### DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

**FUNERAL MINISTRY RESOURCES**

***SAMPLE CREMATORIUM COMMITTAL –***

***THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN FAREWELL***

**WELCOME**

*Celebrant:* Today we come together to give thanks to God

for the life and love of *N.*

Our prayers and thoughts are with *N.’s* wife / husband *N.*

and children and relatives, especially……

We now commend *N.* to God.

In a moment of silence, let us call to mind all that *N.*

has meant to us and place her / him into God’s hands.

*Silence.*

Loving God, you created *N.* in love,

and your love has followed

her / him throughout their life;

now that *N.* has died,

we ask you to gather her / him to yourself

and keep them safe for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

**EULOGY / WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

**SCRIPTURE VERSE: *Matthew 5:3-11***

*Reader:* Seeing the crowds, he went up the hill.

There he sat down and was joined by his disciples.

Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you

and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven;

this is how they persecuted the prophets before you.’

The Word of the Lord.

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray for *N.’s* family.

Gracious Lord, you are the comfort of all who mourn;

hear our prayers for *N.’s* family,

whose lives have been filled with sorrow by the death of her / him.

May they find comfort in the presence of God

and in their care for each other,

and may they always place their trust in you our God.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Celebrant:* Heal our pain and dispel the darkness and doubt

that comes from grief.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Celebrant:* Let us remember those who have died without friends or family

and who have no one to pray for them.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Celebrant:* For *N.’s* family, especially her / his wife / husband, *N.*

and their families;

that they feel the healing power of

God in the midst of their pain and grief.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Celebrant:* Light of the world,

you have called *N.* from death to life.

Surround her / him with the light of the heavenly city.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Celebrant:* We are assembled here in faith and confidence

to pray for our sister / brother.

Strengthen our hope so that we may live

in the expectation of the resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

*All:* Lord, hear our prayer.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Please stand.*

*All:* Our Father who art in Heaven,

Hallowed be thy name;

Thy kingdom come

Thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**PRAYER OF COMMENDATION**

*Celebrant:* Lord, you treat us as tenderly as a mother loves her children;

you know that we are only dust:

We last no longer than grass,

we flourish and fade like the flowers of the field,

but your merciful goodness towards us lasts for ever.

Trusting in your goodness, we have commended *N.* to you,

and we now commit her / his body to be cremated:

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

Give to *N.* eternal rest, O Lord,

and let everlasting light shine upon her / him.

May she / he rest in peace.

**BLESSING WITH HOLY WATER**

*The body is now cremated.*

**PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

*Celebrant:* God of all mercies, we do not ask you to take away our pain,

but to help us bear it.

We do not ask to forget, but for help to remember without despair.

We do not ask for answers to all our questions,

but for faith in your wisdom and love.

Give us courage to face each new day;

give us patience with ourselves and with others;

give us peace which exceeds our understanding.

We ask this in Jesus’ name.

*All:* Amen.

*Celebrant:* May the Lord bless you and take care of you.

May the Lord be kind and gracious to you.

May the Lord look on you with favour and give you peace.

*All:* Amen.