

Holy Trinity Funeral Association

Holy Trinity Parish has a funeral association. It is very simply an association by which members offer, in charity, their assistance to one another in the event of a death in the family. Through it, we give AND we receive. In the event of a death, we give help to others. In the event of a death in our family, others give help to us. What do we give? Well, about once a year (or less) we are asked to donate a little something for a funeral luncheon, and we are asked to give a little bit of ourselves in the form of preparing and serving that luncheon. It takes a burden off the shoulder of a bereaved family, someone else, or perhaps our own.

Exactly how does it work? It's simple. You become a member FOR LIFE by the payment of \$1.00. This is your official declaration that you are willing to abide by the rules of the Association and will help when called upon. This \$1.00 shall be the dues for husband and wife and all the children dependent upon them by reason of minority in age, or while they are still in school, or if they be physically or mentally handicapped. Children do grow up and they do become adults. Then they should assume the duties of an adult. When they complete their schooling or get a job and have an income of their own, they shall be expected to take out a membership in their own name, and they too (as an adult) shall be called upon to assist. Anyone unable to help by reason of age or physical limitation may be excused from helping, but they shall be asked to do a little. Such cases shall be considered individually.

When a family member dies, the family of the deceased shall provide the food. Members in turn shall be asked to provide a cake, a pan of bars, or perhaps cash for an item needed.

All membership dues shall be deposited in the Pine Country Bank in a savings account in the name of Holy Trinity Funeral Association. All interest each year shall be used as mass stipends, and used exclusively for masses for ALL members, living and dead. The capital amount shall never be withdrawn, so as to provide interest in perpetuity for all members.

To be entitled to benefits of the Association, one must be a member of the Association for at least six (6) months. It would not be fair to enroll somebody at the time of death or to sign up when death is imminent, and then expect benefits.

Since we do have such an Association, to be fair, we must abide by the rules of that Association. If anyone shall die who is not a member, please do NOT expect benefits. Don't expect an exception. If the person is not a member, you

may still have a funeral luncheon, if you wish, BUT you must make all the arrangements yourself: you must get somebody to take charge and you must arrange for all food from relatives and/or friends.

The following clarifications will reduce inequities:

1. Those 75 years of age and over are not required to contribute food or work in the group unless they choose to do so.
2. Members are to work when they are called *and* contribute a cake or bars. If unavailable, the member must find a substitute and reimburse that person \$20.00 to work. If the member is unavailable AND cannot provide a cake or pan of bars, they will reimburse that substitute \$25.00 and ask the sub to provide the bars for you. It is the responsibility of the member called to find a substitute and pay them. A list of subs will be offered.
3. Membership is open to all registered parishioners of Holy Trinity Church. New memberships will not be accepted from those outside the parish or unregistered parishioners.
4. Members are required to contribute their fair share of the time and work. (Not show up late and leave early.)
5. Members who fail to do their part will lose their membership.
6. The Christian Mothers Catholic Women is a separate organization from the Funeral Association.
7. People remain members as long as they work or have people work for them. If they leave the parish, they need to take new membership when they return to the parish.
8. Cooks will also be paid \$35.00 each. Two cooks are to work at each funeral. The cooks are parish volunteers that have agreed to take on the roll of the funeral cook. The \$70.00 expense (2 cooks x \$35.00) will be paid for by the family of the deceased.