







Key Concepts				<div>Catholic Funeral Rite (Ceremony)</div> <p>Catholics believe that death is not the end. They look forward to eternal life with God in heaven. At a Catholic funeral, the mourners pray for the person who has died, asking God to take care of them and give them eternal life. They believe that God listens to their prayers and will be merciful towards the departed person. A Roman Catholic funeral is usually a Requiem Mass. The funeral contains a variety of symbols that reflect Catholic beliefs about life after death.</p>
Resurrection	The raising of the body to life following death. Catholics believe Jesus rose from the dead.	Soul	The spiritual part of a human that can never die. The part created by God that lives on after the death of the body.	
Heaven	Eternal existence in God's presence	Hell	The lack of God for all eternity	
Magisterium	The teaching authority of the Roman Catholic Church that comes from the Pope and Bishops.	Judgement	Judging someone on their actions. Catholics believe God will judge people on how they have lived their lives.	
Eternal Life	Spiritual existence in heaven after the death of the body.	Death	The end of physical life. Catholics see death as a change rather than an ending	<div>Sources of Authority</div> <p>Eternal rest, grant unto him/her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May s/he rest in peace. May his/her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.</p>

Coffin Pall		The white coffin pall is symbolic of the white garment that the deceased person wore at their baptism. It gives hope of the resurrection that the person will rise to have eternal life with God.
Crucifix & Gospels		The priest places a book of the gospels and a crucifix on the coffin. The gospels signify the person's life dedicated to the teachings of Jesus, and the crucifix reminds believers that they will share in Jesus' victory over sin and death.
Holy Water & Incense		The coffin is sprinkled with holy water as a reminder of the dead person's baptism and the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. The incense is burned and the smoke rises which symbolises the soul of the deceased ascending to heaven to have eternal life with God.
Paschal Candle		The Paschal Candle is lit and represents the belief that Jesus won a victory over death and they can share in the resurrection and have eternal life. The flame represents Jesus as the light in the darkness. He provides hope of life after death.
Readings & Prayers		Mass is celebrated with readings and prayers focused on the Christian hope of eternal life. After the Liturgy of the Word comes the homily, when the priest explains the meaning of the readings. The homily normally includes a tribute to the person who has died.
Music		The music, traditionally Faure's Requiem, is played at the funeral. Music lifts our hearts and minds toward God. The music is designed to help people mourn their loved ones and the words of the hymns express beliefs about the resurrection and life after death.

<div>Exam Practice</div> <p>c) Explain 3 features of a Catholic funeral rite (8)</p>
--