

St Hedwig Cemetery - Specific Supplemental Rules and Regulations:

‘ Article V: Interment/Entombment/Inurnment Procedures (Diocese of Manchester)

Only cemetery personnel and equipment, or those authorized by management, shall be used in performing interment, entombment or inurnment services.

Article XIX: Employees (Diocese of Manchester)

Cemetery employees shall do all work performed in the cemetery with the exception of work performed by **independent contractors that is specifically authorized by management.**

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**** ORNAMENTS AND FLOWER VASES** - St Hedwig Cemetery reserves the right to regulate the method of decorations on lots so that:

- ❖ *uniform beauty may be maintained;*
- ❖ *the safety of employees, lot owners and visitors may be secured;*
- ❖ *an atmosphere of Reverence and Respect may be safeguarded.*

Cemetery flowers and planting:

**** YEAR-ROUND DECORATIONS:** Flowers, whether fresh-cut or artificial, may be placed year-round in approved granite, marble, cement, or rustproof metal vases and containers. They must fit completely within the footprint of the memorial's base.

Flower saddles may be attached by bracket to the top of an upright marker / headstone, provided that said saddle does not exceed 24" in height, and does not exceed the length and width of the memorial on which it sits.

**** No items may be left loose on the surface of lot areas or the monument base. This poses an *extreme hazard* to our cemetery grounds keepers. Loose Items become blown and get lost in the grass when the crew is mowing, Thus causing the possibility of bodily injury as well as possibility of damage to the equipment. If loose/blown items are found on the grass they will be discarded.**

**** DIGGING around the perimeter of a memorial is Prohibited :** The parish is not responsible for damage to a memorial where there is evidence of digging. No coping, curbing, fencing, hedging, borders or enclosures of any kind shall be allowed around the lot or around any grave.

**** PLANTING & LANDSCAPING:** No one shall plant or cause to be planted any tree, shrub, grass or other herbage without the prior written consent. Families will be asked, that if anything is so planted and digging has occurred, they remove the plants.

Due to the dangers of fire and vandalism, lit votive candles are Prohibited.

Any items found which do not meet guidelines will be removed and discarded.

The attachment of any object to any tree or shrub within the Cemetery is strictly Prohibited.

St Hedwig Cemetery shall not be liable for any prohibited items, or for any memorial decorations, authorized or unauthorized.

(** Memorial Day - Loose planters are allowed 1 week prior and must be removed on or before 1 week after Memorial Day. Please make every effort to remove these items. **)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the parish office at 603-623-4835, or visit the diocesan website for detailed Rules and Regulations: <https://www.catholicnh.org/parishes/parish-life/catholic-cemeteries/>

(The Diocesan Abstract Summary is provided on back.)

Thank you for your assistance.

For the complete set of Rules and Regulations: <https://www.catholicnh.org/parishes/parish-life/catholic-cemeteries/>

- 1) Catholic cemeteries are intended for the interment of Catholics who have the right to Christian burial as well as Catholics who have not been active in the Church, individuals of other Christian faiths, and non-Catholic spouses and family members of Catholics (*Rules and Regulations, Article I: Purpose of Cemeteries*).
- 2) Roman Catholic cemeteries are holy places, sacred grounds consecrated by the Church, a place of prayer and dignity for our faithful departed, and an extension of the Church. Quiet reverence and respect for other people visiting is expected at all times (*Rules and Regulations, Article XIV: Use of Cemetery*). Management/Licensors in its sole discretion, reserves the right to refuse admission to the cemetery or cemetery facilities at any time to any person or persons (*Rules and Regulations, Article II: Admission to Cemetery Properties*).
- 3) Management/Licensors shall have a right to fix/change a charge and time of payment for the Lot License, each interment (including additional inurnments in the same grave), disinterment, removal, lot, crypt, niche transferred/released, and for the performance of any other service rendered by Management/Licensors (*Rules and Regulations, Article XIII: Service Charges*).
- 4) Subject to compliance with the Rules and Regulations, the Lot Holder(s) Right(s)/Licensee Rights are to: (i) be buried in the lot; (ii) designate in writing individuals to be buried in graves; (iii) designate in writing to family members the rights and control of the lot after his/her death (Lot Holder Rights/Licensee Rights); (iv) be part of the disinterment process; and (v) make decisions regarding memorials (monuments/markers etc.). All rights noted above are subject to Management/Licensors approval and written/signed designations must be on file with the cemetery office (*Rules and Regulations, Article IX: Heirship*).
- 5) Management/Licensors will perform care and maintenance to the lot necessitated by natural growth and ordinary wear, including cutting of lawns, trimming around memorials (monuments/markers), and the repair/maintenance of roadways/walkways and buildings, at Management/Licensors's sole and exclusive discretion. Management/Licensors is under no obligation to plow the roads, clear walkways of snow/ice, or remain open in the winter (*Rules and Regulations, Article XXI: Care*).
- 6) Unless approved by Management/Licensors, decorations will not be permitted on any lot and any such articles will be removed. In addition, Management/Licensors shall not be responsible for the damage or loss of any of these items (*Rules and Regulations, Article XIV: Use of Cemetery*).
- 7) Burial vaults are required for full body burials and Management/Licensors reserves the right to require burial vaults for cremated remains. Cremated remains of more than one (1) individual are not to be combined and are not to be separated or scattered within the cemetery (*Rules and Regulations, Article V: Interment/Entombment/Inurnment Procedures*).
- 8) The right to install a memorial (monument/marker) will only be provided/initiated upon full payment of all outstanding fees and/or charges and upon approval of a detailed plan and design. Management/Licensors reserves the right at all times to approve and prescribe the kind, size, design, symbolism, graphic design, craftsmanship, inscriptions, professional abbreviations, number of memorials (monuments/markers) allowed per lot, memorial location, and quality and material of memorials (monuments/markers), (*Rules and Regulations Article XXVI: Memorials and Rules for Memorial Work*).
- 9) Management/Licensors disclaims responsibility for any damage or injury to the memorial (monument/marker), raised lettering, carving, ornaments on any memorial (monument/marker) or other structure, walks, drives, trees, shrubs, or other property on any lots, including damage or injury from vandalism, accidents, the elements, an act of God, or any other event that may cause damage and is under no obligation to make repairs. Unless caused directly by the cemetery, the responsibility for any repair or replacement will always be that of the Lot Holder/Licensee, or spouse of deceased Lot Holder/Licensee, or heir(s) (*Rules and Regulations Article XXVI: Memorials and Rules for Memorial Work*).
- 10) Whenever a grave or lot have remained unused for a period of fifty (50) years, and the Lot Holder/Licensee or the heirs of the original Lot Holder/Licensee have not improved such space or spaces by causing a memorial, monument, marker, gravestone, or other permanent appurtenance to be placed on the burial space, the Management/Licensors may terminate the Lot Holder Rights/Licensee Rights or the rights of his/her heir(s) (*Rules and Regulations, Article VIII: Information on Lot Holders Rights/Licensee Rights and Burial Rights*).