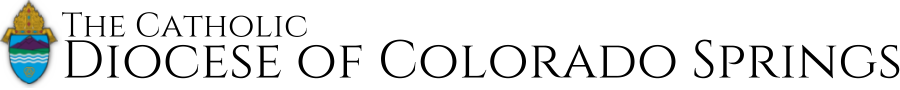
Logo

Description automatically generated**Deacon Funeral Plan**

**Deacon’s Name**:

**Deacon’s Wife Name**:

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**INTRODUCTION TO THE *DEACON FUNERAL PLAN***

**DIOCESE OF COLORADO SPRINGS**

It is our sincere hope that this document will assist you in advising both your loved ones, your parish, and the Diocese of those “final wishes”. The death of a deacon places unique sorrows on the Church because the deacon is both an ordained minister and beloved family/community member. All are in grief at his passing. Therefore, both the needs of the family and the Church are considered vital. We recommend that you fill this form out with the assistance of a person of trust and provide them with a copy. Please forward a copy to the Diocesan Diaconate Office and make additional copies for the chosen parish at time of need. If you have pre-planned your funeral already with a local funeral home, you may want to provide them with a copy of this document as well. Be thorough and precise as you complete this document. These instructions should be updated as needed and revised copies sent to those previously stated.

**Deacon Funeral Arrangements**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

There are standing policies in the Diocesan Pastoral Manual for deacons; please adhere to these when completing the forms:

1. Though the family has the primary responsibility of the funeral arrangements for the deceased deacon, the deacon’s pastor, the Director of the Diaconate, and Diaconal Community stand ready to assist with any of the arrangements, as applicable.
2. At the death of a deacon, the family should contact the Diaconate Director prior to arrangements being made for both the Vigil and Funeral Mass. This allows the availability of the Principal Celebrant, i.e., the Bishop, to be confirmed. Parishes in the Diocese and noted others will be notified via the Chancery.
3. The Bishop (or his designated representative) will be the primary Celebrant of the Funeral Mass, unless otherwise requested.
4. For Funeral Vigil, Funeral Mass, and Committal, the deceased deacon is clothed in both Alb and white Stole (Ordination Stole preferred) and may be vested with a white Dalmatic.
5. Brother Deacons are urged to attend both Vigil and Funeral Mass of the deceased. Proper attire is Alb, cincture, white Stole, and the Diocesan Dalmatic. Deacons process in and sit as a Community in a designated area. Some deacons may be called upon to assist with distribution of Holy Communion at the Funeral Mass. Wives of the Diaconal Community are invited to attend, to show sympathetic solidarity with the widow of the deceased.
6. A Priest or Deacon should be the Presider and homilist at the Vigil. The Celebrant or his designate should give the homily at the Funeral Mass. Two deacons may be asked to assist at the Funeral Mass, three if a Bishop is presiding.
7. Priests and Deacons, in Diocesan vestments, should go the cemetery for the Rite of Committal.
8. Deacon wives may be asked to present the gifts if the family does not choose anyone.
9. In solidarity with our deceased deacon brother, up to 8 deacons may assist with the pall and process our brother deacon to the Altar at the beginning of the Funeral Mass.
10. At the Funeral Mass of a deacon’s wife, attending deacons should wear Diocesan vestments, process together, and be seated as a Community.

**Vigil Service for the Deacon**

Name of Deacon:

Location (Funeral Home/Church):

Date/Time:

Presider/Deacon or Priest:

Musicians/Cantor:

Opening Song:

Reading: Proclaimer:

Psalm: Cantor:

Gospel: (Proclaimed by Presider):

Homilist (if different from Presider):

Any Eulogies? YES NO If YES, Given By:

***Eulogies Done at the Vigil Only; Not at the Funeral Mass***

Name Offering Final Blessing:

Closing Song:

Will Casket be open? YES NO

**Rosary**

**(Not Part of the Christian Rite)**

Rosary following Vigil? YES NO If YES, Recited by:

