



Office details and opening times

CEMETERY OPENING HOURS

The Cemetery is open every day of the year

Summer Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday – 8am - 5pm

Sunday – 9am - 5pm

Winter Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday – 8am - 4pm

Sunday – 9am - 4pm

Christmas Day and Boxing Day – 9am - 1pm

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

The Cemetery Office is open...

Summer Opening Hours

Monday to Friday – 9am - 4.30pm

Winter Opening Hours

Monday to Friday – 9am - 3.30pm

Tel: 0208 969 1145

The office is closed on Bank holidays

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mary's Cemetery meets the needs of all Catholics in preparation for, at the time of, and following the death of a loved one. In providing a consecrated place for burial, we treat the human body with dignity and respect after death, and offer an environment which encourages frequent visitation with attendant prayer for the deceased, an environment in which love is remembered and faith is awakened and strengthened. We serve as a symbol of the extended community of the church – and celebrate the Death and Resurrection of the Lord, which offer to us the promise of eternal life.

HISTORY AND OWNERSHIP

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery is a registered charity. It was established in 1858 for the burial of Roman Catholics and is owned by the Trustees of the Secular Clergy Common Fund which encapsulates the Chief Administrator, and five Assistant Administrators one from each of the five Dioceses involved. (Archdiocese of Westminster, Archdiocese of Southwark, and the Dioceses of Arundel & Brighton, Brentwood & Portsmouth). This specially designated area is for the remains of present and future departed, to be buried with the many clergy, religious and laity already interred, which total 170,000, also for the cremated remains of deceased Catholics which may be interred in a grave, commonly referred to as burial, or in a tomb or mausoleum. St. Mary's Cemetery is a holy place of prayer and remembrance. To preserve its sacred character admission is granted to those who conduct themselves in accordance with the Rules & Regulations and act in concert with Catholic belief, tradition and decorum. Priest members of the Fund offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for those who are buried in this cemetery and for all Benefactors of the Secular Clergy Common Fund.

RULES & REGULATIONS

These rules and regulations may be amended from time to time without notice.

St. Mary's cemetery was established for the burial of Catholics. Others may be granted Christian burial in these grounds at the discretion of the administrators in line with the rites and teaching of the Catholic Church.

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery Rules & Regulations chart a course of mutual protection for all those buried in the cemetery. They are intended to help sanctify the memories of those buried within the cemetery and to create an environment within the cemetery which awakens faith and brings consolation. The enforcement of the rules assists in protecting the cemetery, creating and preserving their beauty and ensuring that the interests of all concerned parties are equally addressed.

Please turn the page for a list of the specific rules and regulations



1. Two clear days' notice must be given to the superintendent's office of any intended interment together with the burial rights certificate and written instructions from the undertaker. No interment will be permitted without production of the interment certificate.
2. All fees due for any interment must be in the cemetery office 48 hours before the notified time of the interment. No interment will be allowed to take place unless the above conditions are adhered to. The only exception will be strictly on medical instructions (two doctor's orders being required) or on legal instruction with all orders being signed by the appropriate authorities.
3. If a rights certificate is lost or destroyed it is the responsibility of the rights owner to provide all the necessary details for the production of a statutory Declaration.
4. Any Monument moved to allow burials in a grave is done at the owner's permission or statutory declaration.
5. In the lawn sections of the cemetery no caskets are permitted only standard size coffins are allowed.
6. Scattering of cremated remains in the cemetery is not allowed, these must be buried in the family grave or in an allocated plot.
7. All graves purchased for 'future use' will be for a period of fifty years. Once this period has ended, if the grave is still unused, the rights will be returned to the cemetery. The purchase of 'future use' graves has now ceased.
8. The maintenance of graves is the responsibility of the owner of the burial rights.
9. No flowers or shrubs may be planted in the lawn sections of the cemetery, no fencing or benches permitted. Where any of these are seen our staff have the right to remove and dispose of them.
10. All memorials in the lawn section must comply with the Lawn cemetery regulations.
11. Any monument erected without a permit will be removed and disposed of regardless of whose instructions it was erected on.
12. Monument fees as well as a list of other charges can be obtained from the Superintendent's office.
13. All new memorials must comply with memorial regulations, work cannot commence until permission is approved from cemetery and permit issued.
14. Visitors are reminded that they enter the cemetery at their own risk and that extra care should be taken as burial grounds can be uneven and dilapidated memorials can become unsafe.
15. Visitors are requested at all times to respect the integrity of adjoining graves.
16. Please help to keep the cemetery tidy using bins provided.
17. The sounding of horns is not permitted.
18. Ball games, loud music the consumption of alcohol/drugs and discourteous behaviour will not be tolerated within the cemetery grounds.
19. Drivers of vehicles must respect the 5 MPH speed limit whilst in the cemetery.
20. No dogs except Guide Dogs are allowed within the cemetery.
21. Car drivers leaving their cars within the cemetery do so at their own risk and should keep doors locked and valuables out of sight.
22. Any person caught climbing over the cemetery wall or gates or removing property from any part of the cemetery will be prosecuted.