

# **Mt. Olivet Cemetery at St. Joseph of the Valley Church & St. Thomas Cemetery at Springdale**

## **Rules & Regulations**

1. Cemetery lots shall not be used for any other purpose than for Christian burials. No lot shall be conveyed or sold by the owner except with the consent of the cemetery board or director and shall not be subject to execution or any process of law.
2. No religious ceremonies of any kind, foreign to Christian ritual, shall at any time be allowed within the cemetery.
3. Neither interment or disinterment shall take place without the permission of the director or cemetery board.
4. All graves will be dug and filled by a responsible company or party. These people will ordinarily be contacted and contracted for by the funeral director. No wooden rough box will be permitted in any section of the cemetery. Vaults are required.
5. No one shall have the right to plant any variety of tree or place other articles on their lots which will make care of the grave site difficult or detract from the overall appearance of the cemetery. Flowers and other small bushes can be planted in line with headstones for easier maintenance. Flowers may be placed close to the main monument for holidays and special occasions, but should be removed a week or 10 days from the special occasion or it will be the right of the cemetery care person to dispose of.
6. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove and discard any excess for the overall maintenance and appearance of the Cemetery. Placement of potted plants, votive and solar lights, balloons, shepherd hooks, bird houses, wind chimes and other similar decorations are discouraged in the cemetery.
7. No inscription, effigy or structure deemed incompatible with the Catholic character of the cemetery will be allowed to be placed in the cemetery and shall be prohibited, or if erected, shall be removed upon notice from the cemetery director or board.
8. No curbing, fence, or boundary posts shall be placed around any grave site or lot. No benches are allowed to be placed within cemetery sections. It is strongly recommended that corner stones be placed to mark grave spaces or lot.
9. No monument of any kind shall be erected on any grave or lot until the full price of the burial space has been paid to the cemetery. A certificate of Right of Burial will be issued for the burial space to the lot owner upon payment of the space.

10. The planting of trees and/or bushes on cemetery property is only permissible with prior approval from the cemetery board. The placement of any structure such as a bench is not permitted without permission from the cemetery board.
11. Plans for all monument work and location must be submitted to the director or designee, for approval before contracting for the same. Foundations for all stone work will be done by a monument company or reliable party who in turn is responsible for its permanence.
12. No foundation work is permitted during freezing weather or early spring when the ground is extremely soft is permitted.
13. Only one monument shall be permitted on a lot and shall be placed in line with other monuments in adjacent lots or gravesites. Flat marble stones covering entire grave are to be installed level with the ground for ease in mowing.
14. All other markers shall be level with the lawn. A wedge marker is considered a monument. No temporary markers shall be allowed.
15. Large monuments are discouraged. Maximum height shall be no greater than 30" above the base.
16. Birth and/or death dates on a memorial stone marker is the responsibility of the owner or descendants, not the cemetery. This is usually dependent on the agreement with the monument company.
17. The operation of the cemetery after January 1, 1973 will be under perpetual care and all single graves sold will be \$200 for parishioners and \$400 for non-parishioners. A lot will consist of 8 gravesites and one-half lot of 4 gravesites. Size of one-half lot is 8' x 16'. One lot is 16' x 16'. One burial space will be 4' x 8'
18. Perpetual Care is defined as consisting of care of the cemetery generally and shall include, but not be limited to, mowing of all lots and gravesites at reasonable intervals, re-sodding, seeding and filling in sunken graves, removing dead flowers and miscellaneous debris, trimming trees and shrubbery when necessary, raking and cleaning lots and straightening of tilting stones or markers. It shall not include repairing or replacing markers or memorial structures of any nature, except when the need for repair or replacement is directly caused by the cemetery.
19. The director of the cemetery for Mount Olivet & St. Thomas Cemeteries shall be the pastor of the St. Joseph of the Valley-St. Lawrence Parish or his designee(s).