



Planning A Funeral

**Guide for Families
Church of St. Genevieve
7087 Goiffon Rd
Centerville, MN 55038**

**Parish Office: 651.429.7937
651-653.0071 (fax)
info@stgens.org
www.stgens.org**

**Parish Staff: Fr. Greg Esty, Pastor
Susie Irlbeck, Parish Business Administrator
Kathy Rodel-Mezzenga, Administrative Assistant
Betsy Sandstrom, Funeral Music Planner**

June 21, 2023

Planning a Funeral Table of Contents

Preface by Fr. Greg Esty, Pastor

- I. Options for Celebration of Order of Christian Funeral**
- II. Funeral Costs**
- III. What the Church Provides**
- IV. What the Church Can Provide**
- V. Options for Funeral Luncheon & Cost**
- VI. Family Involvement in Planning Process**
- VII. Burial**
- VIII. Cemetery Costs**
- IX. Appendix**
 - A. Funeral Liturgy Planning Sheet**
 - B. Options for Funeral Readings and Intercessions**
 - C. Options for Funeral Music**
 - D. Funeral Luncheon Menu Information from Council of Catholic Women (CCW)**

Dear Parishioners of St. Genevieve,

We are making this booklet available to families as a guide to assist you in planning a funeral of a loved one, or as you prepare and plan for your own death. We hope this booklet will be informational to you regarding the various options that are available for a funeral. Perhaps it will also give you ideas that you had not thought of before.

The planning of a funeral liturgy can also be done ahead of time and many people have chosen their readings and songs and reviewed them from time to time. At the time of death, a person who has written down ideas for their funeral gives their family a great gift. The funeral Mass becomes a true celebration of the life and faith of their loved ones.

If we can help you or a family member in any way to prepare for a funeral, please feel free to call the Parish Office, 651-429-7937 and we will be happy to assist you in this part of your journey Home.

Sincerely,



Father Gregory Esty

I. Options for the Celebration of the Order of Christian Funeral

A. Locations Depending upon Availability

1. St. Genevieve Church (StG) at 1683 Sorel St in Centerville
2. St. Genevieve Parish-St. John Site (StJ) at 14383 Forest Blvd N in Hugo
3. Parish Community Center (PCC) at 6995 Centerville Rd in Centerville

B. Type of Funeral

1. Mass with body present
2. Mass with cremated remains present
3. Mass with body present and cremation later
4. Memorial Service without Mass at the Funeral Home
5. Memorial Service without Mass at the church
6. Memorial Service at graveside.

C. Funeral Date and Time

1. Date of Funerals:
This is dependent on the schedule of the family, funeral homes, priest and building availability.
2. Usual Times for Funerals:
 - a. 10:00 am
 - b. 11:00 am
3. Visitation Time:
There may be a visitation at the site of the funeral one hour before the funeral.
4. Access to the building will be available two hours before the funeral.

II. Funeral Costs

The church asks for a donation of \$400 to help cover costs of a Mass or Memorial Service with music and a donation of \$200 to help cover costs of a Memorial Service without music. This amount is often collected by the Funeral Home. If a family finds this amount burdensome, we ask the family to make a contribution for whatever they can afford. There is no requested donation for a graveside service.

III. What the Church Does Provide

- Cantor and accompanist – please note staff accompanist and cantor are required.
- Funeral Sacristan, Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers
- One hour visitation immediately before the Funeral
- Doors open 45 minutes before visitation or funeral (if no visitation)

IV. What the Church Can Provide If Requested

Upon request (call the Parish Office at 651-429-7937 at least one business day before the funeral), the Church can provide

- live streaming of the service (PCC only)
- small table or stand for guest book
- easels (up to 3 @ PCC; 2 @ StG/StJ) for picture boards
- tables (up to 3 @ PCC; 1 @ StG/StJ) for flowers & memorabilia
- stands (up to 2) for flower arrangements
- early access to building

V. Considerations if You Do Not Employ a Funeral Home

Funeral Homes take care of a lot of details surrounding a funeral. If you do not employ a Funeral Home, please arrange for:

- A basket or box for cards
- Determine who will carry the urn
- Determine who will arrange any flowers / memorabilia

You may also want to consider and arrange for these items:

