

Funerals at Our Lady of Peace



OUR LADY OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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“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.” –John 11:25-26

The death of a loved one is a sad and difficult moment in each of our lives; yet because of our faith we know that there is no greater source of comfort than to proclaim our “sure and certain hope” in the resurrection, and to celebrate the life of the one who has died in the Lord. Our community at Our Lady of Peace holds you and your loved one in prayer, and our Pastoral Staff takes seriously their call to support you in times of sorrow.

To take the first steps in planning a funeral liturgy, please contact Father Joah Ellis.

Contact Information

Father Joah Ellis, Pastor of Our Lady of Peace jellis@olpmn.org 612.824.3455
Father Ellis is the first point of contact, and will help you with many aspects of planning and preparation.

Elizabeth Pike, Director of Music and Liturgy epike@olpmn.org 612.223.8107
Father Ellis will assist you with initial music planning, he will direct you to Elizabeth if there are special circumstances requiring her assistance.

Mass of Christian Burial (the Funeral Liturgy)

Friends, family, and the community gather together in the church to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist, both for the benefit of the deceased and in thanksgiving for his or her life.

You will be asked to select music and readings for the liturgy which speak to our faith in Christ Jesus and the Resurrection.

Choosing the Readings

The Church offers a beautiful selection of readings for you to choose from; you will be asked to choose a reading from the Old Testament, from the Epistles of the New Testament, and a Gospel Reading. In your meeting with Father Ellis you will be given a list to choose from, which is also available on the Parish website. If you are uncomfortable choosing them yourself, Father Ellis will be happy to assist you.

Choosing Music

The Parish will provide a cantor (who leads the assembly in singing) and an accompanist (pianist or organist). A list of hymns is provided on the next page to assist you with your planning. Please choose three or four hymns for the liturgy. You may also select one solo piece if you wish. If you are uncomfortable selecting music, our Director of Music and Liturgy, Elizabeth Pike, will be happy to assist. All music within the Liturgy must be Sacred in nature. If you have a suggestion that is not on the list, we will be happy to help you decide if it is appropriate to be sung during Mass.

Music Selections

Hymns

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
Behold the Lamb of God
Center of My Life
Christ, Be Our Light
Come to the Water
Eye Has Not Seen
For All The Saints
Hail Holy Queen
Here I Am Lord
How Great Thou Art
I Am the Bread of Life
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
I Know the My Redeemer Lives (traditional)
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
Jerusalem, My Happy Home
Jesus, Remember Me
Lord of All Hopefulness
Make Me A Channel of Your Peace
Morning is Broken
Now Let Your Servant Go in Peace
O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O Mary of Promise
On Eagle's Wings
Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Prayer of Saint Francis (*Make Me a Channel*)
Salve Regina
Shall We Gather At the River
Shepherd Me, O God
Sing with All the Saints in Glory
Softly and Tenderly
Soon and Very Soon
Steal Away to Jesus
The Cloud's Veil
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
We Remember
We Shall Rise Again
What Wondrous Love is This
You Are Near

The following Closing Hymns are especially appropriate when the burial takes place immediately after Mass (hymns listed above may also be used):
May the Angels Lead You Into Paradise
In Paradisum

Solos

Ave Maria (Schubert)
Ave Maria (Gounod)
Give Me Jesus (piano solo)
God So Loved the World
Going Home
How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place (Lawton)
In Conspectu Angelorum

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Nearer My God to Thee (piano solo)
Panis Angelicus (Franck)
Pie Jesu (Faure)
The Call
Restless is the Heart (Farrell)
Steal Away to Jesus

Involving family and friends

We welcome and encourage family members and friends to take part in the funeral liturgy, one or two people may be asked to read the first and second readings. Two people may be asked to bring forward the gifts. Family members or friends who have experience in other particular ministries may also be included. All involvement should be discussed with Father Ellis prior to the liturgy.

Reader for the 1st Reading: Immediately after the Entrance procession, the priest will stand at his chair and pray. **When the priest says “Amen”, the first reader comes to the ambo.** The reader stops before the step to reverence the altar (bow from the waist before walking up the step) and proceed to the ambo. The book at the ambo will have a copy of your reading inside it. When finished, the reader comes back the way he or she came, turning and bowing to the altar again before returning to his or her seat.

Reader for the 2nd Reading: After the first reading, the cantor will proclaim (sing) the psalm from the ambo. **As soon as the cantor takes one step away from the ambo, the second reader should come to the ambo.** The reader stops before the step to reverence the altar (bow from the waist before walking up the step) and proceed to the ambo. The book at the lectern will have a copy of your reading inside it. When finished, come back the reader comes back the way he or she came, turning and bowing to the altar again before returning to his or her seat.

