

Requirements for a Funeral Celebrated by Fr. Robert Elias Barcelos, OCD

- He is only available on Saturday mornings.
- He will choose the Gospel reading and will take care of the intercessions. Any person from the deceased person's circle of family and friends **MUST** have experience lectoring at Mass. If not, Fr. Robert will proclaim all of the readings. Also, unless the family wants to choose readings from the list provided by the US Catholic Bishops' website, Fr. Robert will choose all the readings.
- No Presentation of Gifts allowed (unless the family requests it specifically).
- Unless the majority of those attending the funeral are practicing Catholics (that is, they attend Sunday Mass regularly and go to confession at least once a year), he will provide a *"Celebration of Life" (Liturgy of the Word)* rather than the Sacrifice of the Mass (when the bread and wine is consecrated prior to the Mass to become the Body and Blood of Christ and Holy Communion is distributed). The deceased is then to be enrolled for the next available Mass to have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered for the good of their soul.
- Fr. Robert does not permit eulogies within the church but recommends that they be done only at the funeral home during the viewing or **AFTER** the graveside prayer service by one of our deacons.

