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# INFORMATION SHEET

The funeral of \_\_\_\_\_

What Christian name should be used in the prayers of the funeral liturgy?

Birth (*where & when*) \_\_\_\_\_

Death (*where & when*) \_\_\_\_\_

## Immediate family

*The names of key people who may be at the funeral: parents, brothers and sisters, partner, children, grandchildren...*

*Can mention close family members who have died or who will be absent...*

**Brief summary of the life of this person** (*education, work, family, Church and community involvement, interests, temperament...*):

*When we think back over these events, we are most grateful for...*

*In the funeral, we would like to bear in mind these special circumstances surrounding the death:*

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## OUTLINES OF THE RITES

VIGIL	FUNERAL LITURGY	RITE OF COMMITTAL
<p><i>For a more formal Vigil in a church setting</i></p> <p><b>Introductory Rites</b>            Greeting            Opening Song            Invitation to Prayer            Opening Prayer</p> <p><b>Liturgy of the Word</b>            First Reading            Responsorial Psalm            Gospel            Homily</p> <p><b>Prayer of Intercession</b>            Litany            The Lord's Prayer            Concluding Prayer</p> <p><b>Concluding Rite</b>            Blessing</p>	<p><b>Introductory Rites</b>            Greeting            Sprinkling with Water            [Placing of the Pall]            Entrance Procession            [Christian Symbols]            Invitation to Prayer            Opening Prayer</p> <p><b>Liturgy of the Word</b>            Readings            Homily            General Intercessions</p> <p><b>[Liturgy of the Eucharist]</b>  <i>If the Eucharist is not celebrated, the Intercessions end with the Lord's Prayer.</i></p> <p><b>Final Commendation</b>            Words of Remembrance            Invitation to Prayer            Silence            [Signs of Farewell]            Song of Farewell            Prayer of Commendation</p> <p><b>Procession to the Place of Committal</b></p>	<p>Invitation            Scripture Verse            Prayer over the Place of Committal</p> <p>Committal            Intercessions            The Lord's Prayer            Concluding prayer</p> <p>Prayer over the People</p>

The funeral arrangements:

Vigil (*where & when*) \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Liturgy (*where & when*) \_\_\_\_\_

With Requiem Mass:    yes                      no

Rite of Committal (*where & when*) \_\_\_\_\_

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# MINISTRIES

To be provided by family, friends and/or parish

Welcome (to speak in remembrance of the deceased)	<hr/> <hr/>
Readers (one or two)	<hr/> <hr/>
General Intercessions	<hr/> <hr/>
Pall Bearers	<hr/> <hr/>
Musicians (Organist, cantor, singers)	<hr/> <hr/>
Servers	<hr/> <hr/>
Ushers	<hr/> <hr/>

*If celebrating a funeral Mass, you may also include:*

Procession of the Gifts	<hr/> <hr/>
Communion Ministers	<hr/> <hr/>

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# FUNERAL MUSIC GUIDELINES

## MUSIC AT THE VIGIL AND FUNERAL LITURGY

The *Order of Christian Funerals* notes that music is an important and integral part of the Funeral Liturgy. It allows the community to express convictions and feelings that spoken words alone may fail to convey.

It is important, therefore, that liturgical music be chosen with great care.

## GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING MUSIC AT FUNERALS

Ideally, the hymns, responses and acclamations will be able to be sung by all the people; or with assistance from a choir or cantor.

Hymns, responses and acclamations give thanks to God; or speak about the new life that Jesus Christ offers; or express the faith, hope and love offered to those gathered.

In consultation with parishes and communities throughout the country, the National Liturgy Office is collating a Directory of Music suitable for use at Catholic funerals. This can be found here [\[link\]](#).

Appropriate instrumental music may also be used.

## OTHER FORMS OF MUSICAL TRIBUTES

Often times a popular song or music other than hymns, responses and acclamations, that was special to the one who has died, will be requested for use. Pastoral discretion in the spirit of the Gospel is required, while remaining sensitive to the family traditions and local customs.

There is usually more than one opportunity for a significant song or piece of music to be used, for example the Vigil. This celebration lends itself more easily to forms of song or music which are not associated with religious tradition.

Remember that musical tributes can also be offered after the funeral itself, at the place where people gather for hospitality and to spend personal time with the bereaved family.

However, it needs to be noted that notwithstanding the desire for utmost pastoral sensitivity, some requests will remain inappropriate for use in a sacred setting honouring the deceased and is thus not permissible.