

St. Louis Cemetery

Typical Rules and Regulations

THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS SUPERSEDE AND REPLACE ALL PRIOR REVISIONS, AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS (WHETHER ORAL OR WRITTEN).

**THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE IN EFFECT STARTING
JANUARY 1, 2022**

General Rules and Regulations

- 1) **Use of the cemetery shall at all times be subject to the limitations, restrictions, and conditions of all Canons, rules, regulations, laws, and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Cemetery Division, either now in force or hereafter enacted.**

BURIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

- 2) Graves shall not be opened in St. Louis Cemetery; no services shall be performed in connection with the interment; nor monuments or memorial markers erected until the following condition has been met:
 - a) Payments and fees: All plots must be paid in full **at the time of purchase** before the deed is issued. The plot cannot be held without payment.
 - b) The location and ownership of the plot has been established and verified by the Parish office.
 - c) Grave-site excavation fees are paid in full the day of the burial.
- 3) Purchasers of a plot acquire the right of erecting monuments or markers thereon, subject to the conditions, rules, and regulations now in force or which may hereafter be enacted. A deed for a plot does not grant any privileges further than herein specified.
- 4) **Those who wish to sell their plot** must first tender the option of purchase to the St. Louis Cemetery Association for an amount equal to the original contract price. **The St. Louis Cemetery Association retains the right of first refusal** for the purchase of any resold plot or portion thereof. The deed must be returned prior to any refund of the purchase price.
 - a) **The transfer of ownership** of a plot to a third party is subject to the consent and approval of the St. Louis Cemetery Association, and a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged per grave/deed change. The original deed must be turned in as well.
 - b) If a parishioner, who purchased a grave site that no one has yet been buried in, wants **to exchange their grave site** with another spot in the cemetery, a \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged per grave. The original deed must be turned in as well.

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- 5) The burial of a deceased person requires the purchase of a full-size grave. The opening and closing of the grave, and placement of the casket and urn, shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a) A single casket shall be put into a permanent outer burial vault as a protection against future grave settling
 - b) Only one cremation urn, if enclosed in a permanent burial vault, may be added in the burial site with a single casket.
 - c) or, three cremation urns NOT enclosed in a permanent burial vault may be added in the burial site along with a single casket.
 - d) or, up to three cremation urns either in a permanent outer burial vault or not, may be placed in a single grave site.
 - e) The family determines if the cremation urn shall be placed in a permanent burial vault. St. Louis Cemetery Association does not require it.
 - f) Baby caskets may be added to an existing grave site, but at the approval of St. Louis Parish Office to determine if there is enough room in that site.
 - g) No pets shall be interred in the cemetery, either alone or along with human remains.
- 6) The St. Louis Parish Office shall be notified at least 96 hours (4 days) in advance of any planned excavation or interment. All graves must be marked in advance by an authorized individual from the St. Louis Parish Office, St. Louis Cemetery Association or their representatives before any digging begins.

GROUNDS RULES & REGULATIONS

- 7) If any trees, shrubs, situated in any part of the cemetery shall, in the opinion of The St. Louis Parish Cemetery Association, by means of their roots or branches or otherwise become detrimental to the adjacent lots or alleys, or prejudicial to the general appearance of the grounds, or dangerous or inconvenient to passersby, the Cemetery Association shall have the right to remove said trees or shrubs or such parts thereof as may be required.
- 8) The cemetery is closed to all from dusk to dawn.
- 9) Pets are not permitted on the cemetery grounds.
- 10) No Loitering, skateboarding, skating, kite flying, model flying, archery or weapons firing or other activity disrespectful to the cemetery is allowed.
- 11) Minor children without adult escort are not permitted except for those attending services or with permission from the St. Louis Parish Office.
- 12) All labor performed in the cemetery must be done by or through the St. Louis Parish Cemetery Association.
- 13) All work and improvements on the cemetery grounds are subject to the control and direction of the St. Louis Parish Cemetery Association. Any persons desiring work done of any kind must explain to The Cemetery Association the nature and extent of work required.

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- 14) The St. Louis Parish Cemetery Association is not responsible for damage to or loss of property resulting from vandalism or theft.
- 15) Since these are sacred, consecrated grounds, disturbing noises and loud radios are not permitted in the St. Louis Cemetery. No audio equipment may be used in the cemetery without the permission of the St. Louis Cemetery Association.

DECORATION RULES & REGULATIONS

- 16) The following Decoration Rules & Regulations will be strictly monitored and enforced:
 - a) Landscaping of individual graves will take place after an appropriate settling time: no less than five months and no more than eleven months. Time is based on soil conditions, weather, and seasonal changes at the discretion of the St. Louis Cemetery Association.
 - b) All graves will be kept level with the ground. Mounds over graves are not permitted.
 - c) Fencing, coping, hedges, curbing or any such enclosure of a lot or flower area is prohibited.
 - d) No seasonal grave sprays or blankets are allowed.
 - e) Fresh wreaths are allowed between November 15 and March 15. Any holiday decorations not removed by March 15 will be removed and disposed of by the St. Louis Cemetery Committee.
 - f) Planting of flowers is permitted along the length of and within one foot in front of any monument, headstone, or marker.
 - g) No hanging baskets are permitted.
 - h) **PLANTING OF TREES, SHRUBS, ROSE BUSHES, ETC. BY LOT OWNERS IS PROHIBITED.**
 - i) The cemeteries will be cleared of all winter decorations on or after March 15 annually, as weather permits.
 - j) All summer decorations and flags will be removed annually by November 15.
 - k) A casket garland is the only funeral flower arrangement permitted.
 - l) No glass containers or other non-biodegradable objects are permitted on the premises, including polystyrene foam, plastic wreaths, crosses, etc.
 - m) Statues are not permitted.
 - n) Specific decoration regulations vary from season to season. It is the responsibility of persons desiring to place decorations or commemorative items at individual grave sites to make inquiry at the cemetery office for precise information regarding these items.
 - o) Any decoration or item deemed by the cemetery to be in violation of its regulations will be removed or discarded without notice to the owner thereof. St. Louis Parish assumes no liability to lot owners for removal and discarding or items placed in violation of The Cemetery Rules and Regulation.

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MONUMENTS & MARKERS

17)

- a) Before placement of monuments/markers, their plans, specifications and sites MUST be first approved by The St. Louis Cemetery Association.
- b) Foundation Guidelines:
 - (1) Markers must be of granite and/or bronze composition of one piece, not less than 12” by 30” in length, and 4” to 5” thick for a single grave.
 - (2) Flush markers are generally set with 18” of compacted traffic bond.
 - (3) You have some that are set on top of a concrete slab. Still need 18” of compacted traffic bond beneath them.
 - (4) Single slant markers are set on 24” of concrete with a 5” wash around them.
 - (5) Double slants 30” or larger should have a 36” concrete footing with a 5” wash around them also.
 - (6) All monuments regardless of size have to have a 36” concrete footing with a 5” wash around them.
 - (7) Bronze markers should be mounted on a concrete or granite slab. Then they should be set in 18” of compacted traffic bond. If concrete is used, a 5” wash should be included. If granite is used generally a 2” border is the industry standard.
 - (8) Photos encased in ceramics are allowed on markers/monuments.
 - (9) All Monument Companies should supply the church with a certificate of insurance naming them as additional insured to protect the cemetery from being liable for injury of the outside dealer.

PERPETUAL CARE

18)

- a) All graves, reflection areas and grounds shall be maintained under the terms of perpetual care provided by the St. Louis Cemetery Association.
- b) Perpetual Care includes the entire maintenance of the cemetery, except watering and monument repair as described in section 18c.
- c) St. Louis Cemetery Association shall not be held liable for damage to monuments, markers or adornments caused through the normal course of maintenance conducted for perpetual care, caused by contracted services, vandalism, or natural or unnatural disasters.

This document represents a summarization of a broader set of policies and practices used for the day-to-day administration of the St. Louis Cemetery. The St. Louis Cemetery Association reserves the right to resolve any and all issues not directly specified in this document using the rules and regulations developed by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Cemeteries. (Reference: <http://www.cemeteries.org>)

Issued by the St. Louis Cemetery Association