

THEO 330 – SECTIONS #11 & 12 ACTIVITY (ANSWER KEY)

The University of St. Francis

Name _____

Short Answer Questions

1. In general, what is the basic role of a funeral director?

The role of a funeral director is a broad service encompassing practical organization, support and guidance to the family and liaison with a wide range of other organizations and services to ensure the funeral is properly arranged. (<https://nafd.org.uk/funeral-advice/the-role-of-a-funeral-director/>)

2. Name at least SIX customs involved in American funerals, as provided by the funeral home.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. <u>Embalming/Cremation</u> | d. <u>Rites & Ceremonies</u> |
| b. <u>Viewing</u> | e. <u>Disposition of Body</u> |
| c. <u>Funeral Planning</u> | f. <u>Financing</u> |

3. What are funeral arrangements called which are made prior to one's death, when no one has died?

Pre-Need or Pre-Planning

4. Name at least SIX benefits that a funeral service provides families that are grieving.

- a. *Helps a family express emotional release at the time of death.*
- b. *Ceremony provides comfort to those who are grieving.*
- c. *Viewing helps establish the realization of death.*
- d. *Allows support by family and friends.*
- e. *Helps those in grief to mourn (express feelings).*
- f. *Service allows faithful to connect story of deceased with ultimate reality/purpose in life.*

5. Name at least FOUR customs involved in American funerals, as provided by the funeral home.

- a. *Burial/Entombment*
- b. *Anatomical Gift*
- c. *Inurnment*
- d. *Disposition at Sea*
- e. *Cremation*

6. If a body is donated to science, what ultimately must happen to a body after use?

It must be disposed in one of the four manners similarly described in #5. More likely and by today's standards, a body that is donated to science will first be cremated and the cremated human remains will be buried, entombed or dispersed (by sea, air, or scattering grounds). The other factor is that the cremated human remains will be retained by the family.

7. What are five top attributes associated with those who serve as funeral directors?

- a. *Dependability*
- b. *Integrity*
- c. *Attention for Detail*
- d. *Concern for Others*
- e. *Stress Tolerance*

8. Which religions, because of their religious beliefs, DO NOT permit cremation?

Baha'i, Coptic, Eastern Orthodox Jews, Islam, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Orthodox Christians.

9. How should an American flag be placed on the casket of a veteran?

When the flag is used to drape a closed casket, it should be so placed that the union (blue field) is at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased. It may be said that the flag is embracing the deceased who in life has served the flag. On an open casket, the flag is folded with 3 10" folds of the union and allowing the staffs to furl below the foot panel of the casket.

10. What is the purpose of a Catholic Funeral Service?

The purpose of the funeral should dwell on God's compassionate love and on the Paschal Mystery of the Lord as proclaimed in the Scripture readings.

"In the face of death, the church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death that bound humanity. Christ 'achieved his task of redeeming humanity and giving perfect glory to God, principally by the paschal mystery of his blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension'." (Order of Christian Funerals [OCF, 1]) "At the death of a Christian, whose life of faith was begun in the waters of baptism and strengthened at the Eucharistic table, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of her confident belief that death is not the end nor does it break the bonds forged in life. The Church also ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the funeral rites with the comforting Word of God and the Sacrament of the Eucharist." (OCF, 4) Through the celebration of the funeral rites,

particularly the Vigil for the Deceased, the Funeral Liturgy, and the Rite of Committal the Church calls for the active participation of all.

11. What three symbols at a Catholic (Latin Rite) Funeral Rite parallel the sacrament of baptism? Why are those symbols present at both?

