



Planning Your Loved One's Funeral

St. Elizabeth Church, Melville, New York



A Guide for Family and Friends

Name of the Deceased

Day, Date and Time 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: _____ Living Deceased _____
place of funeral Mass

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-Presider: _____

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:

First Reading (Old Testament): _____

Name of Reader: *(one person)* _____

(Readers should be 14 years of age or older)

Second Reading (New Testament): _____

Name of Reader: *(one person)* _____

(Readers should be 14 years of age or older)

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

c) Presentation of the Gifts of Bread and Wine

The bread and wine can be presented to the Priest-Presider 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 Hymn: _____

Psalm: _____

Presentation Hymn: _____

Communion Hymn: _____

Closing Hymn: _____