



I AM  
THE   
RESURRECTION  
 AND  
THE   
LIFE

JOHN 11:25

FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNER

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

900 Darlington Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430

201.327.1276



## TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY

We at Immaculate Conception Church express our condolences to you during this time of sorrow at the passing of your loved one. In this time of your grief, please know that you are in our thoughts and our prayers.

While it hurts us left behind, I hope you can take comfort in the fact that your loved one is with God now. If there is anything you need during this difficult time, please do not hesitate to reach out to your church family for support. We are here for you, emotionally, spiritually, and physically.

We are here to help you prepare for your loved one's Mass of Christian Burial. A Catholic funeral provides hope at what is often one of the bleakest times. It is an act of thanksgiving to God for the gift of the life of the person who has died. It also offers hope and consolation to those left behind.

We understand that if you have recently experienced the death of a loved one, you may be feeling confused, sad, lonely, or even overwhelmed by your loss. We offer you comfort and a certain hope. For it is our Catholic belief that at death life is changed, not ended, and that we and our loved ones will find eternal life with God.

The Mass, the memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral. The Catholic Funeral Rites are celebrations that enable the Christian community to mourn as well as to hope by focusing on the mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ.

We hope our Catholic funeral planning guide offers help at this difficult time and assists you in effectively preparing the funeral liturgy that truly celebrates the great gift of a life that God has given us.

With love and prayers,

FR. JM MANOLO A. PUNZALAN, STL, MA  
Pastor



## UNDERSTANDING DEATH - A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Death and passing on to eternal life are mysteries at the center of the Church's belief. Although American culture generally recoils from death and tries to deny it, In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death that bound humanity.

Christian funerals are not private observances, but celebrations of the whole Body of Christ, in which, Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just. Therefore, these rites are celebrated with appropriate choices of music, readings, gestures, and decorations that are consistent with a Catholic understanding of death. The celebration of the Christian funeral brings hope and consolation to the living. While proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and witnessing to Christian hope in the resurrection, the funeral rites also recall to all who take part in them God's mercy and judgment and meet the human need to turn always to God in times of crisis.

## GUIDELINES FOR CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

- ❖ The priest will meet with the family to prepare the Funeral Mass. He will explain the meaning and significance of a Catholic Funeral Mass and explain the Funeral Planning Sheet.
- ❖ Choices of readings are provided in this booklet on pages 5-15.
- ❖ Follow all guidelines for music at a Funeral or Memorial Mass. Music choices are on page 18.
- ❖ Ordinarily, trained and prepared liturgical ministers may exercise the role of cantor, lector, or Eucharistic minister. Family members or friends who wish to participate at the Funeral Mass should be familiar with the structure of the Mass and consult with the priest preparing the Funeral Mass.
- ❖ One family member or friend may speak briefly before the beginning of Mass when invited by the presider to offer some words of remembrance. The brief words need to be



prepared and should be limited to 3-5 minutes only. Spontaneous remarks and eulogies can be offered at the luncheon afterward. (See Guidelines for Words of Remembrance on pages 14).

- ❖ Floral arrangements are welcome
- ❖ Non-religious symbols may not be displayed in church at the Funeral Mass.

## CREMATION

The Church's definite preference is for burial of the body. In 1997, the Vatican gave the bishops of the United States permission to allow the celebration of the Funeral Mass with the cremated remains present. The Church strongly prefers that cremation take place after the full funeral liturgy with the body. The presence of the body most clearly brings to mind the life and death of the person and better expresses the values that the Church affirms in its rites. Cremated remains must be buried or entombed. The scattering of cremated remains is not a reverent disposition. Please consult with the priest about a funeral with cremains.

## FUNERAL STIPENDS

The following stipends are based on services rendered at Immaculate Conception Church. Most funeral homes itemize all costs within their billings. Included should be the stipend for Immaculate Conception Church, musicians' [organist and cantor] checks. We prefer that all the stipend arrangements be completed by the funeral home rather than the family taking care of stipends on their own.

If this is a Memorial Mass and not handled by a funeral home, unless other arrangements have been made, it is preferred that the stipends for Immaculate Conception Church, the Organist and Cantor be paid prior to the Mass and should be given to the Music Director at the church or left with the parish secretary in the parish office. Please call the parish office for more information at 201-327-1276.

