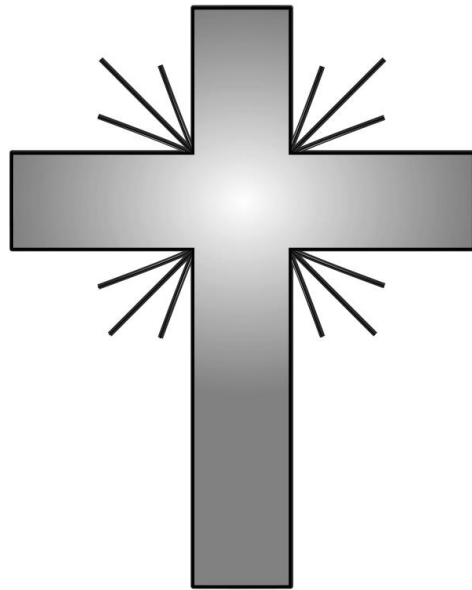


Cemetery Policy

St. Bernard's in Ward Springs
St. Joseph's in Grey Eagle



The Cemetery is a sacred place consecrated to God as a resting place for the bodies of the faithful departed. It is therefore fitting that the cemetery be maintained in good order.

Burial and Cemetery Care:

1. **Interment spaces should be only used for interment of human remains** and no animals (cremated or otherwise) shall be interred or buried in this cemetery.
2. **Notification of the Superintendent is required** prior to any burials and before placing a monument or marker. The Superintendent will mark the location for placement.
2. **All burials** in our cemeteries must be made in a cement vault, to prevent sinking of the gravesite and the tipping of tombstones.
 - Infants (under 2 yrs.) may be buried on top of an immediate family member without a cement vault at no cost for the gravesite.
3. **Foundations for monuments** are to be made of concrete and should be a precast slab. The slab should be 4” thick and large enough to provide a 3” border on each side of the base of the monument. All excess dirt and waste material should be removed and no damage incurred to other monuments, markers or the cemetery grounds.
4. **Flat Markers must be set in concrete** with a 3” border on each side. The top of the marker must be level with the surface of the ground.
5. **Sunken graves and leaning tombstones** will be repaired by the parish with the cost assessed to the relatives of the deceased. Every effort will be made to contact relatives to inform them of needed repairs.
6. **Engraving on monuments** shall have the name and date of death face the side of the monument where the purchaser controls the right of interment.
 - St Joseph’s Cemetery – face East
 - St Bernard’s Cemetery – face North
7. **Flower pots/vases** (for cut or artificial flowers) and other ornamental objects such as shepherd hooks must be securely fastened to the tombstone proper and not on concrete foundation or in the ground.
 - No glass containers may be used.
 - All flowers placed on grave and not fastened to the tombstone must be removed by June 30th by the family or it will be removed by the maintenance personnel.
 - All flowers and ornaments must be completely removed by November 20th by the family or maintenance personnel.
 - **No drilling of holes** by families into the cement foundation rows.
 - Veteran Star Markers will be placed by the tombstone by Cemetery Superintendent only.
8. **The planting** of trees, shrubs, or flowers is prohibited. The initial seeding of a gravesite will be done by the Cemetery gravedigger.
9. **It shall be the responsibility of the Cemetery Maintenance Personnel** to modify or remove and dispose of any structure or object which may have been placed upon a lot or grave which may be considered dangerous or interferes with the cemetery operations.
10. **The Parish will not be responsible** for damage to tombstones, markers or decorations that interfere with digging or mowing operations or snow removal.
11. **The Parish is not responsible** for damages incurred to the tombstones or damages occurring from carelessness, malicious mischief, theft or vandalism.

Cremation:

1. The Cremation Policy of the Diocese of St. Cloud will be followed.
2. A certificate of cremation must be presented at the time of burial.
3. Cremated remains must have a non-biodegradable container (ex. metal, granite or ceramic) otherwise a vault will be required.
4. No more than three interments are allowed per burial lot.
 - One regular interment (casket & vault) and two cremation interments
 - Three cremation interments

Schedule of Charges:

Parishioners: Single gravesite: \$200
Non-parishioners: Single gravesite: \$1,000

1. Former parishioners who have been absent from St. Joseph's for two or more years will be charged the non-parishioners rate unless in a nursing care facility or are actively serving in the military.
2. A gravesite for a parishioner/child who is 18 years or younger may be purchased for half the price of a single gravesite.
3. The right to inter additional cremations may be purchased for half the price of a single gravesite.
4. By the purchase of a burial lot, the buyer receives only the right of burial. The purchaser does not buy the property, as in the purchase of real estate.
 - Ownership of lots only grants the right of burial of the person designated.
 - Transfer of lots must be made through the Cemetery Board.
5. Payment of lots must be received within thirty (30) days of reservation or burial.
6. The Cemetery Board strongly suggests that gravesites be sold in a consecutive fashion, that is next in-line; and that monuments should be erected within one year of interments.
7. The setback for the road right away on Highway 28 for St Joseph Cemetery is 50 feet.

Funeral Information:

1. Copies of these guidelines will be given to the family at the time of purchase of a gravesite, at time of burial. They will also be available at the Parish office, funeral homes or on the parish website <http://stjosephgreveagle.org/>
2. It is recommended to hold the wake/visitation in the Chapel at St Joseph Church; however the choice is left up to the family.
3. Please refrain from bringing food or beverages into the Church. The Church hall can be utilized for food and non-alcoholic beverages.
4. Refer to the website for contacts for music and luncheon <http://stjosephgreveagle.org/>

Donations for the upkeep and maintenance of the cemeteries are always welcome.

Cemetery Boards

- **St Bernard's, Ward Springs:** David Bitz, Lonnie Ritter, Dean Ahrens
Superintendent – David Bitz (320-333-7692)
- **St Joseph's, Grey Eagle:** St Joseph Parish Council,
Superintendent – Bill & Julie Berscheit (320-630-8246) and Brian & Nancy Roske (320-241-3759)

Revised 02-2018