



**The Catholic Foundation
of Central Florida**
Inspire Giving. Fund God's Work.

“Catholic Funeral Rites & Leaving a Legacy of Faith”

Presented by:

- David Branson, Diocese of Orlando
Director of Cemeteries
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Director of Philanthropy, CFOCF



Legacy Planning Seminar Series



Hosted by

ST. JOSEPH PALM BAY
CATHOLIC CHURCH



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**The Catholic Foundation
of Central Florida**

Welcome

Thank you to our partner

ST. JOSEPH PALM BAY
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How We Serve

The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida's Mission is to inspire and increase giving, to prudently invest the resources entrusted to us, and to capably steward those charitable gifts to support the spiritual and corporal needs of the community of the Diocese of Orlando.

In 2021 our core services inspired and increased giving providing a great impact on ministries throughout Central Florida.



As a proven trustworthy philanthropic organization to give to and give through, The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida has received the GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency.



Data Management + Communications + Advancement Services + Administration



David Branson



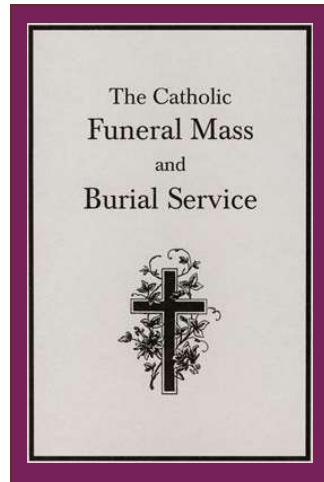
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Catholic Funeral Rites



- Theology
- Rites
- Cremation
- Organ Donations
- Resources



Catholic Funeral Rites - Theology

“In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death that bound humanity”

OCF 1



Catholic Funeral Rites

- “The Church through its funeral rites commends the dead to God’s merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins.” OCF 6
- Parish Ministries and Funeral Home Directors are available to assist families in preparing for the funeral rites.
- Members of the family are encouraged to discuss and pre-plan funeral rites and burial options.



Catholic Funeral Rites



- “Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and hope of the just.” OCF5
- Vigil for the Deceased (wake)
- Funeral Mass
- Rite of Committal (burial)



Catholic Funeral Rites – Vigil for the Deceased (Wake)

- Celebrated in church or a funeral home, an opportunity to pray for the deceased, their families, friends.
- Readings of Scripture, songs, psalms & intercessory prayer; provide healing and a sense of peace to the family.
 - The body or cremated remains are present.
- After the concluding prayer and before the blessing is the preferred time for family and friends to offer stories, reflections and eulogies.
- Devotions and prayer, such as the recitation of the rosary, may be held in addition to the Vigil, but not in place of the Vigil Rite.



Catholic Funeral Rites – Funeral Mass



- The memorial of Christ's death and resurrection is the principal celebration of the Christian funeral
 - The body or cremated remains are present
- Through the funeral liturgy, the community gathers with the mourners of the deceased to give praise and thanks to God for Christ's victory over sin and death.



Catholic Funeral Rites – Funeral Mass

- To enhance the personal meaning of the Celebration, the family, with the Priest, may select scripture readings, psalms and songs from those referenced in the Order of Christian Funerals.
- The family may also participate in the choice of ushers, pallbearers, readers and those who will bring the gifts to the altar at Mass.



Catholic Funeral Rites – Funeral Mass



- Reception at the Church
 - Greeting – Sprinkling with Holy Water
 - Placing of the Pall
 - Entrance Procession
 - Placing of Christian Symbols-Crucifix
 - Opening Prayer
- Liturgy of the Word
- Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Final Commendation and Farewell
- Procession to the place of committal



Catholic Funeral Rites – Committal (Burial):

- The rite of committal concludes the funeral rites and is the final act in caring for the body of the deceased.
 - This rite may be celebrated at the grave, tomb/niche, and for burial at sea.
 - The rite is comprised of scripture and prayer and may be concluded with a song.
- The rite is an expression of the communion that exists between the Church on earth and the Church in heaven.
- In committing the body to its resting place, the mourners and community express the hope that the deceased awaits the glory of the resurrection.



Catholic Funeral Rites - Cremation

As Christians, we profess faith in the incarnation of the words of St. Paul who wrote to the Corinthians:

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20



Catholic Funeral Rites - Cremation

- Catholics may choose cremation, provided they do not deny the...
 - Dignity of the body, created by God.
 - Body of the deceased has been a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined to share fully in the Resurrection of the just.
- Whenever possible, the Church always prefers interment of the full body because it gives fuller expression to our Christian faith.
- Cremated remains are to be treated with the same respect given to the full body.
 - Scattering cremated remains on water, from the air, on the ground, separating it into jewelry or keepsakes, and keeping them at home is not the reverent treatment the Church requires.



