

At the luncheon afterward, there may again be pictures and storytelling. Although, people commonly think of a eulogy as a part of the funeral service, the Catholic Church does not envision a eulogy as being a part of the funeral liturgy. This is more appropriately done in another setting (just as slideshows or videos are often shown at the funeral home but not at the funeral Mass).

The focus of a Christian funeral is the Paschal Mystery: the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The funeral rites are not so much a celebration of the life of the deceased, but a prayer that the life and death of the deceased may be joined to Christ in heaven. Because the focus of a Catholic funeral is first on God, eulogies do not find their proper place within the funeral liturgy. This does not mean we should not reflect on and celebrate the life of the deceased. It just means that such a celebration of the life of the deceased is more appropriate to a non-liturgical gathering (for example, at the funeral home, cemetery, or a post-funeral meal or reception).