

ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY

As of March 1, 2023

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. For the mutual protection and benefit of the plot owners and St. Patrick's Cemetery, the following Rules and Regulations have been adopted by The Church of St. Patrick, Inver Grove Heights, MN. All plot owners and visitors within the cemetery and all plots sold shall be subject to said Rules and Regulations, and subject further to such other Rules and Regulations, amendments or alterations as shall be adopted from time to time.

DEFINITIONS

2. The terms lot, plot, grave, or burial place shall be used interchangeably and shall apply with like effect to one or more than one grave.
3. Plot owner refers to a person who has purchased the privilege of burial or interment in St. Patrick's Cemetery
4. Interment shall mean the permanent disposition of the remains of a deceased person by entombment, inurnment or burial.
5. Memorial shall include a monument, tombstone, marker tablet, or headstone for family or individual use. (Monuments for 2 or more plots only.)
6. Management shall mean the Pastor of St. Patrick's Church or his designee(s).
7. Care shall apply only to those plots where care has been provided for in a Permanent Care and Improvement Fund or Annual Care Agreement.
8. Cremation (using fire and heat) is the process by which the body of the deceased is
9. reduced to its basic elements.

GENERAL RULES

10. St. Patrick's Cemetery is owned and operated in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church. It reserves the right to refuse admission to the Cemetery and to refuse the use of any of the Cemetery's facilities, at any time, to any person or persons whom the Management may deem objectionable to the best interests of the Cemetery.
11. The Cemetery is for the burial of Christians.
12. No blasphemous speeches, signs, etc. are permitted.
13. No cars or trucks are to be parked on the grass areas of the Cemetery.
14. No hunting is allowed on cemetery grounds.

CORRECTION OF ERRORS

15. The Cemetery reserves the right to correct any errors that may be made by it either in making interments, disinterments or removals, or in description, transfer, or conveyance of any plot.

PLOTS AND PLOT OWNERS

16. The Cemetery is sustained and maintained by the funds generated by burial plot fees. Plot pricing will be determined by the Parish Finance Commission based on fees charged by other cemeteries in the area. Plot fees must be paid in full at the time of purchase, prior to interment in the Cemetery.
17. No Plots will be sold in common ownership or joint ownership. Title must stand in one name. Plots may not be resold unless written consent is obtained.
18. No plot shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of human dead. No burial of animals is allowed.
19. The Cemetery disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage from causes beyond its reasonable control, and, especially, from damage caused by the elements, an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, explosions, insurrections, or order of any military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral, other than as herein provided.
20. The plot owner is granted only the right of interment in their plots. The Cemetery reserves the right to refuse interment of anyone who was not, at the time of death, the owner of the plot or a relative of the owner by blood or marriage.

21. CARE OF PLOTS

22. The Cemetery will give such care as it can, provided there are sufficient cemetery funds for that purpose or where care has been provided for in a Permanent Care and Improvement Fund or Annual Care Agreement. The care shall consist of cutting the grass and general preservation of the grounds.
23. The general care assumed by the Cemetery shall in no case mean the maintenance, repair or replacement of any vase, basket, or memorial placed upon plots; nor the planting or irrigation of turf, flowers, or shrubbery.

24. INTERMENTS

25. Funeral Directors, upon arrival at the Cemetery, must present a burial permit.
26. Once a casket or urn containing a body is within the confines of the Cemetery, neither funeral director nor his embalmer, assistant, employee or agent shall be permitted to open the casket, or touch the body without the consent of the next of kin or of the legal representative of the deceased, or an order signed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

27. No interment of two or more bodies (except cremains) shall be made in one grave except in the case of a mother and child or two infants buried in one casket.
28. No more than two (2) cremated remains or one body and one cremated remains may be buried in one grave.
29. All interments shall be in vaults.

PLANTING, DECORATIONS AND FLOWERS ON PLOTS

30. The planting of memorial trees, shrubs or evergreens shall be in an approved area. No trees permitted at individual plots. The location of any plantings must be approved by Management.
31. Removal of existing shrubs is not allowed. Damaged shrubs may be repaired or replaced by Management.
32. No planting of flowers in the ground on the graves will be allowed. Only cut flowers are permitted on plots. Decorations and flowers may be removed prior to mowing, or sooner, if in the judgement of the parish cemetery authority they fade, wither or become unsightly.
33. Vigil lights and vigil light holders with candles are not permitted on grave sites at any time and will be removed by cemetery personnel.
34. No solar lighting is allowed.
35. The following items are not allowed: Shepherd hooks, other structures for hanging plants, garden flags, balloons, wind chimes, wind socks, birdhouses, bird baths, pinwheels, statues not incorporated into the monument. Food, bottles or cans are not permitted due to health and safety reasons. Items not permitted will periodically be removed.
36. One single leg stand pot (3 feet high) for live plants is allowed. It must be placed in line with the monument or marker. No other type of stand or hanger for plants is allowed.
37. For safety reasons, glass and ceramics are not allowed.
38. American Flags are permitted 7 days immediately before and after Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and Flag Day holidays.
39. Wreaths of natural material and artificial decorations are permitted November 1 through spring (snow has melted). Removal will be ongoing for damaged and dead wreaths.
40. During the period ten days prior to and ten days after Memorial Day and the anniversary of the date of death, temporary decorations are permitted. These decorations must be removed by those who placed them.
41. Potted plants that are part of and attached to a memorial are permitted
42. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all floral designs, flowers, shrubs or trees from the Cemetery as soon as they become unsightly, dangerous, diseased or do not fall within the Rules and Regulations.

