Sacred Heart of Jesus (Riverside) Cemetery Costs and Regulations

For the mutual protection and benefit of individual lot/grave owners, visitors and cemetery employees, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish and the Parish Cemetery Association (hereinafter referred to as The Cemetery) shall follow the "Cemetery Regulations for the Diocese of La Crosse" and Chapter 157 of the Wisconsin State Statutes.

Additionally, The Cemetery has established the following costs and regulations. All lot/grave owners, visitors and cemetery employees within the cemetery shall be subject to said documents and any amendments or alterations to said documents as may be adopted from time to time.

Table of Contents

I. ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION

II. DEFINITIONS

III. SALES AND TRANSFER OF LOTS AND GRAVES

IV. COSTS

V. BURIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

VI. MONUMENTS, MARKERS, HEADSTONES, FOOTSTONES AND BENCHES

VII. TREES, FLOWERS AND GRAVE DECORATIONS

VIII. MAINTENANCE

IX. PERPETUAL CARE

X. MISCELLANEOUS

I. ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION

A. Tri-Parish Office Secretary: Diane Wood 715-672-5640 or secretary@catholictriparish.org

B. Cemetery Secretary: Alice Anibas 715-926-5911 or afanibas@gmail.com.

C. Parish Cemetery Committee: Parish Pastor, Kathy Herfel, Alice Anibas, Brent Lindstrom, Ann Brenner, Tom Brodziski, Dawn Evans, Gary Sabelko (Cemetery Sexton).

D. Cemetery Sexton Gary Sabelko 715-279-3545 or garosand@cvcexpress.net.

E. Joint Tri-Parish Cemetery Committee: Chair-Steve Spindler, Secretary-Jan Spindler, Greg Weiss, Gary Sabelko, Marsha Schlosser, Rosanne Reckin,

II. DEFINITIONS

A. BURIAL: For the purpose of this document, the term burial means the interment of remains or the inurnment of cremains.

B. DESCRIPTION OF CEMETERY SECTIONS:
   1. OLD SECTION consists of 20 blocks, 6 lots in each block, 8 graves in each lot.
   2. NEW SECTION consists of blocks and graves; 55 blocks each containing 8 graves.

C. GRAVE: Space in the ground for the burial of human remains.
   1. OLD SECTION: 45 inches wide x 8 feet long.
   2. NEW SECTION: 45 inches wide x 10 feet long.

D. OLD SECTION: From Highway 10 south to the altar; east to the fence and west to the road/driveway which divides the Catholic and Riverside City cemeteries.

E. NEW SECTION: South from the altar to the row of pines. East to the fence and west to the road/driveway which divides the Catholic and Riverside City cemeteries.

F. BURIAL RIGHTS: Only the privilege of interment or inurnment is transferred upon purchase of lot(s) and is not to be construed as a deed to the land itself. The title to the land remains vested in the name of Sacred Heart Cemetery.

G. INTERMENT: The burial of non-cremated human remains in the ground.

H. INURNMENT: The burial of cremated human remains in the ground.

I. HEADSTONE: A monument or marker placed at the head of a grave.

J. GROUND LEVEL MARKER: A flat marker flush with the soil level, placed at the head of the grave.

K. MILITARY MARKER: A flat marker made of brass, granite or marble provided (upon request by family) by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

L. FAMILY MONUMENT: A large headstone which normally is inscribed with only the family surname.

III. SALES AND TRANSFER OF LOTS AND GRAVES

A. The Cemetery has the full and exclusive power to issue or deny Cemetery Burial Site Certificates so far as such decisions are in accord with Diocesan Cemetery Regulations, the Code of Canon Law and the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

B. The sale of all Lots and Graves will only be transacted through the Cemetery or Cemetery Sexton.

C. Lot owners shall not sub-divide, sell, convey, transfer or assign any portion of their Lot or Grave without the knowledge and consent of The Cemetery.

D. Upon the death of the owner of a Lot or Grave the rights to such Lot or Grave passes to the heirs or next of kin.

E. Grave owners may donate their vacant/unused Grave back to the Cemetery or they may petition the Cemetery to buy-back their vacant/unused Grave. Approval will depend on factors related to resale. Any reimbursement would be at the original purchase price with receipt of purchase or at a negotiated price if no receipt is produced.

IV. COSTS

A. Single graves have historically been designed for the burial of one person. However, with the increase in cremations, the remains of no more than two persons may be buried in a single grave. A baby (full term or premature) is considered as the size of an Inurnment in counting burials in a single grave.

Multiple burials in a single grave may consist of the following combinations:

1. One Interment with one Inurnment of a single urn.
2. Two Inurnments, each of a single urn.
3. One Inurnment of a companion (double) urn.
4. Any exceptions to these limits must be approved in writing by The Cemetery.

B. The costs shown below for the Graves and Niches are for the parishioners of Holy Rosary (Lima), Sacred Heart (Mondovi) or St. Mary's (Durand) Parishes. (Members of any of the Tri-Parish parishes are considered to be members of each parish for the purchase of graves or niches.) Costs for non-parishioners are double those prices shown.

