

## Instructions for my Funeral Mass / Care of the Dying.

Since the launch of the document Instructions for my Funeral Mass and Pastoral Care of the Dying in October 2012, there has been great demand from many dioceses. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have given this document their approval for national distribution.

This document grew out of the neglect of the spiritual needs of the very vulnerable who were not receiving the Sacraments and often not having a funeral mass. We are indebted to them for this document, which in turn is now being used by many, many individuals.

There is a growing trend where people use the prepaid funeral plan – Instructions for my Funeral Mass can be included in that plan.

For anyone being assessed for formal care this will ensure that their needs as a Catholic are recorded, reducing some of the worry and anxiety, especially if someone is vulnerable and isolated.

From a parish perspective the document can be a way of opening the door of opportunity to care homes in the community, where there may be Catholics from other areas who have no way of asking for prayer or the Sacraments.

On a one to one basis, assisting someone to complete Instructions for my Funeral Mass can be a way of being a pastoral companion to them as they contemplate this last stage of their journey to God.

The Pastoral Care Project is able to assist parishes and care providers who may wish to hold an Awareness Event or a Day of Reflection for existing parish visiting groups.

To order copies of Instructions for my Funeral Mass please visit the website [www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk](http://www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk) or telephone 01675 434035 or write to us at Pastoral Care Project, St Gerard's, Coventry Road, Coleshill B46 3ED