

Dear Friends,

Our faith claims that death is not an end, but a beginning. The Catholic Funeral Rites celebrate Jesus' victory over death and our personal share in His rising from the dead. At the same time, however, this is for you a moment of separation and great sadness.

This packet is being provided to assist you in preparing for the Funeral Liturgy. We suggest that you take an active part in planning and participating in the Funeral Mass.

You will find Old Testament and New Testament readings for Mass, a list of suggested intentions for the Prayers of the Faithful, and some suggested hymns that are appropriate to express our faith in this time of sadness. You will find information about our funeral luncheon ministry. You are encouraged to fill out the Worship Record sheet with your reading and music selections, as well as funeral luncheon information, before you come to meet with Fr. Festus. Please call the parish office at 586-781-9010 to schedule an appointment with Fr. Festus, our pastor, to prepare for the Funeral Liturgy. Our music minister, Al Eppens, can assist you in choosing appropriate music and can be contacted as well.

There are a variety of ways in which you may make the liturgy more personal for your family. Some of these are listed below:

1. Relatives and friends can be invited to help place the white pall on the casket at the beginning of Mass as a remembrance that Christ claims us in baptism and never lets go.
2. You may invite relatives or friends to read the passages from the Old Testament, the New Testament Epistles (letters), and the Prayers of the Faithful. Please select someone with care who is comfortable speaking to a group and has poise and self-control to proclaim the readings appropriately. Ideally this is a family member, neighbor, or friend who is a baptized Catholic.
3. Family members or friends may be invited to carry the bread, wine, and water as gifts to the altar. Offering the gifts is a symbol of offering our bounty and our sufferings to God.

Your effort in planning the funeral of your loved one is not intended to be a burden for you but an opportunity to experience the consolation and hope that the Church offers us at this time. You may choose to participate in the planning as much or as little as you wish. We will be most happy to help you in any way that we can to make this funeral liturgy a celebration of the life of your loved one.

WORSHIP RECORD

Name of Deceased

Birthdate

Age _____

Name of family representative: _____

Relationship to deceased: _____

Contact information: _____

Name of Spouse: _____ Living? _____

Name of children: _____

FUNERAL MASS

Placing pall on the casket at the beginning of Mass: Y__N__

If yes, names of people placing pall on casket: _____

1st Reading from the Old Testament:

To be read by:

2nd Reading from the New Testament:

To be read by:

The Gospel reading is read by the priest or deacon.

Prayers of the Faithful to be read by:

Gifts of bread and wine will be brought from the gift table to the priest in the sanctuary by:

Would you like our Music Minister to contact you (please include best phone number to reach you): Y__ N__ Phone _____

Funeral Luncheon: Y__ N__

Caterer:

Number of Expected Guests Attending the Luncheon:

Are you bringing a flashdrive for use at the church: Y__ N__