Remembering your Loved One

The time immediately following death is often one of bewilderment, shock and grief. The church and its ministries are here to comfort and walk with you and your family as you start the journey of farewell and healing. Once you have scheduled the funeral mass and the church has been notified; a member of our bereavement team will contact you to schedule a meeting to plan the funeral mass.

The questions below are often times asked to give the church and its ministers a better understanding of who the deceased was and their importance in your life. Understanding how difficult funeral planning is, we opt to give these questions to you ahead of time, so that you can reflect and answer them before you meet with one of our bereavement ministers. St James ministers have learned that it is far easier to write down your thoughts than answer questions quickly in a face to face interview. These questions do not replace the meeting but are meant to ease the funeral planning process and make your funeral mass more personal. Please know that if more than one family member wants to answer these questions, we welcome all family participation and reflection.

Please feel free to answer all these questions or only those that you think best describe the character of the deceased:

1. How has your loved one’s Faith life impacted them and their Family?
2. How did the Church and Community impact your loved one?
3. How did your loved one contribute to the faith/morals of the family?
4. Were there any particular acts of charity or ministry that the deceased was involved and connected to?
5. Any favorite Saint or particular scripture passage or verse that he/she liked?
6. What Faith based memory, do you cherish about your loved one that you want to weave into your life?
7. “To live in the hearts you leave behind is not to die.” What memory is alive in your heart?

These reflections and recollections will help the St James Bereavement team and community celebrate the life of your loved one in a very profound way.

Please bring your written answers with you to your bereavement meeting so we can prepare a funeral liturgy full of beautiful memories.

The St. James Bereavement Ministry