



## ST. PIUS X CHURCH AND SCHOOL

1051 Waggoner Road Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-9704

614-866-2859 Fax 614-866-1499 [www.spxreynoldsburg.com](http://www.spxreynoldsburg.com)

# I. **COVID-19** **General Directives for Funeral Masses/Ceremonies**

as of 7/19/2020

## Planning the Funeral

- The family may choose songs for the Funeral liturgy, from the selection of hymns provided in the SPX Funeral Guidelines booklet, or other hymns as found the Breaking Bread hymnal, alone.
- The family may choose the Scripture readings from the selections offered in the SPX Funeral Guidelines booklet, or other passages as found in the New American Bible Revised Edition (the translation approved for use in the Catholic liturgies by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).
- Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic, and following the directives provided by the appropriate authorities, we are not permitted to allow family or friends to provide assistance in the following roles: Altar Servers, Gift Bearers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Musicians, or Instrumentalists.

## Before the Funeral

- All in attendance are asked to please wear a Face Mask before, during, and leaving the funeral. (The parish will provide a disposable Face Mask, should an attendee need one.)
- Kindly use the hand sanitizer as you enter the Church.
- Find a seat in an *un*-taped (socially-distanced) section of the pews.

## During the Funeral

- There is limited access to restrooms (one person, or one parent/child at a time).
- The following are suspended until otherwise directed by the Governor's office: Holy Water, Hymnals, Sign of Peace, Distribution of the Precious Blood.
- Social distancing requires that both the Children's Quieting Room and the Bride's Room are closed.
- To protect everyone involved, it's important to have as few people in the Sanctuary, as possible, which means the following roles are suspended, until a safer time: Altar Servers, Gift Bearers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Musicians, or Instrumentalists.



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- These limitations also apply to our musicians. At most, we will have one Musician/Instrumentalist and one Cantor, with shortened (yet still beautiful!) hymns.
- Holy Communion will only be distributed by Priest/s or Deacon.
- We respectfully request that folks receive the Eucharist in their hand, as that is the much safer option, in terms of hygiene.
- Holy Communion will only be distributed to the two Center Section pews of Church, in the main aisle, using the safe-spaced indications along the floor.
- Please be sure to remove your Face Mask *as the person in front of you receives Holy Communion*.
- Following your reception of the Eucharist, resume wearing your Face Mask *as you start back to your pew*.

### **After the Funeral**

- Kindly use the hand sanitizer as you exit the Church and continue wearing a Face Mask, until you have returned to your vehicles.

### **At the Cemetery**

- Social-distancing is still directed, and Face Masks are encouraged.

## **II. COVID-19 Liturgical Directives for Funeral Masses**

as of 7/19/2020

### **Opening Rites**

- a) Reception of the Casket\* - Upon the arrival of the casket, it is placed on a trundle and moved into the church, followed by close family and friends.
- b) Blessing of the Deceased - The Priest offers a greeting, confers a blessing, and sprinkles the casket with Holy Water.
- c) Placing of the Pall and the Crucifix - The Funeral Director drapes the pall over the casket and places the crucifix.

**\*Please Note:** If there is an urn (rather than a casket), the urn is placed on a small table at the foot of the altar, and draped with a pall, *before* Mass begins. The funeral then begins with the Opening Hymn, Entrance Procession, and Opening Prayer.

d) Opening Hymn and Entrance Procession - The Priest (and Deacon/s) lead the casket/urn, and the family down the main aisle. The first couple of verses and chorus of an Opening Hymn are sung by the cantor/musician.

e) Stationing of the Casket - The casket is placed at the foot of the altar, near the base of the Paschal Candle.

f) Opening Prayer - With the casket in place, and the family having stepped into their pews (nearest the altar), the Priest offers the Opening Prayer.

## Liturgy of the Word

g) First Reading from Scripture - A Scripture selection, as chosen previously by the family, is now read from the ambo/pulpit by the Priest (or a Deacon).

h) Responsorial Psalm - In between these two readings, Psalm 23 (or another chosen Psalm) is proclaimed. This may be sung by the cantor/musician, if requested.

i) (*Optional*) Second Reading from Scripture - If a second selection from Scripture was chosen by the family, it is now read from the ambo/pulpit by the Priest (or a Deacon).

j) Gospel Reading - The Priest (or a Deacon) proclaims the Holy Gospel selection, which was chosen by the family. The Alleluia and Gospel acclamation may be sung at this time.

k) Homily - A brief homily is offered by the Priest (or a Deacon).

l) Petitions/Intercessions - The Priest (or a Deacon) offers the petitions.