- a written and published obituary
- Mass programs
- Memorial cards and envelopes
- a guest book
- pens
- volunteer to run slideshow / arrange memorabilia
- extra easels or plant stands
- facial tissues for pews / chairs
- copies of readings or prayers at the funeral site
- escort to the burial site

VI. Options for Funeral Luncheon & Cost

- A. It is a ministry of St. Genevieve's Council of Catholic Women to coordinate a funeral luncheon after consulting with the family. CCW members purchase food, prepare and serve the meal with remaining food sent home with the family. The CCW requests payment for the food purchased following the luncheon.
(See Appendix D for Funeral Luncheon Menu Information)

- B. Catered Funeral Luncheon:
Sometimes a family chooses to have the meal catered and served by the funeral luncheon committee. The family is then responsible for ordering the meal and having it delivered to the dining room. The funeral luncheon committee would then serve the meal.

- C. Combination of Catered Main Entrée & Provided Salads and Desserts:
Some families chose to have the meat catered and the other items provided by the funeral luncheon committee

- D. Funeral Luncheon Locations and Contacts
 - 1. Parish Community Center – 6995 Centerville Rd in Centerville
Handicapped Accessible
contact: Mary Lou Wilharber 651.429.2140
mlouwilharb@gmail.com
 - 2. Fortin Hall – 14363 Forest Blvd N in Hugo
Not Handicapped Accessible
contact: Jean Peters 651.430.2218

VII. Family Involvement in Planning Process

Families are invited to be involved with choosing the music and readings for the funeral. They will meet with the Pastor prior to the funeral; he will assist the family in selecting the readings. Families, relatives and friends are often involved as lectors, gift bearers, pall bearers, giving a short reflection, and assisting with the placement of the pall. We work with the family in making the funeral a celebration of the person's life in light of our faith and belief in the resurrection.

VIII. Burial

- A. Burial at St. Genevieve or St. John the Baptist cemetery usually occurs immediately after the funeral. If the option of a funeral with the body present and cremation later was chosen, then the burial of the cremains is done at a later date.
- B. Burial at another cemetery is scheduled by the Funeral Home and that cemetery. If a burial is to take place at another cemetery, the luncheon usually occurs immediately after the Funeral.
- C. Burial of cremated remains is recommended by the Catholic Church in a cemetery or placed in a columbarium or mausoleum.

IX. Cemetery Costs

- A. Grave Sales: (includes \$200 perpetual care fee)
 - Adult (Parishioner) \$1000
 - Adult (Non-Parishioner) \$1300
 - Infant \$125
 - Cremation (Parishioner) \$500
 - Cremation (Non-Parishioner) \$700

- B. Interment Fees:
 - Casket Interment \$1000
 - winter surcharge (Nov 15 - Apr 15) +\$240
 - Saturday surcharge +\$450

 - Cremation Interment \$350
 - winter surcharge (Nov 15 – Apr 15) +\$150
 - Saturday surcharge +\$100
 - Vault (not required) +\$100
 - larger urn (greater than 12” cube) +\$100

Checks are made payable to St. Genevieve Church when making payment for grave site or interment at either St. Genevieve Cemetery or St. John the Baptist Cemetery. Payment is due upon purchase and/or burial.

Internments are done Monday – Saturday 9am-2pm.

Appendix A: FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNING SHEET

Site of Funeral: _____

Cantor: (from the church choir): _____

Who will arrange flowers/memorabilia: _____

Opening Hymn: # _____

First Reading: _____

Read by: _____ Relationship: _____

Psalm (to be sung): # _____

Second Reading: _____

Read by: _____ Relationship: _____

Gospel Reading: _____

Intercessions read by: _____ Relationship: _____

Presentation of the Gifts by: _____

Offertory Hymn: # _____

Communion Hymn: # _____

Brief Reflection/Remembrance read by: _____

Recessional Hymn: # _____

For Cremations: Carrier of the Urn: _____ Relationship: _____

For Casket: Pall Bearers (optional) (name/relationship):

_____/_____ / _____/_____

_____/_____ / _____/_____

_____/_____ / _____/_____

FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNING SHEET CONTINUED

Please call Kathy or Susie at the Parish Office (651.429.7937) if

- you wish the service to be live streamed (Parish Comm Center only).
- you would like a lectern stand or a small table for a guest book.
- you would like easels for picture boards? (up to 3 at PCC; 2 at StG/StJ).
- you would like tables for flowers & memorabilia? (up to 3 at PCC; 1 at StG/StJ).
- you would like stands for flower arrangements (up to 2).
- you would like to get access to the building more than 45 minutes before the visitation/funeral.

