



St. Mary's Cemetery

Cemetery Rules

723 West Winona Road, Alexandria, MN 56308

General Care of Cemetery Lots

- When people purchase a burial site, they purchase the right to burial, not the physical property. It is the duty of the parish to maintain the cemetery and ensure its perpetual upkeep. A portion of the funds paid for this "right of burial" is designated for cemetery maintenance.
- It is the right of the parish to establish a Cemetery Board. This board sets policies regarding the sale of plots for burial or inurnment, maintenance, care of the property, decorations, etc. always looking to the long-term care, maintenance and beauty of the cemetery.

Burial/Interment/Inurnment

- At no time is burial of remains/cremains to be done without obtaining permission of the Cemetery Sexton.
- A Minnesota Health Department Disposition Permit or a cremation certificate is required for burial.
- Casket burials are required to be conducted by a licensed funeral director.
- A commercial vault is required for each casket burial done in the ground, but not required for burial of cremains.
- The burial of two cremation urns in one gravesite is allowed. There will be an additional fee for the second right of burial.
- The burial of one casket and one cremation urn is allowed per gravesite. There will be an additional fee for the second right of burial.
- For health reasons, when a coffin is placed in a mausoleum crypt, the crypt must be sealed and will not be reopened.
- A maximum of two cremation urns can be placed in one mausoleum crypt. Crypt sealing will be done after placement of the second urn. There will be an opening and closing fee charged for each inurnment.
- Only one person's cremains shall be placed in a columbarium niche.
- Family mausoleums shall be allowed only in rows T and U.

Monuments

- Any monument, marker, footstone or other adornment of the grave must have prior approval of the Cemetery Sexton before placement.
- Placement of monument, marker, footstone or other adornment of the grave must be marked for correct placement by the Cemetery Sexton or his/her designee. This marking will require a fee.
- Initial setting and leveling of monuments and markers shall be done by a licensed vendor. Installation is to be coordinated with the Cemetery Sexton or his/her designee. A three days notice must be given to allow adequate coordination.
- Monuments can be no higher than 4 feet and must be caulked.
- The foundation for monuments shall have an 8" wash on the ends and a 6" wash on the long sides.
- A cemetery representative must be present during the installation of all monuments and footstones.
- All monument bases need to be set on a minimum of 6" of class five gravel and footstones need to be set on a minimum of 3" of class five gravel. St. Mary's Cemetery will provide the class five.
- A headstone or bench on a slab or foundation of designated size may be placed at the head of the grave. Placement of both a bench and a monument is not allowed.
- There will be a maximum of two markers for a single gravesite, one at the head and one at the foot.
- A pillow marker is considered a headstone and may only be placed at the head of the grave.
- Repair of monuments such as, but not limited to, raising and leveling shall be the responsibility of the family in collaboration with the Cemetery Sexton.
- Repair of monuments deemed to have deteriorated to the point of being a safety hazard shall be repaired with charges billed to the family. This will be done only when the family has been unresponsive to repairing the monument after notification.

Decorations

- Planting of perennials, shrubs, trees or placement of other permanent objects is prohibited at all times.
- For uniformity in appearance, all nameplates, veteran's plaques, rings and vases that are to be permanently attached to the granite face of a columbarium niche or a mausoleum crypt must be purchased from the Cemetery Sexton.
- Gluing of pictures and other adornments is not allowed.
- Real or artificial flowers and other decorations may be placed on either side of the ground monument, not in front of or behind it. Any decorations placed in front of or behind monuments will be removed and discarded.
- Nothing can be placed on the grave which impedes lawn care. The only exception to this policy is Memorial Day when flowers/decorations can be placed in front of monuments. They must be removed within two weeks after Memorial Day.
- Only two plants are allowed per grave.
- Plants must be secured in a single post planter on the side of the grave or attached to the monument itself. Holders must be purchased from the Cemetery Sexton.
- Cemetery caretakers will remove any decorations as they become faded, tattered, torn, worn or left in place after mandatory removal dates.
- All decorations MUST be removed by October 1. Christmas decorations will be permitted from two weeks before Christmas until February 1.
- Solar lights are not permitted anywhere in the cemetery.
- Because of issues we have experienced with freezing of water in vases, even with the holes drilled in the bottoms, it is recommended that vases be taken home in the winter.

Please help us maintain our beautiful cemetery out of respect for our deceased parishioners.

Cemetery Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Church Office: 320-763-5781

REV: 4/2/18