



# St. John's Archdiocese Inc. Cemetery Regulations For Mt. Carmel, Belvedere, Kilbride, Holy Sepulchre And Gate of Heaven Cemeteries

30 June 2018

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**Public Health & Safety:** The purpose of these regulations is to maintain a quality standard to minimize safety hazards and maintain the standard of care appropriate to the dignity and sanctity the cemetery deserves. Visitors to the cemeteries are advised that personal safety hazards exist and they should exercise caution at all times. For these safety reasons, the erection of canopies for funerals is prohibited. Out of respect and for safety reasons visitors should not walk on the burial plots or lean against the monuments. The Archdiocese is not responsible for any personal injury.

**Monuments:** Families place monuments on the plots at their own risk and are responsible for the maintenance of these monuments. All monuments must comply with the established monument standard and in addition to an upright monument, only one plaque is permitted on any single plot. Permit fees are applicable for new monument installations, except for replacement of monuments originally installed after 1993. Columbarium monuments on individual plots are not permitted.

**Flower Beds & Shrubbery:** Flower beds cannot extend any more than 12-14 inches from the base of monument and can be no wider than the monument base. Flowers and ornaments cannot be attached to the niche covers or on the columbaria site. Artificial flowers, solar lights and other such ornaments are not permitted because they create safety hazards, become unsightly and create litter. The planting of trees and shrubs on plots is not permitted. However, families may donate trees and shrubs to be planted along the walkways and driveways in the cemetery. In the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, staff will immediately remove any flower beds or plot ornaments that do not comply with this regulation.

**Hours of Operation:** All cemeteries are open for committals during normal business hours from Monday to Friday and from 08:00 to 12:00 on Saturdays. All cemeteries are closed for Easter Triduum, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Memorial Day and Remembrance Day. The cemeteries are also closed on any day when weather and/or road conditions present unsafe conditions for workers, families and visitors.

**Cemetery Fees:** Fees for all cemetery services must be paid in full in advance of any services being delivered. For any plots where monies are still owing, these monies must be paid before any burials are placed, monument permits issued or ground repairs done. The fees for the various cemetery services are reviewed and set annually by the Archdiocese Cemetery Committee and approved by the Archdiocese Administration Board.

**Burial Liners and Vaults:** Liners are not required for casket burials but are required for all urn burials. Concrete vaults can only be used if they can be installed safely where the risk of personal injury or property damage can be eliminated. Concrete vault handling equipment is not permitted to travel over the burial plots, so before ordering a concrete vault, families must obtain approval from cemetery staff. In the Gate of Heaven cemetery, wood liners are not permitted for casket burials.

**Right of Internment:** Means the right for interment of human remains in a plot or niche in perpetuity. The Archdiocese is responsible to maintain the ground plot or niche and ensure the burial is forever undisturbed. All internments are subject to the laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church. A signed committal request form must be completed for all committals and must be accompanied by a burial permit and/or cremation certificate. The family or person who has paid for the right of interment to a plot or niche is the title holder of the plot or niche.

**Internment Space:** Ground plots will be assigned in sequence in the row. A maximum of two single plots can be assigned to a family but only if casket burials are planned. Niches are assigned in sequence in each



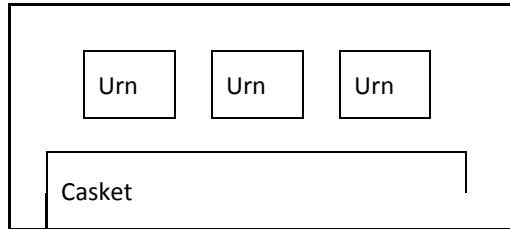
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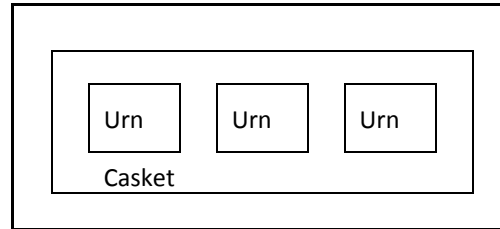
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column from top to bottom. A standard single ground plot can accommodate one casket and/or three urn burials according to the illustration shown below.

Burial space in a plot is determined by the burials that are already in the plot. In some cases casket burials may not be possible because of insufficient space. Families are required to consult with the cemetery staff to determine where a plot can be opened for a burial. Cemetery staff can also provide families with a plot map showing where future burials can be placed. Regardless of the length of time a casket burial has been there, it will not be disturbed to place another casket.



Side View



Top View

A niche in the columbaria can accommodate 2 to 3 urns depending on the size of the urns and the length of the names to be engraved on the faceplate. Families may choose a 15 inch or 12inch niche. All urns must be constructed of non-biodegradable material. To comply with the laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, companion urns must have both compartments filled before they are placed in the niche. No articles other than the urns are permitted in the niche.

**Snow Clearing & Ice Controls:** In Holy Sepulchre the main road is cleared daily, but the side roads are only cleared when required for funerals. In the other cemeteries snow clearing is only done as required for funerals.

**Cemetery Maintenance:** Cemetery staff will immediately remove all debris, flowers or ornaments that create safety hazards, become unsightly or impede maintenance operations. The Archdiocese is not responsible for loss or damage to monuments or other ornaments that might be placed on a plot. Families place these items on the plot at their own risk. Where flower beds may have to be removed to facilitate opening a plot for a burial they will not be replaced.

**Cemetery Regulations, Standards & Fees:** The Archdiocese has developed a number of detailed standards and procedures to support these regulations. These are available upon request from the Archdiocese office, Cemetery Staff or from the Archdiocese website ([www.rcsj.org](http://www.rcsj.org)).

**Archdiocese Cemetery Committee:** This committee is comprised of representatives from the parishes in the St. John's area which are served by the cemeteries named. The mandate of the committee is to establish policy, procedure and to provide direction for the effective and efficient operations and maintenance of the cemeteries. Policies and procedures established by the committee are approved by the Archdiocese Administration Board before they are implemented.