

ABOUT THE BURIAL
OFFICE AT HOLY TRINITY

The service will be according to the *Book of Common Prayer*, and hymns should be from the *Episcopal Hymnal* 1982. Other music must be approved by the rector or clergy in charge of the service.

Holy Trinity will provide service leaflets, prepared in consultation with the clergy.

If the family would like a family member or close friend to participate in the service by doing a reading, please take into careful consideration the emotional state of that person.

One family member may offer a reflection following the Gospel reading. The reflection may not exceed 10 minutes and should be forwarded to the officiating priest at least 24 hours in advance of the service.

The casket may be part of the opening procession or may be in place in advance. The casket is *always* closed and covered with a pall provided by the church (or in the case of a veteran, may

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SUGGESTED READINGS AND HYMNS

Suggested Old Testament Readings

- Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)
- Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)
- Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)
- Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)
- Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

Suggested Psalms

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| Psalm 42:1-7 | Psalm 106:1-5 |
| Psalm 46 | Psalm 116 |
| Psalm 23 | Psalm 121 |
| Psalm 27 | Psalm 130 |
| Psalm 90:1-12 | Psalm 139:1-11 |

Suggested New Testament Readings

- Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (The imperishable body)
- 2 Corinthians 4:16--5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)
- 1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)
- Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)
- Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

Suggested Gospel Readings

- John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)
- John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)
- John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)
- John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)
- John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)

Suggested Hymns

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|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 287 | For all the saints | |
| 376 | Joyful, joyful we adore thee | |
| 379 | God is love | |
| 448 | O love, how deep, how broad, how high | |
| 470 | There's a wideness in God's mercy | |
| 525 | The Church's one foundation | |
| 671 | Amazing grace | |
| 688 | A mighty fortress is our God | (Easter hymns numbered |
| 680 | O God our help in ages past | 174-213 are also acceptable) |

Planning
Before
Death
Happens



a resource for the people of
HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Greensboro, North Carolina

PLANNING BEFORE DEATH HAPPENS

Death is an inevitable part of life, and yet most of us are unprepared for it when it happens in our family. It is most often a time of great sorrow when our instincts and emotions are at the fore, and our capacity and desire to make practical and rational decisions are diminished. Death is something we all need to prepare for, and this brochure is meant to help guide you and your family through this important and difficult time.

There are many practical issues that must be addressed at the time of death. Most of these are handled by funeral home or crematorium staff, but choices need to be made and costs vary tremendously.

Beyond the practical issues, death is a spiritual time. A service of Christian burial is a way of celebrating not only the life of a loved one now ended, but the new life he or she has begun in eternity. Burial services are services of the resurrection, focusing on the fact that as Christ as been raised from the dead, we too are raised to eternal life. Planning your own funeral with the assistance of the clergy and having these plans on file in the church office is a deeply faithful and meaningful act. We encourage you to do so. The funeral service planning form and suggested readings and hymns included in this brochure are provided to help you, whether your planning is done long before death or just after it happens.

As the body of Christ, the death of one brings sorrow to us all. The clergy, staff and other members of Holy Trinity stand ready to support you in every way possible when death happens in your family.

IMMEDIATE RESPONSES

When Death Occurs at Home

- If hospice is part of the care, call the service worker to certify death; otherwise call 911 and the primary physician to certify death.
- Call the clergy at Holy Trinity: 336-272-6149.
- Call the funeral home or crematorium.

When Death Occurs in the Hospital

- The hospital is responsible for certifying death.
- Call the clergy at Holy Trinity: 336-272-6149.
- The hospital staff will call the crematorium or the funeral home.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE

Full name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Family contact(s): _____

Telephone number: _____

Address: _____

Funeral home: _____

Contact person: _____

Telephone number: _____

Method of interment: ☐ Cremation ☐ Casket

Place of interment: _____

Type of service: ☐ Burial Office ☐ Holy Eucharist
(please consult with clergy)

Reading selections: _____

Hymn selections: _____

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to:

Memorials sent to Holy Trinity should be acknowledged to:

Special Requests:

After completing this form, please file a copy with the church office. For assistance, please contact a member of the clergy.

BURIAL OFFICE

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT FLAP)

be covered with the American flag.) An urn is covered with a smaller pall.

The only flowers used in the service are altar flowers, which are the responsibility of the family. The altars at Holy Trinity always have displays of live greens, which may remain in lieu of flowers if desired. Floral displays on the casket are removed before the casket enters the church and replaced with a pall. Urn gardens are not permitted. Floral sprays, vases and other displays will not be displayed in the church. The family may arrange to take them home if desired. Following the service, flowers on the altar are rearranged in smaller bouquets and given to Hospice or parish shut-ins.

A reception may be held in parish facilities. Coffee or tea and ice water will be provided. Tables are available for pictures of the deceased and other memorabilia. Please contact the San Pasquale Kitchen Ministry if food or other refreshments are desired.