

FUNERAL RECEPTION

The funeral reception is almost always held in the Parish Hall. The Parish Hall can accommodate up to 200 people very easily. The parish provides beverages and place settings as well as tables with tablecloths for the reception. Please be aware 2 ½ hours after the funeral is allocated for the reception.

The family generally provides catered food, if food is desired, and fresh flowers for the tables to use as centerpieces.

To plan a reception, the family will need to let us know:

- Estimated number of people expected
- What kind of food and who will be providing it
 - Lots of catering choices - Safeway does fruit, pastries, sandwich and cookie trays at a fairly reasonable price; AJ's provides the same with a step-up in presentation and price; Baggins provides a wide-range of catering; Trattoria Pina's will cater Italian; El Molinita will cater Mexican
 - If hot food is catered, it should be delivered to the back door approximately 1 hour prior to the funeral. If food is cold, it should be delivered approximately ½ hour prior to funeral
 - What to do with leftovers (if any) – do you want them bagged to send home with family members or donated to Casa Maria Soup Kitchen. **We do not have a commercial kitchen and cannot serve hot food that has not been prepared in a commercial kitchen**
- What kind of **non-alcoholic** drinks the family wants – iced tea; lemonade; juices; water; coffee; hot tea are all frequent choices [We do not have a liquor license – if you wish to have alcoholic beverages, Fr. John must approve and an AZ licensed bar-tender must be provided]
- Flowers on table, if desired
 - What type and color if a preference – otherwise we choose carnations in season appropriate colors and baby breath
 - Choices of ordering and paying
 - Family orders, pays and picks-up [delivers to church one hour prior to funeral]
 - Family orders, pays and we pick up
 - We order; family pays sometime during the week between our order and pick up and we pick up