

Music for a Funeral Service at the Good Shepherd Church

- The church has a splendid pipe organ (Walker 1964, 23 stops) which fills the building with a wonderful sound ranging from the softest murmur to a full-blooded roar. It is serviced and tuned, at significant expense, three times in a year. It is therefore a great shame not to make full use of this instrument in a ceremony.
- We are most fortunate in having the services of four very skilled organists (who all enjoy playing this particular instrument). Between them all, they have an exceedingly wide repertoire of organ music to suit any occasion and taste.
- The current (2019) fee for your organist is £90 which will normally be paid to the organist by the Funeral Director. For this fee, your organist will
 - choose and play music as mourners gather in the church and as they leave
 - play liturgical and incidental music for the actual ceremony
 - be available for telephone consultation before the event if necessary
- With this document you will also receive a list of some suggestions for hymns appropriate to the occasion and which may be sung by a somewhat 'reluctant to sing' congregation. Your organist can help you with choices if you need assistance.
- On request, we may be able to engage the services of a professional solo singer (for an additional fee) who will provide liturgical / sacred music, appropriate to the event.

We ask you to take particular note of the following points.

- ⊗ The building has an extremely resonant acoustic (the echo lasts about 6 seconds). Without really sophisticated sound equipment, it is totally unsuitable for recorded music as this tends to get 'lost' and confused. The church P.A. system cannot be used for this purpose.
- ⊗ The church is primarily for the worship of God and in that context, the music must reflect this. Commercial Ballads etc are not appropriate to this ceremony and should be reserved for the Reception afterwards.

For any enquiries concerning the above please contact:

Michael Bussey via the church or through busseys@ntlworld.com