Grave		**Columbarium Niche (at St. Mary's)**	
Burial Rites	$550.00	Burial Rites	$1,360.00
Perpetual Care	$100.00	Perpetual Care	$240.00
Total	$650.00	Total	$1,600.00

For Niche Plaque Options and Costs see St. Mary's Regulations or contact the Tri-Parish Office.

These costs will be evaluated at least once a year but may be revised at any time.

Because each grave is intended for the burial of one person, the second burial in a single grave will incur a $300 fee. This fee becomes effective as of October 1, 2023.

V. BURIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. All Graves must be paid in full prior to burial or to the issuing of a Cemetery Burial Site Certificate.

B. The Cemetery reserves the right to refuse the burial of anyone who, at the time of death, was not the owner of the Lot or Grave or a relative of the owner by blood or marriage.

C. No burial will be permitted in any Grave or Cremation Lot without the permission of the Grave owner or in the absence of the owner, the complete written agreement of the immediate next of kin.

D. In ground cremation burials (Inurnments) will be placed at the head or foot of a vault or on top of an existing vault if depth permits.

E. No cremains will be removed to accommodate a vault burial. No interment is allowed in a grave where an inurnment already exists.

F. Double (or Companion) Urn burials are allowed but the urn must contain the cremains of both persons at the time of inurnment.

G. Same Sex/Civil Union burials are allowed, but the marker or monument may not indicate that they were married.

H. No grave shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of the human dead.

I. No pets shall be buried in the cemetery.

J. All burials or removals are subject to the Canon Law of the Catholic Church as well as the "Cemetery Regulations for the Diocese of La Crosse", the laws of the State of Wisconsin and any additional regulations adopted by The Cemetery.

K. The cemetery is intended for the burial of Catholics and members of their families who are entitled to Christian burial according to the rules and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church. Any question of the burial of a non-Catholic member of a Lot or Grave owner's family or of any person not entitled to Christian burial shall be decided on by the Pastor.

L. Religious ceremonies other than those of the Roman Catholic Church are not permitted in the cemetery unless the consent of the Pastor has been obtained.

M. The Pastor shall preside over all burial services. Any other officiant must be approved by the Pastor.

N. All funerals upon entering the cemetery shall be under the direction of the priest, funeral director, Cemetery Sexton.

O. Graves may be opened and closed only by personnel authorized by the Parish Office or Cemetery Sexton.

P. All casket burials must be in a vault.

Q. Cremated remains do not require an urn vault, but must be buried in an enduring hard-sided container.

R. Cremains must be buried in a ground grave or placed in a columbarium niche. Scattering of cremains (ashes) is strictly prohibited in the cemetery property.

S. Green burials are not allowed in the cemetery.

VI. MONUMENTS, MARKERS, HEADSTONES, FOOTSTONES AND BENCHES

A. Only one marker or monument is allowed per grave, except an additional marker may be placed in the case of a military marker (veteran plaque) or where two people are buried in the same grave.

1. The second marker shall be placed in line with the existing headstone if space permits with the required 1" margin as noted in E (below).
2. If the space in line with the headstone is not sufficient, the marker must be a Ground Level Marker and be placed immediately adjacent to the front of the existing headstone.

B. Bronze military markers must be placed on the back of the headstone. The only exception is if there is no headstone or if there is engraving on the back of the headstone. It must then be placed flush at ground level and it must be on a concrete or granite foundation. (See Section VI A for placement.)

C. It is the responsibility of the family of the deceased veteran to contact the Veterans' Service Officer to order a military marker.

D. No marker above the soil level can be placed anywhere except at the head of the grave.

E. Monuments, bronze markers (non-military) and benches must have concrete or granite foundations and allow for a minimum of one (1) inch on each of the ends of the foundation so as not to infringe on the neighboring lot or grave (if not owned by the lot or grave owner).

F. Granite ground level markers do not require a foundation.

G. Monuments, Ground Level Markers and Benches on gravesites must be marble or granite.

H. The raising of the soil level and the erection of fence and/or curbing on or around individual graves or lots is strictly forbidden.

I. A properly completed Monument – Marker – Bench Approval Form with required documentation must be submitted to The Cemetery prior to the final purchase of a new item or to the modifications of an existing item in the cemetery.

J. Monuments, markers or headstones may only be installed by an approved monument company, sexton or the parish.

VII. TREES, FLOWERS AND GRAVE DECORATIONS

The Cemetery understands the desire of families and friends to pay tribute to their loved ones interred in our cemetery. The following rules and regulations have been established to ensure the safety of those who visit in addition to preserving the beauty and aesthetics of the cemetery as a sacred place of remembrance, prayer, comfort, peace and quiet serenity.

The absolute control of the cemetery grounds is vested in The Cemetery; lot owners and others are entitled only to such privileges within the grounds as are provided by these rules and regulations.

