



## **Advanced Burial Planning by Member of the Church**

Saint James' Episcopal Church

Houston, Texas 77004

Phone: 713-526-9571

E-mail: [Office@stjameshouston.org](mailto:Office@stjameshouston.org)

Website: [www.stjameshouston.org](http://www.stjameshouston.org)

This form will allow you to make some decisions and plans for your funeral. It can also be an act of loving generosity to your friends and family, helping them to plan your funeral in a way which expresses your beliefs, your faith, and your communion with them.

This form asks about burial or cremation; any niche; whether the service should be with or without Eucharist. It asks whether or not arrangements have been made with a funeral home, etc. You may include the names of relatives or others who should be notified at your death and the location of your will and name of your lawyer.

You will find here provision for naming hymns or other music you'd like at the service; which of the suggested readings (or other Bible readings) you'd like; the names of anyone you'd like to have serve (as ushers, pallbearers, lectors, assisting clergy, etc.). Our organist has provided a list of particularly appropriate and oft-chosen hymns, and the suggested readings have also been printed out for your deliberation. Many people who love the church's hymns have often thought, "I'd like to have that played at my funeral" and also particular scripture readings. This is an opportunity to make note of those thoughts in a way which will be most helpful to those who mourn your death.

The ideal way to fill this out would be to take it home and think about the meaning and form of the funeral, what hymns and readings speak most clearly to you and of your faith. After you've filled it out, please return it to the Parish Office Coordinator, Karen Wesley, who will file it in the church office, where it will be ready when needed. Feel free to also keep a copy if you would like to have one at home or with a loved one.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

1. I have been

- Baptized**
- Confirmed**
- Neither baptized nor confirmed**

2. I would like my funeral to be held at

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Church**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Funeral Home**
- Graveside only**
- Memorial Service at** \_\_\_\_\_ **Church**

3. I would like

- Burial of the body or cremations immediately following the service**
- For my body to be given to** \_\_\_\_\_ **medical school and then**
  - Cremated and the ashes buried by my family**
  - Disposed of however the medical school sees fit**
- Burial (or scattering of the ashes) with a memorial service later**

4. Place of burial

- I own a cemetery lot, mausoleum vault or niche in** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cemetery**
- I anticipate that a cemetery lot, mausoleum vault or niche in** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cemetery will be purchased at the time of my death**
- Other** \_\_\_\_\_

5. In accordance with the practices of the Episcopal Church, I understand that the casket, if any, will be closed before the service begins and will remain closed during the service. I also understand that there will be a pall covering the casket. I would like to have a visitation (wake) before the service.

- Yes**
- No**

During the visitation, I would like the casket

- Open**
- Closed**

I would like the visitation to be

- At the \_\_\_\_\_ Funeral Home**
- At my home or the home of a relative**

**(name and address)** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. I would like the Burial Service to be:

- BCP Rite II with Communion**
  - Prayer A** (See BCP pp. 361-367 for available Prayers)
  - Prayer B**
- BCP Rite II without Communion, BCP pg. 491**

7. The service should include one Psalm and one reading from the Gospels but may additionally include a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures and/or the Epistles.

I would like the following lesson(s) and psalm(s)

(Note: see suggestions in BCP pp. 470-480 or 494-495)

---

---

---

8. I would like

- No music**
- Organ music only**
- Organ music with congregational hymns**
- Jazz Ensemble (additional fees will apply)**

Hymns may be sung at the opening of the service, the Sequence (before the Gospel), and/or at the closing of the service. If there is to be communion, hymns may be sung during the Offertory and/or the distribution of communion.

I would like the following hymn(s): (a list of some suggestions is at the end of this document)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

9. The practice of the Saint James' is that the Rector, if available, will preside over all funeral services. If the Rector is not available, I would like The Reverend \_\_\_\_\_ to preside at my funeral service.

10. I would like the following people to serve as additional clergy, pallbearers, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers and/or vergers at the service:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

11. I understand that the only flowers in church will be behind the altar.

- I would like flowers behind the altar**
- I do not want any flowers in church**

12. If people would like to remember me in some special way, my wishes are

- Flowers**
- Contributions to:**
  - Endowment**
  - Scholarship Fund**
  - Other** \_\_\_\_\_

13. I would like a reception in the parish hall.

- Yes**
- No**

14. Will & Lawyer

**My will is on file at** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**My lawyer is** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Family Information

**Person to be notified:**

**(name, address, phone, email, relationship)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Others are:**

**(name, address, phone, email, relationship)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Scripture Readings and Hymns

### Old Testament:

Isaiah 25:6-9 (*He will swallow up death in victory*)

Isaiah 61:1-3 (*To comfort all that mourn*)

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (*The Lord is good unto them that wait for him*)

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (*The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God*)

Job 19:21-27a (*I know that my Redeemer liveth*)

### Psalms:

Psalms 23, Psalm 27, Psalm 42, Psalm 46, Psalm 90, Psalm 106,

Psalm 116, Psalm 121, Psalm 130, Psalm 139.

### New Testament

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (*The glory that shall be revealed*)

I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (*Raised in incorruption*)

II Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (*Things which are not seen are eternal*)

I John 3:1-2 (*We shall be like him*)

Revelation 7:9-17 (*God shall wipe away all tears*)

Revelation 21:2-7 (*Behold, I make all things new*)

**Gospel:**

John 5:24-27 (*He that believeth hath everlasting life*)

John 6:37-40 (*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me*)

John 10:11-16 (*I am the good shepherd*)

John 11:21-27 (*I am the resurrection and the life*)

John 14:1-6 (*In my Father's house are many mansions*)

**Some hymns appropriate for the Burial of the Dead:**

208 The strife is o'er

287 For all the saints

293 I sing a song of the saints of God

473 Lift high the cross

620 Jerusalem, my happy home

625 Ye holy angels bright

637 How firm a foundation

646 The King of love my shepherd is

662 Abide with me

671 Amazing grace!

680 O God, our help in ages past

688 A mighty fortress is our God

690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

691 My faith looks up to thee

707 Take my life and let it be

708 Savior, like a shepherd lead us

