## FAQ's

# Do I have to wait until I have registered the death before arranging the funeral?

No. Arranging the funeral services involves your Funeral Director discussing with you the type of funeral required, and offering you advice and information as appropriate. This can be done as soon as you have made certain decisions about the funeral—e.g. whether it is to be a burial or cremation. Once the doctor has certified the death we can undertake the funeral.

#### Death Certificates—where to get one?

When a death occurs a copy of the Certificate may be obtained from the Office of Registration of Deaths & Births, Adelaide Street, Cork, or the local Registration Office. If death occurs at home or hospital the next of kin obtains a Certificate as to the cause of death from the doctor attending the deceased and takes the Certificate to his/her local Health Centre. Where a Post Mortem takes place it is the Coroner who registers the death and a copy of the Certificate again may be obtained at the Office of Registration of Deaths & Births, Adelaide Street, Cork. 021-4275126

#### **Credit Unions**

The Irish league of Credit unions has introduced a new benefit for members, paid towards funeral expenses, at participating branches.

#### **Bank Accounts & Probate**

For accounts in a sole name with a sufficient credit balance. Reasonable funeral expenses may be paid without a Grant of Probate (or Letters of Administration), upon production of an invoice from the Funeral Director. This does not extend to payment for associated hospitality or other significant discretionary expenditures.

### We have never been a religious family.

Do Fitz-Gerald's have a priest to take the service? No-there is no requirement to hold a religious funeral service, and there are a number of alternatives. Perhaps a relative or friend could take the service if they feel able to do so. Other members of the congregation could speak or read verses of poems. Ask Fitz-Gerald's for more information or to organise a Humanist Ceremony.

Keep this booklet for safe keeping

# What to do when a loved one dies

As your local funeral director Fitz-Gerald's have produced this booklet to help you understand what you need to do when a loved one dies.

Supporting You Every Step of the Way

The Fitz-Gerald family have been serving the community since 1824. Our commitment is to provide the best funeral service, the most personal attention, and the highest possible degree of professionalism to each family who allows us the privilege of serving them.

Regardless of whether you choose a burial or cremation, our duty is to create a meaningful service that is personalised to your wants and needs and that reflects the life of your loved one. Our goal in serving each family who comes to us is to help them celebrate the life of their loved one, to assist them in providing a dignified service to honour the life of their loved one regardless of the budget, right across the Lee Valley.

For any further information please go to our website

www.fitz-geraldsfuneraldirectors.com

We are on call 24 hours a day Tel: 026 41006 Fax: 026 43466

Email: info@fitz-geraldsfuneraldirectors.com

Macroom, Co. Cork

# Fitz-Gerald's Funeral Directors

"Dignity in all matters"

Since 1824

Please feel free to contact us at any time for immediate assistance.

026-41006

www.fitz-geraldsfuneraldirectors.com

# **Asked Questions**

Remember—You have a definite say in all arrangements. Do not be afraid to assert your views, wishes & ask questions. All wishes should be honoured unless what you are asking for is against the law or physically impossible.

## **Arranging a Funeral**

Even though none of us wants to arrange a funeral many of us may be unsure as to how to proceed. Arranging the funeral of a loved one is an extremely traumatic time. There are many choices to be made and often it is easier to make them at your own convenience. It is the purpose of this booklet to provide the options available to the bereaved.

Fitz-Gerald's will consult with the family of the deceased at the Hospital, Nursing Home, Family Residence or Funeral Home, and take the time to understand their requests and how best to carry out their wishes, e.g. If a coffin is to remain open or closed in the funeral home & or family home.

Fitz-Gerald's make all the appropriate arrangements once you have decided whether you would like the deceased to rest at home, at a church, or at our funeral home. Funeral Directors must follow certain legal criteria.

It is possible to have a combination of a private family wake at home followed by a public viewing at the Funeral Home. This combines tradition while also removing the stress of opening your house up to potentially large numbers of visitors.

# THE JOB OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Funeral Directors have a very specific role in assuming overall responsibility for arranging and supervising a funeral. The Funeral Director's responsibilities involve.....

### **Caring for the Bereaved**

- We treat the deceased with dignity and we care for the living
- Families are encouraged to bring personal items which reflect your loved one's hobbies & interests
- Assuming responsibility for ensuring that every aspect of the funeral is organised and carried out in keeping with religious and personal preferences and within the agreed budget
- Providing help, support and guidance when and as required
- Providing relevant information and assistance before, during and after the funeral
- Fitz-Gerald's can put a member of the bereaved family in touch with a Bereavement Councillor if they request

### Assistance with Arranging a Funeral

Preparation and hygienic treatment of the deceased, presentation for viewing, Fitz-Gerald's can arrange for a viewing in the Home or at the Funeral Home, or both.

**Fitz-Gerald's are here to help at all times,** 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

# Budget: Each family will dictate the cost of the funeral

**Arrange and supervise** every aspect of the funeral you yourself have chosen

**Liaise Directly**, on your behalf, with all those involved in providing the various elements of the chosen funeral (e.g., church, cemetery, crematorium, florist, newspapers, organist, soloist)

Pay, on your behalf, all third-party charges, fees and costs associated with the chosen funeral arrangements

**Assist you in obtaining** a Death Certificate and any other necessary documentation, both before and after the funeral

# OUR COMMITMENT – We are a family caring for the needs of another family, who are bereaved.

- We guarantee peace of mind, commitment and quality of service
- We are dedicated professionals & provide a dignified service
- We offer choices to meet your individual needs & budget
- We always provide a highly personalised 24 hour service
- We do not encourage the sale of expensive coffins & flowers
- We do not add any hidden or unnecessary charges
- We can advise upon and organise Cremation
- Eco Funerals also catered for
- We do not charge for use of the Funeral Home

## **FUNERAL COSTS**

At Fitz-Gerald's we have always been flexible around cost, tailoring the cost to meet every budget. Each family will dictate the cost of the funeral, and so we strive to ensure that the choices are clear, and that good value is available to you across the board. Funeral Packages start from €2,950, plus disbursements required by the family.\*

Funeral costs can be broken into two areas, the fee charged by the Funeral Director, and the Disbursements made on your behalf by the Funeral Director to the various bodies involved like the Church. Fitz-Gerald's Funeral Directors make's every arrangement of the funeral and payment to do with the church, cemetery, crematorium, newspaper, florists, organists, soloists, and others. There is no charge for the use of the Funeral Home.

Feel free to call or ring at anytime without obligation.

For more information go to: www.fitz-geraldsfuneraldirectors.com

<sup>\*</sup>Prices current as of June 2016.