



# ST. GREGORY PARISH CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

## Grave and Grounds Decoration Rules

[Established 1871]

St. Gregory Parish Cemetery is experiencing growing pains. The maintenance and perpetual care obligations of our parish cemetery grounds has become a growing concern and expense as a single caretaker attempts to maintain them. Our limited parish budget only allows for one paid caretaker. We have found that many grave memorials and plantings left by the families have become a hazard and are found to be out of compliance with our long established cemetery rules.

*Rev. Patrick Nelson, SDS - Pastor of St. Gregory Parish*

Equality and fairness for the beauty of our cemetery are the goals of these rules. Other cemeteries in our area are more strict, and expensive.

### PURCHASE OF ALL GRAVE PLOTS AND BURIAL RIGHTS (Wisconsin Statutes ss. 157.1-7)

1. Grave plot BURIAL RIGHTS must be purchased from St. Gregory's before interment.
  2. The term "grave plot" shall be the provided space for one adult burial, [13 ft. X 4ft. 3in.]
  3. The term "SEXTON" is the chairperson of the parish Cemetery Committee, appointed by the Pastor.
  4. ALL BURIAL RIGHTS shall be paid for in full at the time of purchase.
  5. The purchase of a "grave plot" entitles the owner to BURIAL RIGHTS only. (Wis. Stat. 157.1)
  6. At the time of purchase, the buyer shall receive a copy of these regulations with emphasis on the following regarding size, materials, and location of markers.
  7. The purchase is for BURIAL RIGHTS, ONLY! ALL grounds and plots are property of St. Gregory Parish.
  8. Upon death of a rights holder the family must show proof of BURIAL RIGHTS before interment.
  9. The parish office **MUST BE NOTIFIED** of all intents for burials of both coffins and cremations.  
Parish office: 920-773-2511 As soon as the burial plans are finalized, the grave diggers must be notified.  
Mr. Jerry Augustine is the SEXTON for St. Gregory Cemetery.....
- For Cemetery Association parishioners and burials:  
[Gerald Augustine 920-773-2306, Ronald Schnell 920-773-2638, Eugene Riesterer 920-773-2585]  
For cremations: Gerald Augustine 920-773-2306,  
For regular coffin burial: Dave Endries 920-773-2187
10. BURIAL RIGHTS for parishioners of St. Gregory Parish cost \$400.00 ea. and for non-parishioners, \$800 ea.
  11. BURIAL RIGHTS for a child under 5 yrs. (parishioner or not) in the children's section (Sec. 3) is \$200.00 ea.  
\* [ALL BURIAL RIGHTS sold include the perpetual care of the grave plot (Wis. Stat. 157.7)]
  12. Costs to dig and prep. a grave site are the obligation of the family, arranged by the undertaker or SEXTON.
  13. Cremation urns internment fee on top of an existing grave is \$150 for parishioners / \$300 for non-parishioners.
  14. Cremation urns can only be interred by permission of the SEXTON and are recorded at the time of burial.
  15. NO more than 3 cremation urns shall be interred on top of an existing grave or in any new "grave plot."
  16. NO GRAVE OCCUPIED BY CREMAINS MAY BE OPENED FOR A CASKET BURIAL WITHOUT A COURT ORDER TO EXHUME. (Wis. Stat. 157.7)
  17. Cremations urns must be made of unbreakable material that can withstand ground pressure and moisture; bronze is an excellent choice.
  18. NO BURIAL RIGHTS may be resold, except back to the Cemetery Association for the original purchase price.



## ST. GREGORY PARISH CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

### Grave and Grounds Decoration Rules

[Established 1871]

#### FOR THE MONUMENT/HEADSTONE INSTALLATION/ERECTION:

19. NO headstone or marker shall be erected without the permission of the St. Gregory Cemetery Association.
20. **Only one headstone/marker is permitted per grave plot.**
21. ALL headstones/markers must rest on a solid concrete slab foundation that is flush with the ground.
22. ALL historical and veteran marker additions must be flush to the ground and on the proper grave plot.
23. The Sexton must supervise installation of all grave headstones, markers and concrete slabs.
24. ALL new headstones/markers for a single grave plot shall NOT be over 26 in. X 30 in. (height X length).
25. ALL headstones/markers for double grave plots shall NOT be greater than 32 in. X 60 in. (height X length).
26. The solid concrete slab foundation may not extend more than 6 inches from the headstone/marker (the slab apron) in all directions from the headstone/marker.
27. Installer must follow the iron stakes, on each end of each row, and draw a straight line to line-up the monument up with this line.
28. When using heavy equipment or material, planks must be placed on the paths and grass to avoid damage to the lawn.
29. The Cemetery Association or St. Gregory Parish is NOT responsible for vandalism of headstones or markers. The BURIAL RIGHTS holder should consult their personal owner's homeowner's insurance for coverage.

#### MEMORIALS, PLANTS AND GRAVE DECORATIONS:

30. NO trees or shrubs may be planted except by the Cemetery Association.
31. Flower plantings are permitted along the full length of the headstone, **NOT more than 15 inches out from the face of the headstone.** The plants must be maintained or they may be trimmed back by the caretaker.
32. ALL FLOWER PLANTS BOUNDRIES/BORDERS **MUST BE FLUSH WITH THE GRASS** FOR THE PERTETUAL CARE.
33. **Flower planting should be annuals – ONLY!** (Please, No new plantings of roses, sedum, peonies, etc.)
34. Sturdy artificial flowers or wreaths are allowed, if securely anchored in the ground.  
THESE MUST BE REMOVED BY APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR FOR SPRING CLEAN-UP.
35. NO pots, jars, or containers are permitted unless they are mounted on the headstone/marker.
36. NO toys, trinkets, loose pictures or other loose items may be left. THEY WILL BE DISCARDED.
37. NO scooters, bikes, or snowmobiles permitted on the cemetery lawn, Use of Roads Only!
38. NO children are allowed in the cemetery without a parent or guardian.
39. **NO PETS ARE ALLOWED ON THE CEMETERY GROUNDS, AT ANY TIME.**
40. THESE RULES MAY BE REVISED AT ANY TIME WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTICE.
41. SEE THE BULLETIN BOARD, in church, or the PARISH OFFICE FOR A COPY OF THESE RULES.

Revised: July 2015

Approved by: Fr. Patrick Nelson, SDS – Pastor of St. Gregory Parish