



SAINT MAURICE CHURCH

The Catholic community of Glenbrook

Memorandum

To: All parishioners of Saint Maurice Church

From: Rev. Alfred A. Riendeau Jr., Pastor

Re: Funeral Guidelines and Words of Remembrance

Date: January 7, 2020

In an effort to maintain consistency throughout the Churches in the Diocese of Bridgeport in adhering to the Ritual for the Celebration of Funerals, Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport has promulgated guidelines for the celebration of Funerals in the Diocese.

The guidelines include a provision for each Parish in the Diocese to establish and publish its policy. To that end and with pastoral consideration of the desire for grieving family members to express Words of Remembrance for their deceased loved one, the policy of Saint Maurice Church is to allow Words of Remembrance at all Funeral Masses celebrated at Saint Maurice Church.

Words of remembrance are not a eulogy. They are to provide the opportunity for the family to speak in loving remembrance of the deceased person's characteristics which manifested their faith in God and how they attempted to live the Christian vocation to love God and neighbor as Christ taught us.

Words of remembrance can be offered at various moments throughout the funeral rites. It is most preferred that such words be offered at the end of the Vigil Service or at the Burial.

If the family desires to have words of remembrance offered during the Funeral Mass, the following norms must be observed:

- The words of remembrance follow the Prayer after Communion and before the Final Commendation begins. They should not be inserted in any other part of the Funeral Mass, nor at the beginning of the Mass or at the end of Mass after the priest leaves.
- The words of remembrance must be written out;
- They cannot exceed three minutes;
- They must be submitted to the priest celebrant at least one day in advance of the Funeral Mass;
- It is not permitted to have more than one person offer such words of remembrance, rather, the family must have one person speak on all their behalf.