

# St. John's Concord Cemetery

## Rules and Regulations

The following rules and regulations have been established by the ad hoc Cemetery Committee with approval of the Vestry of St. John's in order to maintain the beauty and serenity of St. John's Cemetery and for the mutual protection of lot owners and the cemetery as a whole.

Copies of these Rules and Regulations are to be issued to families of the deceased when interment is requested and when lots are purchased.

### DEFINITIONS

**BASE** — Optional stone above-ground member supporting the monument and composed of the same material, i.e. granite or marble.

**CEMETERIAN** — Cemetery manager(s) or supervisor(s) — Person or persons appointed by the Parish to administer the Cemetery — Call the Parish Office [(610)459-2994] for contact information — Gratuities to Cemetery Personnel are not permitted.

**CEMETERY** — A burial park for earthly interment of human remains.

**CERTIFICATE OF RIGHT TO BURIAL** — The original conveyance given by the Cemetery to the original purchaser — It will show their name, price paid and location of the lot.

**FOUNDATION** — Poured concrete subsurface slab beneath the optional base or the monument itself, used to improve the stability of the memorial over time.

**GRAVE** — A space in St. John's Cemetery of 4' x 10' for casket burials and 3' x 3' for cremation remains burials.

**INTERMENT** — Permanent disposition of the remains of a deceased person by burial.

**LOT** — See GRAVE.

**MARKER** — A memorial flush with the ground.

**MEMORIAL** — A monument, marker, tablet, head stone for family or individual use.

**MONUMENT** — A tombstone or memorial of granite or marble which shall extend above the surface of the ground.

**VAULT** — A concrete liner for casket graves.

## **CEMETERY**

St. John's Cemetery is comprised of three sections. Section I by the driveway is to all intents and purposes closed. Section II below the Bell Tower currently in use for casket burials. Section III, a strip of 3' x 3' lots along the Rectory edge of Section II is currently in use for the burial of cremation remains.

## **BURIAL RIGHTS**

Deeds to establish the right of burial are granted by purchase or transfer. The full purchase price must be received by St. John's, usually the Cemeterian, prior to or upon the granting of the deed.

Deeds may be transferred to another person either by sale or by inheritance. The transfer of the deed must be approved by the Vestry. A Transfer Fee will be established by the Vestry.

St. John's has the right to buy back an unused grave for its original purchase price upon submission of the relevant Deed.

In lieu of a replacement Deed, the Cemeterian will have the discretion to issue a letter to the requestor that the Deed information will reflect the requestor's name.

## **PERMISSION FOR INTERMENT**

Permission for interment must be granted by the present Cemeterian, or his assistant, who will mark the grave and arrange for excavation with the authorized grave digger. Requests must be received at least 48 hours before planned interment.

A grave may only be opened upon presentation of proper evidence of right of burial, i.e. a deed.

The Cemeterian must be informed as to whether there is intention for the grave to hold one or two caskets vertically so that a liner of the proper depth will be installed, at an additional cost to the owner.

Up to four (4) cremation urns in addition to or instead of casket burials are permitted in a 4' x 10' grave. Up to two (2) cremation urns are permitted in a 3' x 3' grave.

## **TIME OF INTERMENT**

Interment may be made on weekdays between the hours of 9 AM and 3 PM and Saturdays between the hours of 9 AM and Noon. Extra charges apply after these hours. Also, there may be extra charges for the removal of frozen ground, rock and snow removal. No burials will be done on Sundays or legal holidays. The full opening and closing fee must be received by St. John's no later than the interment.

## **AGENT**

The Vestry of St. John's has selected one firm to be responsible for grave openings and closings. That firm may be contacted through the Cemeterian.

The Cemeterian and his assistant have charge and care of the Cemetery, the selling of lots, keeping of records of all interments, layout of lots for excavation, communications with the grave digger, and communications with those seeking genealogical information.

## **STONES AND LINERS**

Grave markers will consist, from top to bottom, of a memorial stone, an optional base, and a below ground foundation. No headstones, bases or markers will be permitted except those of granite, marble, and standard bronze.