For Music at the service-contact Betsy Sandstrom at 651.433.3955

For a funeral luncheon at

Parish Community Center-contact Mary Lou Wilharber at 651.429.2140

St. John's Site -contact Jean Peters at 651.430.2218

For a burial at St. Genevieve's or St. John's Cemetery-contact Susie Irlbeck at
651.429.7937

Appendix B: SUGGESTIONS FOR FUNERAL READINGS

1. Suggested First Readings

a. A reading from the **Prophet Micah** (Mi.6: 6, 8)

With what gift shall I come into the Lord's presence and bow down before God on high? Shall I come with holocausts and sacrifices?

What is good has been explained to you, this is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act with justice, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with God.

The Word of the Lord.

b. A reading from the **Prophet Isaiah** (Isaiah 43: 1-5)

But now, says the Lord, who created you, who formed you. Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name, you are mine. Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you; or through rivers, they will not swallow you up.

Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched and the flames will not burn you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

You are precious in my eyes, you are honored and I love you. Do not be afraid, for I am with you.

The Word of the Lord.

c. A reading from the **Book of Wisdom** (Wisdom 4: 7-15)

The virtuous person, though they die early, shall be at rest. Length of days is not what makes age honorable, nor number of years the true measure of life; rather understanding is the crown of humanity, and a virtuous life, this is ripe old age.

The person who sought to please God, God loved. Coming to perfection in a short while, they achieved long life,

for their souls were pleasing to the Lord.

The people saw but found this all hard to understand, for they did not take into account, that grace and mercy await the chosen of the Lord, and protection, God's holy ones.

The Word of the Lord.

d. A reading from the **Prophet Isaiah** (Isaiah 43: 1B-3)

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by your name, you are mine.
Should you pass through the sea,
I will be with you; or through rivers, they will not swallow you up.
Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched and the
flames will not burn you.
For I am Yahweh, your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.*

The Word of the Lord.

2. Suggested Second Readings

a. A reading from **Paul's Letter to the Romans** (Rm. 8:31, 38-39)

*With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not
spare his own Son, but gave Him up to benefit us all, we may be
certain, after such a gift, that God will not refuse
anything He can give.*

*I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels or demons,
neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor
depth, no anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

The Word of the Lord.

b. A reading from **Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians**
(1 Cor. 13: 4-13)

*Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous;
Love is never boastful or conceited;
it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offense,
and it is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other
people's sins but delights in the truth;
it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to
endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end.
We are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror
but when the perfect comes we shall be seeing face to face.
The knowledge that I have now is imperfect;
but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there
are three things that last;
Faith, Hope and Love, and the greatest of these is Love.*

The Word of the Lord.

c. A reading from **Paul's First Letter to the Ephesians**
(Eph. 2: 4-10)

*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us,
even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with
Christ (by grace you have been saved),
raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in
Christ Jesus,
that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of
his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from
you; it is the gift of God;
it is not from works, so no one may boast.
For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works
that God has prepared in advance,
that we should live in them.*

The Word of the Lord.

3. Suggested Gospel Readings

a. A reading from the **Gospel of Matthew** (Matt. 5: 1-12a)

*When Jesus saw the crowds he went up on the Mountainside.
After He had sat down His disciples gathered around Him,
and He began to teach them.*

*"How blest are the poor in spirit:
the reign of God is theirs.*

*Blest too are the sorrowing:
they shall be consoled.*

*Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness;
they shall have their fill.*

*Blest are they who show mercy;
mercy shall be theirs.*

Blest are the single-hearted for they shall see God.

*Blest too are the peacemakers;
they shall be called children of God*

Blest are those persecuted for holiness' sake; the reign of God is theirs.

*Blest are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander
against you*

because of me; Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is great in heaven

The Gospel of the Lord.

b. A reading from the **Gospel of John** (John 14: 1-6)

Jesus said to His disciples:

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in Me.
In My Father's house there are many dwelling places; otherwise,
how could I have told you that
I was going to prepare a place for you?
I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I shall
come back to take you with Me that where I am you also may be.
You know the way that leads where I go."*

*"Lord," said Thomas, "we do not know where You are going.
How can we know the way?"*

*Jesus told him: "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life;
no one comes to the Father but through Me."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

c. A reading from the **Gospel of John** (John 16: 20-22, 28)

*"Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn,
while the world rejoices; you will grieve,
but your grief will become joy.
When a woman is in labor, she is in anguish
because her hour has arrived;
but when she has given birth to a child,
she no longer remembers the pain because of her joy
that a child has been born into the world.*

So you also are now in anguish.

