

FUNERALS AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH

St. Andrew Catholic Church
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I. SCHEDULING INFORMATION

A) Funeral Liturgy

When a Catholic dies there is sadness because we will miss our loved one. We sorrow because we know life is good. However life with the Lord is a far greater good. We have a sure and certain hope in the Lord so we do not grieve as do those who have no hope. Recognizing that we have such hope we celebrate the life of our brothers and sisters who rest now in the Lord with a Mass of Christian Burial. A Mass is the most appropriate liturgy of memorial for a baptized Catholic.

B) Luncheon

The parish of St. Andrew offers, as an act of Christian solidarity, a funeral luncheon for those parishioners who are buried from the church.

The funeral luncheon is a gift from the parish provided by volunteers. The family requesting a luncheon is asked to pay for the meat that is served. The luncheon follows the Mass or the Interment.

C) Visitation

The most common pattern at St. Andrew is visitation scheduled for one or two days at the funeral home prior to the funeral and then an hour of visitation in the Narthex at the church prior to the funeral Mass. It is possible to schedule a period of visitation in the Narthex at the church for the **evening** before the funeral. This depends, of course, on what other scheduled activities are going on at the church. Sometimes a family will request a Vigil Service or a Rosary be said at the funeral home the evening prior to the funeral. This depends on the availability of a priest, deacon or pastoral minister.

D) Interment

Interment should be discussed with the priest who is saying the funeral Mass. However interment at a cemetery outside of Washtenaw County is beyond the scope of the parish priest's usual area.

E) Stipends

- \$125.00 for the organist
- \$100.00 for the cantor, primary singer who sings the psalm
- \$150.00 for the presider (priest)

(Inquire whether or not the funeral director handles this.)

Although there is a schedule of stipends assigned to funerals, no one will ever be denied a funeral at St. Andrew church for monetary reasons.

II. FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN THE FUNERAL

If family members desire to take a part in the ritual of the funeral Mass they are very welcome to participate in the following ways, however, none of these suggested actions is required:

1. Most often the family will pick out the first and second readings for the funeral Mass.
2. They may also select the music for the Mass. They discuss their selections with the music director.
3. Family members may proclaim the first and second Mass readings and read the general intercessions. If family members are going to read at Mass, a church staff member will be at church prior to Mass to give them an opportunity to become comfortable with the sound system and to practice their reading.

(This is a matter of choice. If family members are uncomfortable with public reading, a church staff person will be ready the readings.)

4. The family is invited to place the funeral pall on the casket at the beginning of Mass and to bring the gifts to the altar at the Offertory.

III. PLANNING INFORMATION

The following information is needed by the parish representative in order to plan the funeral at St. Andrew Church:

- What is the name of the funeral home being used?
- Does the family want a funeral luncheon?
- What time is desired for funeral?
- Does the family want an hour visitation at the church before Mass?
- Does the family want visitation at the church the night before?
- Does the family desire a rosary or a vigil service at the funeral home or at the church? (If the wake is at the church there must be either a rosary or a vigil service.)