- a. *The Easter (Baptismal) Candle – Reminds one of the light of Christ that continues with one's passage from the earth to heaven.*
- b. *The White Garment (Baptismal Garment/Funeral Pall) – Reminds one of the covering of Christ that remains with them in life. Note: the celebrant also can use a purple or black pall, depending on the theme of the liturgy.*
- c. *Holy Water – the symbol of baptism that removes one from Original Sin*

“The body of the deceased Catholic Christian is also the body once washed in Baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life. Thus, the Church's reverence of the sacredness of the human body grows out of a reverence and concern both natural and supernatural for the human person. The body of the deceased brings forcefully to mind the Church's conviction that the human body is in Christ a temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead.” (OCF, 412)

12. What three separate and sequential rituals are considered “normative” during a Catholic funeral? Are these rituals connected in any way, according to the teachings of the Catholic faith?

- a. *The Vigil and Related Rites and Prayers*
- b. *The Funeral Liturgy (or Mass of Christian Burial)*
- c. *the Rite of Committal*

While there are distinct rituals, the funeral rites as a whole are a single movement of prayer which need to be celebrated integrally.

13. Why are eulogies discouraged at Catholic Funeral Masses?

The purpose of the Mass is to connect the person's life to Christ, whereas eulogies usually are not generally connected to the life of Christ.

14. On what days are Catholic Funeral Masses NOT permitted?

On the Sundays of Advent, Lent and Easter time, during the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) and on Holy Days of Obligation (The Assumption of Mary, All Saints' Day, etc.).

True or False

1. True Scripture readings for Catholic Masses are limited to those found in the bible.
2. True Cremated remains may be present at a Catholic Funeral.
3. False Cremated remains may be scattered according to the Catholic rites that are provided.
4. True The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have established guidelines to follow concerning Christian funerals in Church.
5. False The use of a burial vault is required by law in the U.S.
6. False Embalming a deceased loved one is a required law in the United States.
7. False All funeral directors are required by law to embalm and cremate on their premises.

8. True The majority of families in the United States do not plan for funerals until after the loved one has died.
9. True Planning a loved one's funeral in advance alleviates some of the stress associated with the grief at the time of death.
10. True Funeral directors are trained to deal with those needing to address issues of bereavement, grief and mourning.
11. False Only men can be chosen to be pallbearers for a funeral service.
12. True A cadaver is a dead human body intended solely for scientific study and dissection.
13. True A coroner is a public officer whose duty it is to investigate cause of death when the question of accident, suicide, or homicide may be evident or where there was no doctor in attendance (see also medical examiner and justice of the peace).
14. False Funeral directors normally are not responsible for interment preparations for the deceased.
15. True Even for funeral directors, there are rules against moral turpitude that they must follow in the treatment of the body.
16. True For those funeral homes that conduct embalming practices, regulations are established in the manner in which the body is prepared.
17. False At a Catholic Mass of a baptized person in the armed services, it is customary to drape the casket with the American Flag in Church.

18. *False* Catholic funeral services may be denied due to the neglect of the practice of the faith of their family members.
19. *True* For good reason, non-liturgical or secular music is forbidden before or during the funeral rites, particularly in the Church.
20. *True* Obituaries often can be written to reflect on the contributions that the deceased person has offered those they have affected in life.

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is a key element of a funeral service but NOT a memorial service?
- a. The service is officiated by a minister or other “official.”
 - b. *The remains of the deceased are present at the service.***
 - c. There is a luncheon for mourners after the service.
 - d. There are floral arrangements at the service.
2. What below is considered “bad” funeral etiquette?
- a. The use of electronic devices at a service.
 - b. Inappropriate/undesirable dress or attitude.
 - c. Showing up late for a funeral service.
 - d. *All of These.***

3. What is the difference between a funeral home and a mortuary?
- a. A mortuary provides cremation services where a funeral home does not.
 - b. Funeral homes focus on counseling the bereaved which mortuaries focus on burial rituals.
 - c. They can be similar if the funeral director is licensed to embalm.
 - d. *They are both the same thing.***
4. What below is defined as a service that is changeable?
- a. Humanistic Funeral
 - b. *Adaptive Funeral***
 - c. Graveside Service
 - d. Memorial Service
5. What below is defined as a service devoid of any religious connotation?
- a. *Humanistic Funeral***
 - b. Adaptive Funeral
 - c. Graveside Service
 - d. Memorial Service
6. What below is defined as a funeral service without a dead human body present?
- a. Humanistic Funeral
 - b. Adaptive Funeral
 - c. Graveside Service
 - d. *Memorial Service***
7. What below is defined as a service at the place of disposition?
- a. Humanistic Funeral
 - b. Adaptive Funeral
 - c. *Graveside Service***
 - d. Memorial Service