## GUEST PRIEST/DEACON

If the family of the deceased requests a guest priest or deacon to be present at the Funeral Mass, the priest from Immaculate Conception Church is to be informed. The family would need to provide the name and phone number of the guest clergy. A guest priest or deacon should present a letter of suitability from his local ordinary/bishop certifying that he is in good standing.



The family should decide whether the guest priest will preside at the funeral or to just concelebrate with the priest from Immaculate Conception Church. Typically, a guest priest or deacon who is presiding would meet with the family to plan the Funeral Mass. At the discretion of the presider, the guest priest/deacon may be permitted to give the homily, final commendation and lead the committal service at the cemetery.

## CHARITABLE DONATIONS

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations to Immaculate Conception Church are a great alternative to honor the memory of your deceased loved ones. This memorial gift can be given for a specific purpose. Please talk to the pastor to set up this memorial fund.

## SCRIPTURE READING CHOICES

### FIRST READING

#### ***Job 19:1, 23-27a***

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said: Oh, would that my words were written down! Would that they were inscribed in a record: That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever! But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust; Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him; And from my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The word of the Lord.

#### ***Wisdom 3:1-9***

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their



going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the LORD shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

### ***Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9***

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The word of the Lord.

### ***Ecclesiastes 3:1-11***

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for everything under the Heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to



keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

### **Readings from the New Testament during Easter Time**

*Only these readings may be selected as the First Reading during Easter Time.*

#### ***Acts 10:34-43***

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power.

He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the Devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.

This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.



### ***Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7***

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son."

The word of the Lord.

## **SECOND READING**

Readings from the New Testament

### ***Romans 5:5-11***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless,

died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.



How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

***Romans 5:17-21***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous.

The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.



### ***Romans 6:3-9***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. The word of the Lord.

### ***Romans 8:14-23***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, "Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.



***Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

***Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God. So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

The word of the Lord.



### ***1 Corinthians 15:20-28***

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet."

But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord.

### ***1 Corinthians 15:51-57***

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.



### ***2 Corinthians 4:14 - 5:1***

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

The word of the Lord.

### ***2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10***

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The word of the Lord.



### ***Philippians 3:20-21***

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters: Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified Body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The word of the Lord.

### ***1 Thessalonians 4:13-18***

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

### ***2 Timothy 2:8-13***

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.



This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him he will deny us. If we are unfaithful he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The word of the Lord.

***1 John 3:1-2***

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

***1 John 3:14-16***

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The word of the Lord.



## GUIDELINES FOR LAY SPEAKERS OFFERING WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Offering Words of Remembrance is not part of the Funeral Liturgy or Mass of the Christian Burial. However, we allow a member or friend of the family to speak in remembrance of the deceased before Mass begins. Note that the intention is that it be one person and not a series of persons. This is a time of thanksgiving to God, especially for the life of the deceased.

### **What is the difference between a “eulogy” and “words of remembrance?”**

Eulogies and biographical sketches of the deceased's life should not be spoken within the Mass, but are appropriate at the conclusion of a wake, at the family gathering after the burial, or may be included in the printed worship aid. A eulogy recounts some or all of the significant events in the life of the deceased.

Words of remembrance do not attempt to give a biography, but to share some insight into the faith and values of the deceased as seen in one or two examples from his/her life. A eulogy by its very nature tends to be lengthy, while words of remembrance are brief.

- ❖ The words of remembrance should be supportive to the bereaved and should deepen our faith in eternal life as a Catholic Christian.
- ❖ Therefore, one would speak on behalf of the deceased, how he or she lived out faith within the family, workplace, community or church. Statements ought to reflect how the deceased cared for his/her spouse and children, his/her honesty in the work place, his/her participating and helping in community events to make things better for others, his/her attending Mass and the reception of the Sacraments, and his/her helping in church activities and ministries. The words of remembrance are not a time to theologize or preach a second homily.
- ❖ The speaker is encouraged to write out his or her remarks.
- ❖ Three to five minutes or less is suitable time for words of remembrance.
- ❖ Within or in place of the words of remembrance it would be good to simply thank everyone for attending and for their prayers and support.



