



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL.

ISLAMIC CENTER OF GREATER TOLEDO

Dear beloved community,

AsSalamu alaikum. In consultation with health experts and in accordance with new cemetery regulations and funeral homes in the area, we have to amend our funeral policy. I recognize how difficult this may be. There is nothing more important than honoring your loved one as they pass; nothing more comforting than delivering them to their Lord with prayer and supplication at the Masjid. You have my word that the current pandemic will not prevent us from honoring them as they deserve.

That being said, **please note the following new policy regarding funerals:**

- 1. Bodies will be washed whilst taking extra precautions** to ensure no one is at risk. Alhamdulillah, our Masjid has already been doing this for years as safety is our top priority.
- 2. There will be no funeral ceremonies at the masjid. Janazah will be performed by the Imam and the immediate family only at the Cemetery.** This is perfectly permissible in Islam, and the Prophet ﷺ himself went to the cemetery and performed a Janazah there.
- 3. Only the immediate family is allowed to attend the burial as the cemetery is only allowing 10 people MAXIMUM.** This is the regulation by all cemeteries in the area and we must take it seriously.
- 4. We will livestream a funeral service,** consisting of a dua and a communal recitation of Surat Yasin for the deceased.

Difficult times call for difficult measures. Even if the process may change slightly, you and your loved ones have my earnest, and most heartfelt commitment, that we will honor them, pray for them, and send them off in the best way to their Most Merciful, Oft-Pardoning Lord.

With my sincere love and prayers,

Ahmad Deeb
Imam and Director of Religious Affairs
Islamic Center of Greater Toledo