

## St. Bonaventure Parish Guidelines for Funeral Arrangements

- I. Scheduling a funeral:
  - A. A Vigil Service or Rosary may be scheduled the evening prior at the funeral home (or church when available) with a deacon or priest presiding.
  - B. Visitation or a viewing of the body usually takes place in the Marian Area of the church from 10:00-11:00 AM before the Funeral Mass or Service.
  - C. The Funeral Mass or Service is usually scheduled at 11:00 AM.
  - D. A Noon luncheon is served in Ambrose Hall after the Mass. Two business days are needed to order the food. For an evening funeral, only coffee, juice and dessert offered; no meal provided.
  - E. Please park your cars in the South Parking Lot. The procession to the cemetery will form and leave from there at the conclusion of the luncheon. Please be aware that Fort Snelling Cemetery will not schedule burials on Saturdays.
- II. Regarding Cremation:
  - A. Cremation is acceptable by the Church which provides for a Rite of Burial when the cremains are brought to church in an urn, wooden box, or other respectable container.
  - B. In keeping with Church teaching, there are two options for final disposition of cremated remains: in-ground burial and above-ground inurnment.
- III. Planning the Funeral Mass; arrange a meeting at the parish office with the priest:
  - A. Select the scriptures and music (all music must be sacred).
  - B. Offer insights into the life of the deceased to be incorporated in the homily.
  - C. Family members are invited to place the white pall on the casket at the church doors, proclaim the readings except the Gospel, lead the petitions (prayer of the faithful), present the gifts of bread and wine. Commissioned Eucharistic Ministers may assist with the distribution of Holy Communion.
  - D. The parish has a keyboard player/choir director for funerals. We have a group of volunteer singers available, our "Resurrection Choir" (no stipend). Special instruments or singers may be added for special music working with our parish musician. If you wish to provide your own instrumentalists and/or singers, they must sing/lead *all the parts* of the Mass and songs with the assembly. We have soloists/songleaders available if you would rather not have a large ensemble.
- IV. Eulogies/Words of Remembrance:
  - A. Eulogies should be given at the vigil service or during the parish luncheon.
  - B. One very brief (3-5 minute) eulogy may be given by one person in church before Mass begins, if approved.
- V. There is no charge for a funeral at St. Bonaventure's but *donations* are accepted:
  - A. Luncheon—\$3.00 per plate
  - B. Musician—\$200.00, Soloist—\$125 (if needed)
  - C. Deacon Presider for Funeral Service (not a Mass)—\$125
  - D. Mass Stipends for the deceased are to be used for Masses only, at the place of your choice.
- VI. Special Requests: Any special requests should be presented well in advance to the priest/deacon who will be presiding at the funeral.