
What should I be considering

There are many things to consider for your funeral:

Do you want the funeral in a church?

Do you wish to be cremated?

Would you like there to be Holy Communion?

Would you like to have traditional Book of Common Prayer language with 'thy' and 'thee' or would you rather a more contemporary service?

What music would you like? What readings?

You don't have to make all the decisions now, you can always update your funeral plan, but it's worth having something in place.

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38,39

What is a funeral plan?

In this leaflet there is a set of questions with space for you to tick boxes or write in hymns or readings that you would particularly like. If you tear that piece of paper off and give it to Fr Robin he will keep it in the church safe so that he, or any future priest at All Saints, can find it and use it to help your next of kin to plan the funeral.

What else?

It is always a good idea to have a will, to indicate what you want to happen with your possessions, and, if you have dependents what happens to them. Are you likely to have any money - do you want some of it to go to charity?

It's also a good idea to think about organ donation either for research or for transplanting to save lives.

Visit <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk> to learn more.

At time of death

You may wish, when the time comes, to have what is often called the 'last rights', or 'extreme unction'. It is a set of prayers said with the dying person by a priest, who then anoints you. If this is something you would want to be done then please do make sure somebody knows so that they can contact the priest at All Saints, in the hospital, at the hospice or at another church.

About All Saints

All Saints Church is the Parish Church of Child's Hill. It is a diverse and friendly community in North West London. All are welcome to join us for our services and the building is open Monday through Thursday for those who wish to look around, find some peace or say a prayer.

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Funeral Planning



Why Plan my Funeral?

Grieving the death of a loved one - family or friend - can be difficult and the organising of the funeral brings with it certain challenges. Families and friends often wonder what to include or how to honour a dead friend or relative. Having a record of what you want at your funeral can be a real help when they come to plan the service. It can be easier to think through what you would want when death isn't something imminent. If you find it difficult to talk about, reading through and filling out this leaflet can help.

Can I have a Church of England Funeral?

Everybody is eligible for a Church of England funeral, regardless of your faith or the faith of the next of kin. The funeral can be conducted either in a Church or at a Crematorium, by a graveside, or in a chapel.

Now, Lord, let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. Luke 2:29

Why have a Church of England Funeral?

A Church funeral is grounded in the Christian hope of the resurrection. Within the service, as well as remembering the person who died, we give thanks for them, we pray for those who are grieving, and we commend the dead to the gracious mercy of God. The expression of faith in the service can be a reassurance at a time of grief and help with the process of acknowledging our own feelings of loss.

Some Suggested Readings

From Scripture

Psalm 23 - The Lord's my shepherd; I shall not want...
Psalm 46 - God is our hope and strength, ...
Job 19:23-27 - Job writes of his certain hope of salvation.
Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 - There is a time for everything...
John 6:35-40 - Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life...'
John 11:17-27 - The raising of Lazarus
John 14:1-6 - In my Father's house there are many dwellings
Romans 8:31-39 - The persistence of the love of Christ
1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 - The dead in Christ will rise first
Revelation 21:1-7 - A new heaven and a new Earth

From Elsewhere

A poem by John Donne, an excerpt from a favourite book, there are many possibilities for you to choose from

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; ... a time to mourn, and a time to dance; Ecclesiastes 3:1-2a, 4b

Some Suggested Hymns

Abide with me	Lord of all Hopefulness
All Things Bright and Beau..	Love Divine
Amazing Grace	Morning Has Broken
The Day thou Gavest	Nearer my God to Thee
How Great Thou Art	The Old Rugged Cross
Jerusalem	Rock of Ages
The Lord is my Shepherd	

Music

You could include other music - often it is possible to play a recording, or even to have professional singers perform. Perhaps your favourite song or something that means something to you.

My Funeral Plan

Name _____

Contact Telephone _____

Likely next of Kin _____

Next of Kin Telephone _____

Next of Kin email _____

Please complete as much or as little of this form as you like and give it to the Priest to keep in the safe at All Saints Church, Child's Hill.

I would like to be: buried cremated

I want to have a funeral in church .

At my funeral I would like to:

include this/these readings from scripture: _____

have this reading from elsewhere: _____

have these hymns _____

and this music _____

include Holy Communion .

contemporary language or traditional language .