Bringing up the gifts before Holy Communion: After the General Intercessions are read, the cantor will announce the hymn for the Preparation of the Gifts and Altar. **As soon as the music begins, walk to the table** at the cross aisle in the back and pick up the wine and the bread, which will become the Precious Body and Blood of Christ. When the priest comes down from the altar and stands in the center (between the first two pews), bring the wine and bread forward and he will take it from you. When the priest bows, bow to the altar from your waist and return to your pew.

Serving as a Communion Minister: If a friend or family member serves as a Minister of Holy Communion in their Catholic Community, they may assist at the funeral. A Communion Minister will be provided if the family does not have anyone they would like to invite.

Musicians: It is our policy that musicians from Our Lady of Peace will serve in the role of Cantor (vocalist) and Accompanist (pianist/organist); the people in these roles take a leadership role in worship and it is important that they understand the Catholic funeral liturgy, and various specificities of OLP ministry. However, it may be possible for a family member or friend to sing or play a solo during the liturgy. Father Ellis and/or Elizabeth Pike will be happy to help you with this decision, and to help with the selection of music that honors our shared Catholic faith.

Words of Remembrance: A family member or close personal friend who knows the deceased well may wish to give a brief tribute to the life of the deceased loved one. In celebrating a loved one's life, Words of Remembrance (sometimes called a eulogy) can be given at a prayer service (vigil or wake service), at a reception or funeral luncheon, or at a funeral. We ask you to please take the following considerations.

- Words of Remembrance often work best at the prayer service or the reception. If either of these take place at the church, a staff person will be happy to assist you with the sound system.
- If words of remembrance are given at the funeral, it happens at the beginning of Mass. The Priest will invite the eulogist forward at the appropriate time.
- The family should let the priest know at the time of the funeral planning if they would like someone to give words of remembrance.
- **Please keep the words of remembrance 2-3 minutes in length during Mass.** The best words of remembrance focus on the virtues or qualities of a loved one. Good taste and good humor are appropriate.
- **The length 2-3 minutes must be emphasized.** Remember that the the words of remembrance happen near the beginning of the funeral liturgy (if they take place during the liturgy) and should be brief and focused. It should be written out and practiced so that appropriateness and length can be observed. This will contribute to the flow of the service and will leave strong and lasting images in the mind of the assembly. It is also important to remember to be true to the length because musicians often have a limited time to minister at the service, as they have taken up the service often last minute, and our volunteer altar servers have come over from school to assist with the liturgy and need to return.
- Whoever is speaking should review the "Words of Remembrance Policy and Tips" document, given to the family or found on our website www.olpmn.org/funerals

Before and After the Funeral

Visitation in the Church: Visitation may take place in the back of the church, near the baptismal font an hour before the funeral.

Flowers: Flowers and plants in honor of the deceased are welcome. Flowers for the visitation should be placed in the back, by the baptismal font, and for the funeral should be placed in front of the altar or lectern. If you would like to leave flowers, we are happy to use them, except in the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Picture Displays: You may bring picture displays to set up in the back of Church before the funeral. The funeral home will often move these downstairs for the luncheon. We do not display photos in the front of church.

Funeral Lunch: Our Lady of Peace is usually able to provide the church hall and people to help set up, serve, and clean up for the luncheon. The family of the deceased provides and pays for the food. You may bring in food of your choosing, or we are happy to provide a list of caterers we work with regularly. A funeral lunch coordinator will work with you and can answer any questions you may have. A donation of \$50- \$150 is suggested to help with supplies for the luncheon.

Fees

The funeral home often takes care of the financial arrangements for the church.

A check for \$450, made out to Our Lady of Peace, covers the church and musician fees. Donations for the luncheon and/or gifts for the priest are handled separately or through the funeral home.

If the funeral home director will not be present, and additional fee is added to cover the expense of a funeral coordinator. In this case, the check should be \$500.

Cremation

Cremated remains will be placed next to the baptismal font. A friend or family member should be chosen to process with the cremated remains. They will follow the priest into and out of the sanctuary. The Church encourages burial of the cremated remains.

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns before or after the funeral.

We are here to help and support you however we can.

*Be assured of the prayers of our staff and community for the soul of your loved one
and for your family during this time of grief.*

Eternal Rest

GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD,

AND LET

Perpetual Light

SHINE UPON THEM.

