

# Funeral Planning Questionnaire

## St. Gabriel Catholic Church

*We believe that planning a funeral in advance is a wise thing to do. Funerals at St. Gabriel are offered to pray for the salvation of the deceased and to support and lead families from grief to a deeper faith in the resurrection. We aim to assist you with your funeral planning, not only to start a dialogue with your parish, but also to guide your decisions made with your loved ones.*

*We invite you to fill out these forms and request the parish, the funeral home, and your relatives to keep them on file.*

### Information for the Church

Funeral instructions for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

To assist those responsible for my funeral arrangements:

**1. Funeral Home** to be contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have \_\_\_ or have not \_\_\_ consulted with a director of the funeral home.

**2. Final Disposition:** Burial in Cemetery \_\_\_ Inurnment after Cremation \_\_\_

- I have made **arrangements** for the committal of my remains as follows:

Location of cemetery plot: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Columbarium niche: \_\_\_\_\_

If St. Gabriel Columbarium, Niche: # \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Funeral Service:** We celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life, which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. The Mass, the memorial of Christ's Death and Resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral.

St. Gabriel offers three key moments of prayer within the Funeral Rite:

- Vigil for the Deceased (wake/visitation): Funeral home the night prior to the Funeral Liturgy \_\_\_ or at church prior to the Funeral Liturgy \_\_\_
- Funeral Liturgy at St. Gabriel church: Celebrated on Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays at 11 a.m.
  - Funeral Mass \_\_\_ Funeral Liturgy outside Mass \_\_\_
- Rite of Committal: Immediately following the Funeral Liturgy
  - At the Cemetery \_\_\_ or Columbarium \_\_\_
  - Committal to be done somewhere other than in Charlotte area \_\_\_

**5. Presence of the Body at the Funeral Liturgy:** Although cremation is permitted, the Church prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites. The body of the deceased brings to mind the church's conviction that the human body is in Christ a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead. When the choice has been made to cremate a body, it is recommended that the cremation take place after the Funeral Liturgy.

**6. Cremated Remains:** The cremated remains of a body should be treated with respect. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium.

- I do \_\_\_ or do not \_\_\_ wish to have an open casket
- Body to be present for Funeral Liturgy with cremation following \_\_\_
- Cremated remains present at Funeral Liturgy \_\_\_

**7. Flowers:** All flowers received at the church will be used during the Funeral Liturgy. The pall is placed on the casket during the funeral service.

- My preference for a spray of flowers to be placed on my casket. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- Rather than sending flowers, I would like people to honor my memory by making a donation to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Detailed Funeral Service or Mass of Christian Burial Instructions:**

See our Funeral Planning Forms for all details.

*The celebration of the Christian funeral brings hope and consolation to the living. Taking care of your funeral arrangements is a thoughtful and caring thing to do for your family. It is comforting to know that you have done all you can to ease their burden.*

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

On File at St. Gabriel Catholic Church

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_