

## **GUIDELINES FOR VISITATION IN THE GREAT ROOM**

The following guidelines are offered to families considering a visitation prior to a funeral here at St. Julie Billiart. We strictly adhere to these guidelines as a matter of safety as well as ensuring a comfortable setting for families to gather. Visitations are held in what we call the Great Room. The Great Room affords a private setting away from the regular busyness of the parish life.

### **Room Considerations**

- The Great Room can comfortably and safely accommodate 50-60 people. If you anticipate a larger gathering it is best that the visitation be arranged at a funeral home.
- The room is set with five rows of five chairs for family and friends. We have found that many people remain standing.
- A visitation may be scheduled for one hour from 8:45am - 9:45am with the funeral beginning at 10:00am. The fee for this accommodation is \$250.
- A visitation may be scheduled for one or two hours between 9:00am - 11:00am with the funeral beginning at 11:15am. The fee for this accommodation is \$400.

### **Floral Considerations**

- For visitations where there is a casket, only floral casket sprays are encouraged, as end basket displays limit accessibility.
- For visitations with cremated remains, two floral baskets are permitted but we strongly encourage the use of a single spray/display by the remains.
- Florists should be informed that they can bring the floral arrangements only on the morning of the visitation after 8:00am.

### **Personal Pictures/Memorabilia Considerations**

For picture displays of loved ones, families may have either of the two set ups: two floor easels and the mobile monitor for video OR four floor easels (two on each side of the casket/cremains table). Again, for safety reasons we must limit the use of such displays to ensure access in and out of the Great Room. In addition, there are two sideboards in the room which may be used to display personal memorabilia and we have a few easel stands for use on the sideboards.

Because the Great Room is utilized for various parish functions and because the parish cannot assume responsibility for any items brought in for a visitation, preparations of the room can only occur on the morning of the visitation. Families can arrive no earlier than 8:00am to prepare the room for their wake. In addition, the expectation is that all items brought in must be removed on the same day including any floral arrangements.

### **Hospitality Considerations**

There will be one 18"x60" covered table for cookies and or refreshments.