

St. Mark's Advance Directives Form

Usual and Customary Burial of the Dead

St. Mark's Episcopal Church—1101 N. Collier Blvd. Marco Island, FL 34145

239-394-7242

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn. Book of Common Prayer, p. 507.

It is important the clergy be notified as soon as possible in order to assist in making arrangements. It is strongly encouraged that the service be held soon after your love one has died. Closure for family, friends, and the community is essential. Due to the nature of our seasonal community and the distance of many loved ones, we understand that at times we will need to hold an additional private committal service at a later date.

The usual and customary form of Service used at St. Mark's is The Burial of the Dead: Rite II (Book of Common Prayer, p. 491) in combination with The Service of Holy Eucharist: Rite II (BCP, p. 361). Requested hymns are found in The Hymnal, 1982, and Alleluia III songbook.

Any special requests that are outside the Usual and Customary of St. Mark's Episcopal Church must be discussed and approved by the Rector. Flowers are only for the Altar; additional sprays are not appropriate for display in the Sanctuary.

St. Mark's ECW (Episcopal Church Women) and the clergy work with the deceased's family to plan a reception following the memorial service and refreshments for the family before the service. Light refreshments (coffee, tea, lemonade, and cookies) are served at no expense to the family. If a meal is preferred, the family is encouraged to engage a caterer.

The Advance Directives form is designed for you to help your loved ones and the Church to plan your Service of Burial. To plan your service in advance is a gift that removes some burden from your family at the time of your death. Your directives allow the Church and your family to know in advance your wishes for your Service. In addition to planning your Service in advance and sharing this information with your family, we recommend that you seriously consider writing your own obituary as well. Most obituaries are composed at the last minute by family members in consultation with a funeral director and many important dates and events in your life are omitted.

Old Testament Reading Desired:

- _____ Isaiah 25: 6-9 (He will swallow up death forever)
- _____ Isaiah 61: 1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)
- _____ Lamentations 3: 22-36 and 31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)
- _____ Wisdom 3: 1-5 and 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)
- _____ Job: 19: 21-27a (I know that my Redeemer Lives)

New Testament Reading Desired:

- _____ Romans 8: 14-19, 34-35 and 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)
- _____ 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 35-38, 42-44 and 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)

Psalm Desired:

- _____ Psalm 23
- _____ King James Version of Psalm 23
- _____ Psalm 27
- _____ Psalm 106: 1-5
- _____ Psalm 116

Gospel Reading Desired:

- _____ 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)

Hymns Desired (Select no more than 4):

- _____ A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Ps.46) H-688
- _____ All My Hope on God is Founded H-665
- _____ Alleluia No. 1 (Communion Hymn) H-178
- _____ Alleluia! The Strife is O'er (Resurrection) H-208
- _____ Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! H-460
- _____ Father Strong to Save (Navy Hymn) H-579
- _____ Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound H-671
- _____ Blessed Be the God of Israel H-444
- _____ Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing (Resurrection) H-182
- _____ For All the Saints Who From Their Labors Rest H-287
- _____ Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah H-690
- _____ He is Risen He is Risen! (Resurrection) H-180
- _____ How Firm a Foundation Ye Saints of the Lord H-636 or H-637
- _____ How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place H-517
- _____ I Am the Bread of Life (Communion) H-335
- _____ I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say H-692
- _____ I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light H-490
- _____ Jerusalem My Happy Home H-620
- _____ Jesus Christ is Risen Today (Resurrection) H-207
- _____ Joyful We Adore Thee H-375

- _____ My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (Ps.23) H-664
- _____ O God Our Help in Ages Past (Ps.90) H-680
- _____ The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Ps.23) H-645 or H-646
- _____ Ye Holy Angels Bright H-625
- _____ Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones H-618
- _____ Be Not Afraid (Alleluia III - 19)
- _____ How Great Thou Art (Alleluia III - 67)
- _____ I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord (Alleluia III - 72)
- _____ In Remembrance of Me (Communion) (Alleluia III - 94)
- _____ On Eagle's Wings (Alleluia III - 127)
- _____ The Prayer of St. Francis (Alleluia III – 167)

Additional suggestions or preferences: _____

