



FUNERAL GUIDELINES (Updated July, 2023)

St. John the Baptist Cathedral Basilica Parish

Guidelines for Funeral Mass and for Funeral Liturgy Outside Mass at the Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist - Revised July, 2023

- The Funeral Home will call the Basilica with a contact number for the family when the family of a deceased parishioner contacts them in order to set the date and time of the Funeral Mass or Funeral Service (Liturgy of the Word without Mass) with the Parish – 754-2170
- The Basilica Bereavement ministry will arrange to meet with the bereaved family and will guide the family through the choices of scripture readings and music.
- The Parish priest or his designate (with permission from the Parish priest) will preside at the Funeral Mass or Funeral Service (Liturgy of the Word without Mass) at the Basilica.
- The Funeral Mass or Funeral Service and other Funeral Rites -a Vigil Service, Closing of Casket, Rite of Committal - will be offered to the bereaved family.

Music for Funerals

- Music is chosen in the same way as at Sunday Mass and the hymns are chosen SOLELY from Catholic Book of Worship III &/or Celebrate in Song. These are the hymn books for which we have a license.
- The Organist and Cantor (trained musicians) are provided by the Basilica Parish. If the family desires an outside singer, he/she may sing an appropriate hymn at the Offertory or another part of the Mass. All parts of the Mass are sung and the Basilica musicians and singers are familiar with this music.

LIVESTREAMING OF FUNERALS (UPDATED JULY 2023)

- The Basilica Heritage Foundation and not the Parish is solely responsible for Live streaming all events in the Basilica. It requires broadcasting, music, and software copyright licenses, as well as trained technicians. If you wish to have the funeral live streamed or require a video recording of the funeral Liturgy, or for any other information, please email the Basilica Heritage Foundation. bhf.inquiries@thebasilica.net -The cost for livestreaming is 300.00

Examples of Entrance and Recessional Hymns:

For the Beauty of the Earth – Sing with All the Saints in Glory – Day Is Done – O God Our Help in Ages Past – Amazing Grace – Morning Has Broken – We Shall Go Out– Jesus Christ Is Risen Today – Canticle of the Sun – How Great Thou Are – Crown Him with Many Crowns

Examples of Communion Hymns: Bread for the World – One Love Released – Gift of Finest Wheat – Gather Us Together – Eat this Bread – Dona Nobis Pacem

Examples of Offertory Hymns: Healer of Our Every Ill – Shelter Me O God – You are Near – Make Me a Channel of Your Peace – Be Not Afraid – On Eagles' Wings

We read in John 14.1, 3: "Jesus said to his disciples: " I go to prepare a place for you, so that where I am, you may be too." May the 'songs of the angels' welcome and guide your loved one home to their eternal dwelling place.

Fr, Cecil Critch, VG, Rector