

**Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic Cemetery**

**P.O. Box 186**

**113 Manchester**

**Cistern, Texas 78941**

**Rules and Regulations**

**Effective January 1, 2018**

**(Revised July 2, 2020)**

- 1. FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Contact the SSCM parish office to make all arrangements concerning funeral arrangements, 361-865-3568.
- 2. PURCHASE AND SALE OF GRAVE SPACES:** Persons desiring to purchase grave spaces in the Saints Cyril & Methodius Cemetery must contact the parish office. Upon full payment of the purchase price of a grave space, the Saints Cyril & Methodius Cemetery Association will issue a deed for the grave space. If the owner desires to sell the grave space, the grave space must be sold back to the Saints Cyril & Methodius Cemetery Association for the original purchase price.
- 3. USE OF GRAVE SPACES:** All interments shall require permission from the grave space owner or grave space representative(s). The interment of two bodies in one grave space will not be permitted in the cemetery except when one or both bodies are cremated and permission is granted by grave space owners or their heirs.
- 4. REMOVALS:** Removal of bodies from graves will only be made in accordance with the rules and requirements of the State of Texas and regulations of the Diocese of Victoria. Grave space owners or their heirs desiring graves to be opened shall secure permission from the parish office.
- 5. CEMETERY LOT PRICES:**
  - \$500 per grave space for parishioners
  - \$1000 per grave space for non-parishionersNo family lots will be sold – two grave spaces per couple.

A parishioner is defined as one who is a registered member of Saints Cyril & Methodius Church in Cistern, Texas for at least 1 year. Registered parishioner families are those who are at least part time residents of the Flatonia / Cistern area, are participating in Sunday Mass at Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, Cistern (SSCM), and are contributing at least \$100/year to SSCM and \$100/year to the Diocesan Services Appeal through SSCM.
- 6. MONUMENTS:** Monument companies or anyone else doing actual work in the cemetery are to contact the parish office at least 48 hours **prior to beginning any work in the cemetery**. The parish office shall mark the placement of all monuments. A fee is charged for this service. Please contact the parish office.
- 7.** Single or double monuments may be used. A single grave monument shall be a maximum of 36 inches long with a maximum height of 42 inches (base included). The single grave base shall not exceed 18 inches width and 42 inches length. A double grave monument shall be a maximum of 68 inches wide with a maximum height of 42 inches (base included) and the base not to exceed 18 inches width and 80 inches length. The monument base must be placed within the confines of the grave space lot. Any infringement on adjoining lot or lots must be corrected at the expense of the lot holder or the company installing the monument. Veterans VA markers can be used as a Headstone grave marker. Any other placement should be approved by the parish office.

- 8. MARKING OF GRAVES:** The parish office shall mark all grave locations in conjunction with family and or Funeral Home representatives.
- 9. GRAVES:** The parish office must approve the location of all interments and monuments. The mound of a grave shall be level with existing grade when the soil is thoroughly settled. The spoils that result from opening of a grave will be deposited at a site approved by the parish office. The Funeral Home will be responsible for damage to any existing cemetery property such as plumbing or monuments that occurs during grave opening and closing operations. All ruts caused by equipment during grave opening and closing operations will be leveled. The Funeral Home shall notify the parish office if a condition exists that may cause damage to existing cemetery property prior to commencing work.
- 10. CARE OF GRAVES:** Graves will be leveled within six months after burial to allow for settling. The cemetery personnel are responsible for leveling and for filling in with dirt the graves that sink in; however, if the grave is sealed with concrete, stone, or any other material except grass that has sunk in, the lot holder is responsible for the repair. See cemetery rule No. 13 for acceptable repair.
- 11. TREES & SHRUBS:** No trees, shrubs or flowers may be planted in the cemetery except by Saints Cyril & Methodius Cemetery Association.
- 12. FLOWERS & PLANTS:** **Two floral items are allowed per grave space and must be placed at the base of the monument or on top of the monument.** Floral arrangements will be removed when they become discolored, wilted, seasonally inappropriate or unsightly in manner.
- 13. CURBING OR BORDERS COMPOSED OF STONE, LANDSCAPING TIMBERS, OR ANY OTHER MATERIALS SURROUNDING THE GRAVE SPACE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. NO GRAVE SHALL BE COVERED IN WHOLE OR PART BY CONCRETE, SAND, ROCK, BROKEN STONE, CINDERS, OR OTHER SUBSTANCE.** Curbing & grave coverings in place prior to January 1, 2018 may remain in place; however, once removed they cannot be replaced. It is the responsibility of the grave space owner to level headstones that are leaning and remove broken or cracked concrete curbing & grave coverings.
- 14. DECORATIONS:** Statues, crosses, novelty items such as toys, balloons, breakable knick-knacks, beverage containers or yard art are NOT PERMITTED. Wire easels and flags are permitted for floral decoration during a funeral service or for special occasions such as Easter, Christmas and All Souls Day.
- 15. SOLAR POWERED LIGHTS:** **One solar powered cross or light per grave space is allowed and must be placed at the base of the monument.**
- 16. METAL, WOOD, OR CONCRETE BENCHES ARE PROHIBITED EFFECTIVE January 1, 2018.** Those in place prior to January 1, 2018 may remain but once removed they cannot be replaced.