

Role Description

- ▶ Delegated by Parish Priest/ Administrator/ Moderator
- ▶ Acting in the name of the Church
- ▶ Basic knowledge of grief and bereavement
- ▶ One who can lead prayer
- ▶ Comfortable with Scripture
- ▶ Understanding of symbols and symbolic action
- ▶ Familiar with the Funeral Rites (OCF)
- ▶ Ability to lead graveside and crematorium prayers
- ▶ Voluntary supported role in service of the parish

Criteria for Selection

- ▶ Availability on-call basis
- ▶ Background knowledge on funeral ministry
- ▶ Practicing and active member of parish community
- ▶ Displays ability to lead prayer
- ▶ Open to training/formation
- ▶ Awareness of public dimension
- ▶ Reliable/Responsible/Respectful

Elements of Course

- ▶ Leading Prayer
 - ▶ Inner disposition/ Personal prayer
 - ▶ Communication skills
- ▶ Scripture
 - ▶ Texts used in Rites
 - ▶ Other helpful texts
- ▶ Symbols
 - ▶ Cross/ Candle/ Bible/ Water/ Incense
 - ▶ Symbolic actions
- ▶ Rites
 - ▶ Exploration of Order of Christian Funerals
 - ▶ Diocesan Resource Books

Advent Chant



Advent Prayer Moment

- ▶ Advent calls us back to our core, our centre and re-connects us to who we really are – people of hope, peace, joy and love.
- ▶ Advent is about slowing down, taking a step back and seeking a quiet time away from the frenzy and the unrealistically high expectations of a material Christmas.
- ▶ Advent offers time for introspection, for listening, for resetting and rebooting our lives in preparation for what is about to happen.

Continental Synod 2023

- ▶ The latest document preparing for the 2023 Continental Synod inspires us to *'Enlarge the space of our tent'* (Isaiah 54:2) so that room can be made for all without exclusion. This process of widening begins with listening and with an openness to welcome.



Listening to the Prophets

► Isaiah 54:2-3

Widen the space of your tent,
Stretch out your hangings freely,
Lengthen your ropes,
make your pegs firm;
For you will burst out to right and left.



Inclusion

- ▶ Who is outside your tent?
- ▶ Do you feel left out in the cold?
- ▶ Could this awareness change your interaction with others?



Caravan of Love



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Module 4 - The Rites

- ▶ Exploration of Order of Christian Funerals
- ▶ General Introduction – Digest in bite sizes
 - ▶ Theological
 - ▶ Pastoral
 - ▶ Scriptural
- ▶ Appendix 1 – Rite of Committal at a Crematorium
- ▶ Appendix 2 – Urnaithe as Deasghnátha na Marbh



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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 1

▶ Vigil, related rites and prayers

▶ Prayers after Death

▶ In this moment of sorrow

The Lord is in our midst

And consoles us with his word:

Blessed are the sorrowful;

They shall be comforted



Matthew 18:19-20

Jesus said; 'If two of you agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 1

▶ Gathering in the Presence of the Body

- ▶ The Lord is my shepherd and leads us to streams of living water



- ▶ May the love of God and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

▶ Vigil for the Deceased

- ▶ We know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens. (2 Cor 5:1)
- ▶ Forgive Josie her sins, and grant her a place of happiness, light and peace in the kingdom of your glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 1

▶ **Transfer of the Body to the Church**

▶ **Concluding Prayer**

▶ God of all consolation, open our hearts to your word, so that, listening to it, we may comfort one another, finding light in time of darkness and faith in time of doubt. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

▶ **Invitation to the Procession**

▶ The Lord guards our coming in and our going out. May God be with us now as we prepare to accompany our brother on his journey to the church.

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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 1 ctd.

- ▶ Reception of the Body at the Church
- ▶ The Funeral Mass
- ▶ Reception of the body before Funeral Mass
- ▶ Funeral Liturgy outside Mass
- ▶ Rite of Committal



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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 2

- ▶ Funeral Rites for Children
 - ▶ Prayers after death
 - ▶ Transfer of the Body
 - ▶ Reception of the Body of a Child at the Church
 - ▶ Funeral Mass
 - ▶ Rite of Committal
 - ▶ Rite of Committal with Final Commendation
 - ▶ Rite of Final Commendation for an Infant



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Module 4 - The Rites - Part 3/4

▶ **Additional Texts**

- ▶ Prayers for the Dead
- ▶ Prayers for Mourners
- ▶ General Texts and Litanies
- ▶ Invitation to Prayer
- ▶ Song of farewell
- ▶ Prayer of Commendation
- ▶ Prayer over place of Committal
- ▶ Committal
- ▶ Intercessions
- ▶ Concluding prayer

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Module 4 - The Rites

- ▶ Rite of Committal at a Crematorium
 - ▶ Invitation
 - ▶ Scripture Verse
 - ▶ Prayer before Committal
 - ▶ Committal
 - ▶ Intercessions
 - ▶ The Lord's prayer
 - ▶ Concluding Prayer
 - ▶ Prayer over the People

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Module 4 - The Rites

- ▶ Urnaithe as Deasghnátha na marbh
 - ▶ Glactar leis an gCorp
 - ▶ Paidir
 - ▶ Léacht
 - ▶ Guí an phobail
 - ▶ Fagtar slán leis and duine marbh
 - ▶ Ag an Uaigh nó ag an Tuama
 - ▶ Urnaithe le haghaidh Liotúirge an Bhriathair

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Module 4 - WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- ▶ ARE WE READY?
- ▶ ARE YOUR PRIESTS/DEACONS ON BOARD?
- ▶ ARE YOU ALREADY DOING THIS?
- ▶ ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A FUNERAL TEAM?
- ▶ HOW CAN WE HELP YOU FURTHER?

Prayer

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Let us pray,

All say:

Lord of all gentleness,
surround us with your care
and comfort us in our sorrow
as we grieve the loss of those
we remember this evening.

As you washed them in the waters of baptism
and welcome them into the life of heaven,
so call us one day
to be united with them
and share for ever the joy of your kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings

(Together We Pray-Church of Scotland)

There is blessing to be discovered
in the parting of the ways.

In loss, there is a finding;
in leaving, there is an arrival;
in surrender, there is a saving.

And we may find ourselves
richly hallowed in new relationship
and ready for a different journey.

Pie Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