Catholic Funeral Rites - Cremation



- In our area, the rate of choosing cremation is over 60%; of those about 2/3rds are not brought to a cemetery for burial or inurnment.
- Why choose a permanent burial site for cremated remains:
 - All friends and family have a special place to pray, visit and remember; particularly on special occasions.
 - Memorials will provide a permanent record of the loved one's life.
 - Cemeteries will always be there, open to visitation by all, especially by future generations of the family.



Catholic Funeral Rites - With Cremated Remains

- The celebration of the Funeral Liturgy, including Mass, in the presence of the cremated remains of the body of a deceased person is permitted, providing:
 - That the cremation not be inspired by motives contrary to Christian teaching
 - Care taken that all is carried out with due decorum
 - The cremated remains are placed in a worthy vessel
OCF 426, 427



Planning – Funeral Home and Cemetery

When you plan ahead, you are able to consider the many options available. You have the opportunity to make an informed decision about your funeral and cemetery arrangements, and the form of memorial you prefer. You are able to make choices that are meaningful to both you and your family, and you gain peace of mind knowing your family and friends will be relieved of the emotional and financial burden often associated with making arrangements when a death occurs. By prearranging your funeral and cemetery services, you benefit by buying at today's prices, free from price changes in the future.



Planning – Funeral Home and Cemetery

Pre-arrangements at Funeral Home:

- Selection of Casket or Urn and burial vault
- Select memorial cards, guest book, thank you cards
- Preference of flowers or donations
- Details of the Vigil and Funeral ceremonies

Pre-arrangements at Cemetery

- Burial Rights (location and type of burial) – consider future family interments
 - Mausoleum – full body above ground/crypt; Columbarium – cremated remains above ground/niche
- Committal service fees – opening and closing of the burial space
- Monumentation – style and design



Organ Donations

- One way of nurturing a genuine culture of life “is the donation of organs, performed in an ethically acceptable manner, with a view to offering a chance of health and even of life itself to the sick who sometimes have no other hope” – *St. John Paul II*
- Organ donation constitutes an act of charity. Donors make it possible for recipients to continue their earthly life while they themselves receive the reward promised to the generous.
- Consider organ donation before the time of death when emotion can easily overwhelm reason.
- Make documented pre-arrangements with research facility if donating for medical research
<https://www.donatelifeflorida.org/>



St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery



1422 Miller Street,
Palm Bay

Miller Street Church,
c. 1914; Cemetery c. 1929

Annie O'Neill, ext. 1414
oneilla@st-joe.org

Expansion planning and
design is in progress



Catholic Resources

- [Catholic Introduction to End of Life Planning](#)
- [USCCB: Statement on Euthanasia](#)
- [USCCB: The Manner of Our Dying](#)
- [USCCB: End of Life Issues](#)
- [USCCB: Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services](#)
- [Understanding the Catholic Declaration on Life and Death](#) (Florida Catholic Conference – FCC)
- [Revised Living Will Forum Guidelines](#)
- [Cremation Q and A](#) (Florida Catholic Conference – FCC)
- [Obligation to give Nutrition and Hydration](#)
- [DNR Form](#) (Do Not Resuscitate / Florida Department of Health)



Catholic Resources

Vatican

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20160815_ad-resurgendum-cum-christo_en.html

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20160815_ad-resurgendum-cum-christo_sp.html

US Catholic Conference Bishops

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/bereavement-and-funerals/overview-of-catholic-funeral-rites.cfm>

Florida Catholic Conference Bishops

<https://flaccb.org/documents/2015/8/061204Cremation.pdf>

https://flaccb.org/documents/2015/8/061204Cremation_spanish.pdf

Diocese of Orlando

<https://www.catholiccemeteriesfl.org>



Questions





WHAT LEGACY
DO YOU WANT TO LEAVE
IN THIS WORLD?

What is the
Legacy you
will leave?



CFOCF Legacy Resources

- Planning Your Catholic Legacy – A Wills Guide
- Create a Family Mission Statement
- Opportunities to Leave Your Legacy of Faith
- **Create Your Catholic Legacy Video**
- **Catholic Legacy Letter/Journal**



www.cfocf.org/legacy

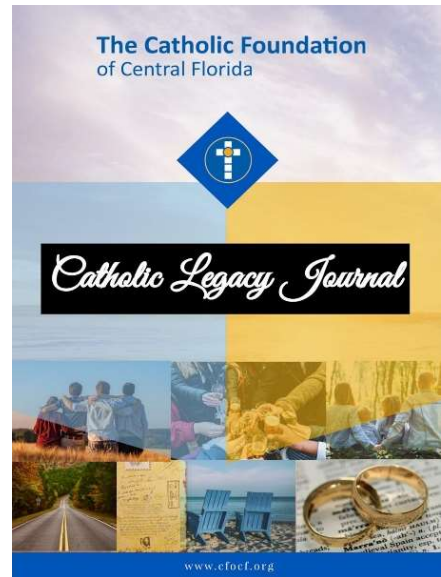


CFOCF
Planned Giving Advisory Council
www.cfocf.org/advisory-council



Legacy Resources

www.cfof.org/legacy



Transitioning Values to Your Children and Grandchildren Your life is the legacy that you are already creating.

