Cremation Niches at Calvary

As cremation is becoming more popular, so too is the use of cremation niches. A structure containing multiple niches is called a "columbarium" – it comes from the Latin for "dove". Calvary has two columbaria incorporating multiple cremation niches. Sometimes people also choose to buy a regular lot, but to install a small private columbarium as their stone.

Niches are an above-ground alternative to in-ground burial for cremated remains. Each niche – each little square in the photos – is the future resting place for the ashes of one person. The little squares are granite coverings for the individual niches – they are engraved just like a traditional monument would be engraved.

Choosing a cremation niche consolidates and locks in today’s price for many of the items that would be separate expenses with a traditional in-ground burial lot:

* You don't need to buy a separate stone; the granite face of your niche serves as a stone, and lettering of your name and dates is included. For veterans, we will also include an emblem for the appropriate branch of service (when specified on your lettering form).

* You don't need to allow for the cost of an urn vault, an outer container for the urn: the urn or other impervious, rigid container may be placed in the niche as-is.

* You don't need to allow for opening/closing fees. As long as the inurnment takes place during regular weekday hours, it's included with the niche rights. (Overtime fees for Saturday or late openings still apply.)

Please remember that decoration is NOT allowed at our cremation niches. Decorations can leave scratching, sticky residue, & color stains not only on the niche with your name, but on others' as well.

(please see over for details on our columbarium options)
St. Dominic Columbarium
This was our first columbarium, centered at the top of the hill in the St. Dominic loop, which opened in 2008. It includes a total of 96 niches in a circular layout. Each niche is 11” high and deep, and tapers from 10” wide at the front to 7.5” wide at the back.

As with all columbaria, pricing for inurnment rights in each niche depends on the niche's location in the feature. There are 4 rows of niches; availability in the top row is very limited.

This columbarium offers our most economical options for niche inurnment.

Pieta niches
This feature was new in 2015, and is an enhancement to the existing Pieta statue feature area, the original centerpiece for the then-new sections A–D in 1975.

This multi-piece columbarium provides 716 niches for the inurnment of ashes for 716 individuals – one person per niche. Niches measure just over 11” on each side. Each niche has a separate granite cover, and there is an inner cover which is secured under the granite cover when ashes are placed in the niche (see photos, previous page).

There is an inner ring of niches just 3 units high that is right next to the Pieta statue itself. The outer ring has up to 7 rows available.

Pricing for inurnment rights in these niches is based on location in the feature. Niches that are a part of a cross are premium niches. Please give us a call so we can help walk you through options & answer questions, taking account of which considerations are most important for you.

You can pay in full, or make monthly payments, just like when you buy the rights to use a traditional ground lot. When paid in full, we issue an “Easement for inurnment rights” with the cemetery seal.

When you set up your purchase, we will generate a form for your signature specifying names and dates to be engraved on each niche. (A future date of death will be engraved later, and this cost is also included.)

Remember, in comparing the purchase of a columbarium niche to a traditional grave space, that the niche replaces ALL of the following items:
–The traditional grave space;
–A monument for the traditional space;
–Lettering of name and dates on the stone;
–Opening/closing charges for weekday burial.

Give us a call at 207-773-5796 if you have questions, or feel free to stop in any time between 8am and 3:30pm on weekdays. We’d love to have you call if you need directions!