

PLANNING YOUR CATHOLIC FUNERAL



Holy Family Catholic Church
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NAME _____

First things first ... Why celebrate a Catholic funeral?

The human person is the living image of God, God's creation, and His plan of salvation (*Evangelium Vitae*, 52). When we are brought into the sacramental grace of Baptism, each person receives a likeness to Christ, and the human body becomes a temple of Holy Spirit. When a person dies, we are reminded of all the ways that the deceased carried out the ministry of God's plan in and through the body: hearing Word; celebrating the Sacraments; offering gestures of faith, hope, kindness, and compassion; and showing courage in the face of great adversity.

The body is also a visible reminder to us of the bonds of family and the expressions of friendship which are irreversibly tied to this person now deceased (*OCF Appendix Cremation*, 411). In addition, having known the reality of sin and the struggle of the deceased to be faithful to God through the journey of this life, we may also be reminded of how God's mercy was present to assist the deceased in the struggle with sin and the way of conversion.

Because each baptized believer responds to God's action in and through the body, from its beginning at the moment of conception to its end in natural death, the Church assigns great reverence to the body of one who has died, and cares for both the soul and the body as she ministers to the whole person. Thus, at death, the Church offers the Funeral Rites to assist the transition from life through death into eternity.

Parts of the Catholic Funeral Rites

Vigil Service (often called a "Wake") – a prayer service in the presence of the body of the deceased. It may be formal, with readings and prayers by a Priest or Deacon, or it may be more informal, with the praying of the Rosary or devotional prayers. If a member of the family or a close friend would like to offer words of remembrance, this typically happens at the Vigil Service.

Funeral Mass (or Funeral Service outside Mass) – a Funeral Mass is the greatest gift the Church gives one of her members who has died. The prayers ask for God's mercy on the deceased and express our human love for him or her, and the Mass gives family and friends an opportunity to hear the words of Scripture speak to their grieving and bring them peace. If for some reason a Funeral Mass cannot be celebrated, a Funeral Service with a Liturgy of the Word may be celebrated instead.

Rite of Committal – the final burial of the earthly body of the deceased, either immediately following the Funeral Mass (or service), or at a later time. It may be celebrated in a different location than the Funeral Mass, if necessary.

Reception – while not part of the Funeral Rites themselves, Holy Family is happy to offer a reception in the Parish Hall for those attending the funeral rites and welcome them to fellowship.

Vigil Service

A. Informal gathering – The family and friends gather at an appointed time. The Priest or Deacon leads brief prayers for the repose of the departed, and may lead other prayers such as the Rosary. After the prayers, friends and family members may speak and share memories of the departed. If “visitation hours” are offered to greet and speak with the family, then this time typically will follow the informal prayer service.

B. Vigil Service for the Deceased – This service of the Church brings the presence of Christ into the experience of death. This form is often preferred by families who need some structure to help them organize their thoughts as they experience the death of a loved one, or for families who desire a longer “wake” celebration, with the Vigil Service at the end of “visitation hours.” It is led by a Priest or a Deacon with the following form:

- **Sign of the Cross and Greeting**
- **Opening Song** (*optional*)
- **Opening Prayer** by presiding Priest or Deacon
- **Liturgy of the Word** which includes a reading from the Gospel, and may include a First Reading and Responsorial Psalm at the desire of the family
- **Brief homily** by the presiding Priest or Deacon
- **Prayers of Intercession** for the deceased and those who mourn
- **The Lord’s Prayer**
- **Concluding Prayer** by Priest or Deacon
- **Blessing of those Gathered**
- **Words of Remembrance** by family and friends (*optional*)



The Funeral Mass (or Service)

At the appointed time, the family gather at the entrance to the church. The Priest greets them and sprinkles the casket or urn with holy water as a reminder of Baptism.

Placing of the Pall, as a reminder of the Baptism of the deceased, when we were first clothed in Christ.

