

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

Priest turns to the Funeral Prayer Leaders

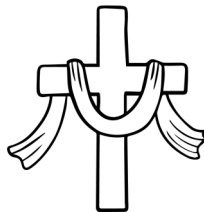
Priest:

When you were baptised,
you were signed with the sign of the Cross.
This signifies that you are called to follow the Lord Jesus
and imitate his way of life by serving others.
Once more I now sign you on the forehead
with the sign of the cross.
May this sign remind you
that you are called to follow in the footsteps of the Master
who gave his life to serve others.

*The priest now individually signs each person
with the sign of the cross on the forehead.*

CONCLUDING PRAYER:

Loving God,
You call each one of us to respond to our Baptism
by reaching out to others in service.
We thank you for the generosity
of these new Funeral Prayer Leaders
who have come forward for service.
May all that they do in their ministry
be grounded and rooted in you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.



COMMISSIONING OF FUNERAL PRAYER LEADERS

This takes place after the homily at Sunday Mass

Priest:

Brothers and sisters,
today we gather to affirm God's call
of those who have been selected to serve
as Leaders of Funeral Prayers and Rites.
We pray that as each Prayer Leader hears their name called
they will find strength in God's grace for service
and willing support from this Christian community.
I invite our new Prayer Leaders to come forward
and gather around the altar,
as your name is called.

*(Each person's name is now called out and they are handed a lighted
candle to hold.)*

QUESTIONS TO PRAYER LEADERS

The priest turns towards the Prayer Leaders

Priest:

Are you willing to serve this community
as a Parish Funeral Prayer Leader
for the next three years,
as a way of responding more fully to your Baptism?

PPC member: I am

Priest:

Will you work with this community
in the ministry of consolation
to those who are bereaved?

PPC member: I will

Priest:

Will you commit to working in partnership
with others on the Team
and the people of the Parish,
especially our ministry groups,
and help everyone to place their gifts
at the service of the community?

PPC Member: I will

Priest:

Will you be mindful of the importance
of accompaniment and preparation
so that this pastoral ministry
can grow and flourish in this place?

PPC Member: I will

QUESTIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY

The priest now turns towards the Assembly

Priest:

My dear brother and sisters
these new Funeral Prayer Leaders have responded
with generosity to the call of God to serve.

Are you now willing to support them
by your prayer and encouragement,
in this special ministry?

People: We are

Priest:

Will you make it your special duty
to pray for these Funeral Prayer Leaders?

People: We will

Priest:

Will you do everything you can
to assist them practically
when invited to do so,
and work together
for the building of God's kingdom?

People: We will