MEMORIAL (MONUMENT) WORK

43. No monuments may be placed on any plot not fully paid.
44. Plot owners may erect proper memorial work on their respective plots subject to the approval of the Management. No benches allowed at gravesite. All monuments shall be set on foundations built of concrete, and of the size and depth prescribed by the Management. Foundation base shall be constructed by the designated installer at the expense of the plot owner. Please contact St. Patrick's Church for information on the designated installer. Monument foundation base must leave a minimum of 4 inches on each side of the grave.
45. Single grave monument dimensions are a maximum of 36 inches wide and 24 inches deep. No monument can be more the 36 inches in height. If a flowerpot hole is desired in the monument base, the maximum width of the monument is 32 inches for a single plot.
46. Double grave monument dimensions are a maximum of 72 inches wide and 24 inches deep. No monument can be more the 36 inches in height. If a flowerpot hole is desired in the monument base, the maximum width of the monument is 64 inches for a double grave.
47. The size of the monument is governed by the size of the plot on which it is placed. In no case may the length of the base exceed one-half the width of the plot. The base may not extend over an occupied grave.
48. Monuments shall be set on the space designated by Management.
49. Only one central or family monument shall be allowed on any grouping of two or more contiguous plots.
50. Monuments constructed of artificial stone must be approved by Management.
51. No curbing, fencing, hedging, borders, or enclosures of any kind shall be allowed around any plot; and no walks of brick, cinders, tile, terra cotta, sand, cement, gravel or wood shall be allowed on any plot. St. Patrick's Cemetery reserves the right to remove the same if so erected, planted or placed.
52. No anti-Christian characters will be allowed on memorials or markers.
53. No photograph or reproduction of a photograph may be affixed to any memorial without prior approval of management.
54. Workmen employed in placing or erecting monuments or other structures or bringing in materials, shall operate as independent contractors, but must do so with permission from the Management.
55. The right is reserved to the Management to refuse to permit any work unless the grounds are thoroughly settled and in good condition.
56. No memorials may be delivered or installed between November 1 and April 15 without permission from the Management.

57. Any memorial work that has been completed shall not be removed without due process of law or written permission from the Management.
58. St. Patrick's Cemetery reserves the right to stop all work of any nature for any of the following reasons:
- a. Proper preparations have not been made.
 - b. Tools and equipment are insufficient or defective.
 - c. Work is being executed in such a manner as to threaten life or property.
 - d. The monument dealer is guilty of misrepresentation.
 - e. Reasonable requests of Management have been disregarded.
 - f. Work is not being performed to specifications.
 - g. When rules of the Cemetery are being violated.

MARKERS

59. No marker may be placed on any plot not fully paid
39. At each grave only one grave marker will be permitted. All markers must be one piece and set level with the ground.
60. All markers shall be of standard size and must be not less than four (4) inches or more than six (6) inches in thickness, with a level or sawed bottom. All lettering or carving on markers must be sunk or incised. The use of raised letters in sunken panels or incised letters with raised borders will be at the plot owners risk and management expressly disclaims any responsibility for damage they may sustain.
61. Markers must be placed at the foot of the grave farthest from the base of any monument, and all inscriptions shall read from the foot of the plot.
62. Markers shall be installed by the designated installer.
63. Cemetery shall not be responsible for articles placed on grave.
64. Crosses or other grave markers of wood, iron, cement, or any like material are strictly prohibited, except the standard bronze insignia provided for the graves of veterans.

SPECIFIC TO COLUMBARIUM

65. Only one urn may be placed in a single niche. Up to two urns may be placed in a double niche.
66. The size of the urn or permanent vessel may not exceed 10 inches in any direction.
67. Fresh flowers placed at the time of interment will be removed at time of the next mowing or if they become unsightly.
68. No glass vases or containers allowed.

69. Fresh or artificial flowers, decorations of any kind or memorial wreaths are not allowed in the Columbarium area. They will be removed by Parish Cemetery grounds personnel.

70. Flowers, trees, shrubs and brick paths around or near the Columbarium will be placed according to the Parish Cemetery Master Landscape Plan. No plantings may be done by individuals.

71. The cemetery reserves the right to remove any decorations, plants or planters, etc. that become unsightly or not in the guidelines.

For questions about the purchase of cemetery lots, niches, opening of graves, placement of monuments, etc., please contact the Parish Administrator at the parish office.