



Rules are based on extended review by a team of Diocesan cemetery managers, with the primary goals of improving maintenance practices, & ensuring the quality and appearance of cemeteries throughout the Diocese of Portland. A full set of the revised Diocesan rules and regulations is available for inspection at Calvary Cemetery.

**\*\*\*The management reserves the right to remove, without notice, any planting or object which is in violation of these regulations, or which in the opinion of the management is a hazard to its employees or injurious to the general appearance of the cemetery.**

**\*\*\*Calvary Cemetery is not liable for any damage or losses caused by normal cemetery operations (mowing, weeding, grave digging, etc.), by vandalism, by weather, or by theft.**

### **Seasonal Decorations**

Please be sure decorations meet the guidelines below. If you want to reuse decorations another year, be sure to remove them by the cutoff date below. Any time after the cutoff date, out of season decorations may be removed and discarded. Wreaths placed by the cemetery may be removed earlier.

- Summer decorations – cutoff date for removal November 1.
- Winter decorations – cutoff date for removal April 1.

### **Flat marker sections, Columbarium niches**

Please note these sections do NOT have planting or permanent decoration privileges.

**Planting: Yes! Even in New Calvary!** (except as noted above, *flat marker* sections do **NOT** have planting or permanent decoration privileges.)

- The "Planting Area" is IN FRONT of the main above-ground monument only – (not behind! – your lot ENDS at the back edge of your stone!). If the family lot has burials both in front of and behind the monument (usually in Old Calvary)– ASK if you can have a waiver!. – up to 14 inches wide measuring from the monument outwards. NO FENCES; but see below under "Planting area border".
- NO plantings or decorations around any individual markers, flush or raised, unless they are in headstone position. (Mowers need to be able to go straight over the space between headstones.)
- NO bushes. (There MAY be a waiver for large lots in the OLD cemetery— 6 graves or more—please ask!)
- NO hanging plants or hanging anything, please. The crooks they hang on could easily put out the eye of a maintenance worker. Any plant hangers on a lot are removed without notice.
- Choose plantings that will tolerate being occasionally nicked or cut by trimmers or mowers. Also note we have woodchucks, especially near water! Choose and/or treat plantings accordingly.

### **Planting Area Border**

- A short SOLID border of scalloped concrete edging blocks around your planting area IS allowed, running from one corner of the stone, out 14 inches (square or arc), then back to the other edge of the stone. (This is actually easier for maintenance, because it provides a clean solid edge for weed-whackers.)
- NO FENCES, and NO plastic, wooden, or other borders.

### **Vigil Lights**

- **NO** vigil lights of any kind are permitted, by specific order of the Diocese. This follows reports to the review board by cemeteries throughout the diocese of vandalism, neglect and safety issues with regard to such lights.

*(continued over)*

**Urns and Vases** (containers in flat marker sections may be removed without notice, to allow for mowing.)

- Urns, vases, planters, boxes or baskets must be sturdy, non-sharp, non-fragile (they WILL get weed-whacked!), in good condition, & placed as follows:
- One item in front of the main above-ground monument, in the "planting area" as defined above; (or where the monument would go, if there is no above-ground monument yet).
- One item on either end of the main above-ground monument (2 items total). Items must have a sturdy base that allows for and tolerates weed trimming equipment. (Items with a pole or stake-type base are not allowed, because the weed trimmers have a tendency to wrap around the pole and get caught.) Note each space is only 3 feet wide, so on single lots, there is often no room for anything at the sides of the stone.
- Artificial decorations (plastic or silk) are allowed, but must be in good condition, in a container (NOT directly in the ground), and placed as above.

### **Other Ornaments**

- Statues are allowed IF they are a) part of or attached to your stone; or b) religious in nature, AND located
  - inside your planting area, or
  - at the side of the stone, with a square granite or similar base, set right next to and square with the stone (Otherwise weed-whackers are likely to damage the statue).But Caution! Note that statues are a favorite target of thieves and vandals. As a minimum precaution, write or etch your name &/or the lot information indelibly on the bottom of the statue.
- NO stones or crushed rock; NO shells; NO lawn ornaments; NO glass-- containers or ornaments (Glass doesn't just break when hit with a weed-whacker, it explodes!); NO tin cans; NO shepherd's crooks (hangers); these are not compatible with safe weed-trimming operations and are all strictly prohibited.

### **Flags**

- Flags may be placed on lots beginning one week before Memorial Day, through Flag Day (June 14). The cemetery will remove ALL American flags after Flag Day. (If your flag did not come from the cemetery, we suggest you remove it yourself to be sure it does not get picked up with the other flags.)
- All flags must be placed next to the main above-ground monument only, NOT next to any individual marker, flush or raised (because it makes it impossible to mow & trim the grass). Exceptions may be made for sections or graves with no monument privileges.
- Note that flags for Memorial Day are placed by volunteers. They place flags wherever they see a veteran's marker. If your loved one does not have a marker, they may well be missed. We always have extra flags available at the office so you can place them yourself. (Eventually, we hope to compile a complete listing of all the veterans in the cemetery, even those without markers.)

### **Monuments**

A few sections are restricted to flat markers only. Otherwise, one upright monument per lot (not per space). So if you have 4 graves, designated as one 4-grave lot, you can have one upright monument. If you have 4 graves, designated as two 2-grave lots, you can have two (smaller) upright monuments. Additional FLAT markers, flush to the ground so mowers can go over them, are also allowed in granite or bronze.

Note also that the new St. Dominic and Our Lady of Sorrows sections are laid out to have rows of plantings between the stones, so you will want to leave the back of the stone blank, and have all engraving on the front. As those plantings mature, you will not be able to see anything on the back of the stone.



**Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation and understanding.**