

## CRYPTSIDE OR NICHE SIDE COMMITTAL SERVICE

*Cemetery procedures and customs vary from area to area, we wish to acquaint you with what will take place on the day of the committal service.*

**CRYPT/NICHE:** The crypt location will be opened on the morning of the service. There will be entombment equipment present, which cannot be removed. Four to six chairs will be set up for the immediate family.

**FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS:** The Funeral Director will deliver all floral arrangements from previous services to the cemetery before you arrive. All floral arrangements that are brought to the cemetery will be displayed at the crypt. Upon conclusion of the committal service, one floral arrangement will be placed beneath the crypt for a period of three days. If you wish to choose the piece which will remain on the grave, let the Service Counselor on duty know after the service. All other floral arrangements not taken by the family will be disposed of immediately after the committal service.

**PARKING:** Funeral guests may park anywhere along the paved road except where otherwise posted. Guests are encouraged to follow the Funeral Director-led procession. On occasion, many cars may be parked within the limited area in front of the chapel. We ask that you return to your cars as soon as possible upon the conclusion of the committal service, to free the parking area for the next funeral.

**WEATHER:** Occasionally, inclement weather may cause committal services to be rescheduled to the chapel or the mausoleum. Cemetery Management will make this decision on the morning of the service. All possible efforts will be made to inform you or your Funeral Director prior to your arrival if this is necessary.

**ARRIVAL:** If you are coming from the funeral home or church, you will follow the procession, led by the funeral coach (hearse). The coach will stop at the front office to deliver a burial permit. **PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR CARS.** A Service Counselor will then lead the procession of cars to the crypt. *If you are meeting the funeral director at the cemetery on the day of the service, please check in at the front office. A Service Counselor will escort you to the crypt/niche.*

**SET-UP:** *Casket* Pallbearers will remove the casket from the coach and place it on the casket carriage. The pallbearers will wheel the casket to the cryptside. *Cremation Urn* There will be a small table set up at the committal location. The urn may be placed on the table during the committal service. If you would like to bring photographs or other mementos, please inform the Service Counselor so that an appropriate size table will be available.

**COMMITTAL SERVICE:** For a traditional Catholic committal service, prayers will last approximately fifteen minutes. Chairs are provided for the immediate family, others will stand during the committal service. *Casket* Pallbearers will then be asked to place their flowers and gloves (if provided) on top of the casket. Family and guests may then want to take individual flowers out of the floral arrangements and place them on the casket. The service will then conclude.

**WITNESS ENTOMBMENT/INURNMENT:** All entombment/inurnments will take place following the committal service. There may be a delay of several minutes based on cemetery operational demands.

**WITNESS SEALING:** If viewing the sealing of the crypt is requested, the exact time cannot be scheduled until the morning of the committal service. Scheduling is based on cemetery

**CRYPTSIDE OR NICHE SIDE COMMITTAL SERVICE**

operational demands. There may be a delay of several minutes or several hours before a sealing may be completed. Regardless of whether you choose to witness this or not, the sealing will be completed by 4:00pm on the day of the service.

**TIMING/SCHEDULING:** The cemetery schedules services with the intention of providing the best possible service to all of our families. If your party arrives at the cemetery earlier or later than the scheduled time, or your service lasts longer than anticipated we will do everything possible to accommodate your needs but in the event that other services may be finishing or starting there could be a delay in the start or completion of your service. Some families gather after the committal service for the sharing of food and music. You are welcome to stay as long as you wish. We do ask families to be sensitive to other families that may be conducting a service close to your area. In such cases, cemetery staff may ask you to maintain a quiet environment and for example not play music until the other family's services have concluded. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us provide a peaceful and prayerful environment for all.

**I have read and understand the cemetery's committal procedures.**

**Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_