

## ST. MARY'S AND HOLY CROSS CEMETERIES REGULATIONS

2. All graves will be fully paid for before a commitment is made to location or burial. Graves that have been agreed to be purchased in the past will pay the balance owed based on current grave cost at time of burial.
3. When a grave is purchased, there is no property ownership transferred on which the burial space is located. The cemetery always retains title to the land and the property while the purchaser acquires only the right of burial.

### OPENING AND CLOSING GRAVES

1. Only authorized personnel are allowed to open and close a grave. Prior to opening any gravesite, the lot must be verified by the Cemetery Coordinator. Please contact the Cemetery Coordinator for the current fees associated with grave openings.
2. All burials require a vault including cremains.

### BURIAL RIGHTS NO LONGER NEEDED.

1. The right of burial for an individual grave within a 'Family Plot' may not be transferred to another person outside of family lines. Please note that article 8 of the Religious Corporations law states; "lots shall be held indivisible...". This means that once a lot is sold, all of the graves in that lot must remain a single entity. Therefore, partial lots may not be returned. Once a burial is made in any of the graves on a multiple grave lot, none of the unused graves may be returned. The principle behind this argument is that changing the configuration of the graves may violate the wishes of the deceased.

2. Graves no longer needed can only be sold back to the cemetery at the original price.
3. The right of burial for an individual burial space, plot or lot, may be transferred to other persons with the permission of a) the person (s) that own or inherits the rights from the purchaser and b) the permission of the cemetery. The Cemetery Coordinator would issue a "Letter of Transfer".

### CREMATION ACCOMMODATIONS WITH FULL BURIAL.

People who wish to have more than one burial in a plot, may purchase accommodations subsequently to the initial Burial Right. Accommodations are for cremation vaults only. There is no provision for two full burials in a single plot. Full burials must be side by side in separate plots. Accommodation for Cremation may be placed over an initial full burial. If an accommodation has been made prior to a full burial, the family agrees to cover any costs associated with disinterring the sealed vault and replacing the sealed vault back in place during the full burial taking place.



*We believe that even in death, the human body deserves to be treated with respect and dignity.*

*Christian burial, in the hallowed ground of our cemeteries, represents a sacred space alongside*

*a place for commemorating our Loved One's life.*

*We make every effort to keep our sacred spaces peaceful and welcoming, for family, friends, and visitors.*

*Please review these regulations to answer any questions you may have, and to help keep our cemeteries a safe place for all visitors.*

*Thank You.*

*For all inquiries please contact the Cemetery Coordinator at St. Mary's of the Lake at 607 535 2786*

*or come into the Parish office at St. Mary's of the Lake located at 905 N. Decatur Street, Watkins Glen.*



#### PLACEMENT OF ITEMS THE CEMETERY STAFF MAY REMOVE WITHOUT NOTICE:

*Metal stakes, fences, wire fasteners, rods, glass containers, edging, stones and flag holders.*

✦ For the safety of our employees and visitors, metal stakes, fences, wire fasteners, rods, glass containers, edging, stones and flag holders that are not part of a monument, monument base or marker are not allowed, unless they are secured in the monument or base. The Cemetery assumes no responsibility for damage done to items placed there. Cemetery personnel have the right to remove objects improperly placed without notice.

*Plants, trees or shrubs.*

✦ Planting of any plant, tree, shrub etc. directly into the soil is prohibited. These may be placed in crocks on the foundations only, not on the grass. The cemetery has the right to remove these without notice.

*Flowering plants, either natural or artificial, Vases, or Urns.*

✦ Flowering plants, either natural or artificial, Vases, Urns etc. are allowed, but must be placed on the monument or monument foundation so as not to interfere with mowing. If

there is not enough room on the foundation, it is allowable to place them on a 12 x 12 patio block in line with the edge of the monument foundation on either end or both ends if space permits. Patio blocks are not permitted in front of the monument foundation and must be placed within the dimensions allocated to that particular grave.

#### *Christmas and winter decorations.*

✦ Christmas and winter decorations must be removed by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Summer flowers and decorations must be removed by November 1<sup>st</sup>. We reserve the right to remove the above items, if not done so, after the dates noted above.

#### PLACEMENT AND HEIGHTS OF MONUMENTS

1. Approval must be obtained from the cemetery management prior to placing any monument. Monument maintenance, repair and insurance are the sole responsibility of the owner and heirs. It is the responsibility of the owner and heirs to keep monuments in a safe and proper state of repair. The Cemetery assumes no liability for damage or loss to the monument or other items.
2. Permission is required for any work being done by any outside contractor. They are required to furnish a certificate of insurance to be filed at St. Mary's of the Lake Church, with Diocese of Rochester required liability coverage. The contractor must contact the Cemetery coordinator for language to be included in the certificate. This is required before starting work. All

contractors are subject to cemetery policies and controls.

3. To insure proper installation and uniformity, all foundation installations are the responsibility of the monument company. Each monument foundation will be a minimum of 36 inches deep and have a 3-inch minimum border. St. Mary's and Holy Cross Cemeteries are not responsible for cracked, chipped, or heaved foundations. The Monument Company must supply proper insurance certificate on file before entering the cemetery.



4. There is no maximum height restrictions for monuments at St. Mary's Cemetery. Holy Cross Cemetery monuments should not be more than 40 inches in height and are to be centered at the head of the grave or lot.

#### PURCHASING BURIAL RIGHTS

1. Burial rights are sold in individual plot allocations. Families may purchase "Family Plots" sold in 4, 6, 8, etc. grave increments. Plots will be set in two rows and a family monument may be erected in between the two rows.