

ST. EDWARD'S PARISH
 56 LONGSHORE RD
 KELLIGREWS, C.B.S., NL, A1X 3H1
 Ph: 834-2919 Fax: 834-5726

**Order of Christian Funeral
 Planning Guide**

Fr. Critch cell: 690-2919 email: cecilcritch@gmail.com Website: <http://stedwardsparish.net>

This planning guide will take you through the various decisions that have to be made when planning a funeral liturgy. This guide should be completed in consultation with the members of the Bereavement/Consolation team.

This planning guide should be faxed or brought to the parish office as soon as possible

Please do not set a time for the funeral mass or vigil without speaking to the priest.

Bereavement Team members:

Funeral Mass/Liturgy: This is the central celebration of the Christian community for the deceased. There are two ways to celebrate it, within Mass or outside Mass.

Deceased Name	
Date of Birth	
Date of Death	
Contact Person & Phone #	
What funeral liturgy will be used? (Circle)	Funeral Mass Funeral Liturgy outside Mass
Date (Please speak to Priest)	
Time: (Please speak to Priest)	

Vigil for the Deceased: the Vigil is the central celebration of the Christian Community between the time of death and the Mass of Christian Burial. It consists of readings from God's Word along with other prayers. If desired a family member or friend(s) can speak in remembrance of the Deceased.

Date:

Time:

Will a family member speak? Yes Or No

Who will speak?

<p>Funeral Mass Readings At Every Celebration for the dead, the church attaches great importance to the reading of the Word of God. The reading proclaims to the assembly the paschal mystery, teach remembrance of the dead, conveys the hope of being gathered together again in God's kingdom, and encourages the witness of Christian life. Choose readings from the readings book.</p>	<p>1st Reading from the Old Testament (Except during the Easter Season)</p> <hr/> <p>Psalm Sung/ Read (circle)</p> <hr/> <p>2nd Reading from the New Testament (During the Easter Season both readings are taken from the New Testament)</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
--	--	-------------------------

<p>Intercessions at Mass</p>	<p>Choose from enclosed sheet</p>	
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

<p>Music for the Mass Music should be chosen from the church hymn books. The music at funerals should support, console and uplift the assembly and should create in them a spirit of hope in Christ's victory over death</p>	Entrance Hymn	
	_____	_____
	Procession With Gifts	
	_____	_____
	Communion	
_____	_____	
Communion Reflection (Option)		
_____	_____	
Recessional		

<p>Ministries In the celebration of the funeral rites, the laity are encouraged to serve as cross bearers, readers, musicians, ushers, and pallbearers, Eucharistic ministers, etc Family members should be encouraged to take an active part in these ministries if they so desire.</p>	Cross Bearer	
	Candle Bearers	
	Altar Server	
	Place Funeral Pall	
	1 st Reader (also psalm if it is to be read)	
	2 nd Reader	
	Intercessor	
	Gift Bearers 2- 4 people	
	Eucharistic Minister(s)	
	Musician(s)	

<p>Pall Bearers usually 6 people</p>		

Order of Christian Funeral Planning Guide

Some points to Remember.....

Stipends: The Funeral Mass stipend for the Parish as determined by the **Archbishop's Office is \$100.00. Families may also choose to donate to any aspect of the Parish including the Cemetery Fund.** The stipend for the musician is \$100.00 and any gift to the priest is up to the family.

Funeral Pall: The Pall is the large white cloth that covers the casket during the funeral liturgy. It is a symbol of our white baptismal garment. Usually, two or four family members or friends place the pall on the casket at the beginning of the Mass of Christian Burial.

Readers: Two readers are necessary to proclaim the Word of God at the funeral. If you wish, our parish can provide people who have experience exercising this ministry. If you decide to choose readers from among family or friends, please remember that the readers should usually be people of faith who have exercised this ministry before. Readers should take time to practice before the funeral liturgy (in church if possible). **Readers should usually not read from sheets of paper** but from the book of readings (Lectionary) provided.

Readings: A Book of Readings contains readings of the scriptures that are appropriate for use at a Catholic funeral. Please choose one reading from the Old Testament and one reading from the New Testament. **During the Easter Season both readings are from the New Testament.** The priest will choose the gospel.

Other Ministers: If a funeral Mass is celebrated, it is also necessary to have gift bearers. At least two are needed to bring forward the gifts of bread and wine. As well there is usually on Eucharistic Minister other than the presiding priest. Gift bearers can be chosen from among family or friends. The Eucharistic minister must be a person who regularly exercises this ministry in a parish.

Homily: The homily given at the funeral is based on the readings. The homily is meant to be a proclamation of the Church's faith in the death and resurrection of Christ and how this gives us hope for our departed brother or sister. The homily is never to be a eulogy that is a reflection that focuses only on the life and accomplishments of the deceased. The homily focuses on God's saving work and God's consoling word to those who grieve.

Eulogy: If a family member or friend would like to share a reflection, eulogy or poem, this is done at the Vigil service or at the grave side.