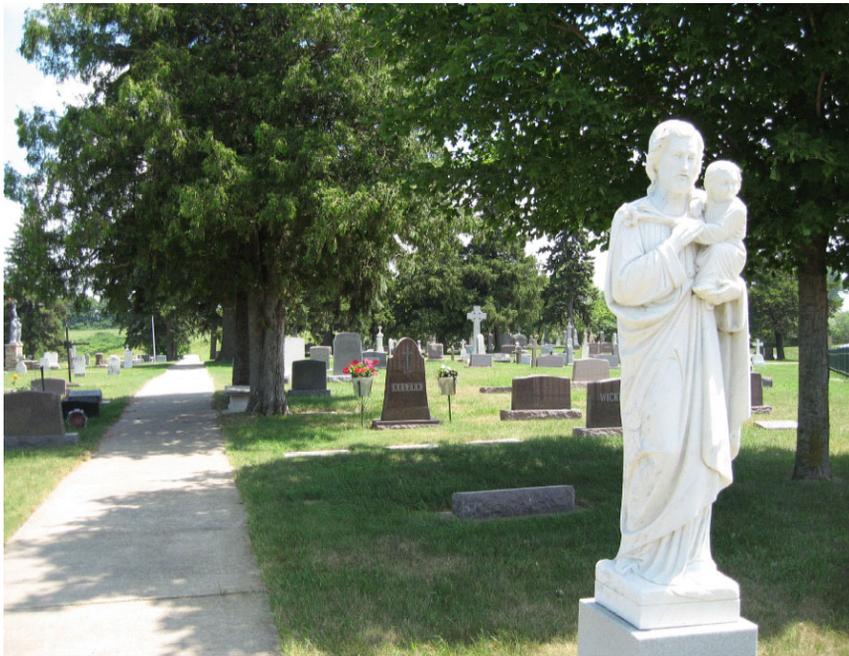


ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CEMETERY

LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF:
HARTMANN DRIVE AND AIRPORT ROAD

WACONIA, MINNESOTA



St. Joseph Parish Office
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Revised June 2019

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

HISTORY

On March 14, 1863, Katharina Kohler sold two acres of land in the SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 24, T116N, R25W, to Rt. Rev. Thomas L. Grace, Bishop of St. Paul, for cemetery purposes for \$8.50.

The earliest recorded burial on this parcel of land is that of John P. Fischer (1807-1861). His grave is southwest of the Crucifix.

Samuel Moy homesteaded the land west of this new cemetery and received a U.S. grant on January 21, 1859. The Moys used the land for burials. The earliest recorded burial is Ehram Moy (1831-1862) but there may have been earlier burials. On June 11, 1897, August and Mary Moy and Joseph and Mary (Moy) Straus deeded a portion of land to Rev. P. Otho OSF for cemetery purposes from the estate of Samuel Moy. This is the west point of the cemetery containing about 2/3 of an acre. August Moy, wife Mary, and son Fred were killed by a tornado on August 20, 1904.

On June 30, 1926, a 10 foot strip of land along the east side was purchased from Joseph Hartmann for \$50.

On November 27, 1945 an acre of land on the east side was purchased from Anton J. Hartmann, this is the area between the old cemetery and the present gravel driveway.

On September 20, 1974 an additional two acres of land along Airport Road were acquired from Ben and Alice Hartmann.

On November 20, 1995 another two acres of land joining the above, along Airport Road, were acquired from Michael and Patricia Hartmann. These four acres were graded in 1997.

By studying the burial records of St. Joseph Cemetery, it is evident that the following three years had serious illness or other catastrophe.

1884 - 28 burials, 20 under the age of 16
1886 - 27 burials, 17 under the age of 16
1899 - 22 burials, 12 under the age of 16

The average number of burials in years around these periods was 10. It wasn't until 1983 that we recorded over 20 burials again. Which is average for a parish our size.

In the past, all the cemetery listing information came from the in-place headstones. The death record books do not reflect all the burials in the cemetery. Individual priests used different ways of recording, some showed only those buried from the Parish and others listed anyone buried at the cemetery.

Cemetery records prior to 1940 are very poor or non-existent. Most of the old records for St. Joseph are in Latin or German script which makes for difficult reading.

The oldest part of St. Joseph Cemetery never had a formal plat until Allen Schmitz surveyed one to fit the existing monuments in about 1988. During the depression, it was common that monuments were not erected on graves. Today, it would be difficult to locate the exact site of burial without a monument in place.

