

+ SOME NOTES TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING A FUNERAL MASS +

Follow the link to 'Funeral Resources' on the Oranmore Parish Website

www.oranmoreparish.org

for further guidance and information and for a Scripture Reading 'print' facility.

Have you arranged a musician and/or a singer?

Will someone speak on behalf of the family?

This is best done at the beginning of Mass.

Will 'symbols of the person's life' be presented?

Ideally also at the beginning of Mass?

Who will introduce the symbols?

It is best to limit symbols to four or five.

Opening Hymn

First Reading

What reading and who is doing it?

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading

What reading and who is doing it?

Alleluia

Gospel

It is best to let the priest choose this.

Prayers of the Faithful

Who is writing them and who is reading them?

Five or six prayers are ideal.

Offertory

Two people bring bread and wine to the altar?

Offertory Hymn

Communion Hymn

Post-Communion Music or Reflection

A prayer, poem or reflective religious music?

Closing Hymn - as coffin is carried from the church

So what is needed is

- ***Somebody to speak at the beginning - optional***
- ***Some people to bring up symbols of persons life - optional***
- ***Somebody (or the same person) to provide commentary on the symbols - optional***
- ***Reader - First Reading (and for the psalm if it is not sung)- optional***
- ***Reader - Second Reading (and for the Alleluia if it is not sung) - optional***
- ***Four / Five people for the prayers of the Faithful - optional***
- ***Two people to bring up the gifts - optional***
- ***Somebody to read a post-communion reflection (not a second eulogy) - optional***

All hymn times in red are also optional

Some other things to note

- (1) Concelebrating priests are most welcome to participate in the Funeral Mass.
- (2) Altar Servers are not required but family members who are servers are welcome to participate.
- (3) Family members are welcome to help distribute Holy Communion if they are already commissioned Ministers.
- (4) It is good practice and avoids confusion and upset if it is decided before the funeral who is carrying the coffin into and out of the church and from the hearse to the grave.
- (5) It is best if family members take the front seats on their left (facing the altar) during the Funeral Mass.
- (6) Delegate somebody to collect, immediately after Mass, any symbols brought to the altar.

Give the following list of FIRST NAMES to the priest before the ceremony -

Person speaking at the beginning of Mass-

Person commentating on 'symbols'-

Those presenting 'symbols'-

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

(5) _____

First Reading / Psalm (if not being sung)-

Second Reading / Alleluia (if not being sung)-

Prayers of the Faithful-

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

(5) _____

(6) _____

Offertory of Bread and Wine-

(1) _____

(2) _____

Post-Communion Reflection-

Name of Musician / Singer / Choir-

Further notes or information for priest -