

Dear Catholic Cemetery Family,

Catholic Cemeteries are holy places of prayer and remembrance. We honor the custom of families and visitors expressing love and devotion for departed loved ones by decorating graves. However, decorating must not create a safety hazard, impede proper maintenance, infringe on other graves, diminish the Catholic character of the cemetery, or offend others. For these reasons, Catholic Cemeteries employs Cemetery Decoration Guidelines for the common good.

In the spirit of maintaining the sacred nature and dignity as well as the safety of the cemetery, the following Decoration Guidelines will be enforced. We ask for your understanding and your cooperation. Items that are not in compliance with our regulations will be removed and discarded at this time without further notice.

Regrettably, the cemetery is not responsible for decorations or property placed at graves. Items that pose a safety hazard to visitors or staff will be removed as soon as identified and without notice.

Catholic Cemeteries reserve the right to remove any decorations at any time that do not conform to our decoration policies, pose a safety risk, have become weathered, damaged, or interfere with our day-to-day operations or maintenance.

We thank you for your understanding and for your assistance in addressing this matter and keeping our cemeteries beautiful and safe for our visitors and staff.

Blessings on you and your family,

Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Joliet



Catholic Cemeteries
of the Diocese of Joliet

DuPage County 815.838.8100 fax 630.597.9665

**Family Service Center located at:
Assumption Cemetery & Mausoleum
1S510 Winfield Rd Wheaton IL 60189**

Serving Cemeteries located at:

- Assumption Cemetery & Mausoleum, Wheaton
- S.S. Peter & Paul Cemetery & Mausoleum, Naperville
 - St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Winfield
 - St. Mary Cemetery, Elmhurst
 - St. Mary Cemetery, Lombard
- St. Stephen Cemetery, Carol Stream

**DuPage County—Central
630.554.7591 fax 630.597.9588**

**Holy Family Cemetery & Mausoleum
2501 Hobson Rd Downers Grove IL 60516**

*Note: There is not a Family Service Center office at this location.
Please call to make an appointment.*

Kendall County 630.554.7591 fax 630.597.9588

**Family Service Center located at:
Risen Lord Cemetery
1501 Simons Rd Oswego IL 60543**

Will County—North 815.473.5000 fax 815.604.8058

**Family Service Center located at:
Resurrection Cemetery & Mausoleum
200 W Romeo Rd Romeoville IL 60446**

Serving Cemeteries located at:

- Calvary Cemetery, Lockport
- Holy Cross Cemetery, Crest Hill
- Mt. Olivet Cemetery & Columbarium, Joliet
- S.S. Cyril & Methodius Cemetery, Joliet
- St. Dennis Cemetery, Lockport
- St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Joliet
- St. Mary Nativity Cemetery, Crest Hill
- St. Patrick Cemetery, Joliet

Kankakee County 815.473.5007 fax 815.604.8081

**Family Service Center located at:
All Saints Cemetery & Mausoleum
1839 W State Rt. 102 Bourbonnais IL 60914**

Serving Cemeteries located at:

- All Saints Cemetery & Mausoleum, Bourbonnais
- Maternity BVM Cemetery, Bourbonnais
- Mt. Calvary Cemetery & Mausoleum, Kankakee
- St. Rose Cemetery, Kankakee

Revised 3/1/2024

Stay connected



Cemetery Decoration Guidelines

We ask for your cooperation by visiting your loved ones in a reverent and respectful way.

Please abide by these rules and regulations so that all families may feel safe and welcome when visiting our beautiful Sacred Grounds.



Catholic Cemeteries
of the Diocese of Joliet
cemeteries.diojoliet.org



CEMETERY DECORATION CLEAN-UP Dates

SPRING Cemetery CLEANUP
Each year beginning
March 15th thru March 31st

FALL Cemetery CLEANUP
Each year beginning
October 15th thru October 31st

**If you wish to save your decorations,
please remove them before
March 15 and October 15**

During the clean-up periods, all decorations will be removed by cemetery grounds crew and disposed of.

Approved permanent floral vases will be inverted during fall cleanup into their ground well by our staff to prevent damage during the winter months of operation.

Funeral Flowers

Floral pieces are left on the grave for 48 hours after a burial. If you wish to retain any ribbons or floral pieces, it is advised that you retrieve them immediately after the funeral.

Families with an UPRIGHT or SLANT MONUMENT

Permitted:

- Annual plantings or Artificial Floral Bouquet in planting bed are not to exceed 24-inches in height and the width of the monument.
- Mulching of the planting bed. No stone, stone will be immediately removed.
- Artificial or fresh floral arrangement in a self-draining vase or in a permanent cemetery vase.
- Solar/battery powered vigil candlelight – no glass or LIVE FLAME.
- Religious statue made of durable material (no glass or porcelain) or ceramic.
- One Shepherd Hook, in front of upright memorial only.
- Paver Stone is permissible in front of a UPRIGHT OR SLANT Monument when installed 24 in Front and FLUSH to the ground ONLY.

Not permitted (including, but not limited to, the following):

- Any Paver Stone simply lying on the ground will be immediately removed.
- No plastic or wood edging.
- No border enclosures, fencing, decorative stones, shells, etc.

Catholic Cemeteries are consecrated Holy Grounds designated as a place of prayer and dignity for our faithful departed.



**Catholic Cemeteries Diocese of Joliet
ARE Private Property No Trespassing**

NO Alcohol, loitering, grilling, tents, picnics, littering, large gatherings or loud music. This includes live bands, sound systems, sporting activities and inflatable bounce houses. No Dumping and no shooting.

Anyone who violates these conditions but not limited to, including any sustained damages or vandalism WILL BE PROSECUTED up to a Class 2 Felony.

To keep our Cemeteries safe, visitors are encouraged to Call 911 and report ANY criminal OR suspicious activity.

**Children are to be alongside parents at all times.
Dogs must remain in vehicles at all times and are not to be walked on Cemetery Grounds.**

Families with a FLUSH LAWN LEVEL MARKER

Permitted:

- Artificial or fresh floral arrangement in a permanent cemetery vase.
- A wood or plastic planter box may be placed at the flush lawn level memorial. Planter boxes and containers up to 24" L x 6" H x 8" W are permitted. Total height of the decoration should not exceed 24".

Permitted in Planter Box:

- Annual or Artificial flowers, solar/battery powered vigil candlelight, American Flag, small religious statue, etc. Please use caution and common sense when placing items in the planter box or permanent cemetery vase that is not hazardous to our visitors and cemetery grounds crew.

Families are to provide regular care of plants, otherwise removal will be necessary should unsightliness prevail. If you wish to retain your planter box, it must be removed by the Fall Clean Up date of October 15th or it will be removed and disposed of.

Items listed below are PROHIBITED and will be removed and disposed of without notice:

- Raised edging and materials of any kind.
- Fencing material of any kind.
- Boulders, Rocks, Decorative Rocks, Stones, etc.
- Glass Items such as: Glass Candles, Glass Vases, glassware, porcelain.
- Sharp Metal Objects, Bird Feeders, Wind Chimes.
- No Outlining or covering of graves and memorials with any objects as well as blanketed material covering of the grave with loved one's photo depicted.
- Temporary Crosses or Nameplate stakes are allowed for Sixty-Days and not exceeding the 24 inches in height.

These restrictions are necessary for your personal safety. Placing multiple, hazardous or inappropriately sized decorations not only encroaches on the space of other families near you, but also prohibit the Cemetery grounds crew from properly mowing and trimming that poses a liability and risk for injury. Use caution and common sense when placing items are safe, non threatening, offensive are not hazardous to our visitors and cemetery grounds crew.