

# *The RITES of CHRISTIAN BURIAL*

For \_\_\_\_\_

*The funeral Liturgy celebrates the passage of a believer through death to life. While we honor the one who has died, it is also a time to reaffirm our faith in Christ Jesus who died and rose for our salvation. With this twofold purpose in mind, we would like to offer you the opportunity to plan for the services. **Please fill out as much of the form as you are able and give it to Fr. Dave by \_\_\_\_\_.***

## **THE OPENING RITES**

*The Liturgy begins with the commemoration of Baptism. The casket is brought to the church or chapel and sprinkled with baptismal water. The Pall (a large white cloth) is placed over the casket as a reminder of the christening gown worn at Baptism. It symbolizes the baptismal dignity and the promise of eternal life given at Baptism. Since it is the family who usually clothed the one Baptized, it is also very appropriate for the immediate family to place the Pall on the casket. This is usually done by 4-6 people.*

The Pall will be placed on the casket by: \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **THE LITURGY of the WORD**

*There are usually three readings from the Scriptures that comprise the Liturgy of the Word: an Old Testament, a New Testament and a Gospel Reading. Please choose from the readings included with this planning sheet. (You may also leave the choice up to the presider. If you prefer the presider choose the readings, leave the space blank.) The psalm response to the first reading and the Alleluia before the Gospel is always sung.*

*The Old & New Testament readings and the Prayer of the Faithful are usually read by family members or friends. Again, if you prefer a member of the parish can serve you as reader. If this is your preference, simply write "parish" in the appropriate space.*

FIRST READING: (from section A of the readings)

Number: A\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING: (from section B of the readings)

Number: B\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

GOSPEL READING: (from section C of the readings)

Number: C\_\_\_\_ (*The deacon or priest is the reader.*)

## **THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

*This prayer concludes the Liturgy of the Word and comes after the homily. The name of the deceased mentioned where there is a blank. A copy of the Prayer, with the name filled in will be placed on the Ambo for the reader.*

Number: D\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE LITURGY of the EUCHARIST

*The gifts of bread, water and wine are brought to the altar; these will be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit during the Eucharistic Prayer to become the Body & Blood of Christ. It is appropriate for family or friends to bring the gifts from the back of the church or chapel to the altar during the Preparation Hymn. (Usually there are two or three family members or friends who bring the gifts from the table in back to the priest.)*

Bringing the gifts to the altar are: \_\_\_\_\_

---

## EULOGY or SHARING OF MEMORIES

*While the homily does speak about the life and goodness of the deceased, it is primarily based on the Scriptures. Its purpose is strengthen our faith and to offer consolation to those who mourn. Sometimes a family member or close friend may also be asked by the family to offer a short eulogy during either the Vigil Service (the evening before) or at the funeral. Another option allows for several people to share their fondest memories during the Vigil Service. (This sharing of memories is done only during the Vigil Service.)*

Will there be a eulogy? yes \_\_\_ or no \_\_\_

If yes, at the Vigil Service \_\_\_\_\_ OR

at the beginning of the Mass of Resurrection \_\_\_\_\_

The Eulogist will be: \_\_\_\_\_

Will there be a "Sharing of Memories" which occurs only at the Vigil Service? yes \_\_\_ or no \_\_\_\_\_

## MUSIC

*The hymns we sing during the Liturgy are an important part of the funeral rite. They express our faith and offer us consolation. Most of all, they are prayer set to music which lift our minds and hearts to God. If there are particular hymns which you would like, please list them below. If you have no particular requests, appropriate hymns will be chosen by the music ministers.*

---

---

---

---

*(Please note: We will try to honor your requests, but some of your requests may not be known or available to the music ministers.)*

*If you have any questions regarding the Funeral Liturgy, please contact Fr. Dave or any member of the pastoral staff at 229-8624.*