

## A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Death is never easy, whether expected or unexpected. The funeral liturgy, the Rite of Christian Burial, is the Church's expression of our faith and hope rooted in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In it we acknowledge the reality of death in our world and in our lives, we remember the ways in which God has blessed us through the life of the deceased person, and we commend our loved one to the mercy and compassion of God.

This booklet is intended to help you with the planning process of a funeral in our parish. We hope that it helps you in this significant time to express your love, your faith and your hope in Jesus Christ.

We also invite you to stay in contact with the parish following the funeral. The parish has a number of ministries to help you through the process of grief. Please contact Deacon Larry or me to get more information about these ministries.

Peace,



Father Matthew, OSB

In Christ the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned,  
that those saddened by the certainty of dying  
might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come.  
Indeed, for your faithful, Lord,  
life is changed not ended,  
and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust,  
an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.  
(—Eucharistic Prayer III in the *Roman Missal*)

## Cemetery

The Church of Saint Boniface operates the Parish Cemetery, which is located on the north edge of town off County Road 50. The cemetery is open from dawn until dusk.

Kremer's Trucking and Excavating has the sole authority to prepare plots for burial. Funeral Homes are responsible for opening and closing mausoleum and columbarium niches for the entombment of the mortal remains of the deceased. Families who

	<i>Parishioner Fee</i>	<i>Non-parishioner Fee</i>
Ground plot	\$350	\$1,000
Crypt-full	ground lev.	\$3,250
	lev. 2/3	\$3,600
	top row	\$2,900
Name plate	\$325*	\$325*
Niche	\$850	\$1,100
Name plate	\$250*	\$250*

On 1 January 2016, Coldspring is raising the price for nameplates. The new price has not yet been published.

## Family Remembrances (Eulogies)

The most appropriate time for a Family Remembrance is at the Vigil (Wake) service. A time is provided in that service for family members and loved ones to share brief stories. The light dinner following the funeral Mass provides a good opportunity for informal sharing. A display of pictures (including digital images) could be displayed. Families who wish to offer a Family Remembrance during the Funeral Liturgy may do so at the beginning of the Mass. Only one Family Remembrance is permitted, and it must be typed out on the front of one single sheet of paper. The homily at the funeral Mass is the priest's time to speak of God's Word and of practicing it in our lives.

## Fees and Stipends

Burying the dead is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. As such, the Church of Saint Boniface does not charge families for the use of facilities or the like.

A summary of our fees is listed for your convenience:

### Parish:

Clergy	\$50 (suggested) <i>paid directly</i>
Space fee	<i>no charge</i>
Food	cost from Teal's and the Bakery
Funeral Coordinator**	\$150 <i>paid directly</i>
Parish Sexton**	\$100 <i>paid directly</i>
Video Recording	\$25

### Musicians:

Cantor/Choir director	\$70 <i>paid directly</i>
Organist/pianist	\$80 <i>paid directly</i>
Choir	<i>no charge</i>

Families who wish to make donations to the parish for use of the narthex and Parish Center or services of the choir are free to do so.

\*\*Families who have had the deceased person cremated and wish to have a small, private funeral may be given permission by the Pastor to not employ the services of a Funeral Home. In such a case, the family is asked to pay a funeral coordinator who will help with the preparations for the visitation as well as the Parish Sexton who will open and close the columbarium. If a family in such a situation wishes to bury the cremated remains, they are asked to contact Kremer's Trucking and Excavation to prepare the plot.

## Flowers

Flowers used at the funeral home for the Vigil service may be brought to the church. They are most appropriate in the main entryway along with the guest book and, possibly, some photos. The environment of the sanctuary is set for the liturgical season. The altar, ambo, priest's chair, and the congregation are the primary symbols of the liturgy. For the funeral, the casket with the draped pall is placed before the Easter Candle near the ambo. The symbols of liturgy speak loudly and boldly when additional items do not detract. The space should be simple and dignified rather than crowded, cluttered, or "busy." Flowers and photos in the entryway may also be placed in the Parish Center during the light dinner.

## Funeral Meal

The parish hosts a light meal for the family and guests in the Parish Center either immediately following the funeral Mass (if the burial is to take place later or the body will be cremated and interred at a later time) or following the burial.

The Christian Women of Saint Boniface coordinate volunteers to serve this lunch and clean up afterwards. The family will be charged only for the cost of food—all other aspects of the funeral lunch are provided. Families are free to bring in an outside caterer if they so wish. The Christian Women will still coordinate volunteers to staff the kitchen and clean up.

