

**COMMUNICATION TO DIRECTORS AND FAMILIES FOR
FUNERAL/MEMORIAL LITURGIES**
(Good Shepherd Catholic Community)

Funeral Directors: Please contact our office at Good Shepherd Catholic Community, 817-421-1387, so that the priests of our parish can be notified as soon as possible and so that the parish can check scheduling *before* any dates and times for a Christian wake service/rosary or a funeral/memorial liturgy are set. The funeral director must also provide a Clergy Record. Thank you!

Directives for Cremated Bodies:

The Catholic Church clearly teaches that it is best to have the body present at all funeral rites since the presence of the body of the deceased most clearly brings to mind the life and death of the person. Therefore, our Bishops of the United States recommend that cremations take place *following* the funeral Mass. However, when circumstances prevent the presence of the body at the funeral Mass, the Bishops also believe that it is appropriate for the cremated remains of the body to be present for all the funeral rites. In addition, they state that after the funeral Mass the cremated remains of the body should be reverently buried or entombed in a cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium.

Fees, Free-will Offerings and Stipends:

Stewardship by Catholics is a long-standing tradition expressing generosity to God in support of their local parish church and its members.

- 1) There is a Fee of \$100.00 for a cantor and \$100.00 for an accompanist at all funeral rites. Before dates and times of Funeral or Memorial Services can be finalized, families must contact Ms. Michael Vinez, the Business Manager of Good Shepherd, at 817-421-1387, Ext. 223, to discuss all Fees and to schedule the use of our church facilities.
- 2) Families are requested to make a Free-will offering of \$100 to the priest or the deacon presiding at the Service. *Funeral or Memorial Services are not refused due to lack of this specific Free-will offering.*
- 3) Mass Stipends, \$5.00 each, are given to the Priest by any person who is showing their respect to the surviving family members. However, our priests do not accept these Stipends for themselves, but submit them to the retired friars of our Franciscan Community.

THANK YOU,

Father Richard Eldredge, T.O.R.
Pastor
Good Shepherd Catholic Community