

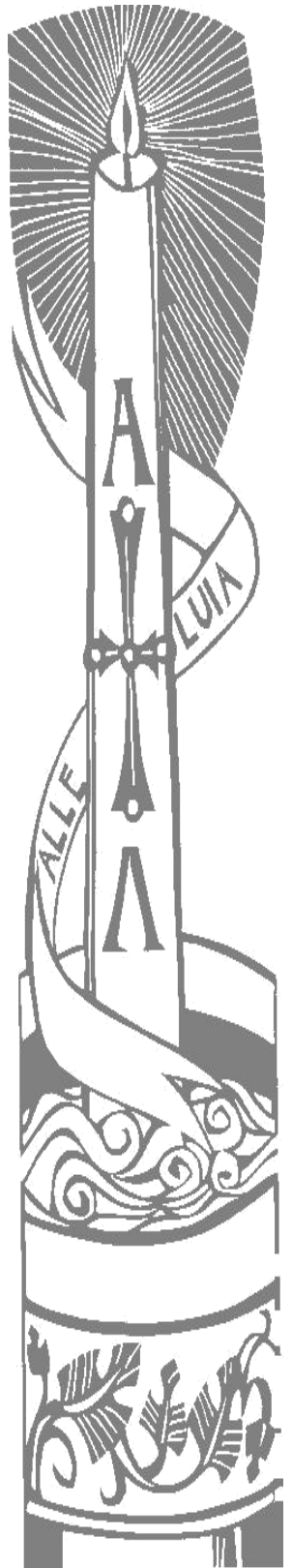
Christian Funerals A Guide

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light
shine upon them.*

May they rest in peace.

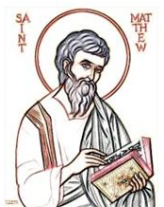
*O Lord, support
us all the day long
of this troublous life,
until shadows lengthen,
and evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then, Lord, in thy mercy,
grant us a safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at last.
Amen.*

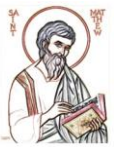
Cardinal Newman



St Mary the Virgin
STANWELL

St Matthew's
ASHFORD





Christians celebrate funeral rites to offer worship and thanksgiving to God, the author of all life. We pray for the deceased, and support the bereaved.

The model for Christian funerals is the Easter journey of Jesus Christ from death to resurrection. This is why we are encouraged to celebrate the funeral in three stages: prayer vigil, funeral liturgy, and committal.

Funeral practice varies considerably, and the Church provides several options from which we can choose freely. There is greater flexibility and involvement possible than we sometimes imagine.

Prayer Vigil

This is the principal rite celebrated between death and the funeral itself. It is the first stage of the fare-well journey; its mood is one of quiet support which helps to prepare the bereaved for the final leave-taking.

The Vigil may be held in the home of the deceased, the funeral home, a hospital chapel or in another suitable. It may also be celebrated in church. The body of the deceased may be present, but this is not necessary. The form of the service is a simple Liturgy of the Word of God or Evening Prayer.

Funeral Liturgy

This is the main celebration of the Christian community for the deceased person. It is usually celebrated in the parish church where the local community gathers for the Sunday Eucharist. Sometimes people may celebrate the Funeral Liturgy in a crematorium or cemetery chapel. Two forms are possible: a funeral Mass or a funeral liturgy outside Mass.

The Church encourages a Mass since the eucharist remembers and celebrates Christ's own death and resurrection. However, while the eucharist is our central liturgy, it is not always the best option for every funeral.

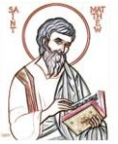
Committal

The rite of committal usually follows on immediately from the funeral liturgy. This final act of leave-taking is celebrated at the graveside or at the crematorium. When a body is cremated the funeral liturgy is concluded with the interring of ashes sometime afterwards.

While we are encouraged to celebrate a funeral over these three stages, for a variety of good reasons this model is not always possible or appropriate to the circumstances. Many combinations of funeral rites are possible. The funeral may even comprise a single act of worship either in the cemetery chapel or crematorium.

Lord, in our grief we turn to you. Are you not the God of love always ready to hear our cries?

Listen to our prayers for your servant N. whom you have called out of this world: lead him/her to your Kingdom of light and peace and count him/her among the saints in glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Some Questions

What choices can I make?

More than you think. Not only can you choose hymns but also scripture readings and prayers.

How do I plan a funeral?

Planning Guides are available within this document to help you make choices.

Who can help me plan a funeral?

The priest, deacon, or other members of the parish community will be happy to help.

