

Funeral planning checklist

General arrangements

- Person's preferred name (ie, 'Jim' vs. 'James') _____
Please include first & last name
- Preferred funeral date(s) (Thurs/Fri only) _____
- Vigil service (night before) **yes/no** (circle one)
- Rosary (30 minutes before Mass) **yes/no** (circle one)
- Reception desired (assuming availability) **yes/no** (circle one)
- o Estimated number of reception attendees: _____

Funeral Mass choices

Readings for the Mass (chosen from book 'Through Death to Life' booklet)

- First reading (Old Testament only) _____
- Responsorial psalm _____
- Second reading (New Testament only) _____
- Gospel (selected by priest)

Music for the Mass (chosen from Saint Michael Hymnal)

- Offertory hymn _____
- Communion hymn _____
- Recessional hymn _____

Special roles for the Mass

- Gift-bearers from among family/friends **yes/no** (circle one)
- Pall-bearers from among family/friends **yes/no** (circle one)

Graveside service choices

- Eulogy by a family member or friend **yes/no** (circle one)
- Other (please specify) _____

To reach Father with any questions, please use the emergency voicemail:

(206) 364-7900 extension 9

(See reverse side for frequently asked questions) →→→

Frequently asked questions about funerals

How much do funerals cost?

One of the corporal works of mercy is burial of the dead – as such, we take seriously the responsibility and privilege of celebrating funeral rites for those who need them. At our parish there are only **a few required fees**, along with several typical stipends. These allow our volunteers, ministers and the parish to continue in their work, alleviate costs and express support for the effort offered:

Required costs (checks should be made out to the individuals)

- **Organist fee**, \$175
- **Cantor fee**, \$175
- **Visiting clergy stipend**, \$200 (*only if inviting guest clergy*)

Suggested donations (*customary*)

- **Parish stipend***, \$200-\$500 (*customary*)
 - o We wish to emphasize the *voluntary nature* of giving a stipend to the parish. Give as you are able and called, confident of our gratitude!
- **Priest stipend***, \$_____ (*customary*)

***Please note: donations are made out to Saint Mark parish, not the priest**

- **Altar server stipend**, \$5-10 (*customary*)

Can a family member or friend read or sing at Mass?

We have trained lectors and cantors for all of our liturgies. This assures that the liturgy & prayer is properly provided for and that the family & friends may focus on being ministered to rather than themselves ministering to others. Exceptions are rare and must be individually approved by the pastor in advance.

Can a eulogy be offered at the funeral?

Though the Church allows for a member or friend of the family to speak in remembrance before the final commendation, **we instead invite friends & family to speak at the reception or graveside, if desired.** (Fr. Ross may allowed a single person to give a short, prepared, rehearsed eulogy (under 5 minutes) from the ambo prior to the start of Mass – but this should be discussed/arranged with him in advance).