Preparing a Place of Resurrection

Funeral Arrangements at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Go forth from this world: in the love of God the Creator who formed you, in the mercy of Jesus Christ who redeemed you, in the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you. In communion with all the faithful, may you dwell this day in peace.
In the Celtic Christian tradition people often traveled to places of beauty before death occurred. One such place was Bardsey Island of which one 12th century pilgrim exclaimed, “Awaiting resurrection there is lovely.” Though most of us cannot travel to a holy island, we can do the holy work of preparing arrangements for burial that reflect our life and living.

Arrangements for funeral services at St. Paul’s should be made with the parish clergy at the Church office. A funeral is the fulfillment of a lifelong relationship with God begun at Baptism. It is appropriate that the funeral be held in Church. Burial is always a celebration of life and new life.

In the Book of Common Prayer, “The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that ‘neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.’ (Romans 8:38-39)

“This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.” Book of Common Prayer, p. 507

The tradition underlying funeral services is that all people are equal before God. This is symbolized by the same white pall which is placed over every casket in the church, and by the similarity of services using the Book of Common Prayer.

The beauty of St. Paul’s Church does not require any decorations other than flowers on the altar. Additional floral arrangements are placed in the Narthex of the church or at the grave site.
A Memorial Fund exists at St. Paul’s Church to receive contributions from family and friend in memory of loved ones. Contributions are promptly acknowledged.

We encourage members at all times to have their affairs in order, to have a valid and current will (which may include a bequest to the Church), and to have a statement regarding final arrangements on file in the Church Office which is the point of this booklet.

St. Paul’s understands that the following expresses your wishes, and we will make every effort to make them known following your death. We hope that you will share this also with anyone who may wish to have responsibility for arrangements at the time of death. This will ease their task at a difficult time.

Name: __________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

Contact information: ______________________________________________

Date and Place of my birth: _______________________________________

Funeral Director preferred: _________________________________________

I have already made arrangements with the above funeral home.

_____ Yes _____ No

Instructions for donating any part of my body: ______________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
Instructions for Burial

Visiting hours are optional. They may be held at the funeral home or in the church. Brief prayers may be led by clergy at either place. For the funeral the body is received into church with prayer. It is permissible to have a memorial service with neither the body nor ashes present.

Visiting hours: ____Yes ____No
If yes, Visiting hours: _____At Church____At Funeral Home
               _____Casket open _____Casket Closed

Location of Funeral or Memorial Service:

_____Church____Funeral Home
_____Burial, type of casket desired: _________________
_____Cremation, type of urn desired: _________________

_____Funeral, I desire that the body will be in the church, the casket covered in a white pall.
_____I desire that my body will be cremated.
_____Cremated immediately, the ashes in an urn in the church covered by a white pall.
_____Cremated after the funeral/memorial service
_____Memorial Service, the body or ashes are not present in the church.

At the funeral or memorial service I desire:

_____Holy Communion, expressing that union with God from which nothing can separate us
_____Burial Office without communion, expressing the eternal Word that gives life

For the service,

_____I desire the traditional service, Rite I
_____I desire the worship in contemporary language, Rite II
The Columbarium of St. Paul’s

St. Paul’s Church provides consecrated ground in the form of a columbarium for the interment of cremated remains into the earth. The columbarium is located in gardens along the south wall of the church. After the interment, a bronze name plaque with birth and death dates, is placed on the marble wall directly in front of the plot. There are four spaces in each of the plots and you may reserve as many as needed. You may reserve space in the columbarium by calling the church office, (215) 242-2055, ext. 25.

The urn must be made of bio-degradable material suitable for interment into the ground and measure no more than 9” in any one direction. The urn as supplied by the crematorium usually meets this requirement. The Funeral Home will have this information.

Interment and Service Fees:

- Facility fee $300.00
- Columbarium Plot minus any previous reservation fee $860.00
- Site Reservation fee $100.00
- Columbarium Plaque fee $175.00
- Sexton/Ground Preparation $75.00
- with Reception: $150.00
  - with weekend Reception $240.00
- Service Sheet $100.00
- Administrative fee $100.00
- Organist $275.00
  - with rehearsal instrumentalist or soloist each $55.00
Soloist fees are arranged with the family or St. Paul’s choir director.

The Officiant honorarium is customarily $500.00 given to the Discretionary Fund of the clergy person performing the service.

St. Paul’s opens it doors to host memorial receptions for the family. Catering is the responsibility of the family.

My attorney is __________________________________________

Contact information:

Newspaper (s) in which death notices, obituary news items are to appear:
Other information that may be helpful to my survivors:

_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

Signed:_______________________________________
Date:________

Witness: __________________________________Date:________

Please make duplicate copies of this and distribute to family, church, and attorney.

Memorial Donations

We suggest that the newspaper notice indicates that, “In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the following:” (designating one religious and one secular organization).

