

Preparing the Funeral Liturgy

The Catholic Parishes of Brockton



Christ the King Parish

42 Wendell Avenue
Brockton, MA 02302
(508) 586-1575



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

439 West Street
Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 586-4715



St. Edith Stein Parish

71 East Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 586-6491



St. Patrick Parish

335 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 586-4840

THE FUNERAL LITURGY – THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF BROCKTON

This booklet has been prepared to assist you in preparing your loved one's funeral. Please accept our prayers and condolences during this difficult time.

As you go forward, we invite and encourage you and your family members to participate in the **Funeral Mass**. Please read the following pages and then complete the form on the final page and return it to the Funeral Director. Lastly, if this time is too difficult for you and your family, the Parish staff will willingly handle all the Mass arrangements.

Readings: The Church sets aside many readings for funerals which can be accessed from each parish's webpage:

- Christ the King – www.ctkp.org
- Our Lady of Lourdes – www.ourladyoflourdes-Brockton.com
- St. Edith Stein – www.stedithsteinparish.org
- St. Patrick – coming soon (use any of the above)

You can choose **one or two** readings. (*If you decide to choose two, the first is from the Old Testament and the second is from the New Testament.*)

Gift Bearers (*Optional*): Typically two (sometimes more) members of your family bring to the altar the “gifts”, the bread and wine to be consecrated. These gifts are prepared by the parish. The priest by word or gesture will invite the gift bearers to come forward. Although only two gifts are provided, more than two family members may process.

Words of Remembrance/Eulogy (*Optional*): Understandably, this task is often emotional. If – and understand that it is not required – a member of your family chooses to offer Words of Remembrance, please be mindful that the remarks are not meant to be an obituary as nearly all in attendance will be familiar with your loved one's life. Rather, the remarks are a great opportunity to highlight and praise the **faith-life** of your loved one.

As you prepare remarks, it may be helpful to reflect upon these questions:

- How did the Catholic faith and practice enrich your loved one's life?
- How did your loved one speak of his/her Christian faith?
- What was his/her favorite image of Jesus?
- What did belonging to this parish mean to him/her?
- How did he/she put their hope and trust in God?

For many years now, every parish in the archdiocese has had to follow these guidelines regarding Words of Remembrance:

1. Only **one person** may offer the Words of Remembrance.
2. The remarks are to be between **two and five minutes**.
(*A rule of thumb: two pages typed, double-spaced is sufficient.*)
3. The remarks are to be **written** and presented to the Priest or staff member prior to the Wake.
4. The content is to be **appropriate** to the sacredness of the liturgy.

Music: You can choose **four hymns** and **one responsorial psalm** for the funeral liturgy. The Music Directors and Cantors at each parish are available to help you select music. At the end of this booklet you will find some suggestions. While the list is extensive, we are open to other requests; but please remember that any selections must be based on our Sacred Scripture. (For example, "The Wind Beneath My Wings" while a beautiful song, is not acceptable because it does not reflect Scripture, nor does it speak to our belief in the Resurrection.)

Fees: Usually, the fees are incorporated into the final cost for the services and are handled by the Funeral Director. The fee structure is as follows:

Church = \$200, Organist = \$125, Cantor = \$125.

Sometimes a family member or friend who is a musician is asked or offers to participate in the liturgy. We do allow such involvement; however, it is expected that the seated Organist and/or Cantor of the parish still be paid (known as a "bench fee" in these situations), as their salaries are inclusive of these liturgical functions.

THE FUNERAL LITURGY – RITUAL PARTS

Opening Rites

Sign of the Cross and Greeting
Placing of the Pall
Entrance hymn (hymn #1)

The Liturgy of the Word

Scripture Reading
Responsorial Psalm
(Second Reading OPTIONAL)
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel Reading
Homily
General Intercessions

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts (hymn #2)
Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord's Prayer
Communion Rite (hymn #3)

Concluding Rites

Post-Communion Prayer
Incensing of the Casket (Song of Farewell)
Recessional Hymn (hymn #4)

THE FUNERAL LITURGY – HYMN/MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

Suggested Responsorial Psalms:

1. All I Ask of You
2. Be With Me, Lord
3. My Soul is Longing for Your Peace

4. Shelter Me, O God
5. Shepherd Me, O God
6. The Lord is My Light and My Salvation
7. The Lord is My Shepherd
8. With the Lord, There is Mercy
9. You Are Near

Suggested Hymns: *(the Music Director will assist arranging the hymns in the liturgy).*

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. All That I Am | 21. Lord, When You Came |
| 2. Amazing Grace | 22. May You Walk With Christ |
| 3. Ave Maria | 23. Now We Remain |
| 4. Be Not Afraid | 24. On Eagle's Wings |
| 5. Because the Lord is My Shepherd | 25. One Bread, One Body |
| 6. Come Home | 26. Panis Angelicus |
| 7. Come to Me | 27. Parable |
| 8. Gift of Finest Wheat | 28. Prayer of St. Francis |
| 9. Hail Mary/Gentle Woman | 29. Precious Lord, Take My Hand |
| 10. Here I Am, Lord | 30. Receive in Your Heart |
| 11. Holy God We Praise Thy Name | 31. Shepherd of My Heart |
| 12. Hosea ("Come back to me...") | 32. Song of Farewell |
| 13. How Great Thou Art | 33. Songs of the Angels |
| 14. I Am the Bread of Life | 34. Those Who See Light |
| 15. I Asked the Lord | 35. We Have Been Told |
| 16. I Have Loved You | 36. We Remember |
| 17. I Know That My Redeemer Lives | 37. We Walk By Faith |
| 18. In Every Age | 38. We Will Rise Again |
| 19. In Remembrance | 39. Yes, I Shall Arise |
| 20. Irish Blessing | 40. You Are All We Have |
| | 41. You Are Mine |

THE FUNERAL LITURGY – WORKSHEET

Name of deceased _____

Date of Funeral Mass _____

Location/Parish _____

READINGS: (check and complete)

_____ Please have the parish staff handle the readings.

_____ We will choose the reading(s), but require a Lector(s).

_____ We will choose the reading(s) and provide Lector(s).

First Reading _____

Read by _____

Second Reading (Optional) _____

Read by _____

Intercessions (*Optional*) _____

Gift Bearers (*Optional*) _____

Words of Remembrance (*Optional*)

Read by _____

MUSIC: (check and complete)

Please select **four hymns** and **one responsorial Psalm**; or indicate if you would like the Music Director to select music for you. (*Many suggestions are listed on the following pages.*)

_____ Please have the Music Director select the music.

Responsorial Psalm: _____

Hymns: _____
