

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

FUNERAL MUSIC GUIDE

- Because the funeral Mass is a rite of the Catholic Church, the music must be of a sacred nature.
 - Secular music and recorded music are **NOT** allowed.
 - All music selections are subject to the approval of both the Director of Music and the Pastor.
- The Director of Music is the default musician for all funerals at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The stipend fee is **\$150.00**
- The Cantor stipend is **\$75.00**, but the individual may accept or decline it as they choose.
- Instrumentalists from the immediate family joining the organist and cantor/choir are **not allowed**.
 - It is the primary responsibility of the family to pray for the soul of their departed loved one, in addition to offering comfort to one another. The emotion of the occasion does not lend itself to well-played music, and it is a disservice to the musician to expect him or her to play well under such an emotional strain.
- The responsorial psalm is selected by the family along with the readings.
 - The default psalm tunes are from the St. Noel Chabanel collection (printed in the pew missal).
 - Another psalm melody may be used if requested; however, **the text of the psalm must be identical to the approved translations currently in use**. The responsorial psalm is a prescribed text of the Mass, and **will not be changed for any reason**. **If the words have been altered in any way, the requested psalm WILL NOT be used**.
- **If a hymn is not on the list below, it WILL NOT BE USED.**

HYMNS:

- Processional:
 - Jerusalem, My Happy Home, #583
 - Faith of Our Fathers, #508
 - God of Our Fathers (option for veterans), #529
 - O God, Our Help In Ages Past, #658
 - Sing With All The Saints In Glory, #754
 - May be sung with the “Ode to Joy” melody, rather than the listed “Rustington” hymn tune.
 - The Strife Is O’er, #788
- Offertory:
 - When Peace Like a River, #829
 - I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say, #563
 - #564 may also be used; the melody is more solemn than the other
 - Be Still, My Soul, #446
 - My Shepherd Will Supply My Need, #630
 - Be Thou My Vision, #447
 - Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me, #618
 - Schubert’s “Ave Maria”
 - May only be used if the cantor is able to sing it

- Communion (choose up to three):
 - Anything from the Offertory list may be used here as well.
 - Draw Near and Take the Body of Thy Lord, #501
 - #502 may also be used
 - Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All, #587
 - The King of Love, #783
 - Panis Angelicus, #710
 - Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless, #743
 - Eternal Father, Strong to Save (option for veterans), #506
 - Lord of All Hopefulness, #617
 - Jesus, Lord, Have Mercy, #586
- Various Latin chants (e.g., Ave Verum Corpus, Ave Maria, Jesu Dulcis Memoria, etc.) are allowed at either the Offertory or Communion. Any of the chants in the Saint Michael Hymnal may be used, as long as they are seasonally appropriate (e.g., the Christus Vincit is not appropriate for a funeral, as it is specific to the feast of Christ the King).
- Final Commendation:
 - Song of Farewell, #755 (**not changeable**)
- Recessional:
 - In Paradisum, #577 (**not changeable**)
 - May be sung in English
 - After the “In Paradisum” is sung, the “Dies Irae” may be played quietly by the organist as the family and attendees leave the church, if desired.
 - **There is no other recessional hymn used here. At this point, the funeral Mass is not yet over; the family and the congregation will process out either in silence or to the instrumental Dies Irae listed above.**

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Bowman (Organist/Music Director) at:

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