



# Catholic Funeral and Burial Wishes

*This document is to be completed to express your funeral and burial preferences, in accordance with Catholic teachings. By filling out this form, you will be helping your loved ones understand your wishes and guide them through a difficult process. Please feel free to reach out to your pastor or a priest to answer any questions you may have.*

---

## **Personal Information:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Completion of Document: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Organ Donation:**

*The Catholic Church supports organ donation as an act of charity and love, provided it is done in a manner that respects the dignity of the human person.*

Would you like to donate your organs?

Yes

No

Yes, but only specific organs (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

### **Cremation or Burial:**

*The Church prefers that the body be buried, as it is a sign of respect for the dignity of the body, which is a temple of the Holy Spirit. However, cremation is allowed by the Church, provided that it is not done for reasons contrary to Catholic teachings.*

Would you prefer to be:

- Cremated
- Buried

If you choose cremation, please note that the Church asks for the ashes to be treated with respect and placed in a sacred place, such as a columbarium or cemetery, and not kept at home or sprinkled in a place that you might considered 'special' or 'memorable'.

### **Casket or Urn:**

The Catholic Church prefers a traditional casket for burial, but an urn is acceptable for cremation, provided that it is placed in a respectful and sacred location. *Note: If you choose to be cremated, you can rent a ceremonial casket and be cremated later and laid to rest.*

What type of casket or urn would you prefer?

- Traditional Casket
- Eco-Friendly Casket
- Simple Casket (Abby)
- Urn for Cremation (please specify style or material): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer your casket to be displayed?  Open  Closed  Let Family Decide

### **Attire for Burial:**

Please specify the attire you would like to be dressed in for your burial. This may include any specific clothing, religious items, or personal items.

Clothing (e.g., suit, dress, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Special Religious Items (e.g., crucifix, rosary, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Items (e.g., jewelry, watch, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Other Requests (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Funeral Home:**

Which funeral home would you like to use for your service?

Name of Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Church for Funeral Mass:**

Where would you like your Funeral Mass to take place?

Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cemetery:**

Where would you like to be buried?

Name of Church Cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Location of Plot: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not have a burial plot.

If cremated, would you prefer for the funeral home or family to transport you to the cemetery from the funeral mass?

Funeral Home     Family

**Flowers:**

Flowers are a beautiful sign of respect, but the Catholic Church also encourages donations to charitable causes, like the *Idaho Catholic Foundation*, restricted for your church parish, school, or other ministry.

Would you like flowers at your funeral?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify the types of flowers or arrangements you'd prefer:

\_\_\_\_\_

In lieu of flowers, would you prefer donations to a specific Catholic charity or non-profit, like the *Idaho Catholic Foundation* restricted for your parish, school or other ministry?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify name of the charity or fund:

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pallbearers:**

Please list the individuals you would like to serve as pallbearers for your funeral. These individuals will carry your casket during the funeral Mass and the burial.

1. Pallbearer 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Pallbearer 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Pallbearer 3 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Pallbearer 4 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Pallbearer 5 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Pallbearer 6 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Pallbearer 7 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Pallbearer 8 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

If cremated, who would you like to be your urn bearer?

Urn-Bearer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funeral Mass:**

For Catholics, the Eucharist is the source and summit of our lives. Therefore, there is no greater expression of our worship and your family’s and the community’s opportunity to pray for your soul than at the celebration of Mass, when we commemorate the Sacrifice of Jesus so that you may have eternal life.

*As you fill out these next two pages, it is highly encouraged that you consult with your pastor or a priest you know well, who may be able to assist you with your choices of readings and song selections.*

Please note that it is preferred that readings and songs that are sung or played at your funeral reflect the dignity and sacredness of the Mass.

## Reading and Prayers:

**First Reading:** [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/old-testament-readings](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/old-testament-readings)

- I would prefer the priest/family to choose the *First Reading*.
  - My choice for the *First Reading* (Old Testament):
- 

Reader Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**Responsorial Psalm:** [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/responsorial-psalms](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/responsorial-psalms)

- I would prefer the priest/family to choose the *Responsorial Psalm*.
  - My choice for the *Responsorial Psalm* (please specify):
- 

Reader Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Reading:** [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/new-testament-readings](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/new-testament-readings)

- I would prefer the priest/family to choose the *Second Reading*.
  - My choice for the *Second Reading* (New Testament):
- 

Reader Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gospel Reading:** <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/bereavement-and-funerals/gospels>

- I would prefer the priest/family to choose the *Gospel Reading*.
  - My choice for the *Gospel Reading* (please specify):
-

## Music and Hymns:

Please indicate any hymns or songs you would like to be included in your funeral Mass.

*\*Music is to be approved liturgical music.*

Song 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Song 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Song 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Request (Song, Musician/Choir, Etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

## Gift Bearers:

1. Gift Bearer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Gift Bearer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Gift Bearer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

## Laying of the Cloth:

*In keeping with Catholic custom, after the casket is closed, a cloth is often placed over it to signify respect and reverence for the deceased. This is typically done by a family members or close friends. Would you like a family member or friend to lay the cloth over your casket after it is closed?*

Name of Person 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Request:**

Please include any other requests, instructions, or special wishes such as your obituary photo, obituary information such as your community memberships, a specific person to do your eulogy, or any other funeral or burial requests:

---

**Signature:**

By signing below, you acknowledge that the information provided is correct to the best of your knowledge. This document is your personal wish list and should be stored in a safe place, with a copy provided to a trusted family member, a priest, or an attorney to ensure that your funeral and burial are conducted in accordance with Catholic teachings and your personal wishes.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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



**Margaret Hampton**

*Development Coordinator*

Phone: (208) 342-1311, ext. 5139

Email: [mhampton@rcdb.org](mailto:mhampton@rcdb.org)

1501 S. Federal Way, Suite 400, Boise, ID 83705

[www.idahocatholicfoundation.org](http://www.idahocatholicfoundation.org)

