

PREPARATION FOR FUNERAL LITURGY

Saint Francis by the Sea Catholic Church

45 Beach City Road
Hilton Head, SC 29926

(843) 681-6350



*I go to prepare a place for you,
and I will come again to take you to myself.*

John 14:2-3

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND FUNERAL PLANNING

The Catholic Church has, for centuries, offered comfort and solace to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Through its timeless and familiar rites, rituals, music, sacred readings, and the celebration of the Eucharist, it focuses those of us left behind on the promise of eternal salvation through the sacrifice of Christ Jesus; and also on our continued relationship with our loved ones through the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

As you plan this day, a day of both sorrow and gladness, know that the Church stands with you as you present your loved one for their final blessings and rites. Their earthly journey in Christ which began with their baptism now comes full circle in the sprinkling of their remains with Holy Water, and their heavenly journey into the fullness of God's presence continues.

FUNERAL MASS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the process for scheduling a funeral Mass at St. Francis by the Sea?

- Please contact the Parish Office (843-681-6350) for all inquiries. Occasionally the funeral home will contact the Parish Office for the family.
- Funeral Masses are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:00am.

How do I share my hymn and reading selections with the Parish Office?

- Once you have made your selections, you may visit our website, or scan the QR code and submit your selections, along with the names of those family members/friends that may want to participate in the Mass.



Are there any fees for the funeral Mass?

- There is a \$200 fee for the cantor (*payable to the cantor*) and a \$300 fee for the organist (*payable to the organist*). Payments are due by the date of the funeral Mass.

Is the Family Center available for a reception?

- Depending on availability, the Family Center is offered for receptions.
- Our team will arrange the tables and provide tablecloths, but the caterer will need to provide plates, flatware, napkins, drinkware, etc.
- Doors must be locked at all times, due to Safe Environment Policies. Doors may not be propped open.
- Alcohol is NOT permitted to be served in the Family Center or anywhere on the campus.

My relative was in the Knights of Columbus/Women of St. Francis, do I need to notify the organization?

- The Knights of Columbus/Women of St. Francis, will pray the Rosary for your loved one at 9:30am prior to the funeral Mass. Please let the Parish Office know you would like the Rosary prayed and the office will coordinate with the Knights/WOSF representatives.

My relative was in the Armed Forces, is there anything special that can be done?

- Military Honor Guards and bagpipers can be coordinated with the funeral home.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES

These are the readings from which to choose: Select one reading from the **Old Testament** and one from the **New Testament**. Once your readings are selected, please enter the Numbers of the readings in the appropriate places on the planning sheet.

OLD TESTAMENT

Job 19:1, 23-27

Job answered and said: Oh, would that my words were written down! Would that they were inscribed in a record: That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever! But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust; Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him, and from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

Wisdom 3:1-9 or 3:1-6,9

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

Wisdom 4:7-14

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age. He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported—snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; for the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind. Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

Isaiah 25:6, 7-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the Lord for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us."

Lamentations 3:17-26

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the Lord. The thought of my homeless poverty is worm-wood and gall; remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope: the favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; they are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness. My portion is the Lord, says my soul; therefore, will I hope in him. Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him, it is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

Daniel 12:1-3

[I, Daniel, mourned and I heard this word of the Lord:] “At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; *It* shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake. Some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament. *And* those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.”

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

Judas [the ruler of Israel] then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that waits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 10:34-43 or 10:34-36,42-43

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised up on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

Romans 5:5-11

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:17-21

If, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person, Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:3-9 or 6:3-4,8-9

Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

Romans 8:14-23

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, *Abba*, “Father!” The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 14:7-9, 10-12

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then each of us shall give an account of himself before God.

I Corinthians 15:20-23, 24b-28 or 15:20-23

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for “he subjected everything under his feet.” But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the One who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the One who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when that which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and that which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: “Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 4:14 – 5:1

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

II Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made by hands, eternal in heaven. So we are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

Philippians 3:20-21

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers [and sisters], about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so to will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

2 Timothy 4: 6-8

For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

I John 3:1-2

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God! Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

I John 3:14-16

We know that we have passed from death to life. We know because we love our brothers [and sisters]. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers [and sisters].

Revelation 14:13

I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” said the Spirit, “let them find rest from their labors, for their good works accompany them.”

Revelation 20:11 – 21:1

I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

Revelation 21:1-5, 6-7

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.”

SELECTING MUSIC FOR THE FUNERAL

The Church's guidance is that when selecting music for funerals, rather than choose songs from public use; or 'favorite' songs of our deceased loved one; or even our own favorite songs; it is more in keeping with the Theology of the Funeral to focus our choices within the following areas.

Opening Hymn: The Church recommends a *Hymn of Praise*

'We praise God for the gift of His Son, and through the Son, for the gift of eternal life.'

Hymn during the Presentation of Gifts (Offertory):

Here we select music which speaks to the great Pascal Mystery we are about to celebrate.

Hymn during Communion:

Here we select from hymns which either speak directly of Christ's Death and Resurrection in the Eucharist or hymns which, taken from scripture, bring us comfort. We trust and find comfort in the knowledge that 'the souls of the just are in the hands of God.'

Closing Hymn:

For this, we return again to Hymns of Praise.

HYMNS FOR A CATHOLIC FUNERAL MASS

	Entrance and Recessional Hymns (Hymns of Praise)
526	Sing With All The Saints In Glory
578	How Great Thou Art
599	God We Praise You
602	Christ Is The World's Light
604	Praise the Lord You Heavens Adore Him
607	All Creatures of Our God and King
611	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Him
614	Holy God, We Praise Your Name
650	Amazing Grace!
688	A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
689	O God Our Help In Ages Past
953	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
993	O Lord, You Died That All Might Live
	Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
	Offertory Hymns and Communion Hymns (Hymns of Comfort – Trust – Eucharist)
578	How Great Thou Art
642	What Wondrous Love Is This
650	Amazing Grace!
662	Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
680	Be Not Afraid
686	Lord of All Hopefulness
690	On Eagles Wings
705	O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts
707	I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
708	My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
711	O God, You Are My
712	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
713	Eye Has Not Seen
932	As The Bread of Life
938	We Remember
939	Gift of Finest Wheat
941	Shepherd of Souls
945	Taste and See
947	Draw Near and Take
950	I Am The Bread of Life
953	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
	Make Me a Channel of Your Peace