*But I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice,
and no one will take your joy away from you.*

I came from the Father and have come into the world.

Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father".

The Gospel of the Lord

4. Suggested Intercessions

Please respond to the prayers with: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

1. _____ lived a full life; may s/he obtain rest from his/her labors, and the reward of all his/her goodness. We pray....

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

2. The light of Christ guided _____ through this life; may this light now shine gently on those who mourn his/her death. We pray....

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

3. _____ devoted him/herself to making a home for those s/he loved. Grant him/her now a place of honor in your heavenly dwelling. We pray...

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

4. In thanksgiving for the services of doctors, nurses, family and friends who assisted _____ in his/her illness. We pray...

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

5. _____ has completed his/her travels and come to the end of his/her earthly pilgrimage. Greet him/her with your joyful love and welcome him/her to the land of light and peace. We pray...

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

6. Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of _____, let our faith by our consolation and eternal life our hope. We. pray....

R. LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

APPENDIX C: FUNERAL MUSIC SELECTIONS

Amazing Grace	May the Angels Lead You into Paradise
Be Not Afraid	On Eagles Wings
Blest Are They	Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Come to Me	Shelter Me, O God
Eye Has Not Seen	The Lord is Near
How Great Thou Art	The Servant Song
I Have Loved You	You Are All We Have
I Know That My Redeemer Lives	You Are Near
Jesus, Remember Me	
Let There Be Peace on Earth	

Psalm Responses:

Psalm 23 – Shepherd Me O God
Psalm 23 – The Lord is My Shepherd
Psalm 25 – To You, O Lord
Psalm 27 – The Lord is My Light
Psalm 63 – My Soul is Thirsting
Psalm 89 – Forever I Will Sing
Psalm 91 – Be With Me

FUNERAL LITURGY MUSIC CONTACT:

Betsy Sandstrom phone: 651.433.3955
 email: csandstrom@frontiernet.net

A Staff Accompanist will play the piano at the funeral. A member of the choir will cantor.

Appendix D: FUNERAL LUNCHEON MENU INFORMATION

The Council of Catholic Women will offer a Funeral Luncheon for family and friends with the following guidelines.

- The family is required to reimburse the Council of Catholic Women for groceries purchased for the luncheon menu.
- Donations from the family to the Council of Catholic Women are appreciated for the continued mission work of the Council of Catholic Women.
- payment is by cash or check payable to CCW
- a TV and DVD player is available for use in Fortin Hall during a funeral luncheon. Any TV and DVD request must be made prior to the day of the funeral.

Luncheon Menu

Ham or Turkey (both if requested)

Hawaiian Buns

Cheese: Choice of Two– Colby, Monterey Jack or Mild Cheddar

Condiments: Mayonnaise, Butter and Mustard

Au Gratin Potatoes or Baked Beans

Salads: Choice of Two- Coleslaw, Italian Pasta or Tequilaberry (Lettuce/Cauliflower)

Dill Pickles and Olives

Potato Chips (optional)

Choice of Dessert: Sam’s Club Sheet Cake (White or Marble with Buttercream icing & choice of color rose buds) or Donation of Bars and Cookies from Funeral Ministry

Beverage Station Includes Coffee (sugar & creamer), Lemonade, Water, Milk (if requested)

Council of Catholic Women will provide:

Purchase and Prepare all of the food

Set-up and Clean-up

Dishes and Utensils

Members will serve all food items

Catering

If the family chooses to have the luncheon catered, the Council of Catholic Women members will facilitate the luncheon if requested. If you are interested in having a catered luncheon, please advise the Luncheon Coordinator of your plans.

Luncheon Coordinators:

Jean Peters

St. John the Baptist Fortin Hall

*Not Handicap Accessible

651.430.2218 (home)

Jean_pet@hotmail.com

Mary Lou Wilharber

Parish Community Center

*Handicap Accessible

651-429.2140 (home)

mloswilharb@gmail.com