Beginning in 2008, plans for future Cemetery development included creating a base map of the Cemetery in AutoCAD electronic format. This provides a detailed and accurate map of existing graves. New computer software now allows us to link ownership and burial information to each gravesite. The first phase of this project was completed in 2011 with the printing of detailed Cemetery maps. In the future we will be able to link pictures of headstones and markers, as well as, obituaries to the gravesite.

We currently have almost 2,000 burials recorded in our Cemetery, including cremations. We have sufficient platted gravesites to meet our estimated needs for the next 25 years. The unplatted 4 acres should provide adequate burial plots for an additional 75 years.

On October 4, 2011, a 64 niche columbarium was installed north of the Crucifix. The cremated remains of Germain H. Buesgens were the first to be entombed in the columbarium on November 3, 2011.

A HOLY PLACE

Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery is a place for prayer and remembrance. This holy place gives witness to a faithful community of Christ's disciples—the deceased, the living, and even future generations. In this sacred space, we love, weep, smile, remember and share our faith and the promise of the resurrection on the last day.

The *Cemetery and Columbarium Rules and Regulations* contained in the following chapters are intended to provide the environment stated above.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Chapter I Cemetery Lots and their Care

The Cemetery Committee referred to herein is the Cemetery Committee of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Waconia, Minnesota. You may contact the Committee by calling the Parish Office.

Section 1. **Grades of Lots**

The grades of all lots and grounds are established by the Cemetery Committee.

Sections 2. **Enclosure of Lots**

Stone enclosures or fences are detrimental to the appearance of the cemetery. They are unnecessary and therefore prohibited.

Section 3. **General Care**

The general care of the entire grounds and lots is assumed by the Cemetery Committee. It does not provide for special care or watering of plants.

Section 4. **Removal of Unsightly Trees and Shrubs**

The Cemetery Committee shall have the right to remove any tree, shrub, or any structure upon any lot which has or shall become, by reason of age or otherwise, unsightly or detrimental to the lot upon which it is situated or any adjoining lot or avenue. If, by reason of the absence or neglect of a responsible party, any plant or structure thereon shall become unsightly, hazardous, or otherwise detrimental, the Cemetery Committee shall have the right to cause the same to be put in proper condition, and to make a reasonable charge for the same.

Section 5. **Seats and Iron Objects**

Iron objects, wire work and stone seats will not be allowed upon lots without written approval of the Cemetery Committee.

Section 6. **Removal of Grave Decorations, Unfilled Vases & Urns**

→ It is the responsibility of the families to remove all types of grave decorations by:

October 1 for Winter

April 1 for Spring

Items not removed will be discarded by the Cemetery Committee.

Chapter II Planting in Cemetery

Section 1. **Trees and Shrubs**

All trees, shrubs, and flowers, not on burial lots shall be planted only by the Cemetery Committee.

Section 2. **Planting on Lots**

Flowers may be planted in an area which does not extend more than 12 inches beyond the front of the grave marker. No plants shall be planted that will grow to a height that obstructs the grave stone. However, no tree or shrub within the border of any lot or lots shall be planted, removed, or destroyed without the consent of the Cemetery Committee. Planting within the narrow limits of a cemetery lot as to avoid overcrowding and encroachment on adjoining lots, requires an intimate knowledge of the habits of trees and shrubs, and the size which they attain, and it may be done only with the approval and under the direction of the Cemetery Committee. Edging is allowed.

Section 3. **Sodding or Seeding of Lots**

It shall be the responsibility of the Cemetery Committee to either sod or seed the area of the grave not reserved for plants. New graves need to be soaked and left to settle twice. Seeding takes place in the Spring and Fall.

Chapter III Interments

Section 1. **Arrangements**

Arrangements for an interment should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the time set for the funeral service. It shall be incumbent on the undertaker to notify the Cemetery Committee before any grave is opened, including those for premature or still-born infants.

Section 2. **Purchase of Lots/Niches by Parishioners**

Lots/Niches are purchased through the Parish Office at a rate determined by Church leadership. The lots/niches are sold in order. Deviation (if allowed) from this results in substantial additional fees. The right to burial is the only title the owner acquires when a lot is conveyed to them.

Section 3. **Perpetual Care**

Twenty-five percent of the lot/niche purchase price is earmarked for perpetual care as recommended by the Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis.

