

Dear Friend in Christ,

Be assured of our prayers as you prepare and plan for the Mass of Christian Burial for your departed loved one. It is our hope that your participation in the planning and celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial is to provide consolation and support to you at this difficult time.

You will find suggestions for the Scripture Readings, which can be read by a family member or a friend. The full text of the Scripture Readings you choose will be provided to the readers prior to the funeral. You will also find song suggestions for the Opening, Offertory, Communion, and Closing Processions and for the Responsorial Psalm between the readings. You are not limited to these songs and readings. We can discuss other options if you wish.

The Prayers of the Faithful or Petitions can also be read by a family member or a friend. Suggested petitions can be found here.

Two significant ways for family members to participate in the Mass are: (1) for the family to participate in placing the pall (a white cloth that is a reminder of the baptismal garment of the deceased) on the casket at the beginning of the Mass and (2) by presenting the offertory gifts of bread and wine.

In recent years, some families ask to have a family member or a friend offer some thoughts on the life of their loved one. This can be done very effectively during the calling hours, especially if several individuals wish to speak. If this is to be done at Mass, as a reflection after Communion, we must ask that you limit this to one speaker who is willing to provide a written text of his or her remarks on the day before the funeral to the priest presiding at the funeral. This will allow the priest the opportunity to anticipate the reflection when giving his homily. We ask that these remarks be confined, at most, to five minutes. (Diocesan policy states "one page"). We regret that we cannot honor requests to include "last minute" speakers or speakers planning to give "off the cuff" remarks. In addition to these options, if there are other ways you wish the family to participate in the funeral liturgy, please ask us.

Fr. Paul Rosing ext. 215 [pjrosing@holyfamilystow.org](mailto:pjrosing@holyfamilystow.org)  
Fr. Mike Ausperk ext. 217 [mausperk@gmail.com](mailto:mausperk@gmail.com)  
Fr. Kevin Klonowski ext. 223 [klonowski@holyfamilystow.org](mailto:klonowski@holyfamilystow.org)  
Sandy Michaels (Music) ext. 250 [michaels@holyfamilystow.org](mailto:michaels@holyfamilystow.org)

Call 330.688.6412 and use the extension above

## SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Choose one of each below)

### First Reading -- from the Old Testament

\_\_\_ Wisdom 3:1-9 "The souls of the just are in the hand of God . . . they are in peace..."

\_\_\_ Wisdom 4:7-15 "The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest..."

\_\_\_ Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 "There is ... a time to be born and a time to die..."

\_\_\_ Isaiah 25: 6a, 7-9 "The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces..."

\_\_\_ Lamentations 3:17-26 "...I will call this to mind as my reason to have hope..."

To be read by \_\_\_\_\_

### Second Reading – from the New Testament

\_\_\_ Romans 5:5-11 "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts..."

\_\_\_ Romans 6:3-9 "If, then we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him..."

\_\_\_ Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"..."

\_\_\_ 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10 "...we walk by faith and not by sight..."

\_\_\_ 1 John 3:1-2 "...we are God's children now..."

\_\_\_ Revelation 21:1-5a, 6a-7 "...God's dwelling is with the human race..."

\_\_\_ Philippians 3: 20-21; 4: 4-8 "Rejoice in the Lord always."

To be read by \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL (PETITIONS)

(Sample petitions can be reworded to better fit a given situation)

For (deceased's name) who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he/she may now be admitted to the company of the saints, we pray to the Lord . . .

For (deceased's name) who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he/she may be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord . . .

For the family and friends of (deceased's name), that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus, we pray to the Lord . . .

For our family and friends who have died and all who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face, we pray to the Lord . . .

For those who are sick, suffering or poor, that God might guide us to help them in their need, we pray to the Lord . . .

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered again in God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord . . .

To be read by \_\_\_\_\_

The Offertory Gifts of Bread, Wine and Water will be presented by

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SUGGESTED SONGS AND HYMNS

(Choose one of each below)

### Entrance Song

- Amazing Grace
- Be Not Afraid
- For All The Saints (not during Lent)
- Gather Us In
- Glory and Praise To Our God
- Here, I Am Lord
- How Great Thou Art
- On Eagle's Wings

### Responsorial Psalm

- Be With Me Lord (Psalm 91)
- In Every Age (Psalm 90) (**preferred**)
- My Shepherd Is The Lord (Psalm 23)
- Path of Life
- Shepherd Me, O God (Psalm 23) (**preferred**)
- You Are Near (Psalm 139)

### Offertory Song

- Amazing Grace
- Ave Maria
- Eye Has Not Seen
- Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
- Here, I Am Lord
- Lord Of All Hopefulness
- Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

### Communion Song

- Be Not Afraid
- Blest Are They
- Christ Be Our Light
- Eye Has Not Seen
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- I Am The Bread Of Life
- On Eagle's Wings
- One Bread, One Body
- You Are Mine
- You Are Near

### Closing Song

- Amazing Grace
- America
- America, the Beautiful
- Be Not Afraid
- City of God
- For All The Saints (not during Lent)
- How Great Thou Art
- Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You
- On Eagle's Wings
- Sing A New Song
- Sing With All The Saints In Glory

What form of the deceased's name would you like to be used during the Mass of Christian Burial?

\_\_\_\_\_

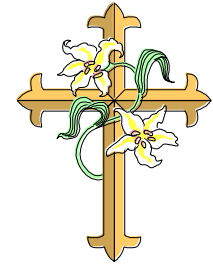
When submitting this completed guide, please also include no more than one page of notes on the deceased person's life to assist the priest in celebrating the life of your departed loved one.

If there are any questions about the Funeral, who in the family should be contacted?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

March 2018



# *Mass of Christian Burial Planning Guide*



**HOLY FAMILY  
PARISH**

3450 Sycamore Drive, Stow OH 44224

p. 330.688.6411

f. 330.689.0186

[www.holyfamilystow.org](http://www.holyfamilystow.org)