We encourage people to offer masses for their deceased loved ones. Offering a mass on the occasion of their birthday, anniversary, Holy Day or any day is appropriate and can be as comforting as any physical memento.

Persons may also make donations to The Cemetery for trees, benches or perpetual care that would enhance the beauty of the cemetery.

A. Planting of trees and shrubs is not permitted without the permission of The Cemetery. Any tree or shrub planting, maintenance or removal shall be performed by personnel authorized by The Cemetery. The Cemetery may accept donations from individuals requesting the planting of trees as living memorials. The Cemetery shall determine the appropriate site, species and size of trees to be planted. All costs related to the purchase and planting of the trees shall be paid by the donor.

B. To facilitate efficient grounds maintenance of the cemetery, no items may extend beyond the foundation of the monument or marker except stakes which may be placed immediately adjacent to the short edge of the foundation.

C. Veterans' flagstaffs with appropriate medallions will remain in the cemetery year-round. The Cemetery will coordinate the placement of the staffs and flags. The United States flags inserted into the medallions will be placed just prior to Memorial Day and removed shortly after that holiday to preserve the flag's condition.

D. Flowers (real or artificial), greenery and wreaths may be placed on or near gravestones provided they follow the guidelines listed below.

    1. No in-ground plantings of flowers, plants or shrubs of any kind on gravesites are allowed.

    2. Small floral saddles placed on top of the monument are allowed as long as they are stable and do not interfere with the maintenance of the cemetery.

    3. Plants and floral tributes may be placed in a pot on a stake. The stake must be placed in the foundation or immediately adjacent to either short side of the foundation.

    4. Any items not specifically included in this section are prohibited.

    5. Plants and floral tributes that are not placed on a stake must be in a non-breakable container that fits within the edges of the foundation of the monument and can be disposed of when the flowers are removed.

    6. Stakes for potted plants cannot extend more than 4 feet above the ground.

    7. Only one stake per grave is permitted.

    8. Evergreen wreaths may be placed in the cemetery for the Christmas season. The wreaths may not be placed on any tripod but must be attached to the stone or foundation to prevent it from becoming loose in the cemetery.

E. Visitors who leave tributes in the cemetery are responsible for maintaining those items in good condition and relinquish their right to reclaim those items in the case that they are removed from the cemetery.

F. **The Cemetery reserves the right to remove and discard without notice anything placed within the cemetery that it deems not to conform to the rules of the cemetery.**

VIII. CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

A. The cemetery shall be maintained in a manner keeping with its sacred character.

B. The Cemetery is responsible for the following:
   1. Seeding, raking and cleaning the grounds.
   2. Mowing will be done at a minimum height of 3 inches.
   3. Grass trimming around all monuments, markers and benches.
   4. Removing grass and other organic material from covering the marker or monument.
   5. Filling in any sunken graves.
   6. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove any unsightly or prohibited items or any that interfere with the mowing operations.

C. Grave owners/relatives are responsible to maintain their respective foundations, monuments, markers, floral urns or wreaths.

D. The Cemetery will make efforts to contact and work with grave owners/relatives when maintenance is needed. However, The Cemetery reserves the right to do whatever maintenance they believe is necessary to maintain the appearance of the cemetery and allow for efficient lawn care.

E. The Cemetery will not replace any monuments, markers or foundations except in the case of damage caused by employees of the Parish or Cemetery Sexton.

F. Any markers or monuments that have broken from age or deterioration may simply be laid flat (at ground level) if returning it to its original position isn't feasible.

G. Neither The Cemetery nor the Diocese is responsible for any weather related damage or vandalism to the grave, monument, marker or foundation. Individuals will have to obtain their own insurance if they desire this coverage.

H. No one other than employees of the Parish may work in the cemetery without approval of The Cemetery, Cemetery Sexton.

IX. PERPETUAL CARE

A. Cemetery Regulations for the Diocese of La Crosse - Perpetual Care Fund: Gifts designated for the perpetual care of the cemetery and at least 15% of monies from the sale of lots, graves or niches comprise this fund. These monies are treated like an endowment fund from which only the interest earned may be spent to ensure that cemetery property shall remain and be reasonably cared for as a cemetery grounds forever.

B. References from Wisconsin State Statutes regarding perpetual care:

1. Wis. Stat. § 157.11(9g) states that cemeteries are required to deposit 15% of each payment of principal for a cemetery lot into a care fund. The total amount must be equal to 15% of the total amount of payments of principal that have been received, except that the total must be at least $25.00.

2. Wis. Stat. § 157.11(9g) (a)2. The manner in which the care funds are invested may not permit the cemetery authority to withdraw the care fund's principal amount. The income from the investment of a care fund for the care of cemetery lots may be used only to maintain the cemetery lots and grounds, except that if the amount of income exceeds the amount necessary to maintain the cemetery lots or grounds properly, the excess amount may be used to maintain any other portion of the cemetery, including mausoleums.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

All vendors including monument companies, lawn care, snow removal or other maintenance must supply a satisfactory certificate of insurance to The Cemetery.