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# ST. PETER'S PARISH, MUENSTER, SK CEMETERY POLICY

Effective March 1, 2026

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## **1. GENERAL REGULATIONS / PURPOSE OF THE CEMETERY AS DETERMINED BY CANON LAW**

- 1.1 To provide interment for:
- members of Saint Peter's Parish,
  - those past residents of the Parish Community who have left the Community but wish to be interred in the cemetery,
  - those who have a historical family connection with the cemetery, or
  - members of the Muenster Community who wish to be interred in the cemetery of the community where they lived. These will be subject to Parish Council approval.
- 1.2 It is to be noted that no person or persons shall bury any body or cremains until such person or persons has notified the Parish Priest and/or a member of Parish Council. Any special requests will be dealt with by Parish Council. All interments must comply with the provisions of The Public Health Act, The Vital Statistics Act, and The Cemeteries Act of the Province of Saskatchewan.
- 1.3 No pets to be buried in the cemetery.

## **2. PURCHASE OF SITES AND NICHES**

- 2.1 A maximum of two sites or plots may be purchased in advance. Parish Council must be consulted if more than two sites are requested for purchase.
- 2.2 Advance purchase of a columbarium niche is possible. See guidelines under Section #7, Columbarium. It is to be noted that a previous site purchase can be transferred to the purchase of a niche. The cost of the plot(s) will be deducted from the cost of the niche.

## **3. CHARGE FOR BURIAL SITE FOR REGULAR BURIAL OR BURIAL OF CREMAINS IN THE CEMETERY**

- 3.1 A charge of \$500 per site or grave plot. A charge of \$250 for each urn burial in the cemetery. A charge of \$250 for any stillborn or infant burial on an existing grave. No more than three cremains to be placed on a gravesite. In special family circumstances, an urn may be placed between existing family grave sites with the knowledge and approval of Parish Council. If a family wishes to prepare the site for an urn burial, they must notify the Parish Administrative Assistant or a member of the Cemetery Committee or the Parish Priest.
- 3.2 Any urn placed on an existing grave plot must be placed three feet from the accompanying headstone. If, at a later time, a second and third urn is placed on the grave plot, each must be placed 3 feet from the previous urn placement. The urn must be placed at a depth to ensure that the top of the urn is 18 inches below the ground surface.
- 3.3 If two urns are to be interred on an existing grave at the same time they may be placed in the same position three feet from the headstone. A single urn marker with all the appropriate information must be placed over the position.

- 3.4 In the event where two interments occur or are planned to occur on the same plot a joint headstone with the appropriate information can be used. See 4.2 for size limitation of the headstone. There is a fee of \$250 for any second interment. If a joint headstone is to be used when two plots are used it will be necessary to have a marker on the second plot to indicate that the second plot is not an open plot. A second headstone or flat marker must be put in place.

## **4. HEADSTONES**

- 4.1 The Parish has approved only headstones in the cemetery. No grave covers or individual columbarium style headstones are permitted.
- 4.2 The size of headstone for a single plot can be no larger than 19 inches Wide x 17 inches High. A joint headstone for a single plot may be used in the event of a double interment on a single plot. The size of this joint headstone is limited to 25 inches Wide x 17 inches High. The maximum height of a base for headstones is 4 inches; therefore, a total of 21 inches maximum height off the ground.
- 4.3 The Parish will not supply the concrete foundation for the headstones and bases. These should be purchased with the headstone so the proper size can be obtained.
- 4.4 Inscription on the headstone is at the discretion of the purchaser and may include writing on the back of the headstone. The minimum requirement is name, year of birth, and year of death.
- 4.5 War Veterans, RCMP, and other Canadian Service Personnel will be allowed headstones according to the approved size.
- 4.6 Cost of the headstone is the responsibility of the family of the deceased or of the estate.
- 4.7 Gene's Memorials of Humboldt is the usual supplier of headstones for our cemetery. Headstones must be purchased within six (6) months and installed within one (1) year. In cases of financial hardship, contact the Parish Council.

## **5. HEADSTONES FOR CREMAINS**

- 5.1 An approved headstone must be purchased for a plot.
- 5.2 Cremains added to an existing grave require a marker.
- 5.3 Cremation markers added to an existing grave must be flush with the ground so that grass cutting can take place without damaging the markers.
- 5.4 There may be three urns and three markers for cremains on an existing grave or any open grave plot.

## **6. UPKEEP OF THE CEMETERY**

- 6.1 This is the responsibility of the parish.

- 6.2 Flowers, solar lights, flower boxes, or decorative objects must be permanently attached to the headstone so as not to hinder the upkeep of the cemetery.
- 6.3 Different types of attachments to permanently affix flowers, solar lights, or other decorative objects to the headstone can be added directly to the headstone at the time of purchase, purchased through florist shops or even handmade.
- 6.4 To maintain the aesthetics and integrity of the cemetery, the Parish reserves the right to remove any damaged or broken objects or those that impede the cutting of grass or care of the cemetery.
- 6.5 Parish Council has the authority to review any case not mentioned above.

## **7. COLUMBARIUM POLICY**

- 7.1 The cost of a niche is set at \$1,800 effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. This \$1,800 covers the cost of the columbarium and its installation and includes the cost of the required bronze plaque as well as a perpetual care fee. Those who purchase in advance will have their Bronze Plaque ordered and installed on the niche they select that is still available. Death date to be added later. Each niche has dimensions of 12.5 inches x 12.5 inches x 14 inches that will accommodate two standard urns. Other personal items may be added to the niche, if room permits, with the exception of any liquid materials. Plaques will be installed by a Parish Representative.