



Archdiocese of Newark

Entering the
Third Millennium,
proclaiming in faith and love
the mission of
Christ the Redeemer!

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS POLICY FOR PRIESTS REMOVED FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY BUT NOT LAICIZED

1. The appropriate arrangements should be made with the Funeral Director of choice regarding the date, time and place of the Mass of Christian Burial and Internment.
2. The Mass of Christian Burial may not be held in any parish to which the deceased had been assigned or in which he was in residence during his years of priestly ministry. It is suggested that the Mass take place in the priest's home parish or another parish of the families' choice.
3. The pastor of the parish church in which the Mass of Christian Burial is to be celebrated should be in contact with the Vicar General prior to making any final arrangements for the Funeral liturgy.
4. It would be appropriate for the deceased to be vested in Mass Vestments, provided there were no canonical restrictions prohibiting the deceased from the private celebration of the Eucharist.
5. The celebrant and homilist for the Mass of Christian Burial may be pre-designated by the deceased or may be the pastor or parochial vicar of the parish in which the Mass is to be celebrated.
6. All priests will be notified of the arrangements for the funeral and encouraged to participate.
7. To lessen the degree of grief that the family will experience at this time, the viewing is to be a private viewing (not in a church) for members of the family and close friends only. Similarly, no indication of the time, place and date for the Mass of Christian Burial, or the place of Interment will be announced in any printed obituary. The obituary should read: **Services and Burial will be held at the convenience and privacy of the family.** It is permissible to state in the obituary that the deceased had served as a priest of the Archdiocese.
8. While the Memorial prayer card may have a photo of the deceased, the obituary may not include a photo of the deceased priest.

Approved by the Presbyteral Council and Archbishop Myers – November 21, 2014