

BURIALS

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all 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."

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)

Worship Service Arrangements

A priest on the staff at Grace Episcopal Church normally presides. Please contact the parish administrator, Lisa McGuire (lisa@graceepiscopalexington.org) to schedule an appointment with a priest to plan the service. Visiting priests, at the invitation of the family and in consultation with the parish clergy, can assist in the celebration. The priest does not charge a fee for the service. A contribution may be made to Grace Episcopal Church as an honorarium in memory of the deceased or a contribution may be made to the Rector's Discretionary Fund comparable to the organist's fee.

Music

The family selects hymns with the priest. Special musical requests should be communicated to the organist, Martha Burford, Minister of Music (martha@graceepiscopalexington.org) There is a fee of \$175 for the organist.

Flowers

Altar flowers and/or other floral arrangements in the church are to be under the guidance of the Flower Guild. Floral arrangements are ordered and paid for by the family. The church customarily uses Jefferson Florist 540-463-9841 or University Florist 540-463-6080.

Receptions

A reception following the service in parish hall is offered to members of Grace Episcopal Church. Contact Sharon Massie for more information (sharon@graceepiscopalexington.org).

Additional Information

Sexton – Connie Bryant Funeral Fee: \$100.00

Funeral Arrangements - Harrison Funeral Home 540-463-2912

Columbarium and Memorial Garden

Columbarium: The cremated remains of eligible members of the Grace Episcopal Church Parish family may be placed in a niche within the church. Eligible members include current and former members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren. Exceptions must be approved by the Rector and Vestry. The fee is \$1,000 per niche. Each niche will accommodate the remains of two persons, such as a husband and wife. The placement of cremains will be officiated by the Rector or the Rector's approved clergy member.

The fee does not include the required standardized inscription on the niche cover plate identifying only the name and dates of birth and death of each person. This inscription will be arranged by the Parish Office, and the family will be notified of the cost. An urn or other suitable container to hold the remains will be the responsibility of the person making arrangements. These costs and the niche fee are not tax deductible.

Memorial Garden: The cremated remains of eligible members of this Parish family may be scattered in the Memorial Garden located in the southwestern corner of the churchyard and designated for this purpose. Eligible members include current and former members, their spouses, children, and grandchildren. Exceptions must be approved by the Rector and Vestry. The fee is \$250. A service at the time of the scattering will be officiated by the Rector or the Rector's approved clergy member.

The fee does not include the required standardized inscription on the plaque identifying only the name and dates of birth and death of each person. This plaque and inscription will be arranged for by the Parish Office, and the family will be notified of the cost. The cost of the plaque and the Memorial Garden fee are not tax deductible.

Grace Episcopal Church
123 W. Washington Street
Lexington, VA. 24450
540.463.4981
www.graceepiscopalexington.org

