

FUNERAL PLANNING GUIDE  
ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
College Station, Texas

Guide for the Christian Funeral of \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name: First, Middle (Maiden), Last

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received (to be completed by Church office) \_\_\_\_\_

**VISITATION**

*A Visitation is an informal gathering for friends and family to express sympathy, view photographs/video tribute, etc.*

**Will a Visitation be Held?**

- Yes  
 No

**Location of Visitation**

- At the Funeral Home  
 At The Church  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Will the Remains be Present at the Visitation?**

- Closed Coffin  
 Urn  
 No Remains Present

**Time of the Visitation**

- Evening Prior to the Funeral or Memorial Service  
 Before the Funeral or Memorial Service Only

**SERVICE**

**Time of the Worship Service**

- Morning  
 Afternoon  
 Evening

**Will the Remains be Present at the Worship Service?**

- Yes (Coffin or Urn with Ashes)  
 No

**Will Holy Communion be Celebrated?** *(Only available for services at The Church)*

- Yes  
 No

**Readers**

- The Priest who officiates will read.  
 I would like this/these person(s) to read at my service: \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE (Choose one of the below.)**

- I wish Rite I ("thees" and "thous") to be used.  
 I wish Rite II (contemporary language) to be used.

**Bible Readings**

- The Priest who officiates may choose the readings.  
 I have chosen the readings from the Book of Common Prayer (1979) as indicated below. *(There may be two or three readings. If Holy Eucharist is celebrated, the final reading must be from the Gospel.)*

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**From the Old Testament** (*Circle one*)

Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death in victory)

Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort all that mourn)

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good unto them  
that wait for him)

Wisdom 3:1-5,9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God)

Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer liveth)

**Psalms** (*A psalm may follow each lesson. Circle the one[s] you wish used.*)

23    27    42    46    90    106    116    121    130    139

**From the New Testament** (*Circle one*)

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 (Raised in incorruption)

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things which are not seen are eternal)

1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)

Revelation 7:9-17 (God shall wipe away all tears)

Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

**From the Gospels** (*Circle one*)

John 5:24-27 (He that believeth hath everlasting life)

John 6:37-40 (All that the Father giveth me shall 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 mansions)

**Congregational Hymns**

\_\_\_\_\_ The Priest who officiates may choose the hymns.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have chosen the hymns circled below. (Usually no more than 3 are used.)

**Suggested Hymns**

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

For All the Saints

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

A Mighty Fortress

Amazing Grace

This Is My Father's World

Other Hymns (From the 1982 Hymnal): \_\_\_\_\_

**Reception Following Worship**

I would like a reception following the service for mutual conversation and consolation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**I would like the Reception**

\_\_\_\_\_ Immediately Following the Worship Service; Before Burial

\_\_\_\_\_ Following the Worship Service and After Burial

**Location for the Reception**

\_\_\_\_\_ The Church

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funeral Home**

Preferred Company \_\_\_\_\_

*(Specific arrangements in advance at the funeral home of your choice are encouraged.)*

**Have Pre-Arrangements Been Made?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

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\_\_\_\_\_ No

**Disposition of the Body**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Embalm Body  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cremate Body Shortly After Death  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cremate Body After Visitation and/or Service

**Burial Wishes**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Inter ashes in Columbarium at the Church (*Call the church office for information.*)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bury Coffin/Urn in Cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*(This might include keeping ashes with a family member, spreading ashes at a favorite spot, etc)*

**Bury Coffin or Urn**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Before Visitation  
\_\_\_\_\_ After Visitation but Before Funeral Service  
\_\_\_\_\_ At a Later Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ After Funeral Service but Before Reception  
\_\_\_\_\_ After Reception

**Grave Marker**

I have made arrangements for a grave marker with this company: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like the following to be included on the grave marker:

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: (birth/death dates) \_\_\_\_\_  
Maiden name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bible Verse: \_\_\_\_\_  
Graphic: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligible for Military Honors**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  
\_\_\_\_\_ No

**Names of Pall Bearers** (*Six Pall Bearers needed only when there is a coffin for burial.*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Honorary Pall Bearers (if desired)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cemetery**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have made arrangements for my burial.

Name of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not have arrangements for my burial. I suggest the following arrangements:

**Desired Expressions of Sympathy**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Flowers (*Only two arrangements may be used and only at the Altar if the service is at the Church*)  
\_\_\_\_\_ I desire Memorial Gifts in lieu of Flowers

**Memorial Suggestions**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The Church  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Obituary**

Full Name (*including Maiden Name*) \_\_\_\_\_

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Birth Date and Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Names (including Mother's Maiden Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Baptism Date, Church, and Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation Date, Church, and Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Marital Status, Marriage Date, and Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Marriages/Divorces/Spouse(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Names of Children (and Spouses) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Next of Kin \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Important Documents and Advisors**

*It is important that survivors be able to locate vital records and important documents. Before your death, you should have a current will/living trust and related health care directives which express your wishes on important personal, financial, medical, and charitable issues for your survivors. Information on these documents for Texas may be found by searching on line)*

**Location and Date of Will/Living Trust** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Attorney/Will Preparer** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Power of Attorney/Financial** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Power of Attorney for Health Care** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Executor of Will/Estate** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Guardian (for Minor Children)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Additional Comments**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Please return one copy of this to the Church Office. Please keep an additional copy with your important papers, and please be sure your next of kin know(s) that this form is on file in the Church Office.***