

St. Stanislaus Cemetery South Deerfield, MA

Rules, Regulations, Information and Fees

Introduction

Welcome to St. Stanislaus Cemetery. Catholic cemeteries make up part of a long-standing ministry of the Church. It is considered an act of mercy to bury a loved one. The cemetery provides the place where this act of mercy is made visible. As such, cemeteries are meant to be religious in character. The Church makes space for grieving families and friends to help cope with the death of a loved one. The cemetery itself puts into perspective the concept of eternal life. Therefore, these grounds are considered to be sacred, a place of prayer. At St. Stanislaus cemetery, we seek to foster an environment where love is remembered, hope is renewed, and faith is strengthened.

The cemetery is located on Boron St. in South Deerfield, MA (just off of Thayer St). It is operated and maintained by Holy Family Parish, located at 29 Sugarloaf St South Deerfield, MA.

This pamphlet is designed to explain the rules and regulations of the cemetery. While we will not always agree on what is allowable at the cemetery, we have tried to establish the fairest of rules for all people and situations. They are not intended to offend or restrain anyone but rather are in place to maintain an orderly plan of care and maintenance as well as provide protection for our employees and visitors and will be enforced as such.

Your cooperation with these rules and regulations will help to preserve the beauty and dignity of the cemetery and make it a place of prayer and peace.

Property Management

Lawn care, such as mowing, trimming, fertilizing and seeding is contracted out to a local landscaping company. Family members are not permitted, at any time, to mow, trim, seed, fertilize or use mulch on the grounds around their family plot. Families purchase the right to be buried, not the land itself. The property is owned and operated by the parish and falls under the auspices of the Diocese of Springfield. We ask families to please respect the property by refraining from doing their own lawn care.

Contact the parish office if you wish to purchase a burial plot. They are non-transferrable. Arrangements can be made for the parish to buy back any unused plots at the original cost for which they were purchased. Contact the office for more information.

Hours of Operation

During the spring, summer and fall the cemetery is open to all visitors. There are no gates to the cemetery however we ask that you please do not visit after dusk.

During the winter the cemetery is closed. Visitors are not permitted on the grounds during this time for safety and security reasons. The cemetery will close for the winter after the first snowfall of the season or by January 1st and will reopen after the spring clean up or by March 31st.

Floral Tributes

Floral tributes must be done in such a way that does not create a safety hazard, infringe on other lots, impede maintenance, diminish the Catholic character of the cemetery, or offend others.

During the growing and mowing season (Mother's Day to October 1st) **potted** flowers and plants are permitted in containers no bigger than 10 inches. All pots must be placed flush against the monument. Nothing may be attached to any stone or monument. We ask that you place no more than 2 pots per lot.

No planting of flowers, shrubs, trees, bushes, etc is permitted at any time.

Artificial flowers and decorations are permitted after the growing season. Again, 2 pots per lot is the norm.

No wreaths attached to monuments are permitted.

Decorations for holidays are permitted. The following holidays are observed by the cemetery:

New Year's Day, Holy Week, Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, All Soul's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.

Holiday floral arrangements may be placed up to 3 days prior to the holiday and may remain for 7 days after. If decorations are not claimed after 7 days, they will be removed by cemetery staff.

For special anniversaries (birthday, anniversaries of marriage or death) floral tributes are permitted following the norm for

holiday decorations. If the anniversary falls during the closure of the cemetery, please contact the parish staff. Special arrangements can be made to have a Mass said, or the purchase of vigil lights, altar candles, altar bread, altar wine or a donation to the cemetery fund in honor of your loved ones.

Funeral Flowers – floral tributes for the recent death of a loved one will remain at the gravesite for 5 days. During this time family members may take any of the flowers home. After 5 days, they will be removed.

Novelties

Novelties are not permitted. They are defined as non-floral items placed on or near the family monument. They include things such as (but not limited to): books, bibles, crosses, votive lights, small statuary (particularly of a non-religious nature), toys, glassware, etc. Items attached to wood or metal stakes are hazardous to workers and visitors. All of these items disrupt the beauty and integrity of the cemetery.

For larger families, each member should take a turn in adorning the family plot with flowers. Therefore accommodating each person's wish or desire to decorate in order to honor your loved ones.

Honoring our loved ones who have passed is part of our Catholic tradition and is encouraged. We ask that you do so in a way that is safe for cemetery employees and does not infringe upon another family's plot.

The cemetery reserves the right to remove any items that are hazardous and that do not comply with the rules and regulations. The cemetery assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged flowerpots or containers.

American Flags

American Flags are placed at the monuments of all our veterans buried in our cemetery by the South Deerfield Memorial Day Committee. Other small American flags may be placed by your loved one's monument 7 days prior to Memorial or Veteran's Day. No flag holders are permitted. For removal, see the guidelines on holidays.

Water and Trash

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, water faucets are turned on and available for the use of our visitors. Water containers are available as well at each faucet. Water faucets will be shut off by October 15th.

No sprinklers are allowed, if found, they will be removed.

Refuse is your responsibility. What you take in, you must take with you. We thank you for your cooperation!

Removal of Decorations

There are five ways in which decorations are removed:

1. By the family
2. Decorations that do not comply with rules
3. Seasonal decorations left after the allowed time frame
4. Regular maintenance or general clean up
5. Wind and/or theft

Cemetery Fees

Burial Plots:

(Purchases are for the right to be buried NOT for the actual land)

Number of Graves	Lot Price	Perpetual Care	Total
2	\$1,000	\$300	\$1,300
4	\$1,150	\$350	\$1,500
6	\$1,300	\$400	\$1,700
8	\$1,450	\$450	\$1,900

Grave Opening:

Opening	Price
Full Burial	\$850
Cremation	\$350
Second Burial Right	\$300
Infant Burial	FREE

Holy Family Funeral Fees:

Priest	\$100
Organist	\$150
Church/Maintenance	\$100
Parish Hall Rental (if applicable)	Non-parishioner: \$150 Parishioner: \$100

Monuments:

The pricing and handling of monuments and engraving are to be dealt with directly with the monument company. However, **the pastor must approve all monuments, designs and engravings.** Please contact the parish for a description of approved monuments. Monuments that are installed and not approved will be removed at the expense of the individual. No monuments may be installed unless the burial plot is fully paid for in advance. Only one monument is permitted per lot; all others must be flat markers.

For more information and for questions regarding anything that is not covered in these rules and regulations please contact the Pastor who is the cemetery director at:

413-665-3254 or visit the office at 29 Sugarloaf St South
Deerfield, MA

We thank you for your cooperation and we pray for all those who are interred in our cemetery. Together we can keep our cemetery beautiful. God bless you!