



CLIFTON CATHEDRAL

FUNERAL MUSIC

A Roman Catholic funeral, like all funerals, is a time of sadness and mourning. However, in the Catholic faith there is joy in the belief that a funeral represents the passing of the beloved into eternal life. It is our goal to make this process as easy as possible.

A funeral should reflect the life of the one that has passed before us and should uplift those who are left behind.

The music at Clifton Cathedral is provided by professional musicians who are very well qualified, so you can be confident in your choices. Richard Jeffrey-Gray, the Director of Music, is a musician with over 30 years' experience of playing for funerals. If he is unavailable to play another professional organist will be booked on your behalf - there is no change in the fee if this is the case.

ORDER OF A FUNERAL MASS

* – this is where music such as a hymn, song or solo can be used.

Introductory Rites*
Greeting
Sprinkling with Holy Water
Opening Prayer
Liturgy of the Word
First Reading (taken from the Old Testament)
Psalm*
Second Reading (taken from the New Testament)
Gospel Acclamation*
Gospel Reading
Intercessions/Petitions
Offertory/Preparation of the Gifts*
Eucharistic Acclamations*
Communion*
Final Commendation*
Recessional*

Because the Mass is a public act of worship of the church, the Cathedral Director of Music is ultimately responsible for the music in the liturgy. Music should be sacred and reflect the idea of resurrection and hope.

You may have in mind some specific music which may or may not be appropriate during the Mass. If you are uncertain, there is a suggested list included in this leaflet. The suggested music list is a guideline.

Organist with congregational singing

You may wish to have a simpler service, with dignified and appropriate music where you have one of our organists play and have your congregation sing hymns during the service. You need to ensure that you choose hymns with which those attending will be familiar. The organist will be able to play a wide range of music from the appropriate classical repertoire.

Organist and Cantor (Vocal)

We always recommend this combination since a Cantor can lead the parts of the Mass and help the Assembly to sing any hymns. If you wish to have some solo vocal repertoire sung, such as Ave Maria by Schubert or Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck, the Cantor can deal with that too.

Organist and Vocal Ensemble

To help support the music you may have a small mixed voice ensemble (quartet or quintet depending on the music chosen) of singers to sing a range of music classical church music during the service. Members of our Cathedral Choir, who sing at the Solemn Mass every week, have plenty of experience singing in both smaller and larger ensembles.

Guest Musicians

We prefer you use Cathedral musicians for all of our funeral services. Guest musicians are allowed with some limitations. They must work through the Director of Music. If they are not familiar with the Catholic liturgy, then our music director/organist must also be present (for an additional fee). If you want a family member to provide the music, please keep in mind that it may be difficult for that person to sing or play because of the grieving process. They also may feel pressure in performing this task.

And finally

We are also able to offer a design service for your order of service from an experienced graphic designer who has a good knowledge of Catholic liturgy and services. Please enquire to Richard or Canon Bosco for more information.

Contacts

Richard Jeffrey-Gray: music@cliftondiocese.com or 0117 974 1153
(email preferred as landline not manned during the week)
Canon Bosco can be contacted via the Cathedral on 0117 973 8411

Traditional Hymns

Abide with me
All my hope on God is founded
Be thou my vision
Firmly I believe and truly
For all the saints
Guide me, O thou great redeemer
I heard the voice of Jesus say
O Jesus, I have promised
Lead, kindly light
Lord of all hopefulness
Now the green blade riseth
O God, our help in ages past
Praise to the holiest in the height
Praise we our God with joy
Sing with all the saints in glory
Soul of my Saviour
Thine be the glory

Latin Requiem Mass

Some parts of this, In paradisum, Requiem Aeternam, Sanctus and Agnus Dei - a cantor or small group of singers would be required for this. Not all parts of the old Requiem Mass are used or appropriate in the new rite.

Psalms

To have a Responsorial Psalm sung, as is usual at our Cathedral on Sundays, a singer will be needed.

Some psalm settings are:

- Psalm 22(23): Because the Lord is my shepherd (Walker)
- Psalm 41(42): As the deer longs (Hurd) or
O God, for you I long (Farrell)

If there is no singer available, the psalm may be sung by everybody present as a hymn or song:

- Psalm 22(23): The Lord's my shepherd
or The king of love my shepherd is
- Psalm 102(103): Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

- Psalm 41(42): As longs the deer

Alleluia

The Gospel Acclamation is important as it prepares everyone to listen to the Gospel. Most people will know the Easter (or Paschal) alleluia and if there is someone to start it off, the organist or the priest, will join in. In Lent the Gospel Acclamation is not Alleluia but 'Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory' or a similar verse.

Eucharistic Acclamations

If at all possible the Holy, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Great Amen should be sung at Mass. It is advisable to have a cantor to lead the singing.

Solo Pieces

Panis Angelicus (C. Franck)
Ave Maria (Schubert or Bach-Gounod)

Songs of Farewell

May the choirs of angels
Saints of God
I know that my redeemer lives