

Saint John's Church of Little Canada

Burial Right Purchase and Ownership for Saint John's Cemetery

1. Currently registered parishioners of Saint John's Church of Little Canada may enter into an agreement to purchase, or receive by transfer, the ownership of burial rights for in-ground burials and in-ground cremation niches in Saint John's Cemetery. Families must have been registered and active a minimum six months prior to purchase. The number of first rights of burial purchased will be limited to the number of registered household members as indicated in the registration database.
2. Burial rights in above ground columbaria, by purchase or transfer, are open to currently registered parishioners, former parishioners of Saint John's Church of Little Canada, and their relatives, by blood or by marriage, and those demonstrating a spiritual connection to the parish, such as Sacraments received here, prior attendance at our Catholic School, or relatives currently buried in the Cemetery.
3. The descent of rights for burial, as well as matters pertaining to assignments, conveyances, trust deeds, etc. are governed by Minnesota State Statute. (See ownership below)
4. All interment rights certificates shall be in writing on officially signed forms prescribed and administered by Saint's John Cemetery. Private sales and transfers are not allowed and will not be honored.
5. Saint John's Cemetery does not buy back or trade locations for burial rights. If the initial right of burial will go unused, a donation of the burial right back to the Cemetery will be considered in certain circumstances. Please contact the Cemetery Manager.

Interment/Inurnment

1. In ground first right of burial graves are intended for either one casketed body or one urn containing cremated human remains. In the case of a grave with one casketed body, **two** additional rights of burials will be allowed, for an additional cost, for urns containing the cremated remains. In the case of a grave with one urn containing cremated remains, **three** additional rights of burial will be allowed for urns containing the cremated remains. The availability of additional rights of burial is subject to the prevailing policy. Please contact cemetery management with any questions.
2. Niches will accommodate the cremated remains of two adults. The purchaser will be responsible for purchasing urns of the required size to fit each niche per inurnment policy for our columbarium burials.
3. Mementos will not be allowed to be placed inside the niche.
4. Pets may not be interred in any niche or in the ground or in any place in the cemetery.
5. Vaults are required for casket burials.
6. For in ground cremation burials, vaults are required for all urns that are biodegradable.
7. Cemetery management reserves the right to stop an interment/inurnment if the outer burial container or the urn does meet regulations, or if it cannot fit into the opening without damaging itself or the adjacent burials.
8. In the unlikely event that a reserved niche cannot be opened at the time of need, Cemetery Management may provide a temporary alternate niche so as not to delay the committal service without incurring any liability.

Ownership

The laws of the State of Minnesota govern the descent of title to cemetery property, as well as matters pertaining to assignments, conveyances, trust deeds, etc. The descent of title to a cemetery lot is governed by Minnesota Statute 525.14 as follows: Subject to the right of interment of the decedent therein, a cemetery lot or burial plot, unless disposed of as provided in Section 306.29, shall descend free of all debts as follows:

- 1) "To the decedent's surviving spouse, a life estate with right of interment of the spouse therein, and remainder over to the person who would be entitled to the fee if there were no spouse, provided, however, if no person so entitled to the remainder of the fee survives, then the entire fee to the surviving spouse with right of interment therein;
- 2) If there is no surviving spouse, then to the decedent's eldest surviving child;
- 3) If there is no surviving child, then to the decedent's youngest surviving sibling;
- 4) If there is no surviving spouse, child or sibling of the decedent, then, if not sold during the administration of decedent's estate to the cemetery association or private cemetery in trust as a burial lot for the decedent and such of the decedent's relatives as the governing body thereof shall deem proper.

The cemetery association or private cemetery, or with its consent, any person to whom the lot shall descend may grant and convey the lot to any of the decedent parents, siblings or descendants.

A crypt or group of crypts or burial vaults owned by one person in a public or community mausoleum shall be deemed a cemetery lot.

Grave markers, monuments memorials, and all structures lawfully installed or erected on any cemetery lot or burial plot shall be deemed to be a part of and shall descend with the lot or plot."