It's who you are.
What you stand for.
Where you came from.
How you've lived your life.
Your beliefs. Your values. Your story.

Would you like those things
to continue to have
meaning to your
loved ones?



Establish



Grow



Impact

**Don't delay. Engage your family. Tell Your Story.
Have the conversation.**



Strengthen and Protect Your Family



**What one thing
can make the
difference?**



Family Storytelling

- Resilient
- Higher self-esteem
- Stronger self-concepts
- Better coping skills
- Robust identities



Building Resilience



- Difficult times – Overcoming adversity
- Part of Normal Life
- Better equipped, more confident
- Correlation:
 - Knowing More Family History
 - Feeling More in Control and Capable

Dr. Marshall Duke and Dr. Robyn Fivush, 2001



Ability to Control Stress

The more children knew about their family's history:

- The stronger their sense of control over their lives
- The more they believed their family could persevere and continue to function successfully.



Dr. Marshall Duke and Dr. Robyn Fivush, 2001



Intergenerational Identity

- Strong sense of belonging
- Feeling of something larger than ourselves
- Truly part of a family
- Include Catholic faith and values
- Bigger whole than individual self
- Most self-confidence – strong intergenerational identity



Dr. Marshall Duke and Dr. Robyn Fivush, 2001



Benefits for elderly

- Mental Stimulation
- Improved memory
- Positive social connections
- Increased activity



Sierpiena & Cole, 2004



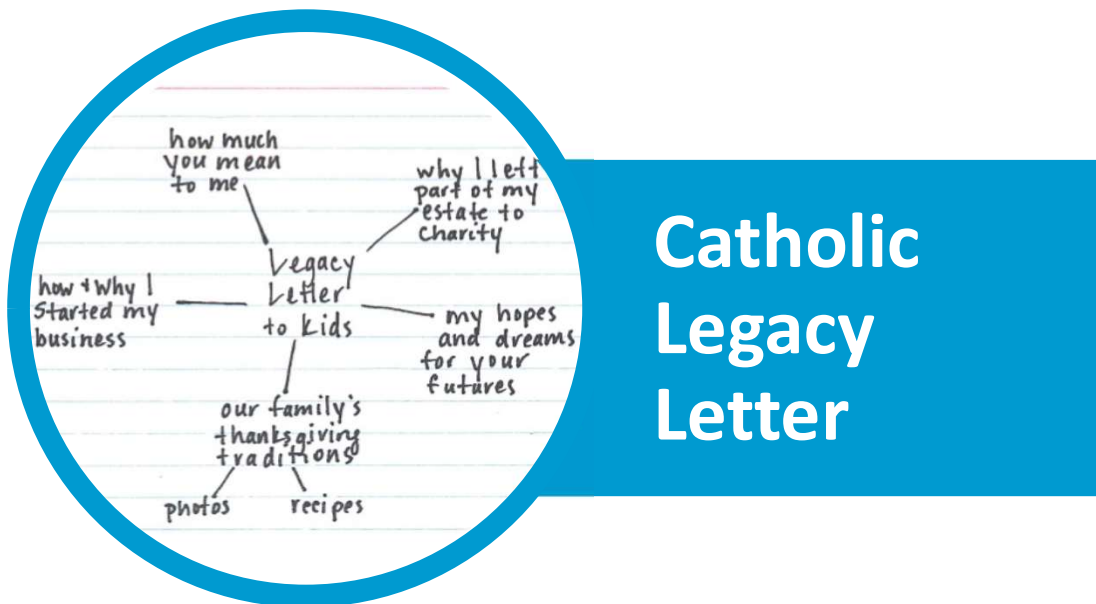
Ethical Will

ethical will

noun

1. a document in which the writer shares personal values and beliefs, life stories, advice etc., with the intent of passing them on to future generations.

- A personal document or letter that you write yourself
- Shares your values, experiences, and life lessons with your family
- Something meaningful to leave behind
- Your children and grandchildren will remember your stories



Passing on Your Catholic Values

- Your spiritual lifebaptism, confirmation, education, vocation, worship, prayers....your values, your family's values
- How will your Catholic legacy reflect your spiritual life?
- What impact would you like to make for future generations in the Church?



Legacy Planning – Family and Beyond

- After you remember your family in your legacy plans, consider your legacy to your spiritual family.
- Your parish, school, or ministries.
- Engage your family and an expert team including a financial planner, estate attorney, and other professionals.
- Join the Vivos Christi Society.
- We are here to help you achieve your philanthropic goals!



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**THANK
YOU**

www.cfocf.org/leavealegacy

