

A GUIDE TO PLANNING A SUDDEN FUNERAL

A Helping Hand

at the most difficult time



Dublin
Cemeteries
Trust Est. 1828

At any time, the death of a loved one is one of the hardest things we ever have to endure. Losing someone we love suddenly and unexpectedly increases this pain unbearably.

If you've found yourself in this shocking situation, we'd like to offer you our deepest condolences. There may be nothing we can say to comfort you in this difficult moment, but we hope that we can at least make the daunting prospect of organising a sudden funeral a little bit more manageable for you.

Details to think about

It's upsetting to think about the details of a funeral service for someone so close to you. When you're grieving, it's hard to think clearly at all, let alone think of every detail. To help prompt the various decisions that you'll need to make, we've put together this list so that you can work through it step by step:

- What kind of service would suit your loved one best?
- Where should it take place?
- Do you think they would like to be waked?
- Is there any particular music that would be meaningful to include?
- Are there any particular readings or poems that would suit their personalities or beliefs?
- Would a burial or a cremation be more appropriate?
- Is there a particular place they would like to be buried?
- If you choose a cremation, what should happen to their ashes?
- What budget do you need to allow?
- Has your family ever pre-purchased graves, or do you need to purchase one now if you choose the burial option?
- Did your loved one ever record or mention any of their funeral wishes in the past?
- Who would you like to carry their coffin?
- Do you think they would prefer flowers or donations?



A Final Resting Place

If you choose a burial service, you may wish to bury your loved one in an existing family plot, or perhaps your family has pre-purchased family graves as part of a funeral pre-planning process. Equally, you may never have thought about this before, and that's ok too. Now is the time to consider if there's an existing family burial place, or if you need to purchase one. If you do need to purchase a grave, please contact our helpful team, who will guide you through this in a kind and sensitive way.

Regulations

While regulations are the last things on your mind, you should be aware that different ones exist for burials and for cremations. There are slightly more forms to be completed and signed before cremations can go ahead, but rest assured that whatever your choice, your Funeral Director understands these regulations well and will help you and your family to complete and return the correct forms.

Availability

As Glasnevin Cemetery is such a well-known, historic place, people often assume that it's full. But in fact, it's still possible to purchase graves here. Graves are currently available at four out of our five cemeteries – Glasnevin Cemetery, Dardistown Cemetery, Goldenbridge Cemetery and Newlands Cross Cemetery. While Palmerstown Cemetery has no new spaces, burials may still take place at existing family plots.





Cremation

While everyone understands how burials work, not everyone is overly familiar with how cremations work, despite their increasing popularity in Ireland and across the world. This short guide will help you decide if cremation is an appropriate choice for your loved one or not.

How does cremation work?

At its essence, cremation is an alternative to burial when someone passes away. Just like for burials, a wide range of coffins can be used and the service is usually very similar to what precedes a burial. At the end of the service, rather than the coffin being brought outside

to a grave, it moves into a private section of the crematorium or chapel. It's then placed into a specially designed cremator, which is sometimes in the same building or may be in a separate building nearby.

You might be worried about whether cremation services are religious or non-religious so it's good to know they can be either, whatever best reflects your loved one's beliefs. Most religions allow cremation, including most Christian denominations. However, some religions like Orthodox Judaism and Islam don't allow it.

Cremation Services

At Dublin Cemeteries Trust, we work with your Funeral Director and family to create beautiful, thoughtful services that truly reflect your loved one's personality. There are three types of service that you can have at a crematorium:

Committal Service

If you wish to have your loved one's main funeral service at a church or other location, you can choose a Committal Service at your crematorium of choice afterwards. This is a short service, similar to what would happen at a cemetery burial, but indoors in a chapel-type environment.

Full-Service Funeral

With a Full-Service Funeral, you have the entire service at the crematorium. This is a longer service, and it usually takes place in a chapel onsite. Once again, this service can be either religious or non-religious.

Non-Service Funeral

With this option, there's no service at all in advance of the cremation.

What happens to the ashes?

Ashes are usually available a couple of days after the cremation service. Many people are unsure what to do with their loved one's ashes, but cremation increases your opportunities to create a unique and meaningful memorialisation. There are many options for what you can do – it really depends on what feels most true to their character.

