



Cemeteries of St. Agnes Rules

Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery and Eisele Catholic Cemetery

(Revised October 1, 2026)

In order to preserve the natural beauty and dignity of these cemeteries, St. Agnes Catholic Parish reserves the right to adopt any regulations for the governance of these cemeteries. These regulations may be changed without notice and will be enforced.

◀ GENERAL RULES ▶

1. The use of a lot is for the lot holder or the lot holder's relatives, for right of burial only. Resales, transfers or exchanges must go through the cemetery manager.
2. Non-biodegradable outer burial containers, grave liners or vaults shall be necessary for all interments in cemetery.
3. All work and improvements must be approved by cemetery management. Any work done that is not in compliance with cemetery rules will be corrected at lot owner's expense.
4. Cars are to be parked on the road so that other cars can pass easily; with no more than two wheels off the road and onto the grass. No vehicle is to exceed 15 mph.
5. Throwing of trash on roads or any part of the cemetery is prohibited. **Visitors should take with them any refuse from their visit.**
6. No alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs shall be consumed/used or brought on the cemetery property.
7. **The management may immediately remove without notice all items that in the determination of the cemetery sexton have become unsightly, overgrown with weeds, are dangerous, inappropriate, or are encroaching onto another grave.**
8. Any business coming into the cemetery to perform any work must first provide a copy of their liability insurance to the parish cemetery manager.

In a Catholic cemetery, memorials have the purpose of acknowledging and honoring the dead and inspiring the living with the appropriate inscriptions which bespeak the faith and dedication of God and of those who pray for the living.

FOUNDATIONS / MONUMENTS

1. **Foundations are required** and must be purchased and installed through Genesee Valley Vault Co. (810) 695-5166.
2. The lot holder or family must notify the cemetery manager of which monument company is chosen **prior** to delivery.
3. Monuments, including monument benches, may not be larger than 38 inches wide for single lots and monuments for companion lots cannot exceed 76 inches. If your monument is larger than 38 inches wide or 76 inches for companion lot, it will be denied and returned to the monument company at the lot owner's expense.
4. All memorial work is subject to the approval of the cemetery and if unsatisfactory, it will be removed at the lot owner's expense. Cemetery management has the right to determine the appropriateness of any memorial placed in its cemeteries. Items which are found offensive, improper or inappropriate for such a setting will be removed without prior notice by the cemetery staff.
5. A headstone and a flush mounted footstone are allowed per single grave lot.
6. Grave markers and/or monuments shall not be placed on lots or graves unless full remittance has been made for said lots or graves. St. Agnes is not responsible for the deterioration of temporary markers.
7. Monument placement, repair and upkeep, are the responsibilities of the grave owner.

8. Columbarium engraving must be purchased and completed by Heritage Monuments (810) 818-5201.

CREMATIONS

1. Up to one cremains interment is allowed to be interred with a traditional interment on a full lot.
2. Up to two cremains interments are allowed on a full lot.
3. Up to two cremains interments are allowed in a columbarium niche.

GRAVE DECORATIONS

The burial of your loved ones with dignity, and the ongoing care of their graves are the main mission of the Catholic Cemeteries of St. Agnes. It is quite natural to want to leave tangible evidence of devotion to the lot of a loved one. However, there are incidents when decorations become damaged or missing during our mission. These incidents are not deliberate nor show a lack of compassion for the deceased. We regret that we cannot guarantee to safeguard the grave decorations from damage or disappearance, and we also regret that we cannot accept the responsibility for their damage or loss.

The management has the right to regulate the method of decoration of lots. Contact cemetery management prior to placing any decorations not specifically outlined below. **Decorations will be removed without notice from the grave when they are damaged, soiled or do not conform to the rules of the cemetery.**

↵ PERMITTED ↵

Shepherd Hooks. Must be placed within 12 inches in front of the monument.

Potted Plants. Potted plants are permitted if placed within 12 inches in front of the headstone. Unsightly, unapproved, or potted plants which interfere with the orderly mowing of the cemetery will be removed.

Flower Beds. Flower beds may be planted within 12 inches in front of the headstone.

Non-glass votive lights. As long as they are placed safely within the twelve inches in front of the headstone.

Artificial Flowers.

Lawn Decorations and Statues. As long as they are appropriate for a Catholic Cemetery, statues are permitted 12 inches in front of headstone. Must be made of something durable, concrete/fiberglass/resin, and must be well maintained.

Wood, cedar chips, mulch. Wood, cedar chips, mulch and similar biodegradable materials may be used to decorate the flower bed.

Flags. Only our national flag and recognized fraternal flags only are allowed in the cemetery. If they become soiled or damaged, they will be removed.

Christmas Decorations. The placing of grave blankets and wreaths are allowed during the winter months. After the season, they will be discarded as weather and soil conditions permit. St. Agnes Cemeteries are not responsible for damages when such decorations interfere with winter opening and closing of graves.

*******Annual tags for grave blankets, pillows and wreaths need to be purchased through the parish office and affixed to the decoration prior to placement at the grave.*******

Grave decorations are important to us. We recognize that for many, decorating a grave shows respect, sorrow over the lost and allow a moment for cherished thoughts. Some decorations, however, when placed in contact with cemetery equipment, pose a danger not only to cemetery workers, but to the visitors and memorials around them.

Other decorations actually hinder our ability to effectively keep the cemetery clean, mowed and trimmed. We thank you in advance for not placing the following items in our cemetery.

 NOT PERMITTED

Trees, shrubs, etc. Lot holders are not permitted to plant trees, shrubs, evergreens, thorn bushes or vines.

Stones or Rocks, etc. Stones, bricks, rocks, pea stone are not permitted. These items can cause serious injury to visitors and memorials when projected by a lawnmower.

Benches.

Glass votive lights, candles.

Columbarium decorations. No decorations are permitted on or around the columbarium structure.

Decorative Borders. The use of any type of border including but not limited to fencing, edging, decorative borders, bricks, pavers etc. as these hinder the ability for the cemetery to be mowed and trimmed effectively. Structures of wood and other perishable materials are prohibited.

Glass, China or Porcelain. Glass, China or Porcelain of any kind which when broken present a serious safety hazard.

Ramblers, Vine Plants or Ground Cover and Plants with thorns.

 Spring and Fall clean-up dates will be posted on the St. Agnes website and in the St. Agnes Church bulletin. 

