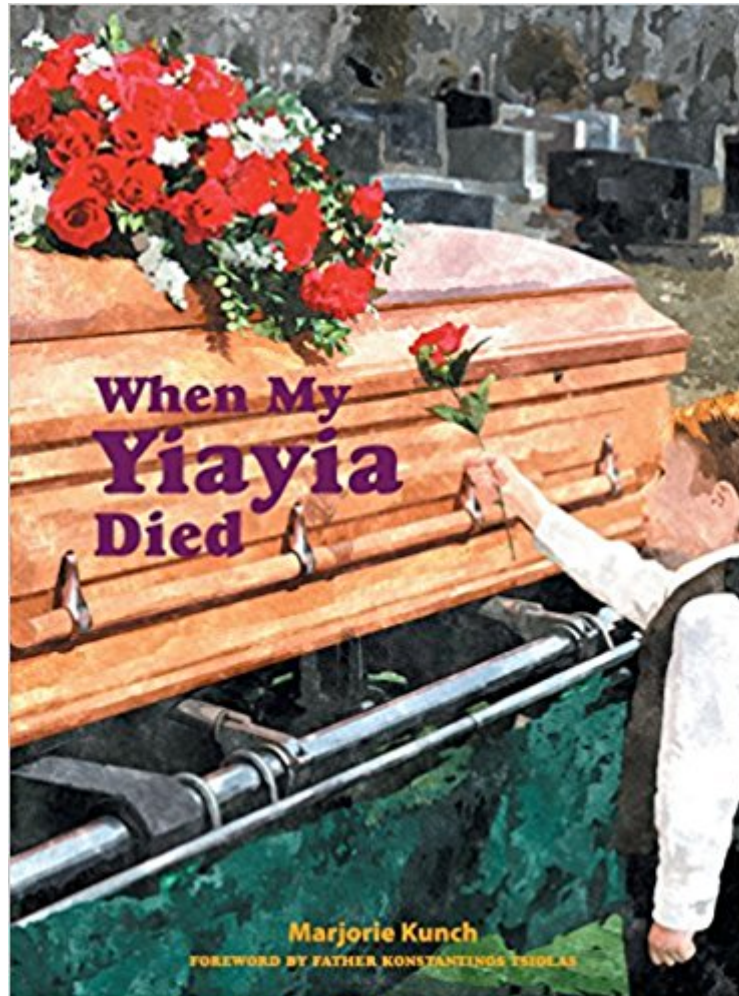




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When My Yiayia Died



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Synopsis

This uplifting hardcover picture book for ages 4-8 beautifully illustrates the steps a family takes when a Greek Orthodox Christian loved one dies as told through the perspective of a little boy. We take the reader through the events surrounding the visitation, witness the church ceremony and graveside service, and discuss the importance of Mnimosino prayers. Along the way, the most commonly asked questions children have about death and funerals are answered. Fears are alleviated by gently showing what to expect and explaining beforehand what the child will see. Most importantly, the comfort of the Orthodox Faith and our hope in Christ is affirmed. Extensive glossary with in-depth discussion of Greek Orthodox funerary terms included. With foreward by Rev. Konstantinos Tsiolas, pastor of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Winnipeg, Canada. Of interest not only for members of the Orthodox Faith, but also mortuary students and elementary teachers who wish to explore multicultural customs in a unit study pertaining to religions of the world, between various Christian denominations, or a compare/contrast of ancient and contemporary funerary ritual.

Book Information

Hardcover: 52 pages

Publisher: Pascha Press (March 22, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0996404546

ISBN-13: 978-0996404549

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,306,138 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Eastern #902 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #7293 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5

Customer Reviews

"When My Baba Died and When My Yiayia Died introduces children to the contemporary practice of funeral preparation and burial, within the liturgical rites of the Orthodox Church. They

are written in a simple, inviting way, and children will be greatly helped to understand what is happening at an otherwise distressing and confusing time. The illustrations are lovely."-Frederica Mathewes-Green, Orthodox speaker and author of 10 books, including *Welcome to the Orthodox Church and Facing East*, *A Pilgrim's Journey into the Mysteries of Orthodoxy*. "This beautifully written book addresses the importance of helping children deal with the death of loved ones. As a monk who has spent many years helping families get through the grieving process, both as a priest and police chaplain, this beautifully written book, filled with wonderful photos, is an important aid for those who wish to help a child understand death, and loss. I highly recommend it for every church bookstore, and every home library."-Abbot Tryphon, All-Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, WA "When My Baba Died and When My Yiayia Died" are welcome resources for Orthodox caregivers facing the difficult task of tenderly guiding their children through the mourning process. The author, Marjorie Kunch, writes gently and straightforwardly about what to expect at an Orthodox funeral service and the array of emotions attached to grief. Kids and adults alike will greatly benefit from these unique tools for teaching Orthodox Christians of all ages about the Church's hope-filled response to death and eternity."-Molly Sabourin, author of *Close to Home: One Orthodox Mother's Quest for Patience, Peace and Perseverance* "These wonderful books easily guide children through the funeral process, while helping to instill a lifelong reverence for and understanding of the importance of funerals."-Alexandra Kathryn Mosca, author of *Grave Undertakings and Green-Wood Cemetery*

Marjorie Kunch, an Orthodox Christian mother and mortician, has written some wonderful Orthodox picture books, *When My Baba Died* and *When My YiaYia Died*. The books are a true blessing to the children who read them, and at the same time they give parents a roadmap for helping our children process death – a roadmap that is all the more useful and precious to parents who are themselves struggling through the grieving process. Marjorie's books walk a child both through questions about heaven and what death means, and through the more concrete details of what they can expect at an Orthodox funeral. When a beloved family member dies, children are anxious about death itself as well as the details of the funeral process, so Marjorie's beautiful illustrations and clear explanations are perfectly designed to allay those fears. For older children, those who read and might enjoy a more interactive experience, Marjorie has put together a very helpful companion workbook which offers ways for them to personalize the funeral experience and provides meaningful ways to help children participate in saying goodbye. In addition to encouraging them to incorporate their own memories and feelings

about their loved one, the workbook asks open-ended questions that will encourage them to express their feelings. Marjorie includes icons to color, a recipe for Koliva to prepare together as a family (further including them in the church services), Bible verses to look up, and a comforting prayer families can recite together. With the combination of the picture book and workbook, Marjorie (a mother herself) has created a resource that will truly bring your family's experience into the Church, so that you are both reassured and nourished by our beautiful traditions as you work your way through this grief.

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