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Funeral Arrangements at Holy Name Catholic Church

Normally, funeral arrangements at Holy Name are handled by the deacon. Please read this guidance to assist in making the plans for the funeral arrangements of your loved one.

Vigil Rosary Service

Many Catholic families include in the funeral arrangements for their loved one a vigil rosary service held at the funeral home the day or evening prior to the funeral; it is often led by a deacon although a family member or friend may lead the recitation of the rosary. This service is a good opportunity for family members and friends to provide special music, poems, readings, and memories. Please discuss this service with the deacon. The Archdiocese of Denver guidelines state that a rosary usually is not recited immediately prior to a funeral Mass. If the size of the funeral home is not large enough to accommodate the vigil service, we will discuss the possibility of holding it at the church.

Funeral Liturgy

There are several types of funeral services held in the Church:

- A Funeral Mass with the body or cremated remains present. (The Church prefers the body be present)
- A Memorial Mass with no body or cremains present.
- A Funeral Service Outside of Mass (either with or without Communion) with the body or cremains present or not present, as the situation warrants, usually conducted by the deacon.

The arrangements for a funeral are often impacted by the availability of the cemetery, especially if burial is at Fort Logan National Cemetery, and the availability of a priest to celebrate the Mass. We prefer that burials at Mount Olivet or other cemeteries located a far distance from the Church take place after any reception held at the Church Hall. The deacon usually conducts the Committal Service at the cemetery. If the body will be cremated after the funeral, the Committal may occur at a later date. The Church guidelines state that cremains should be buried, not scattered, retained at home, or divided among family members in memorial containers. The dignity of the person is paramount.

Eulogies are a meaningful tradition that provides an opportunity to share memories and express the sentiments of the family as they mourn their loss. Because of the deeply personal and emotional nature of eulogies, we strongly recommend that they be offered at the vigil rosary service, where there will be more time and a better environment for that kind of sharing. If this is not possible, the next logical moment would be the reception after the funeral liturgy.

If none of these is truly possible, then exceptionally, a three to five-minute eulogy may be given five minutes before the beginning the funeral Mass by one person. If this is the case, please keep in mind that the person delivering the eulogy should have it written out; it should provide dignified and appropriate information about the deceased. Remember, it will be delivered in a sacred environment, consequently please do not include off-color or insensitive stories and inappropriate language. Mentioning something about the person's faith-life is most appropriate.

Receptions: The St. Agnes Center may be available for a two-hour reception. If you desire a reception, the reception coordinator will be advised and will contact the family. The "Marthas" group helps with preparing and serving at the receptions.

- ***If the deceased was a parishioner, the dependent child of the parishioner, or a former parishioner who moved away due to health or other reasons,*** there will be no charge for the use of the Church or the St. Agnes Center. However, a donation is requested for the "Marthas" to help pay for the food of future receptions. Family

members may be asked to help with cleaning up in some cases. Make checks payable to Holy Name Church and include "Marthas" in the note line.

The reception may include salads, sandwich trays, and desserts; however, depending on the time of day, cookies, pastries, and other desserts may be more appropriate. Discuss arrangements with the coordinator.

- ***If the deceased was not a parishioner***, there is a charge of \$ for the use of the Center which includes coffee service and lemonade. Special catering arrangements must be made; discuss this with the coordinator. Families will be responsible for the clean-up.

Scripture Readings for a Funeral

The family may select an Old Testament reading, the Responsorial Psalm, and a New Testament reading; during the Easter season a second New Testament reading replaces the Old Testament reading. The priest or deacon usually will select the Gospel reading although you may recommend one. A book with the various common readings is available for review. See the list of some of the possible readings below. We use the New American Bible version for the Scripture readings (see www.USCCB.org).

Music for Funerals at Holy Name Church

All music for a funeral Mass must conform to a liturgical celebration. No secular music may be played during the Mass (e.g. love songs or movie music). No recordings or CDs may be used during the Mass. Common hymns used at funerals are listed below. Before making any decisions about music, please discuss it with the deacon or the music director.

Usually, the Holy Name organist and cantor are employed to provide music since they know the Order of the Mass. However, a family member or friend who is a musician or vocalist and fully understands the Mass may be used. Music is generally provided from the choir loft, except for the Psalm.

Fees: Fees sometimes are handled by the funeral home and at other times by the family. Fees should be paid prior to the funeral service and checks made payable to the individual. The community rate is currently \$125 each. Please compensate the organist appropriately if any rehearsal is needed for special songs.

