

Guide to a Funeral Service



St Catherine of Siena Church, Melton West
108 Bulmans Road, Melton West 3337

St Dominic's Church, Melton
Church Street, Melton 3337

PREPARING FOR A FUNERAL

Things to Think About

There are a few things to consider when preparing for a funeral service. These include:

- Will there be a viewing?
- Will the Rosary be recited before the service?
- Will there be a Funeral Mass or a service without Mass?
- Will there be 1 or 2 readings – Consider who will be reading these.
- What music will be used during the service? These could include songs, hymns and instrumental pieces.
- Will there be eulogies or words of remembrance?
- Will there be a visual tribute? These are done in PowerPoint and normally contain photos with appropriate music. Only St Catherine of Siena Church has AV facilities for PowerPoint presentations and music from CD/DVDs.

Before the Service

Before the service there are a few details to consider. These will need to be organised with the Parish prior to the start of the Service.

- Viewing / open casket
- Rosary
- Visual Tributes - who will introduce this?

The Service

The funeral has the option to be a simple funeral service (without the Eucharist) or a full Requiem Mass.

Our parish priest can be available to celebrate the funeral service or you can bring your own celebrant. If there is another priest or deacon coming to celebrate the service, we kindly request they make a call to the parish priest. Chasubles, thuribles & incense, and holy water are available at each Church.

Templates for funeral service and requiem mass booklets, as well as suggested readings, hymns and prayers of intercessions can be found on our website: tinyurl.com/MeltonParishFunerals

THE SERVICE

Introductory Rites

The celebrant calls the congregation to prayer. An entrance song or music may be chosen.

Placing of the Symbols

Symbols may be placed on the coffin to remember the life of the person. These include the Pall, the Cross, Bibles and Rosary Beads. Family members may place these on the coffin.

Liturgy of the Word

- First Reading
- Responsorial Psalm
- Second Reading [OPTIONAL]
- Gospel Acclamation
- Gospel (read by the Celebrant)
- Homily (said by the Celebrant)
- Prayers of Intercession

Reader/s will need to be selected to do the above readings (*except the Gospel and Homily which are said by the celebrant*).

The priest, in his homily and introductions, will refer to the person who has died and the family who mourn. But his principal task is to speak of hope, God's merciful love, and the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Liturgy of the Eucharist (for Requiem Mass only)

Reader/s will need to be selected to do the below readings. Hymns or music may be chosen for the presentation of the gifts during offertory and while Communion is distributed.

- Offertory
- Communion
- Prayer after Communion

Words of Remembrance

It is best for a relative or friend who has shared the person's life to speak in remembrance of the dead person. The words of remembrance should be concise and honest. Rather than recount everything the person did, they could try to say how and why the person should be remembered.

- Words of Remembrance / Eulogy
- A photo/video tribute may also be played at this time

Concluding Rite

The celebrant will lead this section. A hymn or music may be chosen for the end of the service.

- Final Commendations & Signs of Farewell

OUR CHURCHES

St Catherine of Siena Church

108 Bulmans Rd, Melton West

Funerals at St Catherine of Siena Church have a maximum capacity of 500 people with an extension into the annex of 150 people and the hall of 800 people. It has AV support for PowerPoint presentations and music from CD/DVD's. There is also an electronic piano and plug-ins for other instruments in the choir area.

St Dominic's Church

Church St, Melton

Funerals at St Dominic's Church have a capacity of 60-80 people. There is NO A/V support for overhead displays or music except an electronic keyboard. A portable sound system will need to be supplied by the family or funeral director for any music.



Catholic Parish of Melton

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