## Mass Offerings

The Diocese of Saint Cloud requests that Funeral Homes collect all requests for Masses to be said for the deceased to be given to the Parish to insure that the Masses are said in a timely manner. (Canon Law dictates that the Masses must be said within one year of the offering.) The Parish Administrative Assistant will take the Mass envelopes during the Funeral Mass to remove the offerings and record the number of Masses requested, returning the envelopes to the family so that they might write thank you notes. The parish will make sure three Masses are offered in the coming year for the deceased person, and then will send the other Mass intentions to other priests to be said within the year. Families who would like to request Masses said at the parishes of family members should inform the Parish Administrative Assistant of this desire.

## Music

Music is a strong part of the funeral liturgy. It allows the community to express beliefs and feelings that that words alone fail to express. It has the power to console, and uplift mourners. “The texts of the songs chosen should express the paschal mystery of the Lord’s suffering, death and triumph over death” (*Order of Christian Funerals*, no. 30). In this respect, the music is intimately connected to the readings and focused on the Resurrection. It should also be familiar to family and friends. Since music can evoke strong feeling, music should be chosen with great care. Music should support, console, and uplift the community and create in them a spirit of hope in Christ’s victory over death.

A list of some of the more common hymns/songs from the *Gather Comprehensive* hymnals appropriate for the funeral Mass is available in the section, *Readings and Music for Funerals*. In addition to processional, offertory, communion, and recessional songs, we normally sing the Mass parts: Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation, Eucharistic Prayer acclamations (Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Amen, Lamb of God), and a Song of Final Commendation.

The Saint Boniface Resurrection Choir is ready and able to provide the music for the Funeral Mass. This Choir consists of Saint Boniface parishioners who volunteer to provide this music ministry.

## Offertory Procession

Gifts of bread and wine (paten of hosts and cruet of wine) are brought forward at the Offertory of the Funeral Mass. At least two people are needed, but more could accompany them in the procession.

## Pall

The funeral pall is draped over the casket in the entryway before the funeral Mass begins. The large white pall is a reminder of the dignity of baptism, where the white garment was worn. We encourage the family to draw the pall open over the casket. In the case of cremation before the funeral liturgy, a pall is not placed over the cremated remains.

## Pallbearers

Pallbearers are needed to accompany the body of the deceased both physically and spiritually. Families are free to select at least six people, male or female, who are physically able to lift and carry the coffin.

In the case of a Funeral Mass with cremated remains, families may choose Honorary Pallbearers who spiritually accompany the cremated remains of the body of a loved one.

## Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions)

The petitions are presented at Mass following the homily. Typical petitions for the funeral mass are available in the section, *Readings and Music for Funerals*. They can be tailored to include the names of family members who have died, as well as other special intentions. Normally, a family member or friend reads the petitions.

## Priest, Deacon, Musicians and Servers

Our pastor normally presides at the funeral Mass. A deacon normally presides at the Vigil (Wake). Ministers of Music from the parish are provided, as well as servers for the Mass.

## Readings

For the Funeral Mass, three readings are proclaimed: an Old Testament Reading, a New Testament Reading and a Gospel Reading. You are invited to select the Old Testament reading and the New Testament Reading. The priest or deacon who preaches will select the Gospel reading.

Additionally, some scripture readings are proclaimed at the wake service. These would usually consist of either an Old or New Testament reading.

A family member or friend of the family should proclaim the Old and New Testament readings. If no one is available, the parish will provide a reader. A different person may proclaim each reading, or one person may read all readings. The deacon or priest will proclaim the Gospel reading.

Reading options can be found in the section: *Readings and Music for Funerals*. A sheet that will be completed by the family is also included in the front of the book.

## Recording of the Funeral Mass

The Church of Saint Boniface is able to record a video of the Funeral Mass in the church. The camera is mounted on the pillar near the Baptistry. Families who wish to have the Funeral Mass recorded should contact the Parish Office to make arrangements. There is a nominal fee for this service.

## Vigil (Wake) Service

Years ago an official Catholic Vigil service did not exist. Family and friends would gather and pray the rosary together. Now, the church has an official service, which includes prayers, scripture readings, and homily. The service then provides some flexibility in content. Family and friends may share some stories, letters, tributes, songs, poems, and other memories of their loved one.

If praying the rosary was an important part of the deceased's life or of the family, a decade of the rosary would be appropriate at this time. One of the parish deacons normally presides at the Vigil. They are most willing to discuss options with the family and arrange a plan for the Vigil service.