Can I have a poem or favourite song?

There are opportunities for personal choices in each of the three stages of the funeral. Secular poems and songs often fit best in the prayer vigil, but there is also an opportunity for 'Words in Remembrance' towards the end of the funeral liturgy. Care should be taken that the words of any material is in keeping with our Christian faith.

Can a stillborn baby have a funeral?

Yes, the Church provides a special service within its collection of liturgies Order of Christian Funerals. It can also be adapted for parents who have suffered a miscarriage.

What about cremation?

Christians can be cremated. The Church encourages the bereaved to bury the ashes in a final resting place.

When Someone Dies

Who will need to be informed as soon as possible?

- next of kin, if not present
- family doctor, if the person dies at home
- funeral director, if the family is using one (the deceased may already have made arrangements)
- priest

In addition, if you are called to someone who has died unexpectedly or in unusual circumstances, the police will need to be informed. Do not touch or move anything in the room.

Arranging the funeral.

If the cause of death is clear, the doctor will issue a medical certificate and a formal notice confirming that he or she has signed the certificate. This notice gives information on how to register the death and will enable funeral arrangements to be made.

If the doctor reports the death to the coroner, there may be a delay while a post mortem or inquest is carried out. The coroner's office will advise you on what arrangements may be made.

Registering the death.

The death will need to be registered within five days unless it has been reported to the coroner.

What are the financial implications?

If the family wishes to use a funeral director, it is quite proper to invite estimates from different firms. There is a considerable financial difference between cremation and burial, and those choosing burial will also need to consider the upkeep of the grave.

There may be a fee for an organist or other musician.



LITURGY SELECTION FOR FUNERALS

NAME OF THE PERSON FOR WHOM THE FUNERAL IS BEING ARRANGED

Christian name(s)

Surname

Date of Birth

Contact name and address

Telephone numbers

E-mail

NAME OF THE PERSONS NEXT OF KIN

Christian name(s)

Surname

Contact name and address

Telephone numbers

E-mail

Date of funeral (if known)

Type of Service:

Extras for services in Church

(please tick as applicable) also note these change each April and you will be charged at that years rate:

Estimated numbers attending

Graveside ☐ see pg 5

Crematorium ☐ see pg 5

Church ☐ or St Mary's ☐

Funeral Office ☐ see pg 7

Requiem ☐ see pg 9

Followed by
Cemetery ☐
Crematorium ☐

Organist £110 ☐

Choir £110 ☐

Bells £150 ☐

Please return to:
The Parish office
The Vicarage
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 2NY
01784 252459

Signature

Date

If you do not wish to be contacted in the future regarding events in the parish that may be of interest to you please mark this box ☐



LITURGY SELECTIONS FOR FUNERALS

FUNERAL OFFICE AT THE GRAVESIDE OR AT THE CREMATORIUM CHOICES

Introit: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Grant them eternal rest, O Lord](#) – *Sung by the Choir only*
2. ☐ [Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer](#) (Bread of Heaven)
3. ☐ [Immortal Invisible God Only Wise](#)
4. ☐ [Jesus Lover Of My Soul](#)
5. ☐ [Jerusalem the Golden](#)
6. ☐ [Lead Us Heavenly Father Lead Us](#)
7. ☐ [Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Reading:

1. ☐ [Job 19:1. 23-27](#)
2. ☐ [Wisdom 3:1-6, 9](#)
3. ☐ [Apocalypse 20:11-21:1](#)
4. ☐ [Matthew 11:25-30](#)
5. ☐ [Mark 15:33-39](#)
6. ☐ [Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53](#)
7. ☐ [John 14:1-6](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

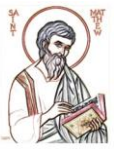
Read by: _____

Hymn:

1. ☐ [Alleluia, Sing To Jesus](#)
2. ☐ [I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say](#)
3. ☐ [Loves Redeeming Work Is Done](#)
4. ☐ [Lord Of All Hopefulness](#)
5. ☐ [Love Divine](#)
6. ☐ [Our God Our Help In Ages Past](#)
7. ☐ [The King of Love my Shepherd Is](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Words of Remembrance Read by: _____

General intercessions Read by: _____



Hymn:

1. ☐ [Alleluia, Sing To Jesus](#)
2. ☐ [I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say](#)
3. ☐ [Loves Redeeming Work Is Done](#)
4. ☐ [Lord Of All Hopefulness](#)
5. ☐ [Love Divine](#)
6. ☐ [Our God Our Help In Ages Past](#)
7. ☐ [The King of Love my Shepherd Is](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Song of Farewell:

