

Funeral Guidelines for Parishioners

First of all, please know that you and your family and friends are in our prayers as you do the work of preparing for your loved one's funeral. There are so many different details that need our attention after a death in the family. We hope that these guidelines provide a simple and easy way to keep track of the details and expenses related to the funeral.

Planning the Service

Please contact St. Peter's as soon as possible to arrange to meet with a clergy person about the funeral, and to set a date and time. St. Peter's phone number is 858 755 1616.

When you meet with your clergy person you will have a chance to share memories of your loved one, and to talk through possibilities for the service itself. You can choose what style of service to have (Rite I or Rite II), whether to have communion or not, what readings will be read and by whom, who will speak or share memories, and what music to sing or to be played, and whether or not to have a vocalist.

A list of readings and favorite hymns is included in the appendix of these guidelines.

Regarding Remembrances

You may wish to have one or two friends or family members offer remembrances. We recommend that these be written in advance, and that be between 5-10 minutes each in length. As a guide, this would mean 500-1000 words each. Our experience is that unwritten remembrances may go very long, and sometimes, unwittingly, include things we might wish later had not been shared in this context.

Funeral Fees

There are costs associated with funerals. Traditionally, funeral costs are managed in a blended fashion, covering the elements for which there is a fixed cost (indicated with a * and usually covering lay personnel and flowers) and a "donation in thanksgiving" (indicated with a + and covering the clergy time and ministry and facilities).

Checks are made out to St. Peter's Church, and not to individuals. This is for legal reasons. St. Peter's will allocate the funds to individuals as appropriate.

Costs associated with the Memorial Service in the Church

*Organist \$250 (may vary depending on who is available)

*Vocalist \$150 (may vary depending on who is available)

Flowers There is no charge if you wish to use the regular Sunday altar flowers which are always lovely. If you wish other or additional flowers, speak with the Facilities and Operations Administrator.

+Clergy and bulletin: Clergy do not receive a stipend for funerals, but in thanksgiving for their pastoral ministry and in thanksgiving for the life of our beloved departed it is customary to make a donation to the Pastoral Needs Fund of St. Peter's Church.

The Reception

You may choose to have a reception at St. Peter's. If so, there are some additional expenses and donations involved.

+Parish Hall and Kitchen: The Parish Hall and Kitchen are available for your use. A donation is welcome, but not required.

*Sexton \$20/hour regular hours or \$40/hour overtime hours (usually at least one hour for set up and clean up, lock up)

Audio/Visual system use for pictures or a slide show may be discussed with the Facilities & Operations Administrator who helps with your planning.

Cleaning and Contingency Deposit \$120: Please make out a *separate* check in this amount. If all goes well, this will be returned to you the first business day after the funeral.

You may engage a catering company to provide food and personnel to facilitate your reception.

The Memorial Reception Ministry can also help host the reception. The Facilities & Operations Administrator will put you in touch with them as plans are developed.

The Graveside Service

Finally, you may ask one of the St. Peter's clergy to officiate at the graveside service. Typically this also involves a donation to the Pastoral Needs Fund of St. Peter's. This donation can be included in your gift in thanksgiving for memorial service, or may be handled separately. Again, checks may be made out to St. Peter's Church, with Pastoral Needs Fund in the memo.

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Thank you for giving St. Peter's the honor of being present with you and your family in this time of grief, and as you celebrate the life of your loved one. Please do not hesitate to ask questions along the way, or to be in touch afterwards. We are here for you when things quiet down after the service as well.

May your loved one, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Suggested Readings Appendix:

If you do not have a copy of the Bible at home, we can provide you with a copy of these readings at the time of your meeting with the clergy. If the service includes communion, at least one Gospel must be read.

From the Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)

Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)

Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow. The following Psalms are appropriate: 42:1-7, 46, 90:1-12, 121, 130, 139:1-11.

From the New Testament

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (The imperishable body)

2 Corinthians 4:16—5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)

1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)

Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)

Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow. The following Psalms are appropriate: 23, 27, 106:1-5, 116.

The Gospel

John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)

John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)

John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)

John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)

John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)

Suggested Music Appendix:

(Hymn suggestions: *A Liturgical Index to the Hymnal 1982*, Marion J. Hatchett)

Entrance Hymn:

680 O God, our help in ages past
429 I'll praise my Maker while I've breath
526 Let saints on earth in concert sing
687, 688 A mighty fortress is our God
388 O worship the King, all glorious above!

Sequence:

668 I to the hills will lift mine eyes
671 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
194 Jesus lives! Thy terrors now
635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee
191 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise
188 Love's redeeming work is done

Offertory:

690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
455 O love of God, how strong and true
379 God is Love, let heaven adore him

Communion:

664 My Shepherd will supply my need
335 I am the bread of life
645 The King of love my shepherd is
526 Let saints on earth in concert sing

Closing Hymn:

623 O what their joy and their glory must be
620 Jerusalem, my happy home
625 Ye holy angels bright
618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones
624 Jerusalem the golden
541 Come, labor on
482 Lord of all hopefulness

Additional Hymn Suggestions (from *Renew! Songbook*)

9 As the deer pants for the water
112 On Eagle's Wings
250 How great thou art