



Funerals at Saint Boniface

“I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and
believes in me will never die.”

John 11:25

The service from ***The Book of Common Prayer*** finds all its meaning in the resurrection. The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. While we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

What to expect from Saint Boniface:

Pastoral and Practical Support

The Saint Boniface staff and Clergy are here to help you. Please call on us. The best way to reach us is to call the office at 941-349-5616. In addition to spiritual support, we will have practical guidance at every step.

We are a Christian community, and the death of anyone affects all of us. The entire congregation will pray at the altar on Sunday. Everyone you work with when planning the funeral will be offering a silent prayer for you, for the one who has died, and for those who mourn.

Liturgy and music of the Episcopal Church

The funeral service for a Christian is held in the church and will be either the Burial Office or Requiem Eucharist from the Book of Common Prayer.

Music at a church service is directed by one of the parish's Music Ministers. All music in a service will be live, and not recorded. Hymns will be from the Episcopal Hymnal in the pews. The officiant and musician will consult with the family about the music.

One person may speak for the family in honor of the deceased. This must be from a prepared text, and the speaker will need to meet with the officiating clergy in advance. This memorial will take place at the beginning of the service. You may find that other remembrances and ways of honoring the one who has died are best left to a reception or wake held at a time different from the church service.

Flowers

Flowers and plants may be placed on the altar retable as a sign of resurrection. If you desire a particular arrangement, we will suggest a florist familiar with the church. Flowers placed on the retable remain in the church. We discourage other floral displays and encourage memorial gifts in lieu of flowers. If family and friends send arrangements, the altar guild will place them in the church.

Hospitality

We will prepare the church for the service. A quiet place can be set aside for you and the immediate family to meet the clergy beforehand. Parking will be reserved if necessary.

If you desire to host a reception at Saint Boniface, we can help you with appropriate arrangements. There is a no rental charge for a simple reception in the Parish Hall on weekdays. There will be a fair charge for a large reception or evenings or weekends.

Our campus caterer is an independent vendor and can help you plan a reception here or at another location.

Memorial gift opportunities

There are two opportunities for memorial gifts:

Gifts to Saint Boniface in lieu of flowers are a way for your family and friends to honor your loved one. These funds are used to support the on-going work of the parish: worship, teaching, healing, and service.

You or your family may want to name a gift in honor of your loved one. In this case, please consult with the Rector about the currently available memorial projects or one of special meaning to you.

The Columbarium as an option for burial

The Columbarium which surrounds the courtyard chapel is a beautiful final resting place for urns containing ashes. Niches are available in two sizes (\$1,000 and \$1,500). A standard bronze urn is available for \$200. To purchase a niche or an urn, please contact Dick Walker, Building Manager by calling 349-5616 x 312.

Fee and gift to the parish

There are some costs connected to a funeral. A fee of \$250 covers all the parish costs related to preparing the church, printing the leaflets, and the music for the service. The business office will mail a statement to the responsible person or to the estate of the person who has died, whichever you direct.

Clergy at Saint Boniface do not accept gifts or honoraria for the services. Instead, **you are encouraged to make a gift to the Saint Boniface Discretionary Fund** which supports special ministries and enables the clergy to give aid to individuals and families.