1. ☐ [In Paradisum/May the Choirs of Angels](#) – *Sung by the Choir*
2. ☐ [Song of Farewell](#) - Hymn
3. ☐ other: _____

Closing Hymn: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Amazing Grace](#)
2. ☐ [Abide With Me](#)
3. ☐ [Great Is Thy Faithfulness](#)
4. ☐ [How Great Thou Art](#)
5. ☐ [Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace](#)
6. ☐ [The Day Thou Gavest](#)
7. ☐ [Ye Watchers and Ye Holy One](#)
8. ☐ other: _____



FUNERAL OFFICE IN CHURCH CHOICES

Introit: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Grant them eternal rest, O Lord](#) – *Sung by the Choir only*
2. ☐ [Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer](#) (Bread of Heaven)
3. ☐ [Immortal Invisible God Only Wise](#)
4. ☐ [Jesus Lover Of My Soul](#)
5. ☐ [Jerusalem the Golden](#)
6. ☐ [Lead Us Heavenly Father Lead Us](#)
7. ☐ [Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

First Reading: 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ other: _____

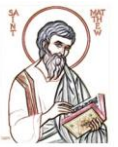
1. ☐ [Job 19:1. 23-27](#)
2. ☐ [Wisdom 3:1-6, 9](#)
3. ☐ [Daniel 12:1-3](#)
4. ☐ [2 Maccabees 12:43-45](#)
5. ☐ [Romans 6:3-4, 8-9](#)
6. ☐ [2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1](#)
7. ☐ [1 John 3:14-16](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Read by: _____

Second Reading:

1. ☐ ☐ [Apocalypse 20:11-21:1](#)
2. ☐ [Romans 5:5-11](#)
3. ☐ [Matthew 11:25-30](#)
4. ☐ [Mark 15:33-39](#)
5. ☐ [Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53](#)
6. ☐ [John 12:23-26](#)
7. ☐ [John 14:1-6](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Read by: _____



Hymn:

1. ☐ [Alleluia, Sing To Jesus](#)
2. ☐ [I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say](#)
3. ☐ [Loves Redeeming Work Is Done](#)
4. ☐ [Lord Of All Hopefulness](#)
5. ☐ [Love Divine](#)
6. ☐ [Our God Our Help In Ages Past](#)
7. ☐ [The King of Love my Shepherd Is](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Words of Remembrance Read by: _____

General intercessions Read by: _____

Hymn:

1. ☐ [Alleluia, Sing To Jesus](#)
2. ☐ [I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say](#)
3. ☐ [Loves Redeeming Work Is Done](#)
4. ☐ [Lord Of All Hopefulness](#)
5. ☐ [Love Divine](#)
6. ☐ [Our God Our Help In Ages Past](#)
7. ☐ [The King of Love my Shepherd Is](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

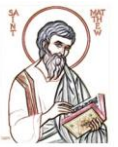
Anthem: _____

Song of Farewell:

1. ☐ [In Paradisum/May the Choirs of Angels](#) – *Sung by the Choir*
2. ☐ [Song of Farewell](#) - Hymn
3. ☐ other: _____

Closing Hymn: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Amazing Grace](#)
2. ☐ [Abide With Me](#)
3. ☐ [Great Is Thy Faithfulness](#)
4. ☐ [How Great Thou Art](#)
5. ☐ [Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace](#)
6. ☐ [The Day Thou Gavest](#)
7. ☐ [Ye Watchers and Ye Holy One](#)
8. ☐ other: _____



REQUIEM MASS CHOICES

Introit: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Grant them eternal rest, O Lord](#) – *Sung by the Choir only*
2. ☐ [Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer](#) (Bread of Heaven)
3. ☐ [Immortal Invisible God Only Wise](#)
4. ☐ [Jesus Lover Of My Soul](#)
5. ☐ [Jerusalem the Golden](#)
6. ☐ [Lead Us Heavenly Father Lead Us](#)
7. ☐ [Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

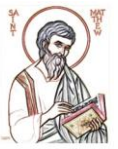
First Reading:

1. ☐ [Job 19:1. 23-27](#)
2. ☐ [Wisdom 3:1-6, 9](#)
3. ☐ [Wisdom 4:7-15](#)
4. ☐ [Isaiah 25:6-9](#)
5. ☐ [Lamentations 3:17-26](#)
6. ☐ [Daniel 12:1-3](#)
7. ☐ [2 Maccabees 12:43-45](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Read by: _____

Responsorial Psalm:

