



# Planning Your Loved One's Funeral

St. Elizabeth Church, Melville, New York

## A Guide for Family and Friends

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Name of the Deceased

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Day and Date of Funeral Mass

This booklet is best completed with the help of  
*The Ministry of Consolation*  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish  
175 Wolf Hill Road  
Melville, New York 11747  
631.271.4455

**I. PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT the DECEASED**

Date and Place of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptismal Church (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Parishioner of St. Elizabeth:  Yes  No      If yes, for how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Are the deceased's parents living?  Yes  No

Names of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Names of Grandchildren and/or Great-grandchildren: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Names of Brothers and Sisters: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**a) Other Information**

Personal qualities (*e.g., caring, a good listener, brought out the goodness of others, loving, hard-working, family-centered, overcame great obstacles, courageous...*) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interest/ Hobbies/ Talents: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of involvement in St. Elizabeth parish: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Was this a sudden death?  Yes  No

Was this a long illness?     Yes    No

Briefly describe the cause of death: \_\_\_\_\_

If the deceased suffered from an illness, who were the primary caregivers? \_\_\_\_\_

Other information which may be helpful to the Priest-President: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. WAKE SERVICE

A priest, deacon, or pastoral minister will come to the funeral home and conduct the Wake Service. *Eulogies or reminiscences* can be included during the Wake Service, should the family or friends choose. Please notify the leader of the Wake Service before the Service begins.

## III. FUNERAL MASS

A member of St. Elizabeth Ministry of Consolation is available to assist the family and friends in planning some of the details for the Funeral Mass. Below are possible areas which can be considered.

### a) Placing of Christian Symbols

At the beginning of the funeral Mass, the family members may be invited by the Presider to place Christian symbols on the casket. The Funeral Pall is a reminder of the garment given at Baptism and a sign of the life in Christ lived by the deceased. Other symbols include the cross and the Bible, perhaps a cross from the home of the deceased, or a Bible [p. 355]. The funeral director usually provides a small cross.

Pall:

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Cross:    Yes    No   Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Bible:    Yes    No   Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

### b) Scripture Readings

The Sacred Scriptures are God's Word to us; they are a source of special strength and consolation at the time of the death of a loved one. A small book with selections from the Scriptures is available

from the Funeral Director. A family member or friend who is a gifted reader may be selected to proclaim the Scripture passage at the Funeral Mass. Please note any selections on the next page:

First Reading (Old Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Reader: *(one person)* \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading (New Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Reader: *(one person)* \_\_\_\_\_

*The Gospel is chosen and read by the Priest-President or Deacon.*

**c) Presentation of the Gifts of Bread and Wine**

The bread and wine can be presented to the Priest-President by two family members or friends. After the general intercessions the priest will descend to the end of the sanctuary. Those who have been selected will take the bread or wine from the small table in front of the family pew and present the gifts to the priest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presenter of bread *(one person)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presenter of wine *(one person)*

**d) Music Selections**

There are various church hymns which may be used during the funeral Mass. A list is available in the Selections booklet. The organist and soloist will do their best to honor the wishes of the deceased, family members, or friends. (Please note that during the celebration of Catholic Mass, secular songs are not permitted by the Church.)

Gathering/Closing Hymn:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm: \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation / Communion:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_