

Preparing for a Funeral in

St Francis of Assisi Parish
Priorswood, Dublin 17.



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Important Notes regarding the funeral Mass

Music:

Music enhances the funeral liturgy and allows us to turn our hearts and minds to God. Therefore it is important that the music selected for the funeral Mass is Church music and suitable to be played within a Catholic Church. All other types of music must be played at another time such as at the graveside or crematorium. The golden rule is 'Hymns in the church'.

All music to be played in the church must be approved by the Priest in advance of the funeral service / Mass.

Please note that no pre-recorded music can be played from mobile phones, tablets or computers. We don't have a licence to play music in the church and on the webcam

Symbols of a person's life:

Items such as reading glasses, books, newspapers, family photo, sports items, jerseys etc are fine to be brought up. All items must be approved by the Priest in advance of the funeral Mass.

Words on behalf of the family:

It is important that the family have an opportunity to say a few words towards the end of the Mass. When preparing these words always be mindful that the Mass takes place in a church and therefore what you say must be suitable for a sacred place. These words should be kept brief and no longer than 5 minutes in total. Only one person should speak on behalf of the family.

Slideshows:

At St Francis Parish we do not have the facilities to show slideshows during the funeral Mass.

If you have any questions or need help selected readings, prayers or music please contact Fr Martin (Parish Priest) on 089 4867102

Funeral Liturgy Checklist

Choose **one reader** for a reading from the Old Testament

– 1st Reading

(Choose ONE reading from readings number 1 – 4).

Choose **one reader** for a reading from the New Testament

– 2nd Reading

(Choose ONE reading from readings number 5 – 8).

Choose **up to six readers** for the Prayers of Intercession

(The sample prayers can be personalised to make them more meaningful for you).

Choose **up to 4 people** to bring up symbols of your loved ones life.

Choose one person to say the words on behalf of the family.

(A form is provided at the back to fill in the names. Please return this for to the Priest or to the Parish Office in advance of the funeral. You can also email the names or form to priorswoodpp@gmail.com)

Old Testament – 1st Readings

(Please select one reading from numbers 1 to 4)

(1)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God,
no torment shall touch them.

In the eyes of the unwise they did appear to die,
their going looked like a disaster,
their leaving us like annihilation;
but they are in peace;
for grace and mercy await those he has chosen.

The Word of the Lord.

(2)

A reading from the book of Job

'Ah, would that these words of mine were written down,
inscribed on some monument with iron chisel and engraving
tool, cut into the rock forever.

This I know: that my avenger lives,
and he, at the Last, will take his stand on earth.
After my awaking, he will set me close to him,
and from my flesh I shall look on God.

He whom I shall see will take my part:
these eyes will gaze on him and find him not aloof.'

The Word of the Lord.

(3)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The virtuous one, though they die before their time, will find rest.

Length of days is not what makes age honourable,
nor number of years the true measure of life;
understanding, this is a person's grey hairs,
untarnished life, this is ripe old age.

They have sought to please God, so God has loved them; Yet
people look on, not understanding;
it does not enter their heads that grace and mercy await the
chosen of the Lord, and the protection of his holy ones.

The Word of the Lord

(4)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Readings

(Choose one reading from numbers 5 to 8)

(5)

A reading from the first letter of St John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him;
Therefore, it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future had not yet been
revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed, we shall be like him
Because we shall see him as he really is.

The Word of the Lord.

(6)

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Hope is not deceptive, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person -though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

(7)

A Reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

We know that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

For we know that when the tent we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

The Word of the Lord.

(8)

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

The Word of the Lord

Prayers of Intercession

(Select up to 6 Prayers of Intercession)

1. In Baptism, (Enter Name) was given the pledge of eternal life. May he / she now be admitted to the company of the saints.

Lord, hear us.

2. We pray for the gift of eternal life: That (Enter Name) will be received into the Lord's loving embrace.

Lord, hear us.

3. For (Enter Name): that Christ may have mercy of the soul of N, welcome him / her into his Kingdom.

Lord, hear us.

4. We pray for (Enter Name) that God will reward him with peace and joy for the good he did during his life.

Lord, hear us.

5. For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.

Lord, hear us.

6. (Enter Name) has finally reached the shore of eternity; now that all their earthly tasks are completed, may they enjoy rest from all their labours.

Lord, hear us.

7. For (Enter Name)'s family, that in these difficult and dark days they may be sustained by their faith, and by the knowledge that they will be reunited with (Enter Name) one day in God's heavenly Kingdom.

Lord, hear us.

8. That God may visit (Enter Name)'s family and friends with comfort and peace especially his neighbours and those who cared for him.

Lord, hear us.

9. That those who grieve over the loss of (Enter Name), that they all may be comforted by the knowledge that the Lord will take care of him.

Lord, hear us.

10. For those who grieve over his death; that through their faith in Christ their sorrow may soon be changed into joy.

Lord, hear us.

11. For all the faithful departed, especially our relatives, friends and neighbours; that they may dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Lord, hear us.

Responsorial Psalm

(Only read if not sung)

Response: The Lord is my shepherd There is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me rest.
Near peaceful waters he leads me to revive my drooping spirit

[Response]

He guides me along the right path; He is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
With these you give me comfort.

[Response]

You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
My cup is overflowing.

[Response]

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
Forever and ever. **[Response]**

Funeral Mass – List of names

Symbols of the person's life (up to 4 symbols):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Readers

1st Reading (Old Testament Reading): _____

Responsorial Psalm (Only if not sung): _____

2nd Reading (New Testament Reading): _____

Prayers of Intercession (up to 6 prayers)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Words on behalf of the family (max 5 minutes and 1 person to speak):

1. _____

Funeral Booking Form

St Francis Parish Priorswood

Name of the Deceased: _____

Date / Time of Funeral: _____

Undertaker: _____ Contact: _____

Cemetery / Crematorium (Please circle): _____

Contact Details

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Celebrant: _____

Notes

Consent

I consent that St Francis Parish Priorswood can hold the above information about me in relation to this funeral booking and any subsequent matters relating to this funeral including month's mind Mass, anniversary Mass and annual remembrance Mass. I understand and accept that St Francis Parish and / or its representatives will not share my personal information with any third party without my explicit consent.

Print Name: _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____