

**Funeral planning from Ss Peter and Paul Enfield Lock**

It is important that all Christians are prepared for their death and as part of that it is good for everyone no matter their age or health to have their funerals planned. To do this there are a few things to do. First talk to your family about what you would like so that they are aware of your wishes. Second talk to your parish priest so that he has a record of what you have decided to have. And third either put to one side money to pay for your funeral or take out a plan with a local undertaker.

This form is designed to help you to plan your *funeral service*. Undertakers will have other things that need decisions such as what clothes you will be dressed in, what sort of coffin you would like to buy, hearse/ cars, printing of orders of service etc hence it is important to talk to a firm or at least think through what you might like with your family.

Please fill out this form as much as possible and give it to the parish priest. You may not have made all the decisions on here and it can be updated at any time but it is good to get at least some of the decisions made

Full Name.....

Address.....  
.....

I wish my remains to be      Cremated/ Buried

*Human remains **must** be disposed of in a reverent way in consecrated ground.*

Place of burial or scattering/ burial of ashes:

.....  
.....  
.....

**Day before funeral**

*Traditionally the body of the deceased will be received into church on the evening before the funeral and vespers (evening prayer) is said around the coffin. The coffin will then remain in church overnight until it is taken out after the funeral.*

I would like to be received into church the night before my funeral

Yes/ No

**On the coffin**

*On the coffin will be placed the Christian symbols- the bible and a crucifix. The coffin will also be covered by a black Pall- a large black veil- as a sign that what is within is holy, a temple of the Holy Spirit. Nb. This requires a flat lidded coffin rather than a domed lid.*

Do you have a special bible that you would like to be used, if so please describe it and where it is kept

.....  
.....

Do you have a special crucifix that you would like to be used, if so, please describe it and where it is kept

.....  
.....

Is there anything else that should be placed on your coffin?

Eg. Medals/ decorations, Flowers, Chains of office

.....  
.....  
.....

**The Funeral**

*Funerals of practicing Christians should take place within the context of the Mass. There are some aspects of the Mass that you can choose.*

**Music**

*If you would like a choir or live organist, you will need to provide to pay for one. NB. If your funeral takes place in lent the word "Alleluia" will need to be avoided so 2 options will be needed if it occurs in a hymn you would like.*

*Other music such as settings of the Pie Iesu, the Kontakion, and Dies irae would be appropriate, please talk to the clergy about how they may be included.*

**Mass setting**

Parish mass setting.....

Other- Please specify. ....

**Hymns**

Intorit.....

Offertory.....

Communion.....

Hymn before commendation.....

Hymn/ Music for viewing the body\* .....

Music as the coffin is taken out of church. The congregation will follow the coffin out of church.....

**Eulogies/ tributes**

*You are encouraged to keep these for the wake after the service. If however you do really want a eulogy in the service it is recommended that you only have 1*

I want a eulogy in the service yes/ no

I want .....to write/ read it

**\*Viewing of the body**

*In some cultures the body of the deceased is viewed during the funeral. If you would like your body viewed at your funeral, please indicate and ensure you have chosen a piece of music or a hymn for during the viewing*

Yes/ No

### **The end of the funeral**

*At the end of the mass the priest will say the prayer of commendation over the coffin in church. There are then 4 options for the prayer of committal.*

*The commendation is 1 prayer and the Lord's Prayer and may also incorporate the blessing of the grave. It is therefore it is not advisable that everyone goes from church to the crematorium, but they may if you so wish.*

Please indicate which you would prefer 1, 2, 3, 4

- 1) For burials- all go to the graveside together for the burial.
  - a. If it is part of your culture for the family to backfill the grave, do you wish that to happen? Yes/No
- 2) For burials- only the priest and immediate family go to the graveside while the rest of the congregation go on to the wake.
- 3) For cremation- All go together to the crematorium.
- 4) For cremation- Committal into the hearse while everyone goes on to the wake. No one goes to the crematorium.

### **Ashes**

In the case of cremation after a few days the ashes will be available to be collected. Indicate if you would like a priest to bury/ scatter your ashes:

Yes/ No