

St Mary of Mount Carmel | St James Parishes

Cemetery Information and Regulations

Cemetery Regulations

The Catholic Cemetery is a familiar place in which we visit the graves of our deceased loved ones to pray for their eternal rest and find in their burial places a sign of faith and hope.

Like a church, it is a religious place and should be considered a sacred spot reflected in respectful care of grounds in accordance with the Diocese of La Crosse and Civil Law.

- All the internments and removals are subject to the Canon Law of the Catholic Church, the rules and regulations of the Diocese of La Crosse, the State of Wisconsin, plus the rules and regulations of these cemeteries.
- No workmen, other than employees or others contracted by the parish, will be permitted to work in the cemetery without prior approval of the pastor.
- Grave holders purchase the burial rights in said grave. Title of the land remains vested in the name of the cemetery.
- Regular burials must be in a vault; construction may be of metal or concrete.
- For all transfers, even if made among members of the same family, the sexton or secretary MUST be notified of that transfer so that all records are up to date.
- Care of lots in no way includes care of monuments or markers.
- No recreational vehicles of any kind are permitted.

Memorials

- Monuments or markers may not be installed on a grave until the grave purchase price is paid in full.
- All memorials shall be of the following material: granite, marble or bronze.
- All monuments shall be erected on a concrete foundation provided by the monument company at the expense of the grave holder.
- All flowers/decorations must be affixed to, or on, the monument or foundation. No in-ground decorations are permitted.
- Flags, artificial flowers, etc. may be mounted on the monument foundation and bases from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- Emblems for organizations are to be installed at the time the marker footings are poured. Veteran emblems of the type that are level with the ground may only be centered immediately in front of the monument or grave marker.

- Other decorative objects not specified above are not permitted in as much as they are apt to conflict with the beauty and appearance established for the cemetery. Objects in violation of these regulations shall be removed without notice.

Prohibitions

- Due to maintenance challenges and appearance, fences, hedges, edging, curbing and other enclosures around or within graves are not permitted. They create a cluttered appearance and add to the cost of maintenance and labor.
- Planting of trees, shrubs, or plants (annuals or perennials) are not permitted.
- Cement, iron, wood, glass, plastic, and similar objects of a temporary nature including solar lights are prohibited because of their unsuitable appearance and susceptibility to damage. Objects in violation of the prohibitions shall be removed without notice or liability.
- All cans, bottles, beverages, glass, sharp objects, etc. of any kind are not allowed.
- No pets allowed.