

CONCERNING THE SERVICE

The liturgies of *The Book of Common Prayer* assume the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Throughout Christian history, the Eucharist has been the sacramental feeding and the celebration of the communion of Saints. Within the context of the Burial of the Dead, this can be an occasion of great solace for those who grieve. However, it is understood that in particular situations there may be pastoral reasons not to include the Eucharist in the service.

We request: (check one)

The Burial of the Dead and Eucharist: (check one)

Rite I

Rite II

The Burial of the Dead: (check one)

Rite I

Rite II

Officiating clergy: _____

(A priest on the staff of St. Francis in the Fields customarily presides at the service. Visiting priests, at the invitation of the family and in consultation with the parish clergy; may assist in the celebration.)

THE MUSIC

The music chosen for the funeral is selected from sacred music, either hymns or Christian songs, rather than secular music, for two reasons: First, it is to be remembered that this is a worship service offered to the glory of God. Favorite songs might best be shared at a time of visitation, sometimes referred to as a Wake or Vigil, or at a reception following the funeral. Second, religious music is written specifically to convey a sense of hope, glory faith and eternity. Secular music, no matter how admired, lacks this sacred quality. It should also be noted that the music selected should be familiar to a broad range of people so that the congregation may participate fully. In selecting music, it is important to read the text to be certain the words fit this singular worship experience. Any decisions regarding music selection are to be made in consultation with the Clergy of St. Francis in the Fields.

The following are some of the suggested hymns from *The Hymnal 1982* which are most appropriate for funerals:

199	Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain	525	The Church's One Foundation
208	Alleluia! Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er	546	Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve
287	For All the Saints	494	Crown Him with Many Crowns
362	Holy, Holy, Holy	618	Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones
376	Joyful, Joyful	636, 637	How Firm a Foundation
383	Fairest Lord Jesus	645, 646	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
390	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	657	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
410	Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven	671	Amazing Grace
482	Lord of All Hopefulness	680	O God, Our Help in Ages Past
490	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	688	A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Hymns I desire to include: _____

THE READINGS

The Readings at the service are always from the Bible. It is desirable that the Reading from the Old Testament, and the Epistle, be read by lay persons. If there is a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, a passage from the Gospel always concludes the Readings.

Suggested Readings:

Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6-9
Isaiah 61:1-3
Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33
Wisdom 3:1-5, 9
Job 19:21-27a

Psalms (page number refers to *The Book of Common Prayer*) usually read in unison

Rite I	Rite II
Psalm 23 (p. 476)	Psalm 23 (p. 612)
Psalm 27 (p. 477)	Psalm 27 (p. 617)
Psalm 42 (p. 471)	Psalm 42 verses 1-7 (p. 643)
Psalm 46 (p. 471)	Psalm 46 (p. 649)
Psalm 90 (p. 472)	Psalm 90 verses 1-12 (p. 717)
Psalm 106 (p. 478)	Psalm 106 verses 1-5 (p. 741)
Psalm 116 (p. 478)	Psalm 116 (p. 759)
Psalm 121 (p. 473)	Psalm 121 (p. 779)
Psalm 130 (p. 474)	Psalm 130 (p. 478)
Psalm 139 (p. 474)	Psalm 139 verses 1-11

New Testament

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9
1 John 3:1-2
Revelation 7:9-17
Revelation 21:2-7

The Gospel

John 5:24-27
John 6:37-40
John 10:11-16
John 11:21-27
John 14:1-6

Read by the Clergy

Old Testament Reading: _____

Reader: _____

New Testament Reading: _____

Reader: _____

The Gospel: _____

THE HOMILY

The Homily is preached by a member of the Clergy. The homily is a time to offer hope and consolation to those who are bereaved, in the certainty that nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus Our Lord. It has not been the custom in the Anglican Church to offer testimonial eulogies; however, they are permitted at the discretion of the Rector. We would not presume to tell you about someone you have loved, and we would not dare to tell God about one of His own children. If any, further memorial remarks should be kept to a minimum, perhaps three minutes. Sharing the quality of a person's life is an important ministry among friends and family. It might be more fitting that personal stories be shared either at the Wake or at a reception following the service.

Homilist: _____

Other Speaker(s) (if desired) _____

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Pall bearers (customary to have six): _____

Ushers: _____

BURIAL

One of the decisions your family will need to make involves traditional burial with a coffin, or cremation with an urn. Both are ancient practices in keeping with Church teaching.

I prefer to be buried

Location of burial plot: _____

I prefer to be cremated

Ashes may be placed: _____

Location: _____

FLOWERS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

In the Anglican Church, flowers are usually limited to those on the Altar. At St. Francis in the Fields, the flowers are the responsibility of the members of our dedicated and gifted Flower Guild. Normally, additional flowers sent to the church will be displayed in the Narthex. If it is your desire to support a particular charity in lieu of flowers, that can be publicized in the obituary.

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.

.The Book of Common Prayer, page 445

We hope that parishioners will give serious consideration in the preparations of their wills to include a bequest to the church.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that contributions be made to:

Church, Name of Institution, or Charity

Church, Name of Institution, or Charity

Church, Name of Institution, or Charity

There is a provision for St. Francis in the Fields in the will or estate plan. (Unless specified explicitly as a gift to the Endowment of St. Francis in the Fields, all gifts are used for general church purposes.)

FUNERAL HOME

I prefer the following funeral home:_____

I have already made arrangements with the above funeral home.