## REFLECTION GUIDELINE QUESTIONS

1. Do the statements tell of the Christian legacy left behind for others to learn from?
2. Are the statements helpful to the family and friends in their time of loss?
  - a. Do the statements help others put this person's life into the broader context of Christian faith - that while this is a personal loss it must be seen through the eyes of faith?

Personal remembrances help us to go through grief. It is necessary to remember and recognize our relationship with loved ones. This helps us to say goodbye and, at the same time, reflect on our relationship with the deceased and one another. Eventually we come to realize that we still have a spiritual bond with those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

## MUSIC FOR CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

Sacred music has an integral role in the funeral rites, since it can console and uplift mourners while, at the same time, uniting the assembly in faith and love.

Because the Mass is a public act of worship of the church, the parish is ultimately responsible for the music in the liturgy. Hymns should reflect the idea of resurrection and hope. The assembly is called to actively participate in the readings and songs. Music is sung prayer. The Director of Sacred Music can help you choose music that would be appropriate for the funeral liturgy.

The texts of the hymns chosen should express the paschal mystery of the Lord's suffering, death, and triumph over death and should be related to the Readings from Scripture.

Due to the sacredness of the funeral, secular music, even those that were the favorite of the deceased, are not permitted during the Funeral Rite, nor are national or ethnic songs. They have a proper place at the funeral home after the Vigil Service, or at a family celebration following the burial. Pre-recorded music is also not permitted under any circumstances.



## USE OF NON-PARISH MUSICIANS

Part of the job description of the parish Director of Music is to play for all parish services including funerals. The use of an outside singer or organist, while not encouraged, is permitted. The singer and/or organist should be a professional who is trained in sacred literature and has an academic degree in music. We highly recommend using a parish cantor, not just a friend or a relative with a “nice voice.” The parish Music Director still needs to be paid with the regular stipend.

Outside soloists and instrumentalists are allowed to perform under the following conditions:

- A. Musical selections are to be made or approved by the parish Director of Music.
- B. Any outside vocalists and instrumentalists should be experienced, professional musicians with a liturgical background as well.

## MUSICAL SELECTIONS

While this is not a definitive list, it is recommended that songs be selected from the choices below. Selections may be exchanged in different parts of the Mass.

Please select

- (1) Gathering Hymn,
- (1) Hymn for Preparation of Gifts
- (1) Hymn for Communion
- (1) Song of Farewell (not used for Memorial Masses)
- (1) Recessional Hymn.

## MUSIC CHOICES

- All Creatures of Our God and King
- Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
- Amazing Grace
- Ave Maria



- Be Not Afraid
- Blest Are They
- Give Me Jesus
- Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
- Here I Am, Lord
- Here I am, Lord.
- Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
- Hosea (Come back to me)
- How Great Thou Art
- I Am the Bread of Life
- I Have Loved You
- I Heard the Voice of Jesus
- I Know that My Redeemer Lives
- I Received the Living God
- In Every Age
- Let There Be Peace on Earth
- Lift High the Cross
- May the Choirs of Angels
- O Lord, I Am Not Worthy
- On Eagle's Wings
- One Bread, One Body
- Only This I want
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Stand By Me
- Taste and See
- To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
- We Remember
- We Walk by Faith
- We Will Rise Again
- You Are Mine
- You Are Near



## FUNERAL LITURGY PLANNER

The funeral of

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Date of Funeral	Time	Cemetery
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Priest Presider \_\_\_\_\_

PLACEMENT OF PALL: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST READING: Selection: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING: Selection: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY COMMENTS:  Before Mass begins  Grave Site

SYMBOLS OF CHRISTIAN LIFE:  Holy Bible  Holy Rosary  Crucifix

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SANCTUARY:  Yes  No

MUSIC CHOICES:

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Any other particular arrangements need to be discussed with the presiding minister:

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Death and coping with loss  
bring challenges to overcome  
as well as opportunities for healing.  
We miss the physical presence  
of those who gave us life,  
who shared our lives,  
whom we loved  
and who loved us in return.

And yet,  
faith gives us the strength to persevere  
in the sure and certain hope  
that we are ever united with them  
in the embrace of a loving God.

All of us,  
the living and the dead,  
are part of the Communion of Saints  
that the Church celebrates  
in a special way

Here at  
Immaculate Conception Church  
we honor the cherished memory  
of all who are dear to us.



FR. JM MANOLO A. PUNZALAN, STL, MA  
2019