

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4

Catholic Church Teaching on Cremation

- ◆ Although cremation is permissible, the church prefers and urges that the full body be present at the Vigil and Funeral Mass.
- ◆ Cremation may be done after the funeral liturgy.
- ◆ The cremated remains must be placed in an appropriate container, such as urns made of metal, bronze or wood. At all times in the process, the cremated remains must be treated with the respect and dignity accorded to the full body.
- ◆ The practice of scattering cremated remains or keeping remains in the home are inconsistent with the church teachings and are not acceptable. Other practices such as commingling cremated remains or dividing up cremated remains among family members or friends are not acceptable for Catholics.
- ◆ The Church recommends that the place of burial or entombment in the cemetery be permanently memorialized with a traditional memorial stone, crypt/niche front or bronze plaque marking the name and dates of birth and death of the deceased person.

I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Jn 11:25-26

Video/DVD

If you would like a DVD and a videographer is available, we can create a memorable video for you and your family. Please check with us during planning. The current fee is \$150.

Worship Aide

A worship aide will be provided to assist those present in participating in the funeral Mass.

Time of Funerals

Mondays-11:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.

Tuesdays- Fridays at 10:30 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.

Saturdays-10:30 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. (times subject to change on Saturday due to scheduled events)

PrePlanning Funeral Liturgy

Pre-planning your (or your loved ones) funeral liturgy is a wonderful way to personally honor your (or their) wishes. We are here to make this as easy as possible for you and help with any questions or concerns you might have. Please contact Pastoral Care at 507-334-2266.

Memorials and Bequests:

Each year, our parish and ministries benefit from the financial gifts of those who have given memorials or bequests. If you have any questions or would like further information on leaving a legacy to Divine Mercy Catholic Church, please contact Lisa Sammon at 507-334-2266 (ext. 11). We encourage you to consult with your attorney, accountant or financial planner regarding your estate planning and gift options.

Grief Support

Pastoral Care and BeFriender Ministry are available to offer comfort and support. Please call the parish office for assistance.

Faribault Area Hospice, a service of District One Hospital, offers Grief Support groups on a regular basis. For more information, please call District One Hospital, 507-334-6511

Please contact Pastoral Care Staff at

Divine Mercy office.

334-2266

Divine Mercy Catholic Church

139 Mercy Drive

Faribault, MN 55021

507-331-7253

Divine Mercy Parish Office

4 Second Ave SW

Faribault, MN 55021

507-334-2266



DIVINE MERCY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Funeral Guide- lines

"If then, we have died with Christ, we believe we shall also live with him." (Romans 6:8)

As you begin to prepare for your funeral or that of a loved one, our Priests, Pastoral Ministers and trained lay parishioners at Divine Mercy offer compassionate support and guidance throughout your planning. The information shared by the family is kept confidential. Family involvement during the Funeral Mass is welcomed and you will be guided through those decisions.

Please contact Pastoral Care at 507-334-2266 to set up an appointment for funeral planning.

Funeral Rites of the Catholic Church

A traditional Catholic funeral has three distinct Rites- Vigil for the Deceased, Funeral Liturgy and Rite of Committal. Each of these is an important part of the funeral liturgy of the Catholic Church.

Part I- Vigil for the Deceased

This rite is held at the funeral home between the time of death and the Funeral Liturgy (or Committal if there is no funeral liturgy).

- ◆ The Vigil is the official prayer designated by the Church for wake services and is found in the Order of Christian Funerals. Led by a pastoral layperson, it includes prayers for the deceased and recognizes the person's Christian life. This is also a wonderful time for family sharing.
- ◆ The Rosary or other Devotion may be prayed at the end of the Visitation as a beautiful way of closure for the family.

Part II– Funeral Liturgy

The funeral liturgy may take place in two forms:- the **Funeral Mass** or the **Funeral Liturgy Outside of Mass (Funeral Service)**. The funeral liturgy is a time for family and friends of the deceased to give thanks and praise to God for Christ's victory over sin and death, to commend the deceased to God's mercy and seek strength in the proclamation of the paschal mystery.

Funeral Mass

Remarks of Remembrance

- ◆ It has become increasingly popular to invite family or friends to share thoughts about the deceased. Remembrances may also be shared at the time of the vigil.
- ◆ Through the presence of Christ found in the Eucharist, scripture, the gathered faithful and the priest, the Funeral Mass moves us from intense grief and loss, to hopeful joy and peace. A positive remembrance can help us in moving to this hopeful joy and peace.

Steps for Preparing Remarks of Remembrance

- ◆ One speaker chosen by the family may offer a **3-5 minute** remembrance of the deceased.

Some Examples:
 - ◇ How did you grow in your faith life because of your loved one?
 - ◇ How did her/his life impact family, friends, church, community or world?
 - ◇ What virtues or good characteristics did your loved one manifest?

- ◆ Please have the remembrance prepared/typed ahead of time in order to stay focused.
- ◆ Please refrain from using offensive stories or language. Musical tributes, videos or slide shows are not allowed. Please remember we are in a church.
- ◆ If family wants to have more sharing, it works well to have the remembrance at the Vigil, cemetery, or luncheon.
- ◆ Should a Remembrance be given, it is done at the beginning of Mass.

Readings/Prayer of the Faithful/Offertory

You may have family members and/or friends participate during the Mass.

- ◆ **Readings** are chosen from the Sacred Scriptures. An Old Testament, New Testament and a Gospel reading will be selected from our funeral readings
- ◆ **Prayer of the Faithful**– We have a selection of Intercessions to choose from. If desired, you may write your own Intercessions. These need to be approved before the day of the funeral.
- ◆ **Offertory** – Two family members/friends will bring the bread and the wine from the back of the church to the priest at the Altar.

Receiving Holy Communion: Special Considerations

Catholics believe the Eucharist signifies the unity of the church and is the true presence of the Body and Blood of Christ. While we share in a common baptism, members of Christian churches with whom the Catholic Church is not fully united are invited to come forward at the time of Communion and receive a blessing.

Music

- ◆ The Mass of Christian Burial is always accompanied by music. Only liturgical music is allowed. Music will be selected from our funeral music guide.
- ◆ Paradisum Choir and Musicians will be present at the funeral.
- ◆ Recorded music or “popular music” may be used at the Vigil Service, cemetery or luncheon (family provides music and CD player).
- ◆ If someone else assists with the music, one of our Divine Mercy musicians must be present to play Mass parts and manage our sound system.
- ◆ Only trained Divine Mercy staff are allowed to operate our sound system. Thank you for your respect and compliance to this.

Funerals Outside of Mass

The Funeral Mass is always the preferred rite in the Catholic Church but there may be circumstances where the funeral liturgy outside of Mass is more suitable. In this case, the liturgy would take place at the funeral home and a Deacon or Pastoral Layperson would preside.

Part III– The Rite of Committal

The Rite of Committal is the final act of the community of faith in caring for the body of its deceased member. This Rite consists of a Scripture reading and prayers lead by a priest, deacon or trained layperson. It is celebrated at the place of burial.

Finally, families often gather back at the church for a luncheon hosted by the Council of Catholic Women. We generally wait for the family to return from the committal, so your prompt return is appreciated.