1. ☐ [Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want](#)
2. ☐ [Psalm 25: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul](#)
3. ☐ [Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation](#)
4. ☐ [Psalm 63: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God](#)
5. ☐ [Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful](#)
6. ☐ [Psalm 130: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord](#)
7. ☐ [The Lord is My Shepherd \(23rd Psalm\) - Hymn](#)
8. ☐ other: _____



Second Reading:

1. ☐ [Acts 10:34-36, 42-43](#)
2. ☐ [Apocalypse 20:11-21:1](#)
3. ☐ [Apocalypse 21:1-7](#)
4. ☐ [Romans 5:5-11](#)
5. ☐ [Romans 6:3-4, 8-9](#)
6. ☐ [2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1](#)
7. ☐ [1 John 3:14-16](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Read by: _____

Gospel Acclamation Verse:

1. ☐ I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord; whoever believes in Me will not die forever.
2. ☐ Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.
3. ☐ I am the living bread from Heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Gospel:

1. ☐ [Matthew 11:25-30](#)
2. ☐ [Mark 15:33-39](#)
3. ☐ [Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53](#)
4. ☐ [Luke 24:13-16, 28-35](#)
5. ☐ [John 11:21-27](#)
6. ☐ [John 12:23-26](#)
7. ☐ [John 14:1-6](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

General intercessions Read by: _____

Offertory Hymn:

1. ☐ [Alleluia, Sing To Jesus](#)
2. ☐ [I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say](#)
3. ☐ [Loves Redeeming Work Is Done](#)
4. ☐ [Lord Of All Hopefulness](#)
5. ☐ [Love Divine](#)
6. ☐ [Our God Our Help In Ages Past](#)
7. ☐ [The King of Love my Shepherd Is](#)
8. ☐ other: _____



Communion Hymn:

1. ☐ [Be Thou My Vision](#)
2. ☐ [Be Still, My Soul](#)
3. ☐ [Blest Are The Pure In Heart](#)
4. ☐ [Nearer My God To Thee](#)
5. ☐ [I Am the Bread of Life](#)
6. ☐ [Rock Of Ages Cleft For Me](#)
7. ☐ [Unless a Grain of Wheat](#)
8. ☐ other: _____

Anthem: _____

Words of Remembrance Read by: _____

Song of Farewell:

1. ☐ [In Paradisum/May the Choirs of Angels](#) – *Sung by the Choir*
2. ☐ [Song of Farewell](#) - Hymn
3. ☐ other: _____

Closing Hymn: *This can be instrumental and not a hymn or anthem*

1. ☐ [Amazing Grace](#)
2. ☐ [Abide With Me](#)
3. ☐ [Great Is Thy Faithfulness](#)
4. ☐ [How Great Thou Art](#)
5. ☐ [Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace](#)
6. ☐ [The Day Thou Gavest](#)
7. ☐ [Ye Watchers and Ye Holy One](#)
8. ☐ other: _____



PARISH DIRECTORY

The Parish Office

The Vicarage, 99 Church Road, Ashford Middlesex, TW15 2NY

☎ 01784 252459

✉: office@smam.org.uk

Parish Priest:

Father Stuart King SSC

The Vicarage, 99 Church Road, Ashford
TW15 2NY

✉: fr_stuart@smam.org.uk

Hon. Asst. Priest:

Father Josiah Abadoo

✉: fr_josiah@smam.org.uk

Priest Missioner:

Father Alex Garner SSC

✉: fr_alex@smam.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister(s):

Melanie Cooper

01784 390461

llm@smvs.org.uk

Alan Joel

01784 244320

llm@smam.org.uk



Websites:



St Matthew's: www.smam.org.uk

St Mary's: www.smvs.org.uk

The abbreviations of each website is used throughout to denote the different buildings.

Church Wardens:

warden@smam.org.uk

Amber Cawte 07792 161352

Guy Ghani 07846 323475

warden@smvs.org.uk

Gary Rixon 07776 452739

Mervyn Moys 07902 825551

Director of Music:

Philip Buckmaster 01932 783343

music@smam.org.uk

Tower Captain:

Dr. Chris Marshall 01784 229481

Mothers' Union:

Heather Hurrell 01784 257175

SMAM Sunday School & Creche:

SMJ's and Little Fishes

Lesley Fraser 01784 211611

Joanna Buckmaster 01932 783343

St Matthew's Flowers:

Heather Hurrell 07867 534556

Church Hall Bookings:

hall@smam.org.uk



St Mary's and St Matthew's are part of the See of Fulham
in the Diocese of London.

