

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY
Mauston, Wisconsin

St. Patrick's Cemetery is affiliated with St. Patrick's Parish in Mauston, Wisconsin and is situated in Section 18-15-4 of the Town of Lemonweir, Juneau County, Wisconsin.

Holders of cemetery certificates, their heirs and assigns, are afforded all the rights and privileges due them as such certificate holders.

All burials in the cemetery shall be in accordance with accepted practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

To ensure that the cemetery provides a fitting burial space in the Catholic burial tradition, said cemetery is subject to certain specifications, rules and regulations.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The cemetery committee shall consist of five (5) parishioners or any other person who might have special skills pertinent to the operation of the cemetery as chosen by the Pastor.

The Parish custodian shall be an *ex officio* member of the committee.

The committee shall appoint a chairman and vice-chairman.

In this document, the term "Management" refers to the cemetery committee or any others whom the pastor chooses for conducting and administering the use of the cemetery.

LOTS

Lots for burial are available for purchase, by Catholics only, from the parish office. A portion of the price paid for the lot (currently 15%) will be deposited in the perpetual care fund of the cemetery in an account under the authority of the Diocese of LaCrosse. Lot purchasers will receive a Cemetery Certificate signed by the Pastor indicating their interest in the lot(s).

A record of the purchase shall be kept in the files in the parish office. If, in the future, cemetery records are converted to an electronic format, the paper records will not be destroyed.

All lots are payable at time of purchase. In an instance, when buyer cannot pay at time of purchase, they will be given one year to complete payment. No burials will be made until lot has been paid for.

In certain circumstances, where a family does not have the ability to pay for a lot for a burial, management may waive the cost of the lot and/or burial. This would pertain to one lot only. Management has the authority to take reasonable steps to find other means, either from other family members or public agencies, to fund all or part of the costs. The final decision in this regard rests with the Pastor.

In an instance where lot buyers have not complied with the time frame allowed for payment and no burials have been made, the parish shall notify the buyer, by registered mail, that the ownership of the lots has reverted to the parish.

If a purchaser chooses not to use a lot(s) and wants to return/sell back to the parish, they will receive only the amount they paid for the lot(s). Any part of the purchase price deposited in the Perpetual Care Fund will not be returned.

If certificate holders have any special directions for the use of the lots they must inform the parish, in writing, so it can be so noted on the record at the parish office. If there is no such request on file, the use of empty lots shall first be available to children, and then to grandchildren. Such heirs may be asked to provide a written statement that they are a child or grandchild of the certificate holder. If there is a dispute about the rights of burial that cannot be resolved, then the laws of succession of the State of Wisconsin shall govern.

If there are vacant lots where no family members are known to remain, procedures provided in Wisconsin Statutes will be followed to vest ownership in the parish.

Management has established a policy that allows either a casket burial, a casket burial and one cremains burial, or two cremains burials on a single lot.

All caskets for burial are required to be contained within a vault. Cremains are required to be in a solid, durable urn.

In the instance of a request for disinterment, the person seeking the disinterment shall pay the disinterment costs.

MONUMENTS/MEMORIALS

In this section, monument and memorial are used interchangeably.

Before any monument is placed, the parish/Management/custodian must be notified to locate the correct placement of the monument and the location fee paid to the parish office. Any company requesting location shall give sufficient notice so as not to be a burden for the person who must mark the location.

Any new monument or memorial placed on a lot must conform to and will be governed by the following rules and regulations:

All monuments must be placed on a base. The base must have a 6 inch wash, have a three-quarter (3/4) inch hole on either end to accommodate decorations and if deceased is a veteran, a one-half (1/2) inch hole in the front of the base to accommodate a US flag. If a monument spans more than one lot, management encourages laying a ribbon base which will extend the full length of the lots.

There may only be one above ground monument per lot. Any flat memorial or plaque must be flush with the ground, and will be mowed over.

Management has the right to inspect all work done by contractors erecting memorials to assure that they are in compliance with these rules and regulations.

Management reserves and shall have the right to correct any error that may be made by its employees in the space identification and/or placing of any memorial. Management also retains the right to recall outside contractors to correct any error that may be made by their employees in the location or placing of a memorial. Any errors made by outside contracts, shall be corrected at the expense of the contractor.

Contractors installing monuments shall be liable for all damage caused to any lots.

If a memorial is offensive in design or inscription, management has the authority to have the monument removed.

ADORNMENT OF LOTS

The term "plot" used in this document, is meant to mean two or more lots.

If a new burial, floral pieces may be laid on the grave and they will be removed by Management when they have wilted. All floral stands will also be removed.

All decorations (floral or otherwise) shall be located at the end of the monument, nothing in front of or back of the monument base. Decorations can also be securely attached to the monument. This will ensure that no wires, artificial flowers, etc. are caught in the lawnmower.

No grading, landscaping or disturbing of any lawn is permitted without the approval of management. No curbing, fencing or other kind of enclosure is allowed around a plot. No trees, shrubs, or other vegetation may be planted on a lot.

Any trees or shrubs planted previous to its prohibition and have become overgrown, will be removed by management. Management is not required to notify certificate holder of such removal.

Neither cemetery management nor the parish is responsible for theft, vandalism or any damage to monument or ornamentation. Damage can result from natural causes (wind or rain) or from coming in contact with a lawnmower.

Lot holders must remove all adornment from lots prior to the annual spring cleanup. The church bulletin publishes these dates two weeks prior to cleanup. It is the responsibility of the lot holder to know the dates. Any debris removed by a lot holder shall be disposed of in the waste receptacles provided.

ADMISSION TO THE CEMETERY OTHER THAN A FUNERAL

Management reserves the right to deny permission to any vehicle that could damage the roads or burial space, to enter the cemetery. All vehicles entering the cemetery must stay on the paved roads, or immediately adjacent thereto. Grassed roadways are for the use of cemetery management only.

No firearms are allowed in the cemetery other than those of a Military Honor Guard presiding at a burial.

Management reserves the right to expel and/or remove any person who causes a disturbance at the cemetery.

No unleashed animals are allowed in the cemetery. A leashed animal is allowed only if it is being held by someone who is visiting a grave.

No one is permitted to peddle flowers, plants or any other commodity on cemetery property.

CARE OF CEMETERY

The day-to-day maintenance of the cemetery is under the supervision of Management.

No workmen are permitted in the cemetery unless authorized by Management.

No vehicles, equipment, tools or other property belonging to the cemetery is to be used by individuals or leave the premises unless permission has been received from Management.

No unauthorized persons are to have any access to buildings located on cemetery property.

Anyone aware of damage to cemetery property should report it immediately to the parish office to ensure that anything that might be covered by insurance will have a timely claim filed.

Cemetery property will be inspected annually to make sure that there are no conditions present that could cause harm to anyone.

GENERAL

Management reserves the right to reconfigure lots, sections, and roadways as they deem useful to the cemetery.

Management shall establish a price for lots, cost of grave opening, and setting location of monuments that ensures that there is sufficient revenue to maintain the cemetery. Management may reserve the right to establish services, and set fees for them, as will enhance the appearance and financial stability of the cemetery.

Current fees for lots and services are available at the parish office.

This document, when adopted, supersedes any and all other documents pertaining to the ownership, use and management of said cemetery.

Any and all cemeteries in the control of St. Patrick's are subject to the above.

Adopted: April 10, 2019

Fr. John A. Voltaggio
Pastor

Patrick F. Walsh

Joe Buttner

Carol Kaiser

Dee Baum

Committee Members

