

ST. CATHERINE CEMETERY
Valley City
ST. BERNARD CEMETERY
Oriska

POLICIES

Cemetery Purpose and Mission

- To provide for burial of casketed human remains in sealed concrete vaults and/or the burial of cremains (cremation ashes) in sealed urns or containers. Green burials are not permitted.
- To provide for the appropriate perpetual care and maintenance of all cemetery gardens to ensure continuation of a beautiful resting place for the deceased and a beautiful place for the general public and families to visit.

Administration and General Rules

- All those who come to the cemetery shall use and park on established roads and/or paths. The cemetery reserves the right to ingress and egress over lots for the purpose of passage to and from burial sites and for construction, development and maintenance of the cemetery.
- Visitors to the cemetery grounds shall respect the area as a sacred and restful memorial to honor those who have passed before us. The following are prohibited within the confines of the cemetery:
 - The use of alcohol or illegal substances.
 - Fireworks and explosives of all kinds.
 - Sleeping or loitering on the cemetery grounds.
 - Unlawful behavior and/or conduct.
 - Firearms used for target shooting or hunting of any kind.
 - Dumping garbage of any kind.
- Pets always need to be kept under control on a leash. Please clean up after pets.
- Burials will cease in the Fall/Winter when it gets too difficult to mark out the graves due to snow cover and/or the road to the cemetery becomes snow covered.

St. Catherine's Cemetery Gate

- Once there is a significant snowfall the gate will be closed until spring.

Lot Purchase - \$200 per lot

All lots are available until sold. Lots will not be reserved without payment.

- The Cemetery Board will not buy back lots but may be able to help facilitate a sale to a private party; or they will accept lots as a donation to the cemetery.
- Lots can be re-sold by individuals and families; please consult with the sexton before doing so.
- Lot certificates will be issued to the owners upon purchase.
- Lot size is 4 feet x 12 feet in most cases; there are some exceptions to this, and the sexton will explain.

Monuments/Headstones

- Families are urged to get a permanent marker within two years of the burial. Funeral Home markers are not permanent and can be easily damaged.
- At St. Catherine location: Upright/raised stones are allowed in Sections A, B and E. They are allowed in Section C from the line of existing uprights/raised stones west of that line. They are not allowed in Section C from the line of existing upright/raised stones east of that line. Upright/raised stones are not allowed in Section D.
- **Grass level markers** (stones) must have a minimum 3-inch concrete foundation border or granite wash.
- **Vases** in grass level markers (stones) must be of the reversible type and recessed by September 10.
- **Upright monuments** must have a foundation with a minimum of 3 inches wider than the monument.
- It is desirable for veteran's stones to have a ½" hole drilled in the base to facilitate the flag marker.
- Whenever possible grave stones should be placed so they can be read from the east looking west standing at the foot of the grave. It is strongly recommended that this is checked out prior to ordering a headstone.
- Monuments can be placed at the head or the foot of the grave.
- All markers should be planned according to the lot size available.

Full Burial

- Full burials must include a concrete or metal vault for the casket to be placed in during the burial.
- There is a \$100.00 fee to mark out the grave in preparation for the digging of the grave.

Burial of Cremains

- Arrangements for burial of cremains in the absence of a funeral home should be made with the sexton.
- There is \$100.00 fee to mark the gravesite.
- There is a charge of \$100.00 for the preparation of the burial.
- It is highly recommended that a graveside service be scheduled with the pastor for the cremains burial.
- The cremains should be placed in a sturdy container and be buried in a grave.
 - A metal container
 - A ceramic container
 - A sturdy plastic container such as the ones provided at the funeral home or crematorium.
 - No paper-based containers.
 - A vault is not required.
- Cremains can be buried in a family lot with the following options.
 - Option 1 – one full burial with one cremains burial in one lot.
 - Option 2 – two cremains buried in one lot.
 - Option 3 – one cremains buried in one lot.

Flowers/Planters/Decorations

- Potted flowers/plants are permitted if they rest on the grave stone and do not hinder mowing.
- Decorations for the gravesite that are not on the stone and are placed in the ground should be removed by July 10. After this date they will be removed.
- No trees or shrubs are allowed on the lots.
- No burning candles or open flames are permitted in the cemetery.

Please be aware that these policies are subject to change at the discretion of the Cemetery Board.

Please know that we are sorry for your loss but feel privileged to help care for your loved one. May God bless you and keep you near to Himself in the days ahead.

The Cemetery Board is chosen by the pastor of St. Catherine Church. The Board feels it is their responsibility and duty to make sure the cemetery is a tranquil place for you to visit, reflect and pray. Your responsibility is to abide by the policies set forth above.

As a Board, we meet regularly throughout the year. Maintenance is one of the top priorities. The caretaker does a wonderful job of keeping the cemetery a beautiful place. Monetary donations are appreciated. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please contact St. Catherine Catholic Church (701-845-0354). The office staff will be able to give you the name and phone number of the cemetery sexton.

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