Please refer to APPENDIX I for maximum permitted dimensions and to APPENDIX II for information on free Veterans' markers.

A concrete liner is required for casket graves and will be arranged with the vault company by a Funeral Director.

## **PERPETUAL CARE**

St. John's provides for the care of the entire Cemetery. A Grave Landscaper is retained for this purpose.

Perpetual care will include but not necessarily be limited to the following: Mowing; "weed whacking"; removal of flowers and items not permitted by these rules; seeding, and leveling of graves where necessary after a reasonable time to settle; removal of storm debris and trash, and such other maintenance as may be necessary to keep the Cemetery presentable at all times.

Seeding will proceed soon, but no later than one month, after the interment. Exceptions may be made in the winter and we may postpone seeding until the spring.

Excavations and augmentations of soil are not permitted except by the direction of the Cemeterian.

## **FLOWERS**

Flowers are welcome and may be placed at the head of the grave or in front of the base of the head stone only. Potted plants must be left in pots so that they may be removed during mowing

A maximum of two pots are permitted. Decorations should be placed giving consideration to their surroundings.

## **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

Include shrubs, trees, ground cover, individual plantings, or other in-ground plantings, plastic flowers, stuffed animals, fences, or other ornamentation.

Exceptions are Veteran's flags and holders, also optional corner stones used to define the grave space.

Items not complying with these Rules and Regulations will be removed by Cemetery personnel without prior notice.

## **REMOVAL OF FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS**

Flower removal will be scheduled as follows:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Removal date</b>
Funeral flowers	When wilted, usually within one month
Christmas	January 15
Easter	Within one month.
Memorial Day	July 1
Other flowers	September 1 and December 1

## **CONTACTS**

Those with questions or concerns regarding the administration of these Rules and Regulations should contact the Parish Office (610-459-2994) to reach our Cemeterian or another member of the Cemetery Committee.

## **VESTRY APPROVAL**

Approved by the Vestry of St. John's at their regular meeting on **October 13, 2016**.

# APPENDIX I

Monument specifications for a 4' by 10' casket (whole body) grave

Head stone: Maximum dimension (measured as you look at the stone, standing in front of the grave) for a single lot grave: 3' wide, 1' deep (thickness) and 4' in height. Max dimension for a double (two side by side) graves: 5' wide, 1' deep and 4' high.
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Base Stone, this optional stone is usually the same material as the head-stone, should be no smaller in width or length than the headstone. Each headstone requires a separate base when a base is used.
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Foundation: Usually Poured Concrete. Width and Length must be as large as the stones to be placed on top. Minimum depth in ground should be sufficient to support weight above, usually 30".
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Monument specifications for a 3' by 3' cremation urn grave

Head stone: The headstone/marker permitted on a cremation grave is always flat. Maximum dimension for a single flat cremation grave marker: 2' wide, 1' deep and 4" in height. Maximum dimension for a double (two side by side) graves: 4' wide, 1' deep and 4' high.
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Base Stone are not usually deployed on a cremation grave. This optional stone is usually the same material as the head-stone, should be no smaller in width or length than the headstone.
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Foundation: Usually Poured Concrete. Width and Length must be as large as the stone to be placed on top, which is normally 1' by 2'. Minimum depth in ground should be sufficient to support weight above, usually 24" for a flat stone.
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## **Trusted Vendors:**

Cullis Memorial  
3525 Edgmont Ave, Brookhaven, PA 19015  
(610) 876-9201

Alberici Brothers  
11 Knowlton Rd, Media, PA 19063  
(610) 494-9448

# APPENDIX II

## **Headstones and Markers for Veterans**

Consult -- <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hmm/index.asp>

## **APPENDIX III**

### **Grave Flags for Veterans**

Veterans' organizations renew or supply permanent flags for Veterans' graves. American Legion Post 926 of Aston supplies the flags for graves of veterans buried in St. John's Cemetery.