

Celebrating Funerals
Waikato-Waiariki Synod Training Day
London Street, 24 November 2012

- 9.30am Tea/coffee
- 10.00am Welcome (Susan)
- Introductions around the circle
- Name, parish/congregation & ministry
 - Hopes & expectations for today
- Group conversation: Sharing our experiences and questions
- What kind of funeral services have you been asked to lead? (Christian, non-Christian, family member, friend, stillbirth, suicide, unveiling....)
 - What are some of the difficult situations you've faced?
 - What do you most need help with? (write on whiteboard)
- 11.00am Theology (David Poultney)
- 12.00pm Shared Lunch
- 12.45pm The 'how-tos' of celebrating funerals (Maureen Calman & June Higham)
- Visiting families & what to do (June's checklist)
 - Structuring a funeral service
 - The use of music, symbols, power point ...
 - Children & funeral services
 - Coping with our own emotions
 - Tips for 'non-Christian' services
 - Funerals for suicides
- 1.45pm Group conversation: Expectations around funerals for a variety of cultures
- Case study 1 Funeral for George Sumeo, Samoan Parish Steward
 - Case study 2 Funeral for Pari Waaka, Te Taha Maori
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- What should we expect to happen?
 - What will we be asked to do?
 - What should we be prepared to do?
- 2.45pm Handout: Funeral resources to take back to our parishes
- 3.00pm Closing