

Dear Parishioner, dear friend,

The grief you are experiencing also touches us as a parish and a Catholic community. Our natural human expressions of sympathy are joined to our prayers for you. Christ's resurrection from the dead is our own hope of eternal life. May this belief be a source of consolation for you during these days of mourning.

*Some families desire to take a more active part in the Mass of Christian Burial, which is offered for the repose of the soul of their loved one. This booklet has been prepared for this purpose. If you wish to do so, please review the pages that follow and complete the **"Selection and Participation Sheet"** as soon as you can. We will use it to prepare a personalized leaflet for the Mass.*

Please accept the sympathy and prayers of our parish for you and your family. Be assured the name of your beloved has been placed on our deceased list permanently.

In the Lord,

The Seton Pastoral Staff

Family Participation In The Funeral Mass

Please use this booklet to fill out the Selection and Participation Sheet, and give it to the priest or deacon at the wake (vigil) service so that preparations may be made for the Funeral Mass.

1.) Reception At The Church

The Rite of Reception takes place at the beginning of the Funeral Mass. Following the celebrant's greeting and sprinkling of the coffin with holy water, a white funeral pall (covering), which reminds us of the white baptismal garment, signifying life in Christ, is placed on the coffin. Members of the family are encouraged to participate in this ritual.

2.) Scripture Readings

You are encouraged to choose one or two readings

- a. If you choose TWO: one must be from the Old Testament (#'s 1 – 5a) and the other from the New Testament (#'s 6 – 21).
- b. If you choose only ONE, it must be from the Scripture readings in this book.

Readers will read from a proper book at the Mass. **Do not bring this booklet or a Xeroxed copy to the pulpit.** **ONLY CATHOLICS MAY READ THE SCRIPTURE READINGS DURING MASS.**

3.) Presentation of the Bread and Wine

Family members are encouraged to bring the bread and wine to the priest during the Preparation of the Altar, after the Prayer of the Faithful.

4.) Music for the Funeral Mass

Family members may suggest Christian hymns that are **appropriate for a Funeral Mass**. A Hymn Selection list is found at the end of this booklet.

5.) Eulogy

The Catholic Church permits one, brief eulogy by one mourner at Mass. A eulogy can be more effective in the Funeral Home (more people present; more time to offer remembrances) than at Mass. If you choose a eulogy at Mass, Seton Parish provides time at the beginning of the Mass. It is limited to three minutes (500 words). A eulogy, which is not a biography of the deceased, should explain how the deceased showed in life a personal love of God: virtues in action; words of wisdom; a good deed.

Hymn Selection

Entrance & Closing

(Choose only two hymns from this page)

1. Amazing Grace
2. Be Not Afraid
3. Christ Be Beside Me
(Tune: "Morning Has Broken...")
4. Christ the Lord is Risen Today
5. Faith of Our Fathers
6. For All the Saints
7. Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
8. Holy, Holy, Holy
9. How Great Thou Art
10. I Know That My Redeemer Lives
11. Jesus Christ is Risen Today
12. Lift High the Cross
13. Morning Has Broken
14. O God, Our Help in Ages Past
15. Shall We Gather at the River
16. Sing With All the Saints in Glory
17. The Strife is O'er
18. We Gather Together
19. We Walk By Faith
20. Celtic Song of Farewell ("In Paradisum")
(Tune: "Danny Boy")

Hymn Selection

Presentation of the Gifts & Communion

(Choose only two hymns from this page)

21. Where Charity and Love Prevail
22. At That First Eucharist (for Communion)
23. Ave Maria (solo)
24. Blest Are They
25. Come To Me
26. Eye Has Not Seen
27. Here I Am, Lord
28. I Am the Bread of Life (for Communion)
29. I Call You To My Father's House
(Tune: "Amazing Grace")
30. I Heard The Voice Of Jesus
31. Jesus Christ, Bread of Life (for Communion)
(Tune: "Going Home")
32. Lord of All Hopefulness
33. Lord, When You Came to the Seashore
34. On Eagle's Wings
35. Panis Angelicus (Solo) (for Communion)
36. Prayer of St. Francis
37. Precious Lord, Take my Hand
38. The King of Love My Shepherd Is
39. We Remember
40. You Are Mine
41. You Are Near