Section 4. Persons Interred

Church leadership reserves the right to determine the eligibility of a non-member to burial rights. We have made a few exceptions in the past for burials of non-parishioners if there is a family connection to our church, however we have limited these exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

The wife is buried to the right of the husband.

Section 5. Messages

The Cemetery Committee will not be responsible for any mistake or error in the transmission or reception of messages by telephone. Every such message should be immediately confirmed in writing by mail or personal delivery.

Section 6. Laws and Ordinances Regarding Burial

No burial will be permitted in any lot in the cemetery unless in compliance with the laws and ordinances as enforced by the State of Minnesota, St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Section 7. Number in Grave

Double burials are permitted in one lot. The lot fee is assessed per person buried.

Section 8. Charge of Funerals

Funerals will be subject to the charge and control of the Cemetery Committee or someone designated by them. All persons shall conduct themselves quietly in a manner becoming the place and occasion.

Section 9. Damage to Cemetery

Persons engaged in the preparation for, or burial of, any person are prohibited from attaching ropes or cables to monuments, trees, or shrubs or scattering material over adjoining lots or parking roads or paths. All such persons and concerns, be it truck, grave diggers, or otherwise, must do as little injury to grass, trees or shrubs as possible. Any damage done by such a person, dealer, contractor, or their agents, shall be repaired by them, and if such is not done satisfactorily and it proves necessary for the Cemetery Committee to do so, the cost of such repair shall be charged to such person, dealer, contractor, his agent or his principal.

Section 10. Permanent Container

All casket and cremation burials shall be in a permanent container (vault / liner).

Section 11. Cremations

Cremation burials are handled in same way as casket burials.

**Chapter IV
Markers**

Section 1. Permanent Marker

Lots must be paid in full before a memorial marker is installed. All graves shall have a permanent marker to identify the grave. Markers should be installed on the grave within 24 months of a burial. No grave shall be marked with more than one permanent monument—except for a flat marker for Veterans, or a flat marker for a secondary burial to the grave.

**Memorial Markers are not allowed if there are no remains.*

Secondary Markers are placed at the foot of the grave, and shall measure 1' X 2'. The marker must be placed and centered an equal distance between the outer edges of the lot, and 6" from the foot, and flush to the ground. (See diagram)

Section 2. Base

All markers shall be set on a concrete or granite base, which extends 4" to 5" beyond the edge of the marker. There must be 12" between markers.

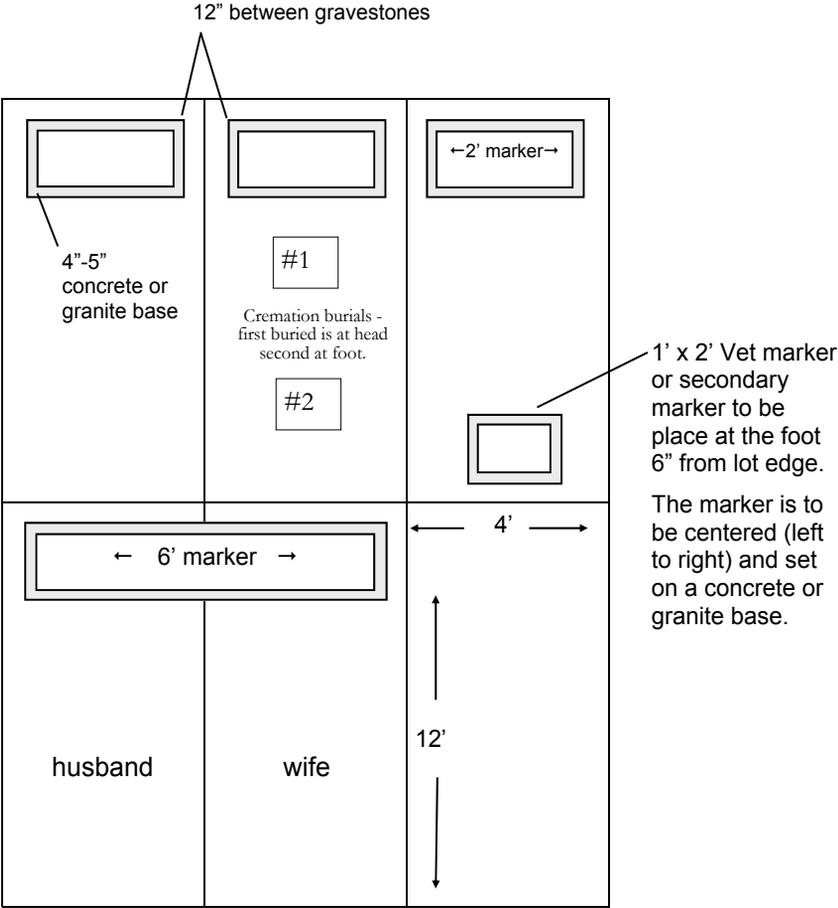
Section 3. Staking and Placing the Marker

