

## **PA902DE Planning and Conducting Funeral and Memorial Services**

### **Course Description:**

This course is concerned with how a deacon, pastoral associate, member of a bereavement committee, or anyone helping in the planning of funerals deals with the different aspects of the funeral from the beginning stages of death right up through the final burial and committal service. The course begins with a look at how the parish representative or deacon might help a family deal with the death of a loved one and plan a funeral service. The current Roman Catholic guidelines covering vigils and calling hours, the funeral mass, memorial services, committal services, graveside services, and cremations are looked at and discussed thoroughly. In addition, suggestions are made regarding music and scripture and the how and when to use eulogies, sermons, and words of remembrance.

The course also discusses how to handle what might be considered problematic funerals including services for infants, suicides, tragic deaths, multiple deaths, and deaths of clergy members and important members of the community. The course concludes with how best to use modern technology and social media in preparing for funeral and memorial services and some helpful information and resources.

This course is meant for any those who may preside at a funeral, vigil, memorial, graveside or committal service or those helping in the preparation of any funeral liturgy or anyone who may be helping a priest in funeral liturgy.

- Module 1    Helping Others Deal with Death**
- Module 2    Liturgical Guidelines Regarding Roman Catholic Funerals**
- Module 3    Music, Scripture, Eulogies, and other Considerations**
- Module 4    The Vigil and Calling Hours**
- Module 5    The Funeral Mass**
- Module 6    The Memorial Services (Funeral Without a Mass) at the Church**
- Module 7    The Committal Service and the Grace Side Service**
- Module 8    Other Types of Funeral Services or Prayer Services for Closure**
- Module 9    Problematic Funerals: Clergy, Infants, Suicides, Tragic Deaths, Multiple Deaths, etc.**
- Module 10    Using Modern Technology and Social Media**
- Module 11    Handling Wishes for End of Life Care**
- Module 12    Resources and Other Helpful Information**

## **Required Textbooks:**

*Preparing a Catholic Funeral: Third Edition, Updated & Expanded*

by Kenneth Koehler

Publisher: Morehouse Educational Resources; August 1, 2012

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1606741209

ISBN-13: 978-1606741207

Or Kindle Edition

Available through Amazon

*Planning The Catholic Funeral*

by Terence P. Curley

Publisher: Liturgical Press; July 1, 2005

ISBN-10: 0814615244

ISBN-13: 978-0814615249

*Through Death to Life*

By Joseph M. Chaplin

Publisher: Ave Maria Press; 2012

ISBN-10: 1-59471-283-2

ISBN-13: 978-1-59471-283-8

*Order of Christian Funerals: Complete Text of the Order Approved for use in the United States of America (Study Edition)*

Publisher: Liturgy Training Publications; Stg edition (March 1990)

ISBN-10: 093046768X

ISBN-13: 978-0930467685

(Purchase used from Amazon.com for .01 cent via third party, but allow plenty of time for shipping – the shipping cost more than the text \$3.99)