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

- All Mass parts are sung by cantor/musician, unless otherwise specified by the Priest.

- The Offertory Hymn is omitted.

m) Offertory - The altar and the gifts are prepared by the Priest/Deacon.

n) Eucharistic Prayer and the Rite of Holy Communion - The Priest offers the consecratory prayers of the liturgy, leading to the distribution of Holy Communion. - *As cited above, the Sign of Peace is omitted.*



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o) Distribution of Holy Communion - At the Rite of Holy Communion, those who share our Catholic Faith in the True Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist are invited forward to receive Holy Communion. (The cantor will make an announcement with this invitation, which also invites non-Catholics forward for an {optional} blessing.) An *instrumental version* of a Communion Hymn may be played by the cantor/musician at this time.

p) Prayer after Communion - After all have received the Eucharist (or a blessing, as indicated above), the Priest offers this prayer, and then moves to the altar step.

### Concluding Rites

q) Invitation to Prayer and Song of Farewell - The Priest invites all present to join in prayers for the deceased, and then he prepares the incense.

r) Song of Farewell - This melodic chant is now sung by the cantor/musicians, while the Priest incenses the casket/urn of the deceased.

s) Prayer of Commendation and Closing Hymn - The Priest now entrusts the soul of the deceased to the merciful love of God, followed by a recessional hymn (as previously selected by the family).

t) Recessional Hymn - The Priest (and Deacon/s) escort the casket/urn, and the family, out to the hearse. The Recessional Hymn is sung by the cantor/musician. Once all are in their vehicles, the hearse begins the procession to the cemetery, for the Committal ceremony and burial.

## III. **COVID-19 Liturgical Directives for Funeral Ceremonies**

as of 7/19/2020

### Opening Rites

i) Reception of the Casket\* - Upon the arrival of the casket, it is placed on a trundle and moved into the church, followed by close family and friends.

ii) Blessing of the Deceased - The Priest offers a greeting, confers a blessing, and sprinkles the casket with Holy Water.

iii) Placing of the Pall and the Crucifix - The Funeral Director drapes the pall over the casket and places the crucifix.

**\*Please Note:** If there is an urn (rather than a casket), the urn is placed on a small table at the foot of the altar, and draped with a pall, *before* Mass begins. The funeral then begins with the Opening Hymn, Entrance Procession, and Opening Prayer.

iv) Opening Hymn and Entrance Procession - The Priest (and Deacon/s) lead the casket/urn, and the family down the main aisle. The first couple of verses and chorus of an Opening Hymn are sung by the cantor/musician.

v) Stationing of the Casket - The casket is placed at the foot of the altar, near the base of the Paschal Candle.

vi) Opening Prayer - With the casket in place, and the family having stepped into their pews (nearest the altar), the Priest offers the Opening Prayer.

## Liturgy of the Word

vii) First Reading from Scripture - A Scripture selection, as chosen previously by the family, is now read from the ambo/pulpit by the Priest (or a Deacon).

viii) Responsorial Psalm - In between these two readings, Psalm 23 (or another chosen Psalm) is proclaimed. This may be sung by the cantor/musician, if requested.

ix) (*Optional*) Second Reading from Scripture - If a second selection from Scripture was chosen by the family, it is now read from the ambo/pulpit by the Priest (or a Deacon).

x) Gospel Reading - The Priest (or a Deacon) proclaims the Holy Gospel selection, which was chosen by the family. The Alleluia and Gospel acclamation may be sung at this time.

xi) Homily - A brief homily is offered by the Priest (or a Deacon).

xii) Petitions/Intercessions - The Priest (or a Deacon) offers the petitions.

## Concluding Rites

xiii) Invitation to Prayer and Song of Farewell - The Priest invites all present to join in prayers for the deceased, and then he prepares the incense.



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xiv) Song of Farewell - This melodic chant is now sung by the cantor/musicians, while the Priest incenses the casket/urn of the deceased.

xv) Prayer of Commendation and Closing Hymn - The Priest now entrusts the soul of the deceased to the merciful love of God, followed by a recessional hymn (as previously selected by the family).

xvi) Recessional Hymn - The Priest (and Deacon/s) escort the casket/urn, and the family, out to the hearse. The Recessional Hymn is sung by the cantor/musician. Once all are in their vehicles, the hearse begins the procession to the cemetery, for the Committal ceremony and burial.