



# Sacred Heart Parish

## FUNERAL GUIDELINES

March 2014

Funerals are a sad and emotional time for many people. We at Sacred Heart Catholic Church strive to make our funerals as stress free and prayerful as possible. We will handle everything from lectors, music, altar servers, and reception. All you have to do is (1) call as soon as possible after your loved one has died to schedule a day for the funeral, (2) meet with us at least THREE to FIVE days before the funeral for approximately 45 minutes, and (3) arrive at the funeral 30 minutes early.

If you have a friend or loved one who has died, here are some guidelines for setting up a funeral at Sacred Heart Catholic Church:

1. Contact a Funeral Parlor immediately after the death of your loved one.
2. The deceased must be Catholic and registered at Sacred Heart Parish
3. Contact Sacred Heart ASAP to schedule the funeral date and meeting.
4. Meet with us THREE to FIVE days before the funeral for 45 minutes.
5. Funerals are scheduled for 11:00 AM on Weekdays.
6. \*Funerals at Sacred Heart are celebrated during MASS, not a SERVICE.
7. 9:00 AM Daily Mass is cancelled on the day of a funeral.
8. Daily Mass Parishioners are encouraged to attend the funeral Mass.
9. Cost: We do not charge for funerals. Donations are accepted.

\*NOTE: During a Funeral MASS communion is offered. The MASS is approximately one hour long. During a Funeral SERVICE (Funeral outside of Mass), communion is not offered and the SERVICE is approximately 30 minutes long. We will also celebrate a MASS or SERVICE at the funeral parlor.

The family will be responsible for calling Sacred Heart at 907-376-5087 to schedule a funeral date and set up a meeting with the Pastor. Please allow THREE to FIVE days before the funeral date for the meeting. During the meeting we will finalize/discuss:

1. Sacraments: What sacraments has the deceased received?
2. Family Members: Names of family members.
3. Time and Date: Confirm time and date of funeral.
4. Mass or Service: Church or Funeral Parlor?
5. Music: Provided by Sacred Heart. Does deceased have favorite song?
6. Altar Servers: Sacred Heart will provide servers.
7. Readings: Sacred Heart chooses readings/Lectors. Family Lectors?
8. Optional Eulogy: Two 3 minute talks at beginning of mass if wanted.
9. Honors: Military or Knights of Columbus?
10. Gifts: Family members carry up the gifts. Names?
11. Reception: Sacred Heart provides free reception. Number attending?
12. Casket: Casket or Urn?
13. Burial: Will Sacred Heart perform a burial ceremony after the Funeral?
14. Slide Show: Capability for a slide show during the reception?

We pray that your experience with us will be prayerful and allow you the opportunity to grieve the loss of your loved one. We will do everything we can to instill in you the hope that your loved one is in a much better place, living with God, forever.

Father Scott J. Garrett  
Pastor