Religious Memorial Fund:
____St. Paul's Memorial Fund

Other, name and address: __________________________________
_______________________________________________________

Secular Memorial Fund, name and address: ____________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________

St. Paul's Endowment Trust

St. Paul's receives bequests to its endowment. In Christianity’s long history most churches have been endowed. St. Paul's endowment is a reminder of blessing and permits the church to live on faithfully and with God's grace. Our vestry conserves the church's endowment guided by an investment plan and experienced Finance Committee.
Other information:

Person(s) designated to be in charge of my funeral arrangements:________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

My social security number:____________________________

Name of Spouse:  ____________________________________

Contact Information:_________________________________

Names of Parents:____________________________________

Immediate family and their addresses and phone numbers:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Veteran records, dates and places of enlistment and discharge:
Rank:   ___________________________________________
Service Number:  ___________________________________
My will is located: ___________________________________

We say goodbye by remembering the ways a person touched our lives, the person I would like to offer recollections is

________________________________________________________________________
The Order of Service Rite I or Rite II (Sample Service Leaflet)
A Celebration of the Life of (full name)

Birth and Death Dates_____________________________________________________

Date and Time of Service____________________________________________________

Anthems  page I 469 or II 491

Hymn# _____& Name_____________________________________________________

Collect  page I 470 or II 492

Lesson_____________________________________________________

Read by: name as it will appear in the service leaflet

Psalm ______

Lesson_____________________________________________________

Read by: name as it will appear in the service leaflet

Hymn #_____& Name_____________________________________________________

Gospel_____________________________________________________

Eulogy or Recollections by:________________________________________________

Homily

Apostles’ Creed  page I 53 or II 496, yes /no

Lord’s Prayer  page I 54 or II 502

The Prayers of the People  page I 480 or II 497

If there is to be Holy Communion an offertory hymn should be chosen:

Offertory Hymn

Closing Hymn
Hymn suggestions:

____174 “At the Lamb’s high feast we sing”
____204 “Now the green blade riseth”
____208 “Alleluia, the strife is o’er, the battle done
____287 “For all the saints, who from their labors rest”
____357 “Jesus, Son of Mary… Rest eternal grant them”
____358 “Christ the Victorious
____379 “God is love, let heaven adore him”
____388 “O worship the king” (Ps. 104)
____397 “Now thank we all our God”
____400 “All creatures of our God and King”
____439 “What wondrous love is this, O my soul”
____447 “The Christ who died but rose again”
____455 “O Love of God, how strong and true”
____457 “Thou art the way, to thee alone”
____465 “Eternal light, shine in my heart”
____487 “Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life”
____526 “Let saints on earth in concert sing”
____608 “Eternal Father, strong to save”
____618 “Ye watchers and ye holy ones”
____620 “Jerusalem, my happy home”
____624 “Jerusalem the golden”
____625 “Ye holy angels bright”
____637 “How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord”
____645,646 “The King of love my shepherd is” (Ps. 23)
____662 “Abide with me: fast falls the eventide”
____663 “The Lord my God my shepherd is” (Ps. 23)
____664 “My shepherd will supply my need” (Ps. 23)
____665 “All my hope on God is founded”
____671 “Amazing grace”
____680 “O God, our help in ages past” (Ps. 90)
____688 “A mighty fortress is our God” (Ps. 46)
____690 “Guide me, O thou great Jehovah”
____702 “Lord, thou hast searched me” (Ps. 139)
____Other Special Music suitable for church: ____________________
Reading suggestions for The Burial Service:

From the Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6-9 ~ He will swallow up death for ever

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah 61:1-3 ~ To comfort those who mourn

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord to display his glory. The Word of the Lord.

The Book of Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 ~ The Lord is good to those who wait for him

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone. The Word of the Lord.
The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect. The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Job 19:21-27a ~I know that my Redeemer lives

Job answered, “Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God; whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.” The Word of the Lord.

From the New Testament

A Reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39~ The Glory that shall be revealed

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all
these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians 15:20-26,35, 42-44, 53-58  The Imperishable Body

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. But someone will ask, ‘How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?’ So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: Death has been swallowed up in victory. ‘Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain. The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:16-5:9—Things that are unseen are eternal

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we
have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the First Letter of 1 John 3:1-2~ We Shall Be Like Him.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Revelation to John 7:9-17~ God Will Wipe Away Every Tear

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their
shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’ *The Word of the Lord.*

**A Reading from the Revelation to John 21:2-7~Behold, I Make All Things New**

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’ And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. *The Word of the Lord.*

**Readings From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

† From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 10:11-16~I am the Good Shepherd

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

† From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 11:21-27~I am the Resurrection and the Life

Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life.*
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’ The Gospel of the Lord.

† From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 14:1-6, In my Father’s house there are many rooms

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’ The Gospel of the Lord.

† From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 5:24-27 He Who Believes has Everlasting Life

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. ‘Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. The Gospel of the Lord.

† From the Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 6:37-40 All that the Father Gives Me Will Come to Me

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day. The Gospel of the Lord.
May the departed and their dreams ever dwell in the kind and faithful shelter of the Trinity.

Please call the church office 215.242.2055 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment with the clergy to review the information in this booklet.
Clergy

The Rev. E. Clifford Cutler, Rector
ccutler@stpaulschestnuthill.org, ext. 28

The Rev. Emmanuel A. Mercer, Assistant Rector
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The Rev. Robert M. Davidson, Deacon
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Anne Klinger, Pastoral Counselor
215.247.6077- klingera39@gmail.com

Sonam Dhawo, Sexton & Dolma Dhawo, Custodian

Vestry 2015-2016

Richard Kolb, Rector’s Warden, Stephen Camp-Landis, Accounting Warden
John Faggotti, Parishioners’ Warden, Diana Moro, Secretary
Charlotte Biddle, Valerie Chikwendu, Cindy Clowery, Joe Fafara, Bill Fikioris,
Joyce Klinefelter, Chesley Lightsey, Michael Latini, Tom O’Rourke,
Rebecca Southwell, Stephen Stone, Nicole Tullo