



Saint Andrew's
Episcopal Church
Bryan, Texas

Funeral Customary

(updated 12.28.2021)

Saint Andrew's Church will assist you in making decisions for a beautiful and meaningful funeral service. All arrangements for the funeral should be made in consultation with the officiating priest. In the Episcopal Church, a funeral is a celebration of resurrection.

Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church. The service should be held at a time when the congregation has the opportunity to be present. The following pages are designed to facilitate the planning of a funeral during difficult times. Copies of your plans may be kept at the parish office at your request.

"Funeral" refers to a service with a casket or urn present. "Memorial" refers to an identical worship format without a casket or urn. This customary is intended to provide guidance for funerals and memorial services. Please use the "Funeral Planning Form" to record your funeral instructions.

The Rector and staff members will be glad to assist you.

The Worship Service

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church uses the *Book of Common Prayer* published in 1979. The Holy Eucharist (Communion) is customarily celebrated, as funerals are celebrations of the entrance of the deceased into the nearer presence of God. All baptized Christians present will be invited to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

Participating Clergy

Clergy known by family members may be invited to participate in the service with the permission of the Rector of Saint Andrew's.

Music at the Funeral Ceremony

There is a wealth of sacred music for the service of The Burial of the Dead.

Hymns appropriate for the Burial of the Dead*
(*The Hymnal 1982*)

208 The strife is o'er	662 Abide with me
314 Humbly I adore Thee	671 Amazing grace!
324 Let all mortal flesh keep silence	680 O God, our help in ages past
383 Fairest Lord Jesus	687 A mighty fortress is our God
473 Lift high the cross	690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
474 When I survey the wondrous cross	691 My faith looks up to thee
(not recommended for small funerals)	694 God be in my head
608 Eternal Father, strong to save	707 Take my life
635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee	708 Savior, like a shepherd lead us
645 The King of love	

*Other selections are possible in consultation with the Rector and/or Director of Music, but must come from *The Hymnal 1982*.

Readings from Scripture

A deacon, priest, or bishop reads the Gospel. Lectors (Lay Readers) of the church read from the Old Testament and the New Testament and lead the congregation in the reading of the Psalm. If the family would like a member of the family or friend to read a lesson, please take into careful consideration the emotional state of that person.

The following readings are authorized for the service of The Burial of the Dead:

Old Testament:

Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death in victory)

Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort all that mourn)

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good unto them that wait for him)

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God)

Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer liveth)

New Testament:

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)

I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (Raised in incorruption)

II Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things which are not seen are eternal)

I John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)

Revelation 7:9-17 (God shall wipe away all tears)

Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

Psalms:

Psalm 21, Psalm 23, Psalm 27, Psalm 42:1-7, Psalm 46, Psalm 90:1-12, Psalm 106, Psalm 116, Psalm 121, Psalm 130, Psalm 139:1-11.

Gospel:

John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)

John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)

John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)

John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)

John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)

Flowers at the Service

Family members are responsible for flowers for the service. Only two floral arrangements on the shelves to either side of the cross behind the altar are permitted. No flowers are allowed to be placed on the altar rail. These arrangements are to be up to 20" wide, 8" deep, and 18" tall with no overhang. All flowers used in the church must be natural - no artificial or silk flowers may be used in the arrangements. All containers must be waterproof. All other flowers/plants/greenery must be placed in the Parish Hall.

No photographs of the deceased are permitted in the nave, except in service booklets.

Service Bulletin

The church office will prepare a Service Bulletin for the funeral service. Please send a digital photo to the church office, office@standrewsbcs.org, if you would like one to be included. If you wish, also please provide a name of family member or friend who will be sharing a reflection during the service.

Guest Book

Saint Andrew's Church does not provide a guest book for congregation members to sign. Please make arrangements through a funeral home or purchase one separately.

The Procession

All caskets will be closed and covered before the procession. Family members may process with the casket or be seated before the service begins.

During the Service

The congregation stands at the beginning of the procession and is seated after the opening prayer. The congregation will be invited to stand, sit, and kneel as full participants in the service using the guidelines of the *Book of Common Prayer*, and will be invited to receive communion at the appropriate time.

One (1) reflection by a family member or friend may be offered after the reading of the Gospel. The reflection may not exceed ten (10) minutes.

A homily will be preached by the officiating priest.

Photography and videography must be coordinated with the Rector of Saint Andrew's.

Reserved Seating

Pews will be reserved at the front of the church for pallbearers and family members.

Receptions in the Parish Hall

The Parish Hall may be used for a reception following the funeral. The Reception Committee provides coffee, tea, water, and cookies. Additional refreshments may be purchased through local caterers or grocery stores; the parish office will provide a list of suggested vendors on request. We request that receptions not exceed 1 ½ hours due to the fact that our Reception Committee is comprised of volunteers, not paid staff.

Honoraria

Members of Saint Andrew's are not expected to compensate the parish for the use of the building. To defray additional personnel expenses, we ask the following honoraria, designated for each individual, be submitted to the Parish Administrator or coordinated through a funeral home. These are suggestions but are not required.

Priest	\$100-\$150, if travel is required \$150-\$200
Organist	\$100-\$150
Sexton (if needed)	\$100

Memorials

Memorials may be made to the Saint Andrew's Operating Fund, Saint Andrew's Memorial Fund, Saint Andrew's Endowment Fund, or to a charity or organization of your choice.

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church

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