Funeral Hymn / Music General Information

Because a funeral is an official ritual of the Roman Catholic Church, guidelines for music for the Mass or liturgy are to be followed. Music is to follow the liturgical norms for Catholic Liturgy and should be appropriately selected so that singing can be shared by all in attendance. Each piece of music in a funeral Mass has a specific liturgical purpose, so the music selected for those places must fulfill its purpose.

If the family of the deceased has special requests for favorite songs or sacred hymns that do not fall into a liturgical category, those requests, in most cases, can be accommodated at the funeral home during the wake, or cemetery, apart from the funeral Mass. Examples of this type of request would include all secular (non-religious) songs, as well as all recorded music.

If there is any question about the appropriateness of a hymn or piece of music, the final determination will be made by the pastor.

During a funeral Mass three hymns may be selected:

1. Processional hymn
2. Offertory hymn
3. Communion hymn

The Recessional hymn will be *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*.

Organist: Sacred Heart's organist will play for all Masses / Services / Events.

Cantor/Singers: Sacred Heart's funeral choir will be used for the liturgical ceremony.

Other Musicians/Soloists: These individuals may be used during the Offertory or Communion hymns *when approved by the Music Director*.