It is the responsibility of the Monument company to inform the Parish Office at least 48 hours in advance of installation to arrange for the grave to be staked and there is a staking fee. Markers are to be centered at the stake, and flush with the ground. Markers are set in place by the company providing the marker. The purchaser will be required to replace a marker not set properly.

Section 4. Marker Maintenance

Grave markers are the personal property of the family, therefore the family is responsible for all repair, maintenance or replacement. If family members cannot be contacted or refuse to maintain or replace defected grave markers, the Cemetery Committee has the authority to remove any grave markers that represent a safety issue relative to visitors, Cemetery workers, or equipment used for Cemetery maintenance.

Monument Placement Specifications



Interment Specifications:

Cremation: Dig so there is 2' to the top of the urn vault. (Vault/Liner required)

Casket: Dig 5' to the bottom of the grave, any size casket vault/liner

Cremation on top of Casket: Dig to the top of the vault for urn placement.

Section 5. **Unacceptable Markers**

The Cemetery Committee reserves the right at all times to prescribe the kind, design, size, symbolism, crafting, quality and material of all markers, or inscriptions placed in the Cemetery. Markers not conforming to Minnesota Catholic Dioceses Rules and Regulations governing memorials will be rejected by the Cemetery Committee. The Cemetery Committee reserves the right to correct any error that may be made by its volunteers in the space identification and/or placement of a memorial in the Cemetery. The Cemetery Committee retains the right to recall outside contractors to correct any error that may be made by their employees in the location or placement of a memorial in the Cemetery.

Section 6. **Damage**

The Cemetery Committee will exercise care to protect all memorials and other permanent objects. It disclaims responsibility for any damages by persons other than Cemetery volunteers resulting from an act of God, war, insurrection or vandalism. Any repairs necessary as a result of an act of God, war, insurrection or vandalism shall be the responsibility of the family of the person interred.

Chapter V **Rules for Visitors**

Section 1. **Automobiles**

Automobiles may not be driven within the Cemetery at a greater speed than ten miles per hour, and they shall not be turned around on any roadway or driven upon any platted section of the cemetery.

Section 2. **Admittance**

The grounds will be open from dawn to dusk, and any orderly person may visit them.

Section 3. **Children**

Children under ten years of age will not be admitted to the Cemetery unless accompanied by an adult.

Section 4. **Refreshments**

Refreshments may not be eaten in the Cemetery and no person with refreshments will be admitted to the grounds.

Section 5. **Firearms**

No firearms will be allowed on the grounds except at military funerals and on Memorial Day.

Section 6. Picking Flowers

All persons are prohibited, under penalty of the law from picking flowers, either wild or cultivated, or breaking any tree, shrub, or plant, or marring or defacing any monument or stone, or any structure within the Cemetery.

Section 7. Buses, Schools, etc.

Buses, school groups, or large assemblies will not be admitted on the grounds, except at funerals and on Memorial Day.

Section 8. Animals

No animal of any kind will be allowed in or admitted to the Cemetery.

Section 9. Fees

No money shall be paid to any workman or attendant on the grounds.

Section 10. Your Help

The Cemetery Committee earnestly requests everyone to aid them in enforcing these rules. Everyone is asked to report to the Cemetery Committee any violation, with names of offenders if known.

Chapter VI
Transfer of Lots and Niches

Section 1. Transfers

No permitted transfer or assignment of any interment space, or interest therein, shall be valid until accepted in writing by the Cemetery Committee and filed in the records of the Parish Cemetery. The Cemetery Committee may refuse to consent to a transfer, or to an assignment, if there is an outstanding balance on any portion of the purchase price or services already performed.

Section 2. Requirement

The procedure stated in Section 1 is required so that the Cemetery Committee may at all times have a complete and accurate record of all owners and purchasers.

Section 3. Owner Responsibility

It shall be the duty of the owner(s) to notify the Cemetery Committee of any change in the owner's post office address. Any notice sent to an owner at the last address on file will be considered sufficient and proper legal notification.

