

# St. Patrick's Cemetery

## General Rules & Regulations

This section contains the rules that pertain to the use of St. Patrick's Cemetery. These rules are meant to assure the ongoing ministry of St. Patrick's Cemetery as well as the Cemetery's faithful and religious nature.

### The Role of St. Patrick's Cemetery Board

The burial of the dead has always been considered by the Church as a religious rite and a Corporal Work of Mercy. There are many people involved in this ministry: priests, deacons, religious, parish pastoral ministers, health care and hospice personnel, musicians, funeral directors, and parish members who assist the family, lead bereavement support groups, and support the faithful in prayer for the dead.

St. Patrick's Cemetery Board is made up of members of our parish who participate in the Corporal Work of Mercy by:

- Working in cooperation with all the other people involved in the ministry of providing compassionate care of families and friends before, during, and after the interment of a loved one.
- Providing a fitting final resting place for members of the Body of Christ who have died.
- Witnessing to the world the Christian belief in the resurrection of the body at the end of time.
- Reverently care for and maintain the physical beauty and religious nature of St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Assuring that St. Patrick's Cemetery is a place of prayer, peace and beauty.

Many of St. Patrick's Cemetery Board's policies have been made in order to comply with the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Act. They are not in any way intended to restrain you unduly but rather to define an orderly plan of planting, care, and maintenance.



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### Flowers and Planting Regulations

Fresh flowers may be placed on graves in metal or plastic vases only. Potted plants are not to exceed 12 inches in diameter. All plantings must be confined to the area directly in front of the monument, and are not to exceed 12 inches from the front of the stone. It is the owner's responsibility to remove flowers and plants that have become withered or unsightly. Please place trash in the receptacles or preferably carry out with you.

### Decorations:

No statues, memorabilia, or loose decorations are allowed.

The placing of wreaths (natural or artificial) on the space 12 inches directly in front of the monument is allowed. We recommend wreaths that are between 17 and 24 inches in diameter. We also recommend that they not be hung directly on the monument since they may contain metal that will rust and stain the stone.

### Decoration Removal Dates

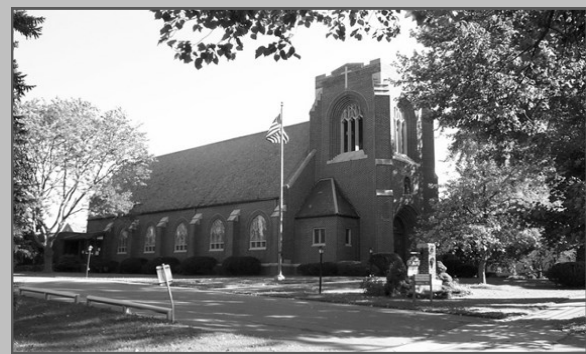
**March 1<sup>st</sup>**– All Fall, Winter and Christmas Decorations must be removed.

**November 1<sup>st</sup>**- All Spring and Summer plants must be removed.

***Cemetery employees may remove anything placed at the grave site that does not conform to these rules or that is not removed by the given deadlines.***

### Lot Restrictions

Attractive landscaping can transform a well-kept cemetery into a place of beauty and tranquility. Careful planning, plant selection, and arranging and modifying natural scenery are needed to provide the best religious and aesthetic effect as well as provide for future use. St. Patrick's Cemetery Board is responsible for this and, therefore, no new shrubs, bushes or trees may be added by lot holders.



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### Lot Restrictions (continued)

Because of what might be stepped on or thrown by lawn mower blades, the following restrictions are enforced:

- No glass containers.
- No artificial flowers, ornaments, wooden crosses wire, plastic trellises, fences, stands, toys, balloons, tripods, shepherd hooks, novelties, votive lights, or money.
- No crushed stone, wood chips, shells, stones, wood edging.

Because lot holders may use the area 12 inches directly in front of the monument, and the Cemetery Board is responsible for all other maintenance and landscaping, the following restrictions are also placed on lots:

- No spading the surface of any lot (except the 12 inches in front of the stone), excavating any earth, altering the grade, or laying or removing sod from any lot.
- No defacing, raising, removing, or painting of concrete or metal lot identification markers.
- No corner lot markers.
- No mowing, fertilizing or reseeding of graves. This well-intentioned help often conflicts with the regular care of the cemetery.

### Burial Lots and Graves

1. Lot locations may be selected and arranged at St. Patrick's Cemetery Office. It is strongly recommended that the selection be made in person at the site by the purchaser, the family, or their representative. A lot consists of six graves.
2. Purchase of a burial site is for the right of burial and not for the land. Upon full payment, a Certificate is issued, which grants the purchaser perpetual right of burial, subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery, the discipline of the Roman Catholic Church,



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### Burial Lots and Graves (continued)

and the rules of the Diocese of Rochester with respect to burials and funerals.

3. Lot/Graves purchased prior to being used for burial shall be paid for within one year. Full payment is expected prior to use of burial space.
4. Certificate of ownership does not confer the right to sell or transfer any portion of the lot.
5. Upon the death of the owner of the lot/grave, the right of burial passes to the next of kin. Burial rights may be transferred to persons other than the lot holder or heirs. Notification must be given in writing to the Cemetery Office.
6. Owners of burial rights may not sell or speculate for financial gain on lots on which they have rights of burial. However, graves may be returned to the Cemetery for the original purchase price.
7. Lots/graves are for interment of human remains only.
8. It is the responsibility of the lot/grave holder to notify the Cemetery of any change in their post office address or telephone numbers.

***For more information on the Cemetery Rules and Regulations, please contact the Cemetery Office at 924-7111.***