Instructions for My Funeral
St. Gabriel Catholic Church

We believe that planning a funeral in advance is a wise thing to do. Believers may not fear death but, like many others, put off thinking about it. A funeral is often handled in a rush and in a manner which may not reflect the wishes of the deceased.

The following directives have been distributed to enable Christians to have some say in their own funerals and over their own bodies. Far from being morbid, this approach is both a courtesy and a responsibility.

You are invited to fill out these forms and request the parish, the funeral home, and your relatives to keep them on file.

Information for the Church:

Funeral instructions for (Name) ____________________________________________

To assist those responsible for my funeral arrangements, I wish the following:

1. Funeral Home to be contacted: ____________________________________________
   I have [ ] or have not [ ] consulted with the funeral director of the above named funeral home.

2. Final Disposition: Burial [ ] Cremation [ ] Donation [ ]

3. I have made arrangements regarding my cremated remains or internment as follows:
   Location of cemetery plot: _______________________________________________
   Location of Columbarium niche: __________________________________________
   If St. Gabriel Columbarium, Niche Number: ______
   Body donated to: ________________________________________________________

4. I wish the following:

   Daytime Mass and burial following Mass [ ]
   Evening Mass and burial the following day [ ]
   Visitation prior to Mass/Service [ ]
   Evening Rosary, Prayer Service or Wake Service at Funeral Home [ ]
   Catholic Prayer Service at church (no communion) [ ]
   Graveside Service only [ ]
   Memorial Mass at church (no remains present) [ ]
   Reception following Mass/Service [ ]

* Note: No Sunday funerals.
5. I want these services held at St. Gabriel church [ ] or chapel (seats 75 people) [ ]

6. Casket vs. Cremated Remains
   I do [ ] or do not [ ] wish to have an open casket.
   I wish by body to be present for Mass/Service with cremation following. [ ]
   I wish to be cremated and have my remains present at Mass/Service [ ]
   I do not want my body or cremated remains to be present at Mass/Services [ ]

7. Flowers
   Since the pall is placed on the casket during the funeral service, I prefer that no large
   spray of flowers be placed on my casket. Yes [ ] No [ ]

   Rather than sending flowers, I would like people to honor my memory by making a
   donation to: ________________________________

Detailed Funeral Service or Mass of Christian Burial Instructions:

See our Funeral Planning Page for all details.

Taking care of your funeral arrangements is a thoughtful and caring thing to do for your
family. It is comforting to know that you have done all you can to ease their burden.