



# GEO. EDWARD GAMBLE & SONS



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

ESTABLISHED 1830

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## Our guide to helping you choose a Church or Minister.

On nearly all occasions a funeral service will work best, and provide the greatest degree of comfort, when conducted by a trained, professional, person. They will structure the service, ensure it contains all the elements that you wish to include, and give you advice on any additions that may be necessary. In most cases this person would visit you in the days leading up to the funeral to talk about the deceased and their life. They will want to know about the family and the things that the individual has achieved. They will also be able to discuss hymns, or music of other kinds, with you also.

As Funeral Directors we would arrange all this for you and would approach whoever we felt would be best suited to take care of the service for you, but the final choice of minister, be they religious or non-religious, still rests with you and if you are unhappy with any aspect of this you must let us know as soon as possible.

In the case of individuals who have a specific religion, and who may even worship at a particular church or chapel, we would first have to contact the Minister or Priest who looked after the parish in which the deceased lived. (some families, if they have strong links with a church, may talk with their Minister or Priest, before contacting us, so as to inform them of the death, or imminent death, and sometimes to arrange for last rites or private prayers.)

Should a family be unaware of who their local clergy are we can arrange for them to meet with a minister, before someone's death, to give them the chance to talk through how the service would be. Most Priests or Ministers would gladly take the time to discuss future funeral arrangements with any of their parishioners.

If a person, or family, wish to have a Humanist or non-religious service, there are a number of people we can contact who will take care of this for us. These services can include many different elements such as poetry, readings, personal music and tributes from family and friends. From experience, and because they do not follow a strict pattern like a Church service, these kinds of services can offer more flexibility and be tailored very much to a person, or families, specific wishes.

When considering a choice of Church or Minister there are a number of questions that you can ask yourself that may help you to decide what would suit your particular arrangements best. Some of the things to consider are listed here;

Do you, or the deceased, have links with a particular  
Church?

Would you and the family benefit from the help and support  
of the Church community?

Would you be uncomfortable with religion being included in  
the funeral service?

Is there a particular person you would like us to contact?

Do you want to have a service in Church, or use the chapel  
at the crematorium?

If it is to be a burial would a service at the graveside be  
more suitable if there is only going  
to be a small number of mourners?

Would a private committal service, followed by a memorial  
service at church, be preferable?

As part of our commitment to you we will always discuss  
the service details first and only arrange what you are  
comfortable with. The guidance we give you is intended to  
assist you, in every way possible, to arrange the perfect  
funeral for your relative.

Should you wish to discuss the options for services in more  
detail, or wish us to put you in contact with your parish  
Minister or Priest, do not hesitate to contact us on the  
number at the top of this letter.