8. How many stars should be showing on a properly folded and displayed flag for a veteran of the United States military?

- a. **Four**
- b. Six
- c. Eight
- d. Ten

Each star represents one branch of the military: Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines.

9. What is the industry term used for going to get the remains of a person from their place of death?

- a. **Removal**
- b. Extraction
- c. Pick Up
- d. Take Away

The removal usually provides the funeral director with some interesting stories. Many times, family members will be present for these removals. With that in mind, we have to be on our best behavior, because the families can see the amount of care used with their loved one. You can imagine that we see all kinds of emotion on these removals. I've seen everything from wailing all the way to a celebratory type of atmosphere. We as funeral directors never know what we will come across when we go on a removal.

10. Which of the following is NOT an inexpert test for death (that is a test to be used by non-medical professionals to determine death)?

- a. Pulse
- b. Response to Stimuli
- c. **Taking One's Temperature**
- d. Mirror to One's Mouth

The deceased's temperature may actually increase slightly just after death. It will then slowly cool down to room temperature. The "inexpert" tests can be used if a funeral director is not sure about the status of a person. Usually, there are medical people around to confirm death. Also, it is usually very evident when someone has passed. Many times their eyes and mouths are wide open. Sometimes there is a discoloration of the skin. Normally, a funeral director can tell. These tests are used in the rare occasion when he can't tell.

11. In which direction does the casket of a Catholic deacon, priest or bishop face the congregation in a Catholic Church?
- a. *The Head Towards the Altar; The Feet Towards the Congregation*
 - b. The Head Towards the Congregation; The Feet Towards the Altar
 - c. The Head Pointing East; The Feet Pointing West
 - d. The Head Pointing West; The Feet Pointing East
12. In which direction does the casket of a non-ordained Catholic face the congregation in a Catholic Church?
- a. The Head Towards the Altar; The Feet Towards the Congregation
 - b. *The Head Towards the Congregation; The Feet Towards the Altar*
 - c. The Head Pointing East; The Feet Pointing West
 - d. The Head Pointing West; The Feet Pointing East
13. In a Catholic Church, which day below is a funeral Mass permitted?
- a. During a day of the Sacred Triduum
 - b. *On a Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 - c. On a Sunday in Advent, Lent, Christmas and/or Easter
 - d. On a Holy Day of Obligation
14. What is the purpose of incense during a Catholic Funeral Mass?
- a. To canonize the body.
 - b. *To honor the body of the deceased.*
 - c. To cleanse the deceased of their venial and mortal sins.
 - d. To fulfill the obligatory rituals necessary to guarantee the deceased's entrance into heaven.

15. In what part of the Catholic funeral Mass should the family NOT participate in choosing?
- a. The Readings
 - b. The Music
 - c. The Petitions
 - d. *All of These are Permissible***
16. What type of funeral is NOT permitted in a Catholic Church?
- a. A Mass with an Urn
 - b. A Memorial Service without an Urn or Casket
 - c. A Mass for a Sinner
 - d. *All of These are Permitted***
17. What is the primary requirement of the FTC Funeral Rule?
- a. *Funeral service providers must give accurate, detailed information about prices and legal requirements to people who are arranging funerals.***
 - b. Only professionals can care for the dead.
 - c. Funerals are required to be private functions.
 - d. *Grave goods cannot be buried with the deceased.***
18. Excluding burial vault and cemetery costs, what was the average cost of an adult funeral in the U.S. in 2018?
- a. Around \$6,000
 - b. *Around \$9,000***
 - c. Around \$12,000
 - d. Around \$15,000