Selected Mysteries:

**Mass of Christian Burial for the Deacon**

Name of Deacon:

Parish of the Mass of Christian Burial:

Parish Address: Phone:

City/State/Zip:

Family Contact Name: Phone: Cell:

Deceased Date of Birth: Place of Birth:

Children:

Name of Funeral Home:

Contact: Phone:

Cremation? YES NO Casket:YES NO If YES, will casket be open? YES NO

Celebrant (Bishop or designate):

Concelebrant(s):

Deacon of the Word:

Deacon of the Altar:

Musician/Cantor/Choir:

Names Placing the Pall:

Family Processional? YES NO

Entrance Song:

First Reading: Proclaimer:

Responsorial Psalm: Cantor:

Second Reading: Proclaimer

Gospel Selection:

Homilist (Bishop or designate):

Proclaimer of the Prayers of the Faithful:

Preparation Song:

Names Presenting Gifts:

Communion Song:

Final Commendation: Incense? YES NO

Song of Farewell:

Recessional Song:

Other instructions (e.g., recipient of crucifix, etc.):

Military Service: Branch Rank

Medals/Awards from Military, Civic, Profession:

**DEACON SIGNATURE DATE**

**SPOUSE OR WITNESS   
SIGNATURE DATE**

**Rite of Committal for the Deacon**

Presider:

**Select Cemetery**

**Evergreen Cemetery  PPNC  Memorial Gardens  Fairview/Colorado Springs**

**Fairview/Fountain  St. Mary Columbarium  Mt. Saint Francis Columbarium**

**Shrine of Remembrance Mausoleum  Other**

City/State:

Military Honors? YES NO Branch of Military:

**Please sign and date this form: (make copies, accordingly; include the Director of the Diaconate)**

**DEACON SIGNATURE DATE**

**SPOUSE OR WITNESS   
SIGNATURE DATE**

***PLEASE LIST ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW. REMEMBER TO NOTIFY YOUR NECESSARY FAMILY/WITNESS AND DIOCESAN DIACONATE OFFICE OF ANY REVISIONS WITH NEW COPIES.***

**Vigil Service for the Deacon Spouse**

Name of Deacon Spouse:

Location (Funeral Home/Church):

Date/Time: Presider:

Opening Song:

Reading: Proclaimer:

Psalm: Cantor:

Gospel: (Proclaimed by the Presider)

Homilist (if different from Presider):

Any Eulogies? YES NO If YES, Given By:

***Eulogies Done at the Vigil Only; Not at the Funeral Mass***

Final Blessing Given By:

Closing Song:

Musicians/Cantor:

**Rosary**

**(Not part of the Christian Rite)**

Rosary following Vigil? YES NO If YES, Recited by:

Selected Mysteries:

**Mass of Christian Burial for the Deacon Spouse**

Name of Deacon Spouse:

Parish of the Mass of Christian Burial:

Parish Address: Phone:

City/State/Zip:

Family Contact Name: Phone: Cell:

Deceased Date of Birth: Place of Birth:

Children:

Name of Funeral Home:

Contact: Phone:

Cremation? YES NO Casket:YES NO If YES, will casket be open? YES NO

Celebrant (Bishop or designate):

Concelebrant(s):

Deacon of the Word:

Deacon of the Altar:

Musician/Cantor/Choir:

Names Placing the Pall:

Family Processional? YES NO

Entrance Song:

First Reading: Proclaimer:

Responsorial Psalm: Cantor:

Second Reading: Proclaimer

Gospel Selection:

Homilist (Bishop or designate):

Proclaimer of the Prayers of the Faithful:

Preparation Song:

Names Presenting Gifts:

Communion Song:

Final Commendation: Incense? YES NO

Song of Farewell:

Recessional Song:

Other instructions (e.g., recipient of crucifix, etc.):

Military Service: Branch Rank

Medals/Awards from Military, Civic, Profession:

**DEACON SIGNATURE DATE**

**SPOUSE SIGNATURE DATE**

**Rite of Committal for the Deacon Spouse**

Presider:

**Select Cemetery**

**Evergreen Cemetery  PPNC  Memorial Gardens  Fairview/Colorado Springs**

**Fairview/Fountain  St. Mary Columbarium  Mt. Saint Francis Columbarium**

**Shrine of Remembrance Mausoleum  Other**

City/State:

Military Honors? YES NO Branch of Military:

**Please sign and date this form (make copies, accordingly; include the Director of the Diaconate):**

**DEACON SIGNATURE DATE**

**SPOUSE SIGNATURE DATE**

***PLEASE LIST ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW. REMEMBER TO NOTIFY YOUR NECESSARY FAMILY/WITNESS AND DIOCESAN DIACONATE OFFICE OF ANY REVISIONS WITH NEW COPIES.***

**Appendix 1: Music**

Amazing Grace

Be Not Afraid

Bread of Life from Heaven/Pan de Vida

Come to Me

Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

Eye Has Not Seen

Here I Am, Lord

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

How Can I Keep from Singing

How Great Thou Art

I Am the Bread of Life

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I Know My Redeemer Lives

I Want to Walk as A Child of The Light

I Will Be the Vine

In Paradisum

Just A Closer Walk with Thee

Lord of All Hopefulness

Morning Has Broken

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

On Eagle’s Wings

Pescador de Hombres

Prayer of St. Francis

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

Take Me Home

The Cloud’s Vail

The King of Love My Shepard Is

The Old Rugged Cross

You Are Mine

**Appendix 2: Readings and Psalms**

**First Reading**

***Old Testament***

Job 19:1, 23-27a

Wisdom 3:1-9 LV

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9 SV

Wisdom 4:7-15

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

Lamentations 3:17-26

Daniel 12:1-3

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

***During Easter Time***

***New Testament***

Acts 10:34-43

Acts 10:34-36, 42-43

Revelation 14:13

Revelation   
20:11 – 21:1-5a, 6b, 7

**Psalm**

Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6

Psalm 25:6-7b, 17-18,   
20-21

Psalm 27:1, 4, 7 and 8b and 9a, 13-14

Psalm 42:2, 3, 5cdef: 43 3, 4, 5

Psalm 63:2, 3, 4, 5-6, 8-9

Psalm 103:8 and 10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18

Psalm 116:5, 6, 10-11, 15-15ac

Psalm 122:1-2, 4-5, 6-7,   
8-9

Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c, 7, 8

Psalm 143:1-2, 5-6, 7ab, 8ab, 10

**Second Reading**

***New Testament***

Romans 5:5-11

Romans 5:17-21

Romans 6:3-9 LV

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9 SV

Romans 8:14-23

Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 LV

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 SV

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

2 Corinthians 4:14 – 5:1

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Philippians 3:20-21

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

2 Timothy 2:8-13

1 John 3:1-2

1 John 3:14-16

Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

LV = Long Version; SV = Short Version

**Appendix 3: Gospel Readings**

Matthew 5:1-12a

Matthew 11:25-30

Matthew 25:1-13

Matthew 25:31-46

Mark 15:33-39; 16:1-6 LV

Mark 15: 33-39 SV

Luke 7:11-17

Luke 12:35-40

Luke 23:33, 39-43

Luke 23:44-46, 50, 53-53; 24: 1-6a LV

Luke 23:44-46, 50, 52-53 SV

Luke 24:13-35 LV

Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 SV

John 5:24-29

John 6:37-40

John 6:51-59

John 11:17-27 LV

John 11:21-27 SV

John 11:32-45

John 12:23-28 LV

John 12:23-26 SV

John 14:1-6

John 17:24-26

John 19:17-18, 25-39

LV = Long Version; SV = Short Version

***Through Death to Life*, Joseph M. Champlin, Ave Maria Press, 2012**

***Revised: 9/17/2025 (DJT)***