

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CEMETERY
2300 CHURCH ROAD,
ARNOLD, MISSOURI 63010**

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The purpose of the rules is to promote the ideals of Christian burial by making the cemetery grounds a haven of comfort and peace, the continued welfare of the cemetery as a whole and the well-being of lot holders and visitors. The rules are not arbitrary, but developed over decades of experience of what promotes the common good.

GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT

1. The cemetery is a sacred place and is due all the honor and respect given to a church building. It is God's Acre. Unbecoming behavior, dress and language are not to be tolerated.
2. No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the cemetery
3. The cemetery reserves the right to refuse admission to any person(s) or to deny the use of its facilities at any time, as its rules.
4. Children under sixteen years of age should always be in the company of adults while in the cemetery.
5. Pets may not be brought into the cemetery.
6. Loitering and boisterous demonstration or improper assemblages are not permitted within the cemetery grounds.
7. No athletic equipment of any kind is to be used on cemetery property.
8. Visitation hours to the Parish Cemetery are from sunrise to sunset year round

DEFINITIONS

1. The following definitions shall be adopted to describe the terms used in these rules.
 - A. LOT HOLDER: the person or persons who signed the original purchase contract and their heirs-in-law who have the legal right to authorize an interment.
 - B. LOT: a burial plot of one or more graves.
 - C. GRAVE: the basic, below ground burial place.
 - D. SECTION: designated area of cemetery land
 1. Old Cemetery
 2. Immaculate Conception
 3. Nazareth
 4. Mount Calvary
 5. Mount Thabor
 6. Bethlehem
 7. Mount Olive
 8. Mount Sinai
 9. Jerusalem
 10. Mount Zion

RIGHTS OF SEPULCHER

1. **Right of Sepulcher:** The right to authorize an interment is exercised at the lot holder's discretion. Those who inherit the right do so on an equal basis with all those of the same class, as enumerated below. The cemetery will not become a party to family disputes. The Authorization to Inter must be supported by affidavit. All responsibility for the interment rests upon the person signing the authorization.

AUTHORIZATION TO INTER

1. Persons authorized to sign interment orders:
 - A. 1) Lot Holder. If deceased, then:
 - 2) Party to whom lot is willed. If not willed, then:
 - 3) Children. If no children, then:
 - 4) Father or Mother, Brothers or Sisters (an adopted child shares with equal capacity as a natural child) or their descendants. If all are deceased, then:
 - 5) Wife or Husband. If no wife or husband, then:
 - 6) Grandfather or Grandmother, or Uncles or Aunts.
 - 7) If none of the above classes of persons remain, the personal representative of the estate of a deceased lot holder or his descendant as described above may sign
 - a) Personal representative signing shall not be personally liable but shall be liable only in his or her capacity as personal representative and to the extent of the assets of the estate of the deceased lot holder or descendant as described above.
 - 8) Person of collateral relationship to lot holder or his/her descendants as described above who has approval in writing (signature) of a person with authorization to order interments.
 - 9) A husband or wife may be interred in the same lot where the spouse is buried, although he or she does not inherit the right to order other interments on the lot, unless it comes to such person by a specific devise in a will or descent as enumerated above.
 - B. After a period of 75 years since the last recorded activity on a burial site, after a reasonable search for heirs, the Right of Sepulture reverts to the cemetery in regards to the unused burial spaces. If persons with a legitimate claim present themselves after the graves have been used, their claim shall be settled by providing them with an equal number of burial spaces in an equivalent location to those that reverted to the cemetery.

Except as limited in #7 above the signatory by signing this authorization warrants that he/she has authority to do so and thereby holds the cemetery, its agents and employees harmless from any damages arising from an improper authorization. This shall include attorneys incurred in defense of any lawsuit based on an improper authorization to inter.

PURCHASING OF CEMETERY PLOT

1. A limited number of burial plots are still available. The parish office has a chart for exact locations of lots.
2. Each 4 x 10 foot lot will cost \$900.00. One-half of the cost must be paid at the time of purchase and the remaining balance is due within six months of purchase.
3. Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church may purchase one or more lots.
4. The cemetery has the right to require those selecting a lot or arranging for an interment to come in person to the parish office.
5. If a purchaser defaults in payment the cemetery may cancel the contract and all unused Rights of Sepulture are forfeited. Any funds paid towards unused Rights of Sepulture and are subject to a maximum charge of 25% of the original purchase price, plus any other costs incurred by the cemetery. Any funds remaining shall be refunded upon request.
6. Before an interment may be made the interment space must be paid for in full.

BURIALS AND CREMAINS

1. We strongly recommend double-depth burial in each lot.
2. To preserve our cemetery for future generations, concrete vaults are recommended, but not required.
3. The Catholic Church prefers that bodies of the deceased be present at the funeral liturgy and then buried. If cremation has been chosen, the cremated remains must be buried.
4. If another family member has been buried in our cemetery, the cremated remains may be buried in the same grave. A limited number of spaces are reserved for cremated remains in our cemetery. Each space will be approximately 18" square and will cost \$100.00.

MONUMENT AND MARKER REGULATIONS

1. Monuments must be installed by a licenses and qualified monument Co.
2. Monuments (upright memorials of two or more pieces of stone, set on a foundation) **are not permitted on graves without concrete vaults.**
3. Raised markers or lawn-level markers (one piece of stone only) are permitted on graves without vaults.
4. As this is a Catholic Christian cemetery, all memorials must incorporate a Christian symbol in their design.
5. All markers will be set at the head of the graves level with the turf.

6. Lettering and decorations shall be incised into the stone, not projecting above or on the face of the stone.

Child or Infant Graves:

One marker is permitted per grave space.

Single Grave:

One marker is permitted on a single grave and centered at the head of the grave with the back line of the marker on the base line of the grave space.

Two Grave Lots:

One marker is permitted and centered at the head of the grave with the back line of the marker on the base line of the grave space.

Cremation Section

Only lawn-level markers may be placed above cremated remains, and must not exceed the size of the burial space (18" x 18").

To All Monument Dealers:

Effective August 1st 2017:

1. All stones, 24 inches x 12 inches or smaller, must have a concrete base of at least 12 inches deep. This base must be as large as the entire base of the stone with 2 inch lip.
2. All stones larger than 24 inches x 12 inches must have a concrete base of at least 18 inches deep. The base must be as large as the entire base of the stone, with a 2 inch lip.
3. In order to keep the stone from tilting, there must be a post hole 6 inch in diameter every 18 inches which must be 18 inches deeper than the 18 inch base, Any base must have two post holes. These post holes must be filled with concrete.
4. The purpose of the lip is to help the caretaker in cutting the grass and protecting the stone from the lawnmower. This lip must be as even with the ground as possible, yet keeping the stone level.
5. Before the Monuments are installed, the Monument Dealer must check with us to see that the perpetual care is paid on the lot.
6. Monument dealers are to contact Immaculate Conception prior to setting the monument.
7. One upright monument will be allowed per lot. If another monument is needed, one flat monument can be set directly in front of and butted up against existing upright monument.
8. Maximum size limits for a single grave in Immaculate Conception Cemetery:
Concrete – First Layer (Pier): Can't exceed 44 inches
Base – Second Layer (Granite): Can't exceed 40 inches (needs 2 inch lip under it)

Monument – Third Layer (Die): whatever is appropriate to fit on base.

Common monument sizes are listed below:

Lawn Level:	Slants:	Slants on bases: base size
24"x12"	20"x10"	32"x16"
30"x12"	24"x10"	36"x16"
36"x12"	28"x10"	40"x16"
	30"x10"	
	32"x10"	Monument: base size
	36"x10"	36"x14"
		40"x14"

PLANTINGS AND DECORATIONS

The following rules are designed to maintain the appearance of the cemetery and to make your visits more pleasant.

1. Effective January 1, 2012 - No more than two decorations per grave. The cemetery reserves the right to remove and discard any excess for the overall maintenance and appearance of the cemetery.
2. The planting of shrubs and flowers is carefully planned for the general appearance of the cemetery. Planting is not permitted on private lots.
3. Natural cut flowers are recommended
4. Please do not bring glass, ceramic or metal holders as they are hazardous for the workmen and visitors.
5. The cemetery does not approve of permanent metal flower vases, nor will it accept any liability for their loss or damage under any circumstances. It is the responsibility of the lot holder to return the vases to their holder so that they will not damage the cemetery equipment.
6. Potted plants, votive lights, solar lights, balloons and other unsightly grave decorations are not appropriate in a cemetery. Please be aware of the sensitivities of others when decorating the grave of a loved one.
7. A Christmas wreath or grave covering of natural materials is permitted on a lot from Thanksgiving Day until the last week of January.
8. The Parish Cemetery Maintenance Committee will remove flowers and all other grave decorations periodically. To maintain the beauty of the cemetery, all decorations will be removed:

***During the third week of March, in preparation for Easter
During the third week of October, in preparation for All Souls' Day.***

9. **The cemetery is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen grave decorations. The removal of flowers, planting or other property without proper authorization is theft and will be prosecuted.**
10. The funeral flowers on new graves will only remain for one weekend after the interment as they become faded and unsightly.

FEES

DeClue's Grave Service, 636-937-2194, opens the graves in our cemetery. The fee for this service is **\$575** for double depth burial, **\$475** for a single burial, and **\$250** for cremation, to be paid at the time of burial. There is also an additional **\$100** charge for opening or closing a grave on Sundays or holidays. Ordinarily the funeral director makes this arrangement. Immaculate Conception Catholic Church assumes no responsibility for additional expense due to subsurface rock formations or other soil conditions.