

## Best Practices for Funeral Services During the Coronavirus Crisis nfda.org/covid-19

Despite the impact of the current coronavirus crisis and the profound disruption it has caused to our daily lives, please know that this firm remains committed to helping families, relatives and friends say farewell to their loved ones as meaningfully as possible.

To that end, this facility has taken the following steps to balance the needs of mourners and guests with the recommended precautions communicated to us by the CDC and the National Funeral Directors Association:

## **Facility Care**

- We routinely perform **environmental cleaning/sanitizing throughout this facility**, such as countertops, doorknobs, bathrooms, tabletops, chairs, pews, and all other frequently touched surfaces.
- We provide disposable sanitizing wipes throughout our facility to clean surfaces before/after touching/using them.
- We provide **CDC-recommended hand sanitizers** (≥60% alcohol content) throughout this facility if handwashing is not an option.
- We provide **disposable tissues** throughout our facility so guests can cover sneezes and coughs, as well as a greater number of **trash receptacles** to immediately dispose of used tissues.
- We discourage our staff from using other's work tools, such as phones, desks, offices or other equipment, whenever possible.
- We ask staff to follow social-distancing guidelines and to stay home if feeling sick.

## How You Can Help Today

- Foremost, if you have a fever, experience a persistent cough, and/or have difficulty breathing, then please do not attend today's service and instead consult your physician.
- Follow social-distancing guidelines:
  - ~ Do not kiss, hug or shake hands with other attendees
  - ~ Remain at least six feet from others at all times
- Wash your hands frequently and/or use a provided hand sanitizer.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue and immediately toss the used tissue into a trash receptacle. (If you don't have a tissue, then please sneeze or cough into the crook of your elbow instead of your hand.) We also ask that you please wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after disposing of your tissue.
- During today's visitation and/or service, please **choose a seat that follows social-distancing guidelines.** We have deliberately spaced our chairs/seating areas farther apart than normal and/or placed signs in fixed-seating spaces (pews, benches, etc.) to conform to the current recommended social-distancing guidelines.
- Please know that while the CDC has said there is no COVID-19 risk posed by the body of someone who has died, it recommends not touching, kissing or having direct contact with the body of your loved one.

## Keep the Faith

Throughout history, human beings have still managed to conduct the rites, rituals and services necessary to honor and remember their beloved dead during challenging times.

Therefore, despite the difficulties we now face, both personally and professionally, **never doubt that,** *together,* **we will all get through this, for this too shall pass.** 

Thank you for following the above guidelines today and, more importantly, for granting those most affected by this loss with the gift of your personal presence – one of the most important functions of a funeral service.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a staff member for assistance.