



**PLEASE NOTE:**

**GUIDELINES ON EULOGIES/WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE:**

If the family chooses to have someone offer a personal reflection on the life of the deceased, it is strongly recommended that this be done either at a wake service at the funeral home or at a luncheon following the Funeral Mass.

If “Words of Remembrance” are to be done in Church, only one person may offer remarks on behalf of the family. “Words of Remembrance” must be done before the Funeral Mass and are limited to three minutes. The eulogy should have a Christian theme, celebrating the person’s life journey to God. The person delivering the eulogy should be reasonably sure that he/she can do so with clarity and dignity. Again, multiple eulogies are not permitted.

**GUIDELINES REGARDING CREMATION:**

While the interment of the body remains the preference of the Church, after the manner of the burial of the Lord Jesus, the use of cremation is permitted according to the norms of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. If the body is to be cremated, it is always preferable that cremation take place after the Funeral Liturgy. If the body is cremated prior to the Funeral Liturgy, the cremated remains are to be brought to the Church in a worthy vessel, that is a solid and durable container.

To ensure the respect that befits the dignity of a baptized person, cremated remains must be buried in a cemetery or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium on the grounds of a cemetery as soon as possible following the Funeral Liturgy. The period of time between the Funeral Liturgy and the burial is not to exceed 30 days. It is not permitted to scatter or divide cremated remains. The cremated remains of one deceased person may not be mixed with the cremated remains of another person. The integrity of the cremated remains must always be respected and any practice which impedes the reverent and proper burial/disposition is prohibited.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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