

# CEMETERY GROUNDS DECORATION POLICY

## *Mt. Carmel Cemetery*

We strongly suggest that expensive and personal items or those with strong emotional attachments not be placed on graves.

### GRAVE DECORATIONS

Please limit your decorations per gravesite to three items. Only one (1) maybe a bouquet of artificial flowers.

- Religious statues, crosses, American flags, vigil candles and solar lights in monument bed plantings, or in potted plants are allowed. Metal stands, trellises. Decorative pots, planters, glass vases & containers, non-religious statues. Wind socks, team flags, banners, pin wheels, trinkets, and bird houses or feeders are not permitted and will be removed.
- Alcoholic containers and paraphernalia are not allowed and will be disposed of immediately.

### PLASTIC DECORATIONS AND ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS

A single bouquet of Artificial flowers is permitted anytime during the year.

- Other non-floral, plastic decorations placed outside the Winter season (November 15th – March 1st) will be promptly removed and discarded.

### CUT FLOWERS

Cut flowers are allowed at any time in approved non-breakable containers.

- Flowers will be removed and discarded when they become unsightly or are placed in a non-approved container.

### POTTED PLANTS AND SHEPARD'S HOOKS

- Potted plants and Shepard's Hooks are allowed in approved non-breakable containers during the growing season (April 1st – November 15th). They may be placed on a flush marker or suspended from a Shepard's Hook. Containers and plants will be removed and discarded when they become unsightly.
- Potted plants may not be planted on a grave, or near a grave marker.

### WINTER DECORATIONS, WREATHS, AND GRAVE BLANKETS

Winter wreaths, grave blankets, and plastic decorations may be placed after November 15th. All Winter decorations remaining after March 1st will be removed and discarded by Cemetery personnel during our Spring Clean-Up.

### INDIVIDUAL PLANTINGS AND BORDERS

Planting of trees and shrubs is allowed by Cemetery personnel only.

- Flower planting is allowed in front of Upright Monuments and is not permitted to encroach on adjoining grave space. Only "soft" materials such as shredded mulch is allowed in monument planting beds. All "hard" materials such as stone, brick, crushed marble, or bark are prohibited. Borders made of durable materials (no wire) are allowed as long as they are maintained. Planting of any type is not allowed around, or in front of, flush or beveled markers.
- All non-approved materials will be removed and discarded by Cemetery personnel.

### AMERICAN FLAGS

American flags are permitted throughout the year.

- However, all American Flags decorating graves on Memorial Day will be removed beginning 3 (three) days after the holiday.

### CEMETERY AND HOLIDAY CLEAN-UPS

A general clean-up of all Catholic Cemeteries is performed 2 (two) times per year. Target clean-up dates are: Spring – on or about March 1st and Fall – on or about October 15th. (All Personal items should be removed by the family prior to all scheduled clean-ups.)

- Post-holiday clean-ups will take place 7 (seven) days following the holiday. Clean-ups dates are subject to weather.



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### **MONUMENTS, MARKERS, BENCHES**

All monuments, markers, and benches placed in Mt. Carmel Cemetery must be pre-approved by management.

- Concrete, plastic, metal, and wood benches are not permitted.

The cemetery reserves the right to remove and discard any and all decorations that do not comply with this policy. Mt. Carmel Cemetery cannot be held responsible for the disposal of non-compliant decorations that are removed by cemetery personnel. This policy supersedes all previous versions issued by the Catholic Cemeteries.

### **Mt. Carmel Cemetery**

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