the gifts of bread and wine to the priest. The gifts will be on a small table in the middle of the church. Please indicate on page 6 who will bring up the gifts.

The usual Order of Mass is followed.

#### 4. Final Commendation

##### *Song of Farewell*

This rite is a final farewell by the members of the community. It is an act of respect for one of their members. If a family member wishes to make a few personal remarks in the context of the Christian life, this is the appropriate occasion in the funeral liturgy. Remarks are to be written out ahead of time, limited to 5 minutes, and should be available to the priest for review the night before the funeral Mass. Other remarks may be shared at the funeral home at the conclusion of the wake, or at the end of the committal service at the cemetery. The Song of Farewell, which is the climax of this rite, should affirm hope and trust in the paschal mystery.

#### 5. Procession to the Place of Committal

At the conclusion of the funeral liturgy, the procession is formed and the body is accompanied to the place of committal.

### MUSIC

*The parish music director and/or organist will arrange for a cantor to be at the funeral Mass to assist the congregation in singing. You will find suggested hymns listed on pages 6 & 7. If you have a particular request not listed, and it is appropriate for church, you may contact the Music Director.*

Please indicate on pages 5 - 7 which music selections you would prefer.

### RECORD OF FUNERAL MASS SELECTIONS

Name of the Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of Funeral \_\_\_\_\_

#### INTRODUCTORY RITES

Will a Christian symbol be carried in the entrance procession and placed on the casket at the head of the aisle?

If yes, what symbol will be supplied by the family:

Cross/Crucifix or Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Three Scripture readings may be chosen. The first is usually from the Old Testament, the second from the New Testament, and a third from the Gospels.

FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_

READER \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING \_\_\_\_\_

READER \_\_\_\_\_

GOSPEL \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Who will lead the Intercessions?

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## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Who will bring the gifts of Bread and Wine to the priest?

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## MUSIC

Please select one Hymn from each category

### ENTRANCE HYMN

1. Be Not Afraid \_\_\_\_\_
2. Be With Me, Lord \_\_\_\_\_
3. Hosea \_\_\_\_\_
4. I am the Bread of Life \_\_\_\_\_
5. Lift High the Cross \_\_\_\_\_
6. On Eagle's Wings \_\_\_\_\_
7. Song of Angels \_\_\_\_\_
8. Here I am, Lord \_\_\_\_\_
9. Abide with Me \_\_\_\_\_
10. You are Mine \_\_\_\_\_
11. Come Home \_\_\_\_\_

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

12. Be With Me, Lord \_\_\_\_\_
13. Shelter Me, O God \_\_\_\_\_
14. Shepherd Me, O God \_\_\_\_\_
15. The Lord is My Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_
16. You are Near \_\_\_\_\_
17. All I Ask of You \_\_\_\_\_

## HYMN DURING PREPARATION OF GIFTS

18. Come to Me \_\_\_\_\_
19. Give Me Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
20. I have Loved You \_\_\_\_\_
21. All That I Am \_\_\_\_\_
22. Lord, You have Come \_\_\_\_\_
23. Those Who See Light \_\_\_\_\_
24. Come Unto Me \_\_\_\_\_
25. We Remember \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMUNION HYMN

26. Blest are They \_\_\_\_\_
27. Parable \_\_\_\_\_
28. Yes, I Shall Arise \_\_\_\_\_
29. I Am the Bread of Life \_\_\_\_\_
30. Now We Remain \_\_\_\_\_
31. One Bread, One Body \_\_\_\_\_
32. We Will rise Again \_\_\_\_\_
33. Panis Angelicus \_\_\_\_\_

### SONG OF FAREWELL

34. A Mighty Fortress \_\_\_\_\_
35. Alleluia, Sing to Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
36. Amazing Grace \_\_\_\_\_
37. Holy God We Praise Thy Name \_\_\_\_\_
38. How Great Thou Art \_\_\_\_\_
39. Precious Lord \_\_\_\_\_
40. On Eagle's Wings \_\_\_\_\_
41. We Remember \_\_\_\_\_
42. I Heard the Voice of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
43. We Walk by Faith \_\_\_\_\_
44. Lead me Lord \_\_\_\_\_

**Will a single eulogy,**

- a) written out the night before the funeral
- b) limited to 5 minutes
- c) following the guidelines of the Archdiocese  
be given at the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

By whom?

\_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this booklet to the Priest the day before the  
Funeral.***