

Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery: Rules and Regulations

In order to maintain Holy Cross Catholic Church's Cemetery (HCCCC) property into perpetuity, rules must be established for efficient ground maintenance and management. Recognizing that the cemetery is a sacred place, dedicated by the diocesan Bishop, Holy Cross Cemetery grounds and other structures are the property of Holy Cross Catholic Church in conjunction with the Office of Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS) which are responsible for their design, future plans, and upkeep. We emphasize that you have purchased burial rights, and that the actual property belongs to Holy Cross Catholic Church, Lynchburg Virginia, in the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia.

Regulations Governing Interment

Caskets and Cremains: All caskets must have concrete vaults. All cremains interments must be covered by a concrete slab, which is 16" x 16" x 1.5" in dimensions, and provided at your expense by an approved vault supplier.

Cremains over Casket: If cremains are to be interred in an existing gravesite (over a family casket), there must be room for interment which accommodates the above-mentioned cremains regulations. A probe must be conducted to determine suitable depth for cremains to be interred over an existing gravesite.

Cemetery Ground Rules

1) Headstones: Grave markers and upright monuments must adhere to HCCCC Regulations. All markers and headstones must be acquired through an approved monument supplier and pre-approved by Holy Cross Catholic Church.

2) Flowers and Decorations: Flowers and decorations must not impede with ground maintenance. All spent flowers will be removed by HCCCC if not removed by owner. Flowers must be in cemetery approved containers which invert when not in use. Cone vases, glass jars, and flowers simply stuck in the ground are not allowed. Easels and monument saddles are permitted and, as with all approved arrangements, are removed when deemed faded or unsightly. Potted plants are permitted for special occasions such as Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine's Day, etc. These are removed after 5 days. Christmas arrangements are to be removed by February 1st.

3) Bushes and Plantings: The planting of bushes and flowers of any kind is not permitted.

4) Temporary Nameplate: Funeral Home provided nameplates, often brass, are temporary stake markers and are to remain no longer than a suitable time and to be replaced by an approved permanent headstone or bronze grave marker. Family members will be contacted within six (6) months and reminded of their obligation to make permanent headstone replacement. (Please keep in mind that these temporary stakes are movable and can be lost, thus a more permanent designation is necessary.)

7) Grave Site Markers are the responsibility of the plot owners or their heirs. Maintenance of the markers is the responsibility of the owners. If original owners or heirs are no longer available, HCCCC has the right to make any necessary repairs or adjustments.

8) Holy Cross Catholic Church maintains the right to remove any marker that is unapproved, dilapidated or dangerous, as deemed so by HCCCC.

9) Cemetery hours are 8 am to 5 pm or as posted, and are noted on both entrance gate to the Holy Cross Cemetery property.

10) Motor Vehicles should enter and exit at the public gates and should remain on designated roads and parking lots at all times. The speed limit is 5 mph. Please do not drive on grass or planted areas. Please observe all normal traffic rules of public highways, driving cautiously and aware of pedestrians and other visitors at all times.

11) Children should be accompanied by an adult and should not play on lawn or lots. Do not allow children to climb upon or handle headstones or monuments. Persons visiting the cemetery do so at their own risk as to damage or injury from falling on monuments or headstones.

12) Visitors are allowed to walk on cemetery roads for relaxation or reflection. Please refrain from jogging and bicycle riding when funerals or graveside services are in progress.

13) Dogs and pets are prohibited from cemetery property unless confined to a motor vehicle or on a leash.

14) Trees, shrubs, and plants are there to enhance the beauty of the cemetery. Do not pick flowers, remove plants, or trim or injure trees or shrubs.

15) HCCCC is private property for the benefit of the location holders and their loved ones. Any defacing of monuments, landmarks, or the grounds may be considered a criminal act.