



SANTA CLARA MISSION CEMETERY

A Ministry of the Jesuit Community

Floral Regulations - January 2014

Committal Area and Graveside Services

- INTERMENT** Upon completion, the casket piece and three arrangements will be placed at the gravesite and remain for three days or until they become unsightly, whichever comes first.
- ENTOMBMENT** Upon completion, the casket piece will be placed on the floor in front of any outdoor crypt and remain for three days or until it becomes unsightly, whichever comes first. No floral pieces will be placed in front of indoor crypts.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SERVICE, ANY REMAINING FLOWERS NOT REMOVED BY THE FAMILY WILL BE DISCARDED.

Crypts and Niches

Only flowers, placed in the vases provided by the cemetery, are permitted. Additional decorations placed on the shutter, in the vases or on the walkway, will be removed and discarded.

NO FLOWERS OR DECORATIONS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED INSIDE ST. CLARE CHAPEL. ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS ONLY, PLACED IN THE VASES PROVIDED BY THE CEMETERY, ARE ALLOWED INSIDE ST. JOSEPH MAUSOLEUM.

Picture tiles **MUST** be ordered through the cemetery office and are subject to size and placement restrictions.

Gravesite

All flowers, fresh cut or artificial, must be placed in the vases provided by the cemetery, within a monument base or marker frame. **GLASS OR CERAMIC VASES, JARS OR STATUES AND ANY WIRE USED TO ATTACH DÉCOR TO HEADSTONES ARE DANGEROUS AND WILL BE REMOVED WITHOUT NOTICE.** Planter boxes, potted plants, tin cans, toys, pots, candles and any similar items will also be removed without notice.

Fresh flowers will be left as long as they remain attractive. Artificial flowers mixed with fresh flowers will be discarded.

Wind chimes or bird feeders, attached to trees, etc. are not permitted. The planting of trees, plants, lawn or shrubs is prohibited. Picking flowers, breaking branches or removing, injuring or cutting trees, plants or shrubs is also prohibited.

General

These rules and regulations will be consistently enforced. The cemetery **WILL NOT** be liable for vases, floral pieces, baskets or potted plants beyond the acceptance of such floral pieces for committal services. The cemetery is not responsible for grave decorations of any kind which are damaged, lost or removed. Santa Clara Mission Cemetery reserves the right to modify or change these regulations at any time.

Please direct any comments or questions to the office in person or by calling **408-296-4656**. Your cooperation in observing these regulations will help us maintain and improve the cemetery.

<u>Hours:</u>	GROUNDS:	8:00AM to 6:00PM	OR DUSK YEAR-ROUND, INCLUDING HOLIDAYS
	OFFICE:	MONDAY THRU FRIDAY	8:00AM TO 4:00PM
		SATURDAY	9:00 AM TO 3:00PM
		SUNDAY CLOSED	



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A message from:

The Rector, Jesuit Community

A Reflection on Flowers and Decorations

The Santa Clara Mission Cemetery is a Catholic cemetery in the Jesuit tradition. In our inclusive ministry of burying the dead and comforting those who mourn, we demonstrate reverence, respect, and dignity for all human beings who remain, before all else, the beloved children of God.

The cemetery serves as a place of retreat that reminds us, by its physical beauty and by the visible marks of perpetual care, that all who visit remain in loving and graceful communion with those who have gone before us.

Honoring our loved ones with signs of living memory is a praiseworthy undertaking consistent with our Catholic Christian tradition. Hence, the placing of appropriate flower arrangements (fresh or artificial) at gravesites is encouraged. It is important, however, to acknowledge that these gestures are only tokens of our abiding love; nothing placed on the grave will ever adequately express all that we might wish to communicate—to our loved ones, to ourselves, to God.

Hence, we must strive to cultivate an “eloquent simplicity” in our remembrances, and the flower policies have been revised to reflect this goal. This decorative restraint aims, first, to preserve the beauty of the entire cemetery, so that *everyone* can be comforted by these surroundings. Second, it aims to acknowledge that some tokens are not appropriate for the cemetery environment (e.g., rosary beads, sports pennants, etc.) because they are more properly appreciated by the living (i.e., the rosary beads *should be used in prayer*, the pennants *should be kept by family who understand their significance*, etc.). Third, the simplicity allows the staff to maintain the grounds in safety.

There may very well be times throughout the year where the desire to memorialize our loved ones feels more intense. Understanding these occasions, Santa Clara Mission Cemetery will begin to provide a variety of options for consideration: seasonal arrangements consistent with decoration policies, online memorial books that can include photos and testimonials, etc. Thank you for receiving and abiding by these policies in the spirit in which they have been presented.