You might wish to keep them close to you at home or another popular choice is to scatter ashes in a place that holds special meaning. A final resting place is still important to many people though, so it's also quite popular to bury your loved one's ashes in a family grave, or to place them in a Garden of Remembrance, or Columbarium Wall (a special wall which contains small niches to hold urns). This is a particularly good option if you wish to keep closer to burial traditions, while incorporating cremation.

Beyond the more customary options for ashes, there are also more unusual things that can be done.

Examples of newer trends include:

- Having the ashes pressed into a vinyl album
- Turning them into jewellery
- Putting them into special walking sticks that scatter the ashes as they're walked
- Planting a tree over a biodegradable urn
- Adding them as sand in an hourglass

As you can see, you can be as traditional or innovative as you feel is suitable.



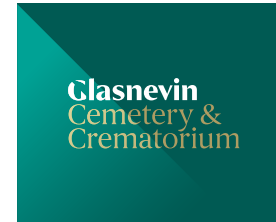
We're honoured to guide you at this difficult time

Whatever funeral plan feels right for your loved one, you can be confident that Dublin Cemeteries Trust will honour and care for them in the final celebration of their life. We've been providing funeral services to people of all religions and none since 1828, and we would be honoured to guide your loved one home.

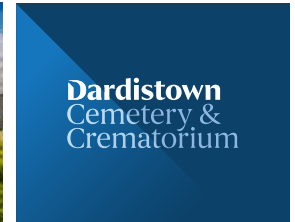
Each of our locations offers a beautiful, unique and peaceful setting, and our approach is continuously evolving so that we can offer both time-honoured traditions and contemporary options with equal expertise.

Our experienced and compassionate staff at all five locations are always happy to answer any questions you may have, so please feel free to contact them.

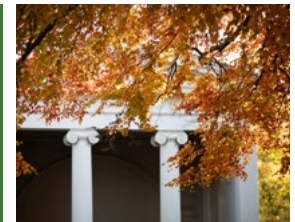
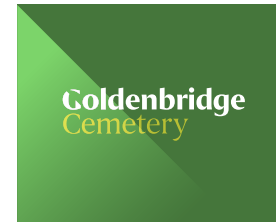
Glasnevin Cemetery & Crematorium
01 882 6500



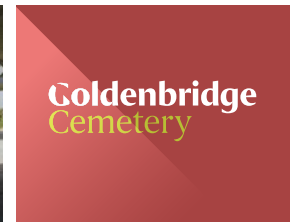
Dardistown Cemetery & Crematorium
01 842 4677



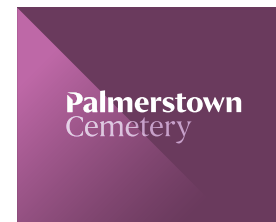
Goldenbridge Cemetery
01 882 6500



Newlands Cross Cemetery & Crematorium
01 459 2288



Palmerstown Cemetery
01 459 2288



My Funeral Wishes

By _____

When my time comes to an end, I'd love if you could follow these wishes in your celebration of my life.

Funeral Director/Arranger

If there's anyone in particular that you would like to arrange your funeral, please give their details here.

Funeral Service

What kind of a service would you like? Where would you like it to take place?

Music & Readings

*Do you have any music, readings or poems in mind?
Would you like anyone in particular to take part?
Please include all of your thoughts and ideas here.*

Burial or Cremation

Would you prefer to be buried or cremated?

Burial Location

*Where would you like to be buried if this is your preference?
If you have already reserved a place, please give those details here.*

Ashes Location

What would you like to happen to your ashes if you have chosen to be cremated? Would you like them buried, scattered or kept with a loved one? Or have you a different idea?

Coffin

What type of coffin would you like, if you have any preference?

Bearers

Who would you like to carry your coffin?

Flowers/Donations

Would you prefer flowers at your funeral or would you like to request donations to a charity or organisation?

If so, please name them here.

Epitaph

Is there any particular wording you would like, or would you prefer for your loved ones to decide on this?

Budget/plan

If you have put any money aside or invested in a pre-paid plan, please give details here.

Organ Donation

Would you like to donate your organs? Are you a registered donor? Please capture your wishes here.

Other Requests/Ideas

Please capture any other ideas that you have here.