Placing of a Christian symbol which had particular significance for the person who died. (*optional* ... limited to a specifically Christian symbol: Bible, Cross, or Rosary)

Procession to the altar, accompanied by an Entrance Hymn

Opening Collect (prayer) from the Funeral Mass

Liturgy of the Word with an Old Testament reading, Responsorial Psalm, New Testament reading, and Gospel reading ... *options for these are on the following pages.*

Homily by the presiding Priest or Deacon

General Intercessions

If this is a Funeral Service instead of a Funeral Mass, the service concludes with the Lord's Prayer and the Final Commendation and Dismissal.

If the Funeral Mass is celebrated, then the liturgy continues with the Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presentation of the Gifts of bread and wine

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer and **Sign of Peace**

Communion Rite

Prayer after Communion from the Funeral Mass

Incensation of the casket or urn and Song of Farewell

Final Commendation of the deceased to God

Procession to the cemetery for burial

OLD TESTAMENT READING OPTIONS for the Funeral Mass or Service

1) 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

Judas, the ruler of Israel,
took up a collection among all his soldiers,
amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,
which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.
In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,
inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.
But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward
that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,
it was a holy and pious thought.
Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

2) Job 19:1, 23-27a

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:
Oh, would that my words were written down! Would that they were inscribed in a record:
That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever!
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;
Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;
And from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

3) Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace.
For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality;
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them
and found them worthy of himself.
As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the LORD shall be their King forever.
Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love:
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

4) Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.
For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time,
nor can it be measured in terms of years.
Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.
He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported—
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul;
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.
Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career;
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.
But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

5) Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples.
On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever.
The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces;
The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.
On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

6) Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the LORD.
The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the LORD are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the LORD, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him.
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him;
It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the LORD.

7) Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned and heard this word of the Lord:
At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people;
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time.
At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book.
Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;
Some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament,
And those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM OPTIONS
for the Funeral Mass or Service**

Psalm 23 (The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want)

Psalm 25 (To you, O Lord, I lift my soul)

Psalm 27 (The Lord is my light and my salvation)

Psalm 42 (My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?)

Psalm 63 (My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God)

Psalm 103 (The Lord is kind and merciful)

Psalm 116 (I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living)

Psalm 122 (Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord)

Psalm 130 (Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord)

Psalm 143 (O Lord, hear my prayer)

NEW TESTAMENT READING OPTIONS
for the Funeral Mass or Service

1) Romans 5:5-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
For Christ, while we were still helpless,
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.
Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,
though perhaps for a good person, one might even find courage to die.
But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.
How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,
will we be saved through him from the wrath.
Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life.
Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

2) Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If, by the transgression of the one,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace
and of the gift of justification
come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.
In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all,
so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all.
For just as through the disobedience of the one man
the many were made sinners,
so through the obedience of the one
the many will be made righteous.
The law entered in so that transgression might increase
but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that,
as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

3) Romans 6:3-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

4) Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "*Abba*, Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

5) Romans 8:31-35b, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

6) Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,

that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother?

Or you, why do you look down on your brother?

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

7) 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead,

the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a human being,

the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being.

For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,

but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits;

then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end,

when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet."

But when it says that everything has been subjected,

it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him.

When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected

to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

8) 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Behold, I tell you a mystery.

We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed,

in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility,

and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality.

And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility

and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,

then the word that is written shall come about: *Death is swallowed up in victory.*

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

9) 2 Corinthians 4:14 - 5:1

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: We know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,

so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction

is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;

for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed,

we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

10) 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed,

we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,

so that each may receive recompense,

according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

11) Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

Our citizenship is in heaven,

and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified Body by the power that enables him also

to bring all things into subjection to himself.

12) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope.
For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus,
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.
Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left
until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.
For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God,
will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.
Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

13) 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David:
such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal.
But the word of God is not chained.
Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.
This saying is trustworthy:
*If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him.
But if we deny him he will deny us. If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.*

14) 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are.
The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

15) 1 John 3:14-16

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.
Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,
and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.
The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

GOSPEL READING OPTIONS
for the Funeral Mass or Service
(read by the Priest or Deacon)

1) Matthew 5:1-12a

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

He began to teach them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.”

2) Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus answered:

“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

3) Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

5) Mark 15:33-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

6) Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last. Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus. After he had taken the Body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

7) John 5:24-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life.

Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

For just as the Father has life in himself, so also he gave to his Son the possession of life in himself.

And he gave him power to exercise judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

Do not be amazed at this, because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and will come out, those who have done good deeds to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked deeds to the resurrection of condemnation."

8) John 6:37-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,

because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day.

For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day."

9) John 6:51-59

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?"

Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his Blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.

For my Flesh is true food, and my Blood is true drink.

Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood remains in me and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

These things he said while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

10) John 11:17-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.

Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

11) John 11:32-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?"

They said to him, "Sir, come and see."

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."

But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me."

And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth.

So Jesus said to the crowd, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

12) John 12:23-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life will lose it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

13) John 14:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:
"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way."
Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"
Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

14) John 17:24-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
"Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them."

The Rite of Committal (Service of Christian Burial)

Arrival at the cemetery or place of burial

Invitation to Prayer

Short Verse from Scripture, read by the presiding Priest or another reader

Prayer over the Place of Burial by the Priest

Intercessions for the deceased, family, and friends, read by the presiding Priest or another reader

The Lord's Prayer

Concluding Prayer and **Prayer over the People**

Dismissal

* **If the deceased is a veteran**, the Military Honors are celebrated after the Dismissal.

** **Committal of the Body** to the place of burial may occur immediately after the Prayer over the Place of Burial, but in practice usually will be delayed until after the family and friends depart.



**Holy Family Catholic Church
FUNERAL PLANNING SHEET**

Personal Information

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Point of Contact _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Vigil Service

I would like to have a Vigil Service Yes / No

I would prefer a(n): Vigil Service Informal prayer service

Eulogy or Words of Remembrance? Yes / No

from whom _____

relationship _____

I would like to have a “wake” reception at the Vigil Yes / No

Funeral Mass or Funeral Service

I would like A Funeral Mass A Funeral Service outside Mass

(For Catholic Christians, it is customary to celebrate a Funeral Mass if at all possible; non-Catholic Christians and others may also have a Funeral Mass or Funeral Service, if they wish it.)

Liturgy of the Word (Scripture Readings): The options for the Scripture readings are included in this booklet. An adult family member or friend may proclaim the readings, or if you would prefer it, the Lector Ministry at Holy Family will happily serve in this role. A binder will be created with just these readings for this service.

1st Reading (Old Testament): Option # _____ Citation _____

Read by _____

2nd Reading (New Testament): Option # _____ Citation _____

Read by _____

Gospel Reading: Option # _____ Citation _____

(Read by Priest or Deacon)

Intercessions: These are the Prayers of the Faithful that will be read at the Mass or service. They may be read by the presiding Priest or Deacon, or by a family member or friend.

Read by _____

Offertory (Preparation of the Gifts): *If you are celebrating a full Funeral Mass,* gifts of bread and wine are presented to the Priest at the Altar. You may choose 2 - 4 family members or friends to participate in this procession.

Music Selections

(please speak with the Pastor and a member of the Funeral Ministry to plan music selections)

Gathering Song: _____

Responsorial Psalm: _____

Offertory Song: _____

Communion Song: _____

Song of Farewell: _____

Recessional Song: _____

Burial

*(the Funeral Service **MUST BE FOLLOWED** by the Rite of Burial, either directly following, or at a later time.)*

Burial Site: _____

Please circle: Columbarium Burial Plot Other _____

Please circle: Immediately following At a later time (please specify)

Military Honors for a Veteran Yes No

Pallbearers

(two people if there will be a cremation urn, or 6 people if there is a casket)

Christian Symbol

I would like the following Christian symbol (Bible, Cross, Rosary) placed on my casket / urn during the Funeral: _____