



St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church
Funeral Service Planning

Please know that you and your family are in our daily prayer as you mourn the passing of your loved one and prepare for the Home Going Celebration. This is a difficult time for you, but you are not alone. Our Church Family will remain at your side through these weeks and in the weeks to come. Our Risen Lord Jesus wants us to remain strong with and through one another.

The Funeral Service is a crucial part of your grieving process. It allows you to gather with friends and loved ones and honor the memory of the one who passed. It is also a time to draw strength from the Lord who sustains us, as well as those who gather with you in an expression of support. As you plan the Funeral Service, you should be aware of the following:

- **Order of Service** – the Funeral Service in the Catholic Church is either a *Funeral Mass* or a *Liturgy of the Word*; the decision on which type of Service is made when you meet with the Staff at our Church. Please adhere to the agreed Order of Service for the sake of dignity and out of respect for the sacredness of our Church Home. You are invited to select:
 - Two readings from Sacred Scripture (from list provided) as well as people to proclaim them
 - Prayers of Intercession (from options provided; may be adapted with approval) as well as a person to offer them prayerfully
 - If it is a Mass, two people to bring forward the bread and the wine

- **Music** – Given the solemn nature of a Funeral Service, it is necessary that all music be “sacred” in nature, thus while “secular” music belongs in a video tribute or at the repast, it is not appropriate for the Funeral Service. **The Parish must approve all music selections.** It is preferred that your family uses the musicians and soloists that are familiar with our Church and our Services. There are FEES associated with the music and they should be paid IN CASH one day prior to the Service. *The fee for a Soloist is \$175; the fee for a piano accompanist is \$175. If one person provides both the fee is \$250.*

- **Words of Remembrance/Remarks:** You may have one or two people offer remarks at the start of the Service. They must be identified before the Service and it is strongly suggested that they write down their remarks. Remarks are limited to 3-5 minutes each (one or two people only)
- **Videos:** Our Church has two TVs mounted on the wall which can be used to play a slideshow commemorating the life of your loved one. The slideshow may include instrumental music or a song that is appropriate for a Church setting. You must bring your own device that is capable of connecting to our HDMI cable. If your computer does not have an HDMI input, you are responsible for any adaptors. Please bring your own power cord as well. You may want to have someone bring the device before the day of the Funeral to be sure it works correctly.
- **Repast:** Our School Hall *may* be available for a repast following the Funeral Service. The availability of the Hall varies throughout the year because of school, summer camp and other uses. Please consult with the Parish Staff when you meet. The family will need to provide all of the supplies and the food, the Church provides the space and a team of wonderful people who will assist in preparing the space and cleanup.
- **Church Donation:** It is suggested that the family make a donation to St. Raymond Church for the use of our space as a way of assisting with our costs. *A suggested donation for your Funeral Service is \$300.* There is no donation expected from the family of those who were regular members of the Church.
- **Live Streaming via You Tube:** We have the capability to live stream the Funeral Service. Please coordinate with the Priest or Deacon if this is something you desire. Please email a photo of your loved one to pastor@saintraymond.net so that an event can be created. You are encouraged to direct people to watch thru: www.saintraymond.net and select WORSHIP.

Please call our Parish Office at 215-549-3760 if you have questions or need to make changes regarding the Funeral Service. We are the Church founded by Jesus Christ, serving the world in His name since the year 33 AD and we will be here for all the years to come!