While not required, whenever possible a stipend is usually given to the priest and the deacon. A donation to the Church in memory of the deceased is often given. Non-parishioners will be requested to make a donation to the church for its use (as well as the clergy involved).

Recommended Hymns

Entrance Hymn:

All You Who Seek a Comfort Sure
Alleluia Sing to Jesus
Holy, Holy, Holy!
I Sing the Might Power of God
O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
I Sing the Might Power of God
O Sacred Head Surrounded

Lift High the Cross

Offertory Hymn:

Amazing Grace
Be Thou My Vision
For the Beauty of the Earth
Praise My Soul, King of Heaven
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Beautiful Savior
In Paradisum

My Song is Love Unknown
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Communion Hymn:

Ave Maria
Be Still, My Soul
Draw Nigh & Take
Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All
Lead Kindly Light
O Sacrament Most Holy
Panis Angelicus
Soul of My Savior

Closing Hymn:

Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
The Strife is O'er
O Sanctissima
Regina Caeli
Sounds of Joy have Put to Flight
At the Lamb's High Feast we Sing
O God Beyond All Praising
Immaculate Mary

Some Frequently Used Scripture Readings

Old Testament

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11
Job 19:1, 23-27
Wisdom 3:1-9
Wisdom 3: 4, 7-15
Isaiah 25: 6a, 7-9
Lamentations 3:17-26
Daniel 12: 1-3
II Maccabees 12:43-46
Isaiah 43: 1-4

One of the lines in the verse is listed below; please read the entire selection.

For everything there is a season, a time for every matter...
I know that My Redeemer lives.
The souls of the just are in the hand of God.
A blameless life is a ripe old age.
The Lord God will destroy death forever.
It is good to wait in silence for the Lord God to save.
Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth, many awake.
It is good and holy to think of the dead rising again.
I have called you by name: you are mine.

Responsorial Psalm:

23: 1-3,4,5,6
27: 1, 4, 7-8, 9, 13-14
103:8, 10, 13-18
122:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
The Lord is my light and my salvation.
The Lord is Kind and Merciful.
I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to the Lord's house.

New Testament Readings

Acts 10:34-36, 42-43
Romans 5:5-11
Romans 6: 3-4, 8-9
Romans 8:14-23
Romans 8:31-35, 37-39
Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12
1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 12-13
1 Corinthians 15:51-57
II Corinthians 4:14-5:1
II Corinthians 5:1, 6-10
Philippians 3:20-21
I Thessalonians 4:13-18
II Timothy 2:8-13
II Timothy 4:6-8
II Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
1 John 3:1-2
I John 3:14-16
Revelation 14:13

God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive and dead.
Having been justified by His blood, we will be saved...
Let us walk in newness of life.
We groan while we wait for the redemption of our bodies.
Who can ever come between us and the love of Christ?
Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.
If I have not love, I have nothing.
Death is swallowed up in victory.
What is seen is transitory; what is unseen is eternal.
We have an everlasting home in heaven.
Jesus will transfigure these wretched bodies to be like his.
We shall stay with the lord forever.
If we have died with Him, we shall live with Him.
I have fought the good fight, I have kept the faith.
All that remains now is the crown of righteousness.
We shall see God as He really is.
We have passed from death to life.
Happy are those who die in the Lord.

Revelation 20: 11-21:1
Revelation 21:1-5, 6-7

The dead have been judged according to their works.
There will be no more death.

Gospel Readings:

Matthew 5:1-12a
Matthew 11:25-30
Matthew 13:24-43
Matthew 25:1-13
Matthew 25:31-46
Luke 12:35-40
Luke 17: 11-19
Luke 22: 33, 39-43
Luke 23:44-46, 50,52-53
Luke 24: 13-16, 28-35
John 5: 24-29
John 6: 37-40
John 6: 51-58
John 11:21-27
John 11:32-45
John 12:23-26
John 14: 1-6
John 17: 24-26

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.
Come to me all who labor and are weary and I will give you rest.
Let them grow together until the harvest.
Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.
Be prepared.
He threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him.
Today you will be with me in paradise.
Father, I put my life in your hands
Was it not necessary that Christ should suffer so to enter glory?
Whoever hears my word and believes passes from death to life.
All who believe in the Son will have eternal life; I will raise him...
All who eat this bread will live forever & I will raise them up...
I am the resurrection and the life.
Lazarus, come out
If a grain of wheat falls on the ground & dies....
There are many rooms in my Father's house.
Father, I want those you gave me to be with me where I am.