19. Funerals have been compared to what?
- a. A Shopping Mall Display
 - b. A Graduate Student Defending Their Research
 - c. A Traveling Museum Exhibit
 - d. *A Theatrical Presentation***
20. When was embalming adopted in the United States?
- a. Around the time of the Revolutionary War
 - b. *Around the time of the Civil War***
 - c. Just prior to WWI
 - d. It is still not officially adopted in the United States since it is not required by federal law
21. Of what practice did President Lincoln's funeral procession increased awareness in society?
- a. *Embalming***
 - b. Flying Flags at Half-Mast
 - c. Reparation
 - d. Cremation
22. The most popular choice of casket in the United States is made of what substance?
- a. Walnut
 - b. Plastic
 - c. *Gasketed Steel***
 - d. Cherry Wood
23. Secular society consider that no land in the United States is more venerated than the square mile of what site?
- a. *Arlington National Cemetery***
 - b. Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall
 - c. Washington Monument
 - d. Cherokee Burial Mound

24. After cremation, how do “ashes” appear?
- a. In pieces like wood or paper pulp.
 - b. In a sharp and spiky state.
 - c. As fine as baby powder.
 - d. *In a granular state like coarse coral sand.***
25. There are those who believe that substituting a memorial service for a traditional funeral is lacking in which of the following respects?
- a. Formality and therefore the memorial service tends to be chaotic
 - b. Cohesiveness as the clergy and family tend to disagree about the content of service
 - c. *The body is not present, so the fact of death is not fixed in the minds of the mourners***
 - d. It again brings up feelings that may have been ‘put to rest’

Essay Topics

1. Describe the development of the Funeral Home Ministry in the United States. When did this service become prominent? What was the funeral homes' original purpose? How has their service developed from the time of inception until the present?

In short, Funeral homes in the United States took greater effect during the civil war when embalming techniques and chemicals allowed for the preservation of soldiers' death bodies to be transported home. As the Industrialization Era occurred and more people moved from agrarian cultures to urban life, wakes/visitations, did not occur in people's homes but in facilities specifically designed for such ceremonies/services.

2. Explain the process of bereavement ministry in the parish setting. What is the role of the funeral coordinator at the parish? What is the purpose of bereavement support groups? What benefit do these services offer those who are suffering?

KEY TERMS	
Administrator	Any court appointed person or body put in charge of the estate of a person who passed on without a will.
Arrangement Room	A room in the funeral home set aside for funeral home staff and the bereaved family to make funeral arrangements.
Bereaved	The immediate family of the deceased.
Burial Permit	Required by some states for human remains to be buried or cremated. Usually acquired by the mortuary or crematory, it is not required for the scattering of cremated ashes.
Casket	A casket is any container designed for holding human remains. It may be made of wood, metal or fiberglass. They are seldom called “coffins” in the funeral industry.
Cemetery	Ground for burial, in which final aspects of the funeral ceremony are often held.
Committal	In Roman Catholicism, the cemeterial burial service.
Cremation	A regulated process using intense heat in a chamber to burn human remains. It typically takes 2 to 4 hours.
Crematory	A building with a furnace for the purpose of cremating human remains.
Crypt	Technically, any chamber that holds a casket and human remains. More narrowly, an individual chamber in a mausoleum.
Death Certificate	A legal document, signed by a coroner or other medical health professional certifying the death of an individual. The death certificate is used for many legal processes pertaining to death, from arrangement for interment to the settlement of estate assets.
Display Room	A room in a funeral home set aside for viewing available caskets, urns, grave liners, etc.

