

## **Funerals at RBC**

We often have a request for a funeral at the church. We are pleased to offer the service but there always comes the matter when, how and of cost and who pays for what.

It is very difficult to have a one size fits all rule, and so whilst this outlines the main costs, some discretion can be operated by the ministers of the church.

In the first instance, a request for a funeral to take place at the church should be taken to The Minister Team Leader. A Minister will then seek to meet with the family to discuss their requirements. Although most such requests would normally come through the funeral directors we will not book anything until we have spoken to the family. Consideration about timing needs to be paid attention to as the church building is a busy building and we need to ensure that the church will be able to host a funeral in an appropriate way. The church meeting in 2019 agreed that the meeting place would not close for a funeral and this was again ratified in the church meeting in 2022. The family would be informed of this matter. Therefore the entry and exit for the funeral is through the side door. Of course if a time is chosen when the Meeting Place is not open, then entry is possible through the front doors.

Often there is a request for a pedestal of flowers to be provided at the church. Where this is the case, the cost of these should be passed onto the family if a member of the flower team is available and willing to arrange them. Where that is not the case the family would need to organise this via a florist who can liaise with the church to organise dropping them off. Clarification should be sought as to whether they are remaining at the church or will be taken by the family following the service.

Orders of service – these are normally produced by the church free of charge for church members, although a donation for them would be welcomed. .

## **For the funeral of an attender of the church**

Where someone has been a member or very regular attender of the church\* for some while, the provision of the church and the ministers will be given without charge. Where we can find volunteer musicians and people to operate the AV desk, there will be no charge for that either.

There are times when musicians cannot be found and we need to find an organist from outside of the church. This cost will need to be passed onto the family, the same also goes for the AV desk.

Often there is a request for refreshment to be provided at the church. The family are responsible for both arranging these and paying for them. The rooms and volunteers that are used will be without cost, but the provision of disposable plates and cups should also come from the family.

The estimated costs if needed for the extras are

- AV operator £40
- Organist £70

### **For non-attenders**

Where the funeral is for someone who is not an attender, in addition to the charge for the minister, they would also be charged

- £80 for the worship area
- £40 for the AV operator (who will also lock up following the funeral)
- £70 for the organist

Any catering and other rooms will be charged at the usual rate.

\*This is at the discretion of the Minister (Team Leader)