

MUSIC GUIDELINES FOR CATHOLIC FUNERALS

Music is an important part of the Catholic funeral rite. Music allows convictions and feelings to be expressed that words alone may fail to convey. It has the power to strengthen the faith and hope of those present. The hymns chosen should express the mystery of our salvation in Christ, namely, the saving power of the Lord's suffering, death and resurrection.

Funeral music should support, console, and uplift those present and help create in them a spirit of hope in Christ's victory over death and our share in that victory. Secular songs (popular/non-religious songs), even though they may have been meaningful to the deceased or the family, do not capture the Gospel message of hope nor the sacred quality of Christian worship, and so secular songs are not appropriate for funeral services. They can be more appropriate for a funeral reception. Below are some hymn titles offered for your consideration.

Gathering Hymn:

Alleluia Sing to Jesus
Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
City of God
Come to the Water
For All the Saints
Here I Am, Lord
Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy God We Praise Thy Name
I Heard the Voice of Jesus
Jerusalem, My Happy Home
Love Divine, All Loves
Excelling
Morning Has Broken
On Eagle's Wings
O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Sing A New Song
Sing with All the Saints in Glory
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
We Walk By Faith
We Will Rise Again
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Preparation of the Gifts:

Amazing Grace
Be Still, My Soul
Be With Me Lord
Be Thou My Vision
Because the Lord is My
Shepherd
Center of My Life
Christ, Be Our Light
Come to Me

Eye Has Not Seen
Here I Am, Lord
Hosea (*Come Back to Me*)
I, the Lord
Lord of All Hopefulness
O Breathe on Me, O Breath of
God
On Eagle's Wings
Only A Shadow

Lord, You Have Come
Prayer of St. Francis (*Make Me a
Channel of Your Peace*)
Softly and Tenderly Jesus is
Calling
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
There Is A Longing
We Will Rise Again
What Wondrous Love is This

Communion:

Center of My Life
Christ, Be Our Light
Eat This Bread
Eye Has Not Seen

Gift of Finest Wheat
I Am the Bread of Life
One Bread, One Body
Taste and See

There Is A Longing
Unless A Grain of Wheat
Whatever You Do
You Are Near

Recessional Hymn:

Be Not Afraid
Christ, Be Our Light
City of God
For All the Saints
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
How Can I Keep from Singing

How Great Thou Art
Jerusalem, My Happy Home
Lead Me Lord
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Love Divine, All Loves
Excelling

O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Sing with All the Saints in Glory
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
The Strife is O'er
We Walk By Faith
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones