

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CATHOLIC CHURCH

1709 E. HARRISON ST. MARTINSVILLE, IN 46151

CEMETERIES ARE OPEN FROM 8:00AM TO 5:30PM DAILY

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CEMETERY DECORATING & BURIAL RULES

The cemetery decorating rules exist to comply with insurance regulations, the safety of our cemetery visitors and staff and to provide a beautiful environment of peace and remembrance for our deceased loved ones. It is necessary to restrict where decorations are to be placed so that mowing of the cemetery can be done safely.

WHAT IS PERMITTED

Remember that over-decorating can be very unsightly and intrusive to nearby lots. Please keep your decorations simple and in good taste.

- ◆ Planted or cut flowers, natural or artificial, when placed in a good metal, earthen, cement, plastic or invertible style container.
- ◆ All containers must be placed at the ends of markers – not in front or back - during mowing season: April 1 to October 1. Flower vases attached to the headstone are permitted.
- ◆ A maximum of 2 decorations (containers, wreaths, etc.) per gravesite.
- ◆ U.S. Flags on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Veterans Day may be placed 5 days before the holiday and remain for 5 days after the holiday.
- ◆ Christmas wreaths, decorations and blankets are permitted from November 1 to March 1.
- ◆ Solar lights may be located at the end of markers, not in the front or back. Please note that solar lights can break easily.

WHAT IS NOT PERMITTED

- ◆ Planted flowers in the ground, glass containers, votive candle lights (open flames and/or glass).
- ◆ Wires for anchoring decorations.
- ◆ Shepherds crooks.
- ◆ Flags, except for U.S. flag (see above).

Again, these rules exist to ensure the safety and beauty of our cemeteries. Some rules are in place to comply with insurance regulations. Please remove any old, broken or unsightly decorations and dispose of them in the dumpster in the parking lot. Any items the cemetery committee deems unsafe will be removed.

You may contact the American Legion regarding any U.S. flags that inadvertently become soiled or damaged. They have an annual ceremony to dispose of them with proper respect.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: The Rules and Regulations require that each Plot Owner keep the Cemetery fully informed as to his or her mailing address and to notify the Cemetery of any changes thereof. Notice sent to any Plot Owner at the last registered address on file in the office of the Cemetery will be considered sufficient and proper legal notification.

MARKERS AND BURIAL VAULTS

HEAD STONE MARKERS

- ◆ Standard Size of flat head stone markers are:
 - 24" x 12" x 4"
 - 48" x 12" x 4"
- ◆ Headstone markers are to be of good quality of marble, granite or cast bronze.
- ◆ Lettering: no raised lettering, as it can be easily damaged and is a hazard for mowers. Only sunken lettering is allowed.
- ◆ Should a marker become displaced or need repaired, it is the responsibility of the family to make arrangements to have any repairs completed.

PLACEMENT OF MARKERS

HEIGHT: Markers may not be more than one half inch above ground level, i.e. ground level not grass level. This makes mowing easier and less likely to damage the marker.

LEVELING: the leveling of the marker should follow the contour of the land, sloping when necessary.

STANDARDS FOR CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS FOR MARKERS: Foundations are to be a minimum 20" deep with 4" extension to set the marker in concrete. This ensures additional protection for the markers when mowing is done.

OPENING AND CLOSING OF GRAVES

The cemetery committee dictates who opens graves. Jim & Pam Asher is currently the only company authorized to open graves at St. Martin of Tours Cemetery and Old Catholic Cemetery.

CREMATION URNS AND VAULTS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL BURIALS

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Cemetery and Old Catholic Cemetery do require burial vaults for both caskets and urns. This is to preserve the safety and beauty of our cemetery grounds, and to protect the remains of your loved ones.

- ◆ Burial vaults for urns are not to number more than 2 urns per vault being one husband (man) and one wife (woman) or 2 Siblings per vault.
If the husband and wife or 2 siblings pass away at the same time, 2 urns may be placed in the one vault at the time of burial. If the husband and wife or 2 siblings pass away at different times, they may be buried in separate vaults or in a reasonable amount of time be buried together in one vault.
- ◆ Each full plot may hold only one casket or two urns. Each 1/2 plot may hold two urns. Burial vaults for both urns and caskets are to be made of durable materials like metal, concrete or plastic.

These rules exist to ensure the safety and beauty of our cemeteries.

Updated March 14, 2024