

Guidelines for Funerals and the Interment of Ashes

Trinity Episcopal Church

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The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable purposes. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 445)

The Book of Common Prayer, quoted above, reminds us of the importance of giving serious thought to the final disposition of our earthly affairs including the plans and directions for one's funeral.

When circumstances permit, one's priest should be involved in the spiritual preparation of individuals who are terminally or seriously ill. Many times, however, death comes suddenly and unexpectedly. Whatever the situation, the parish clergy should be notified as soon a death has occurred. Since many considerations enter into the planning and preparation of a funeral or memorial service, no arrangement can be considered final until discussed with the parish clergy.

All funeral services conducted by the clergy of Trinity Church Newport are in accord with the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. It is assumed that services take place in the church. If special circumstances warrant, a service may be conducted in a funeral home or at the graveside. The following are to be considered in planning the service:

- Scripture Readings
- Hymns and Other Music
- Burial Office Form 1 or 2
- With or without Holy Communion
- Readers, Ushers and Pallbearers
- Bulletin or Service Program
- Sermon, Eulogy, or other speakers
- Altar Flowers
- Reception or other opportunity to greet guests
- Photos or other memorabilia

Honyman Hall is available as a place where families and friends may gather following the service for conversation and light refreshments.

The parish does not provide any catering services. In the case of Trinity parishioners, every effort will be made to assist the family in providing refreshments or a light meal. Non-parishioners must secure the services of an outside caterer. Hall rental and custodial fees apply.

The Vestry has established a fee schedule for

- Clergy
- Organist
- Custodial Services
- Facilities Use

Some fees are waived or reduced for church members who are regular contributors. The current fee schedule:

	Member*	Non-Member
Clergy	None**	\$250
Organist	\$200	\$200
Sexton	\$100	\$100
Church	None	\$200
Honyman Hall	None	\$100

*A contributing member is here understood to be a person who is regular in worship and financially supportive of Trinity Church Newport. This understanding will extend to a person's spouse and children but not to other family members.

**Although no fee for clergy or use of the church facilities is required of church members, it is customary to make a donation to the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Memorial donations to the parish's endowment fund are encouraged in lieu of flowers or in thanksgiving for a person's life.

A columbarium is on the grounds of Trinity Church. For information about interment of ashes, please contact Richard Long, the Property Manager. Only members of the parish and their immediate family members may be interred in the Trinity columbarium.