# A GUIDE FOR FUNERALS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church is honored to provide a funeral or memorial service for your loved one. Please refer to the following information for assistance in your planning.

#### **GENERAL**

Prior to the service, a member of the church will greet you in the Guild Hall and will assist the family in any way needed.

Ladies of the Altar Guild are honored to prepare the nave and the altar for the service.

A white pall will be placed over the casket while in the church. A purple pall may be placed over the casket at the funeral home or at graveside, if requested. No flowers are allowed on the casket when using either the white or the purple pall.

For cremains, a small table will be placed at the base of the chancel steps and in front of the pascal candle.

#### MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden is available for the interment of cremains, which may be scattered among the plantings, buried within a biodegradable box, or placed within a niche of the columbarium. Each niche holds two urns. Purchase of a niche may be done at any time. Contact the parish administrator for more information regarding the purchase of a niche. The service in the Memorial Garden may be held either before or after the funeral or memorial service.

### **FLOWERS**

Flowers for the altar are ordered by the family. The florist must be approved by the Altar Guild directress. The receptionist will give you the name and number of the Altar Guild directress. The maximum height of the arrangement is 39", and the maximum width is 24".

Liners for the vases are in the Altar Guild sacristy, and the florist may pick them up prior to the service. The florist must contact the Christ Church receptionist to schedule a time to pick up the liners.

After the service, the altar flowers will be placed in a container to be transported by either a family member or the funeral home for delivery to your home. The flowers may be picked up from the Altar Guild sacristy.

All flower arrangements/plants delivered to the church will be placed in the Guild Hall or the Parish Hall prior to the service. Only altar flowers are allowed in the nave. Please request a member of the family or close friend to be responsible for all floral arrangements to be taken home after the service/reception. Some funeral homes will provide this service.

# FUNERAL (MEMORIAL) SERVICE

The family will gather in the Guild Hall prior to the service.

The first pews on the right side (Epistle) are reserved for the family. Each pew holds 8 people and you may reserve as many pews as you desire. Reserved pews for the pall bearers (and wives), if requested, will be on the left side (Gospel). Please inform the receptionist as to how many pews should be reserved.

The priest will meet with the family in the Guild Hall prior to the service. After a prayer, he will lead the family into the nave.

After the service, the priest will lead the family out of the nave and into the Guild Hall. It is suggested that the family then go to the Parish Hall to greet guests. There is more space in the Parish Hall, and guests can enjoy the reception while waiting to visit with the family.

## **RECEPTION**

The ladies of the LOIS Guild will be delighted to provide a light reception or lunch before or after the funeral. The church will contact the chairman of the LOIS Guild, who will then contact the family to determine the family's preference.

Pictures of your loved one may be displayed in the Parish Hall. Nothing is to be placed on the piano.

### VIDEO

A prepared video may be shown in the Parish Hall during the reception.

If you desire to have a video shown, please contact the church receptionist before the day of the service. The church will provide someone to assist with the video equipment.