Disposition	Refers to any manner in which remains will be finally taken care of, including ground burial, ash scattering of cremated remains and all other forms of placement.
Embalming	Embalming is the procedure using chemicals, such as formaldehyde, to temporarily preserve human remains. Embalming is not required by any state or federal law.
Eulogy	A eulogy is a form of public speaking at funerals used to honor and praise the deceased.
Exhume	To dig up human remains, possibly for medical or legal investigation.
Funeral Director	The professional who prepares the body for burial, supervises burial and other services, and maintains a funeral home for these purposes. Also called a mortician or undertaker.
Funeral Home	See mortuary.
Funeral Service	Ceremony, religious or secular, in which the bereaved say goodbye to the deceased in various ways, before the remains are permanently interred.
Funeral Spray	A large bouquet (25 or more) of cut flowers sent to the residence or the funeral home as a tribute to the deceased.
Grave Liner	A box or receptacle made of concrete or other durable material into which the casket is placed to prevent the ground from collapsing. Most states do not require it, though most cemeteries do.
Green Burial	Green burial also called direct burial, is the process of burying a body without the use of chemical preservation in a simple container to help preserve the earth.
In State	The custom of presenting the deceased for viewing by mourners and others, prior to or after the funeral service.
Interment	The act of burying a dead body in a grave.

Inurnment	Placing cremation ashes in an urn.
Mausoleum	A structure or building, often on cemetery grounds, that holds caskets and remains.
Morgue	These are usually municipally operated places, where bodies found dead are held pending identification by next of kin.
Mortuary	Any licensed, regulated business that provides for the care, planning and preparation of human remains for their final resting place. A mortuary usually arranges and conducts funeral and memorial services, embalming and other services such as the sale of caskets. Also called a funeral home or funeral service provider.
Pallbearers	Individuals (close family members in most areas of the continent; hired, in other areas) who are asked to carry the casket.
Pre-Need or Pre-Planning	Pre-planning is arranging all aspects of your funeral (especially financing) in advance. There are some problems with the process, especially in some states.
Remains	The body of the deceased.
Reposing Room	A room of the funeral home where the body rests until the funeral service.
Rigor Mortis	The cooling of the body and increased rigidity of muscles that sets in after death.
Trust	Usually a fund, though it may be made up of other property. It is held and managed by one person for the benefit of another (or others).
Urn	Any container made for holding cremated human remains.

Vault	A solid “container,” usually made of concrete, to prevent leakage from the casket into the soil. Many insiders in the industry advise that a grave liner is sufficient and a vault does not really do what is purported to.
Visitation	Usually held at the funeral home, this is a scheduled time when the body is on display (if appropriate) and friends and family pay respects to the dead and visit with each other.
Wake	A wake is a traditional watch over the deceased usually conducted by family members and close friends. “Wake” and “watch” are etymologically related.

THE DASH (BY LINDA ELLIS)

I read of a man who stood to
speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on her
tombstone
From the beginning to the end.

He noted that first came the date
of her birth
And spoke of the following date
with tears,
But he said what mattered most of
all
Was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the
time
That she spent alive on earth
And now only those who loved
her
Know what that little line is
worth.

For it matters not, how much we
own,
The cars, the house, the cash,
What matters is how we live and
love
And how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard;
Are there things you'd like to
change?
For you never know how much
time is left
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down
enough
To consider what's true and real
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
And more often wear a smile,
Remembering that this special
dash
Might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read
With your life's actions to rehash
Would you be proud of the things
they say
About how you spent your dash?

Notes from Funeral Home

Pre-Planning

Document of Death Certificate

For Jewish Faithful

- Members of community bathe and dress body
- The Jewish person goes out as they came in
- No Saturday burials
- No casket of metal
- No embalming

Process for Funeral Director

- Realize that family needs closure
- Viewing Room – crematory
 - Don't have to be a funeral director to use crematory
- Remove body – contact family
- Get picture to restore some semblance of how the deceased looked
- Get to know family

Donating to Science

- Study vs. Organ Donation
- No Guarantee when Cremains are Returned

Sometimes family makes plans beforehand to make sure they have enough for service.