

**REGULATIONS – April, 2025**  
**MOUNT CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY**  
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To better facilitate ease of maintenance and preserve spirituality and an orderly and neat appearance of the Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery-Bryan, Monsignor Gleissner Memorial Mausoleums-Bryan, Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery-Smetana, and Old Smetana Cemetery-Mount Calvary (hereinafter referred to as the “Cemetery”), the following Regulations have been adopted by the Board of Directors of the Cemetery. The Cemetery is owned by the Bishop of the Diocese of Austin, and any Cemetery space purchased is a “Right of Burial” only.

In the March 20, 2023, doctrinal statement *On the Proper Disposition of Bodily Remains*, The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, while reiterating the Church’s preference for burial of the human body, does allow cremation with the requirement of showing proper respect to the ashes of the deceased. The entirety of the cremated remains of the deceased are to be laid to rest in a sacred place such as a Catholic cemetery, mausoleum or columbarium as soon after the funeral services as possible. The cremated remains may not be scattered, encased in jewelry or other mementos, kept at home, or divided among family members and friends. Burial of the body or cremated remains of a person shows respect for the deceased and manifests our hope in the resurrection of the body.

1. **All persons and vehicles must leave the Cemetery by posted times.** No driving or parking on Cemetery lawn or gravesites is allowed. Driving and parking is permitted on paved areas only. Speed limit is 15 mph on all roads in the Cemetery. Unauthorized persons will be reported to the Bryan Police Department and prosecuted.
2. **NO RECREATIONAL USE OF THE CEMETERY IS ALLOWED,** including but not limited to loitering, playing, picnicking, littering, eating, drinking, smoking, consuming or leaving alcohol, drugs or tobacco, celebrating, exercising, biking, bringing pets, playing music, sitting or playing on monuments, disturbing gravesites, climbing fences, gates or walls, or any other activities not conducive to respecting the Cemetery. **CONGREGATING IN LARGE GROUPS OTHER THAN FOR FUNERALS IS NOT ALLOWED.** **The cemetery is a sacred place,** consecrated as holy burial grounds for visitation, prayer, and sacraments to be conducted in a quiet and respectful manner.
3. Only (1) **one artificial flower arrangement** may be placed at the head of the grave in an approved monument vase (preferred). **If a monument is constructed with its own approved vase, it is to be used instead of any other flower container.** If a monument is without a vase, then flowers may be placed in an approved grey un-decorated 1”-2” wide PVC pipe driven to at least six inches above ground to protect flowers from string trimmers and mowers. No flower saddles on monuments, please. Fresh flowers may be placed in the monument vase but not mixed with artificial flowers and picked up within two (2) days. Vases that are not properly adhered to the monument or are broken or damaged will be removed. Replacement vases must be of the same material as the original.
4. Flowers should be in a **one-bunch unit** and firmly placed in the vase or container to prevent blowing out. **ANYTHING EXCEPT FLOWERS WILL BE REMOVED.** Do not leave any item you wish to keep—no decorations of any kind are allowed. No items that were not part of the approved permanent monument are allowed, including statues (religious or otherwise).
5. Seasonal flowers are to be removed within two (2) weeks from date of holiday, and flowers from a new gravesite are to be removed within one (1) week from date of burial. **Artificial flowers** are to be changed often (at least monthly) to keep insects from nesting and petals from becoming faded and brittle. Do not overload monument vases with flowers, which causes vases to topple—remove old flowers before placing new flowers. No wreaths are allowed. American flags may be properly placed in vases or containers for commemoration of **Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day** only and will be removed within one (1) week of holiday.
6. After two (2) years from date of burial, if no monument is placed on the burial space, then no container or flowers are allowed until a monument is erected, preferably with a vase. Once temporary markers (those issued by a funeral home at time of burial) lose their information, they are subject to removal. No temporary markers made of granite or set in concrete are allowed. Before a monument is installed, the temporary marker will be removed.

7. No curbs, walkways, benches, ground mausoleums, ledgers, corner markers, stones, concrete, fencing, perpetual or solar candles or any other types of structures or items are permitted.
8. The Cemetery has control of all landscaping, plantings, and/or removal of any plants, bushes, shrubs or trees. No trees, plantings or flower beds of any kind will be allowed without a Board-approved landscape plan.
9. All graves must be maintained flush with the top of the ground for mowing purposes. The lot owner/family, contracted lawn company, and volunteers may fill in sunken graves as needed with the dirt at the cemetery. The owner/family may plant grass at ground level only. The mowing company will maintain the grass at the same height for the entire Cemetery.
10. No entrenchments or borders of any kind are allowed around grave spaces or lots. No water hoses may be left at the Cemetery, or they will be removed. No sprinkler systems may be placed in the Cemetery.
11. A Monument/Shutter Approval Permit is required to create and install a foundation and monument and to level, engrave or add to an existing monument, all of which must be installed by an approved vendor. