

# Cemetery Regulations



## St. Joseph Parish

*St. Francis Xavier  
Cemetery  
("Old Bohemia")*

*St. Rose of Lima  
Cemetery*

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## Placement of Flowers & Decorations on Graves

*In order to maintain the cemetery grounds in the way befitting your loved ones, your cooperation in the following regulations would be greatly appreciated. Please read the entire booklet and if you have any questions, please contact the Coordinator associated with the cemetery where you purchased Rights of Burial. The names and numbers can be found at the back of this booklet.*

*Remember that quality of decorations, not quantity, makes beauty. If there are many persons wishing to decorate a grave, please arrange a schedule among yourselves so that only one or two arrangements are placed at a time.*

# Placement of Flowers & Decorations on Graves

1. Fresh cut flowers are welcome at any time if they are placed in appropriate self-supporting containers, or plastic or metal spike-type vases that can be easily discarded. When flowers become unsightly, the cemetery will discard them along with their container. Subsurface metal vases (those that can be inverted into the ground when not in use) or vases that come attached to the headstone base are recommended for visitor convenience, general appearance and safety. Flowers should be placed close to the memorials so visitors and employees don't trip over them.
2. Potted plants may only be placed on Easter weekend, Mother's Day weekend, Memorial Day weekend and Father's Day weekend. Families should pick up potted plants and other decorations within one (1) week after each "special day". Any plants left after this time will be discarded.
3. All winter decorations should be picked up before February 1st to enable spring cemetery preparations. **The cemetery is not responsible for items discarded. Please do not place anything of value to you or your loved one on the grave. We cannot be responsible for its safety. Decorated Christmas trees are not permitted.** The cemetery asks that families limit their decorations to a standard grave mound, wreath or basket.
4. Glass containers, wire pins, and digging holes in the sod to hold containers, potted plants or vases are **not permitted** because they constitute potential safety hazards to cemetery visitors and workers, as well as weaken the headstone foundations. For the same reason, artificial flowers are not permitted from March 1st through October 31st. Exceptions would be if they are placed in permanently attached vases on the base of the headstones.

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## Placement of Flowers & Decorations on Graves, con't.

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5. American flags will only be permitted from Memorial Day through Flag Day and on Veterans Day. Any flags left on graves after those dates, as well as those that are tattered or broken will be properly disposed of.
6. Balloons, pictures, windmills, battery or solar-operated lights, votive lights, shells, urns, wooden crosses and statues may not be placed or planted on cemetery grounds. If you are in doubt, contact your Coordinator.
7. The cemetery reserves the right to discard any decorations that have deteriorated, along with decorations that do not meet these guidelines, to maintain the beauty, dignity and safety of the cemetery.
8. The cemetery will not be responsible for decorations, plants, vases, etc. left on the grounds. **All** decorations left after specified times will be discarded by the cemetery staff.
9. Saddles or harnesses used to attach artificial or real flowers to upright memorials are **not** permitted at any time, since they may stain and/or chip the memorial or may cause a hazard if they fall off the memorial into the path of lawn maintenance equipment. Sticks placed in the ground to hold hanging plants or flags are **not** permitted at any time.
10. **Planting is not permitted at any time on cemetery grounds. Only plantings installed by the cemetery shall be permitted. Planting of grass seed or resodding is strictly prohibited.**

# Monument & Memorial Regulations

1. All monuments/memorials must have a Religious emblem and be placed at the head of the grave.
2. Etchings such as, but not limited to, landscape scenes, hobbies, etc. are **not** permitted to keep with the pastoral and historic nature of the cemetery and shrine. A small etched portrait of the deceased may be included in the memorial design.
3. Surname is not permitted on the back of the monument/memorial unless the lots behind the stone have also been purchased by the same family.
4. Approval of monument/memorial design by the Cemetery Coordinator/Pastor is required prior to installation of any memorial.
5. All memorial applications must be submitted by a licensed and insured Monument Company and must conform to Cemetery guidelines and regulations. Ask your Coordinator for suggestions.
6. Only one (1) upright/slanted memorial is permitted per grave.
7. Granite is the only material permitted for monuments/memorials.
8. Bronze is only permitted for Veteran's plaque (placed at the foot of the grave).
9. Only one (1) sub-surface flower vase placement per grave is permitted.
10. Monuments/memorials and vases are the sole responsibility of the family.
11. All foundations shall be in accordance with cemetery regulations.
12. The monument/memorial must be set within 10 days after the foundation has been poured.
13. No monuments/memorials may be installed or removed from the cemetery nor any work and/or inscriptions added to existing

# Monument & Memorial Specifications

## **BASES:**

- ⇒ must be a minimum of 8" high but not exceed 12"
- ⇒ must be of uniform thickness and be dressed level on bottom. Tops are to be polished and/or steeled.
- ⇒ can have a 1" polish on the back, ends and front but must be pitched under the line.
- ⇒ Washes on front and back must be at least 2-1/2" but not exceed 3".
- ⇒ Washes on ends must be at least 3" but not exceed 6".

## **DIES:**

- ⇒ must be completely finished, polished and/or steeled front and back.
- ⇒ Natural finishes permitted on top and sides.
- ⇒ Minimum thickness of a die is 8", not to exceed 12".

## **LETTERING:**

- ⇒ shall be blown to an approximate 30 degree V-shaped depth.
- ⇒ Raised lettering is permitted
- ⇒ Lettering on family names shall be a maximum of 4" in height.
- ⇒ Inscription lettering shall be no more than 1-1/2" in height.

## **DIMENSIONS:**

**Slant:** - Single grave = 32"(max) X 18" at the back

**Upright:** - Base length = 65% of the lot width, up to 5' max.

- Base width = 18" (maximum)

- Base height (including die) = 4' (maximum)

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# Cemetery Committee

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*Questions? Please contact:*

Old Bohemia - Marla Dill-Palmer, Coordinator (302) 530-2456

St. Rose of Lima - Rich Beckwith, Coordinator (856)430-0509

Pastor ..... Fr. Mark Kelleher

Cemetery Chairperson ..... Tom Kane, Sr.

Committee Members ..... Ginny Swyka

..... Jeanine Gerrick

Cemeteries owned and operated by St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

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