

Church of St. John & St. Mary

Funeral Liturgy Planning Sheet

Funeral Arrangements for:

Name of Deceased: _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Date of Death:** _____ **Age:** _____

Family Contact Information:

Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____

Phone Number: () _____ - _____

Other Family Members: _____

Selected Readings:

Old Testament: _____ **Read By:** _____

New Testament: _____ **Read By:** _____

Eulogy **Yes** ____ **No** ____ **Read By:** _____

Selected Music:

Entrance Hymn: _____

Responsorial Psalm: _____

Offertory Hymn: _____

Communion Hymn: _____

Recessional Hymn: _____

OPTIONAL Remarks of Remembrance: Eulogy

The Archdioceses of New York, following the liturgical norms of the Catholic Church, has issued strict guidelines about eulogies at Funeral Masses. For the purpose of enhancing our worship of God:

+ ***ONLY ONE PERSON*** may deliver ***ONE*** eulogy at the Funeral Mass

+ The Eulogy ***MUST*** be appropriate for Mass and ***CONNECT*** the deceased person's life to his/ her faith.

It is ***NOT*** to include anecdotes or reminiscences which are inappropriate at a Eucharistic Celebration.

+ It should be 2-3 minutes in length.

++ There is a proper place for sharing loving remembrances and anecdotes and that is at the Wake or if the family is sharing a meal following the Funeral Mass and Burial.

STEPS for preparing Remarks of Remembrance or Eulogy

1. What sets this person apart or what can you share about the person's spirit, particularly in living out the faith or bringing Christ's presence into the world?

2. Be specific and brief. About 2-3 minutes is the norm. Remarks should always be written out for better delivery. Hearing a poorly prepared, longwinded or incoherent eulogy can be embarrassing and can be detrimental to the atmosphere of prayer and the proper spirit of the occasion.

3. The remarks should be done with decorum, decency, and with respect to the Catholic faith and tradition. Referring to things such as poems or song texts that are in opposition to the Catholic belief of death and resurrection are not appropriate.

4. It is most appropriate that the remarks or other stories be shared during the time of the Vigil. Do not feel that it is necessary to offer memories at the funeral. In fact, it is an *option*.