



#### OUR PLEDGE

*“To honor the deceased,  
comfort the bereaved, and  
preserve, promote and practice  
the customs and traditions  
of the Jewish Funeral.”*

JEWISH FUNERAL DIRECTORS OF AMERICA

## SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL CHEVRA KADISHA

### HISTORY

In the mid-1800's, there was no Jewish funeral home in the San Francisco Bay Area, and often no rabbi to bury Jews in accordance with Jewish tradition. To fill this need, Sinai Memorial Chapel first opened its doors in 1902 in San Francisco. In 1993, it opened an office in Lafayette, and in 2005, another in Redwood City. Sinai continues to be one of the very few non-profit funeral homes in the country.

### TRADITION OF TZEDAKAH

Sinai Memorial Chapel has a deep commitment to the Jewish value of *Tzedakah*, charitable giving, extending services to the needy, and no-cost burials in cases of tragic loss of an infant or young child.

Each year, proceeds from Sinai Memorial Chapel are returned to the community through grants to congregations and organizations funding educational and social programs.

Your support of Sinai Memorial Chapel helps preserve Judaism's precious values *l'dor v'dor*, from one generation to the next.

## SINAI OFFICE LOCATIONS

### SAN FRANCISCO (FD 262)

Gene Kaufman, Executive Director  
gkaufman@sinaichapel.org  
1501 Divisadero Street  
**(415) 921-3636**

### LAFAYETTE (FD 1523)

Susan Lefelstein, East Bay Director (FDR 656)  
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3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
**(925) 962-3636**

### REDWOOD CITY (FD 1830)

Wayne Rose, Peninsula Director (FDR 979)  
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777 Woodside Road, Suite C  
**(650) 369-3636**

### MARIN COUNTY

**(415) 472-3636**

*For more information:*  
**[www.sinaichapel.org](http://www.sinaichapel.org)**



## SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Chevra Kadisha

JEWISH FUNERAL HOME  
HOLY BURIAL SOCIETY  
*Since 1902*

## SINAI'S MISSION

Sinai Memorial Chapel is a full-service, non-profit funeral home guided by the principles and practices of Jewish tradition. Our mission is to serve the Jewish community of the San Francisco Bay Area regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation.

***Earnings are devoted to philanthropy.***

## GUIDELINES OF THE JEWISH FAITH

Although no one can ever be completely prepared to confront death, familiarity with Judaism's step-by-step practices can be a comfort. The human body, as a vessel of the soul, is compared to a Torah scroll. When it is no longer usable, it still retains its holiness, and must be treated with sanctity (*kedusha*).

When a person dies, the body is entrusted to the compassionate and respectful care of the members of the *Chevre Kadisha*, the Holy Burial Society. Their work is to prepare and watch over the body until burial. They perform *Tahara*, the ritual cleansing and purification of the body, accompanied by prayers for the peaceful passing of the soul of the deceased. They dress the body in *Tachrichim*, simple white burial garments, according to the belief that all people leave this earth as equals. Sinai provides both *Tahara* and *Tachrichim* at no fee and may provide a *Shomer* (Watcher) when requested.

## FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

When there is a death, our compassionate staff stands ready to assist and support you. They are knowledgeable in Jewish customs and can help guide you in planning traditional or alternative services.

In addition, we offer the following:

- Coordination with cemeteries, synagogues, clergy, or lay leaders
- Use of chapel for services
- Assistance in placing obituary notices in newspapers
- Procurement of death certificates and disposition permits
- Transportation of the deceased from the place of passing to the place of final interment anywhere in the United States, Israel or other foreign countries
- A selection of traditional caskets



### CHESED SHEL EMET

***“The highest act of loving kindness is that which is done for the dead, for there can never be any thought of repayment.”***

TANCHUMA VAYECHI 107A

## ADVANCE PLANNING

Advance funeral planning is a decision you can make for yourself or for others. Many decisions must be made at the time of a death, such as choice of casket, place of burial and type of service. Pre-planning allows you to make wise personal choices and to have your wishes recorded. Our pre-need counselors will provide guidance and work with you to arrange services. You'll be secure in knowing that you have spared your loved ones added stress and anxiety by advance planning.

## PRE-NEED FUNERAL TRUSTS

A Sinai pre-need funeral trust is a prepaid plan specifying your funeral wishes. The funeral trust can be paid in a lump sum or over a period of time. Once the funeral trust is paid in full, your family will face no future financial obligations for those specific arrangements for which you have paid.

## RECORDS RESEARCH

Our staff can assist you in records research for individuals served by Sinai in the past.

## GRIEF SUPPORT

***NextSteps*** is Sinai Memorial Chapel's innovative griefcare program, offering, at no charge, compassionate outreach to Sinai mourners. Utilizing both Jewish tradition and standard clinical practices, professional counselors provide highly personalized aftercare, working with the bereaved to address grief, integrate losses, and reinvest in life.

***NextSteps*** staff provides mourning individuals and families specialized consultation, education, information and referral, while also collaborating within the broader Bay Area community on a variety of griefcare projects for both lay and professional individuals and agencies.



***“Comforting the mourner is an act of loving kindness toward both the living and the dead.”***

KITZUR SHULCHAN ARUCH 193:11