



## Planning a Funeral at Holy Rosary

At the time of loss it may be difficult to focus on planning the funeral for your departed loved one. However, the funeral can be a wonderful tribute to him or her, and it can be part of our memories which last forever. The funeral can also offer great comfort and solace to those who mourn. This Guide for Planning a Funeral is intended to assist you in designing the memorial service which will celebrate life, face the reality of death and find comfort in the love and truth of our generous and good God.

### **Scheduling**

You, your family, the funeral home, the cemetery office and Holy Rosary will reach a decision concerning the day and time of the funeral and burial. Scheduling is subject to availability. It is absolutely necessary to make scheduling determinations with the Parish Office.

### **Planning the Funeral Mass**

You will determine with the Parish Office when you and/or your family may meet with the parish ministers to plan the funeral mass. You will be guided through the order of the funeral mass, including the selections for music and the readings. It is greatly encouraged that as many family and close friends as possible participate in the funeral liturgy.

### **Music**

Music is a very important aspect of the funeral. Holy Rosary Church is blessed to have many accomplished and experienced musicians who can assist you in choosing the music. In planning the funeral it is important that appropriate music be selected. It is not normally acceptable to include purely secular musical selections for a funeral at Holy Rosary Church. One should consult with the parish minister before deciding which songs or hymns are to be included. The following hymns are among those frequently sung at funerals:

*Abide With Me*

*Amazing Grace*

*Ave Maria*

*Be Not Afraid*

*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

*How Great Thou Art*

*I Am The Bread Of Life*

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus*

*Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace*

*Now Thank We All Our God*

*On Eagle's Wings*

*Shepherd Me, O God*

*Song of Farewell*

*25rd Psalm*

Other hymns may be chosen in consultation with the parish ministers.

We strongly recommend congregational singing for the funeral Mass or service. Choosing hymns known by a large number of people will enhance the service.

Occasionally, family members or friends will ask or be asked to perform a solo. The solo musical selections must also be of a sacred nature and chosen in consultation with the organist. The appropriate placement of the solo within the Mass or service is an important matter to discuss with the parish ministers. In all cases the soloist must contact the organist to schedule a rehearsal. Only one solo selection is ordinarily allowed in the service. Holy Rosary's organist/pianist is available for all funerals.

### **Reception**

Following the Funeral Service, the Parish Hall may be available for the reception. Please check with the Parish Office for scheduling possibilities. Arrangements for food delivery will be made with the Funeral Reception Coordinator.

The Funeral Reception Committee will set up, serve and clean up for the funeral reception. The parish supplies Coffee, Tea, and Punch. Any food is the responsibility of the Family.

For receptions with under 200 people, the Parish Hall is used. Lanigan Gym will accommodate receptions of 200 to 400 people. Often the Parish Center Dining Room is used for small intimate receptions.

Items provided by Holy Rosary:

- \* Paper plates
- \* Paper coffee cups
- \* Paper napkins
- \* Paper tablecloths
- \* Coffee urns
- \* Punch bowl
- \* Plastic cups
- \* Plastic utensils

Families are responsible for food and any items not listed above. The food must be on serving trays or dishes and ready to put on the table upon arrival. Refrigerator space and/or oven space is very limited.

Families are asked to return any equipment or dishes to the caterer. The Funeral Reception Committee will be happy to have these and personal serving pieces, etc. cleaned and ready for pick up immediately following the reception.

### **Costs**

Honorarium for the Church \$150

Honorarium for Lay Presider for the Vigil 100

Fee for the Vocalist/Cantor 150

Fee for the Organist 150

Honorarium for Lay Presider for the Committal 75

\*Honorariums and fees are included in the fees paid to the Funeral Home or at the discretion of the family..