

HOLY INNOCENTS ANGLICAN CHURCH  
GUIDELINES FOR FUNERALS

This Brochure is intended to help you through the process of preparing a funeral service. Once this is planned you may give it to your parish priest and a copy to the funeral home so that your preparations are completed and on file. The following information regards the different policies of the church and suggests for you scripture lessons and hymns.

Your Priest is available whenever you need his help in making plans for the service. Never hesitate to call on him for assistance, or to make requests when he visits you, either at home or the funeral home. (Phone 782-3071)

FUNERAL SERVICE

For:	
Held at:	
Interment:	
Service Format: BCP            BAS	Holy Communion: Yes            NO

Duration of the service will usually be between 25 - 45 minutes depending on the type of service and whether or not there is a Eucharist.

Other clergy taking part in the service is at the discretion of the Parish Priest. As a matter of courtesy it is important to consult with the Parish Priest before asking other clergy to assist and take part.

Cemetery plots are arranged by the funeral home in consultation with the Parish (in regards to the congregational cemetery) and the interfaith cemetery committee (in regards to the community cemetery).

The parish has an organist and he usually plays for all funerals in the Parish.

**Scripture Lessons**

Scripture lessons used in the liturgy should deals with God's comfort, and with hope, new life and resurrection. The normal practice is to read one Psalm, and Epistle Lesson and a Gospel Lesson. If the service is from the Book of Common Prayer, the lesson beginning on Page 595 may also be used. Other Suitable Lessons can be found of pages 604-605 in the Book of Alternative Services.

If you wish a family member or close friend to read, please indicate below. Also keep in mind that when you ask someone to read, this will be an emotional day, and their feelings need to be considered as well.

**Psalms**

Psalm 23  
Psalm 90  
Psalm 121  
Psalm 130

**Epistle Lessons**

Romans 8:14-19  
1 Corinthians 15:51-57  
2 Corinthians 4:7-18  
2 Timothy 2:8-12a  
Revelation 21:1-7

**Gospel Lessons**

Matthew 5:1-12a  
John 6:37-40  
John 11:17-27  
John 1:1-6

We Would like the following lessons read:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hymns**

Hymns for funeral services should also deal with God’s comfort, and with hope, new life and resurrection. The most suitable hymns are those that praise God for his goodness and which ask God for his continued comfort, help and strength.

The following are examples of hymns of praise, glory and hope which may be used. Feel free though to use other hymns not listed here. If the music is available we will do our best to arrange for those as well.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 403 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee      | 353 Praise my soul the king of heaven |
| 393 Praise to the Lord the Almighty    | 539 The king of Love my shepherd is   |
| 503 I heard the voice of Jesus say     | 406 Guide me O thou great Jehovah     |
| 791 He leadeth me                      | 779 What a friend we have in Jesus    |
| 490 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds | 547 The Lord’s my Shepherd            |
| 522 My faith looks up to thee          | 392 Rejoice the Lord is King          |

There is usually two hymns in Church, however, if you are having the service of Holy Communion with the Funeral service you should chose three hymns:

- In the Church      1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
- If with Communion 3. \_\_\_\_\_

Hymns do not have to be sung in the cemetery, however, if you wish one to be sung, please indicate below. We will usually sing only the first and last verses.

In the Cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_

Pallbearers: If you wish we will print the names of the pallbearers in the bulletin. Please list their names below:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

If you have been involved in community services organizations, they sometimes form a honour guard, this also is done and carried out at the discretion of the Parish Priest. If you have been involved and it is offered, would you like a honour guard from these organizations. If yes, please list the organizations.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bulletins are usually printed, but they are done on ordinary paper either white or coloured. If you wish to have special bulletin covers, these may be purchased by the family or an organization with which you have been involved.

Tributes and eulogies are not part of the Anglican Burial service. Sermons have become the norm at funeral service and these are preached or delivered by a person duly qualified, it provides time for reflection of the Christian hope and offers thanksgiving for the persons qualities in life. They are not meant to be a biography of the persons life. The Diocese discourages the use of eulogies in the Church. In addition to this, emails, faxes, poems, and letters of condolences are usually read in the funeral home at the service before the closing of the casket. These messages are meant for the family and we try to keep them private so that they will contain a greater meaning for you.

***In any of these areas, if you have a questions, please feel free to contact your Parish Priest.***