Section 4. **Transfer Charges**

The Cemetery Committee may establish a charge for all authorized transfers of ownership of lots or niches. No transfer of ownership shall be complete or effective until all charges are paid.

Chapter VII **Cremation**

Section 1. **Church Teachings**

In keeping with the sacred nature of the body, the Church teaches that cremated remains are to be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. The final disposition of cremated remains should always reflect the Christian belief in the bodily resurrection and the respect afforded to the human body, even after death. This includes:

- Celebration of the full Catholic funeral rites.
- Respect in the manner of handling, placement and final disposition of the cremated remains of the body.
- Burial of the cremated remains in a cemetery.

Section 2. **Funeral Considerations**

If cremation is chosen, the church prefers and urges that the full body be present for the vigil and the funeral Mass, since the presence of the body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in these rites.

In some situations, it is not possible for the body to be present for the funeral liturgy. The rites do provide for the option of the funeral liturgy in the presence of cremated remains.

When pastoral circumstances require it, cremation and committal may take place even before the funeral liturgy. In any case, burial or entombment of the cremated remains at the Cemetery should occur without delay, once the cremation process is completed.

Section 3. **Burial Options**

After cremation of the body occurs, the cremated remains must be placed in an appropriate container, such as an urn made of metal, bronze or wood. At all times in the process, the cremated remains must be treated with the respect and dignity accorded to the full body.

The Church requires that the cremated remains be either buried in the ground or placed in a mausoleum or columbarium, preferably in a Catholic cemetery.

The practice of scattering cremated remains or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased should not be followed.

Such methods of disposing of cremated remains are inconsistent with the due respect and honor to be accorded to the remains of the deceased. Other practices such as commingling cremated remains or dividing up cremated remains among family members or friends are not acceptable for Catholics.

The Church recommends that the place of burial or entombment in the Cemetery be permanently memorialized with a traditional memorial stone, crypt/niche front or bronze plaque marking the name and dates of birth and death of the deceased person.

Chapter VIII Columbarium



Section 1. **Niche Location**

Niches are sold in order. (Left to right, from top to bottom. One side completed before the next.)

Section 2. **Name Plate & Military Emblem**

The name plate style and military emblem must conform to the established standard and all

will be identical. Deviation from the standard lettering is not permitted, nor are other adornments or objects on the columbarium unit permitted. The Cemetery Committee shall have the right to remove a name plate not conforming to the standard. If replacement of the name plate is necessary the owner of the niche will be responsible for all related expenses.

Section 3. **Urns**

Niche owners must use a proper urn, that is sealed. Cardboard boxes, plastic bags, etc. are not permissible. Urns must be the proper size to fit into the niche and cannot be forced into the space. The niche dimension is 11.25" square (internal).

Section 4. **Flowers**

Flowers may be placed within 12" of the base of the columbarium unit. Permanent plants/flowers will not be allowed. The Cemetery Committee shall have the right to remove flowers improperly placed or any other adornments that an individual might attempt to attach to any portion of the columbarium.

Section 5. **Exchange Lot for Niche**

Individuals who have purchased lots in Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery and now prefer a niche in the columbarium, can apply the amount paid for the lot toward the purchase of a niche. This will only be allowed if the owner provides a receipt for the original purchase price and signs a release transferring the lot back to Saint Joseph Catholic Church.

Chapter IX **Infant Burial Plot**

An area has been set aside to provide for parishioners who suffer the death of a premature or stillborn baby. For a small fee, the family has the opportunity to inscribe the child's name on the monument and standard small ground marker. Vaults are not required if a church provided infant casket is used.

Chapter X **General**

St. Joseph Catholic Church of Waconia, Minnesota, hereby expressly reserves the right, at any time, to adopt new Rules and Regulations, or to amend, alter, or repeal any rule, regulation, article, section, paragraph, or sentence, in these Rules and Regulations.

However, special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule may impose unnecessary hardship. St. Joseph Catholic Church reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions, or modifications in any of these Rules and Regulations, when, in its judgment, the same appear advisable, and such temporary exception, suspension, or modification shall in no way be construed as affecting the general application of such rule.

Any issues brought forward, which are not addressed in this booklet, relative to Saint Joseph Catholic Parish Cemetery will be resolved appropriately pursuant to Minnesota Catholic Cemetery Rules and Regulations and applicable Minnesota State Statutes.