**RULES & REGULATIONS OF CALVARY CEMETERY**

**Sacred Heart Parish - Hudson, MI.**

**General**

Calvary Cemetery is a Catholic Cemetery owned by Sacred Heart Parish, within the Catholic Diocese of Lansing. The rules and regulations are based on the "Diocese of Lansing Catholic Cemeteries - Element of Parish Cemetery Administration, Dated April 2009" or latest revision and are for the benefit of Sacred Heart parishioners, their immediate families and family members of those buried there.

**Burial Lots**

* The lot price is for a single burial and there is a "2nd right of burial fee" for each additional burial on a given lot.
	+ Lot prices and the 2nd right of burial fee shall be set by the Cemetery Committee.
		- Lots are $375 each
		- The “2nd right of burial fee” is $200 per additional burial on one lot
* Any unneeded lots may be sold back to the cemetery for the original price that was paid or donated back to the cemetery. No graves may be sold to anyone except back to the cemetery. No one is to profit from disposal of their extra lots.
* There are to be no above ground burials except cremains sealed in a monument made to accommodate cremains.
* Additional fees for Grave opening and monument foundation placement will be applied and is usually done through the funeral home at the time of burial.

**Burial Requirements**

* The following interments are permitted in one lot/grave.
	+ One full burial except in the case of a mother and one infant child or two infants in a single casket.
	+ One full burial and one cremains provided the cremains vault is 12" below the ground level.
	+ One full burial, two cremains sealed in a monument.
	+ Four cremains.
* All in ground burials, including cremains, require a vault constructed of concrete, marble, polystyrene or a combination of to insure grave integrity from collapse and accidental digging damage.
* All cremains are to be placed in an urn that shall be placed in a small vault. The top of the vault must be at least twelve inches below ground level. A permanent marker is encouraged to indicate the burial location.
* Burials are to be with the foot of the casket closest to the nearest road.

**RULES & REGULATIONS OF CALVARY CEMETERY - Continued**

**Burial Rights**

* Non-Catholic family members who desire to be buried in a family lot are bound by the rules and regulations of the Diocese of Lansing on this subject.
* Lot owners have a "Right-of-Burial" for human remains only, and in no way "own" or have any claim to cemetery property.
* While living, the lot holder is encouraged to specify who may and may not be buried in the lots and transfer his or her rights, title and interest to other family members by informing the parish office in writing. If the lot owner dies without allocating the lots, or allocating through a will, a surviving spouse shall have rights to one burial space and balance of the lots ownership descend to the blood relatives in accordance with rules and regulations of the Diocese of Lansing on this subject.

**Memorials - Monuments (Above ground) & Markers (Flush to ground)**

* It is encouraged that all burials have a permanent marker, it may be either flat or upright, and must be on a foundation. Only one upright monument permitted per lot. Additional markers are permitted provided they are flush with the ground. “Homemade” memorials are not permitted.
* The foundation shall
	+ have a 4" border around the memorial.
	+ may be precast or poured concrete.
	+ be no higher than 2 inches above the ground and may be stepped every 4’ feet as required.
	+ have a 6” minimum depth backed base of, #57, ¾” crushed stone or equivalent.
	+ be installed and or approved by the Sexton.
* Monuments are to be placed at the foot of the grave.

**Plantings, Flowers and Decorations**

The decorating of graves is welcomed and encouraged, however to prevent the cemetery from appearing cluttered and to facilitate general maintenance, safe and unimpeded mowing and trimming, grave opening/closing, monument setting and worker/visitor safety, the following applies to plantings, flowers and decorations.

* No plantings such as bushes; shrubs or trees shall be planted. The Cemetery Committee reserves the right to trim, prune or remove any plantings as they may deem necessary.

**RULES & REGULATIONS OF CALVARY CEMETERY - Continued**

**Plantings, Flowers and Decorations - Continued**

* All wreaths and flowers, real or artificial, will be removed from the graves during the spring and fall clean up. Winter decorations, grave blankets and wreaths are allowed after the fall clean up until the spring clean-up.
* Grave decorations such as edging, borders, fencing, glass or ceramic containers/vases, standup decorations with legs, solar lights, stones/rocks, marble chips, ornaments, figurines or other similar articles are discouraged. The cemetery will not be responsible for these decorations and reserves the right to remove them when it appears cluttered and interferes with the cemetery operation and maintenance.
* Artificial flowers are not forbidden, however they are subject to blowing and the wire stems are a hazard to power mowing, trimming and operators. They shall be secured to the top of the monument or in fixed self-draining urns, pots and vases. The cemetery committee reserves the rights to dispose of any faded and unsecured artificial flowers.
* Fresh flowers and potted flowers shall be in a permanent vase/holder. Planted flowers are permitted at the base of the marker in an area equivalent to 12 in depth by the length of the marker. Planted and potted flowers shall be watered, weeded and properly maintained. The cemetery committee reserves the rights to trim, dig up and dispose of any flowers that are not maintained.
* Under no circumstances will the cemetery assume responsibility for damaged, removed, trimmed or pruned plantings, flowers or decorations.

Approved by the Cemetery Committee February 2021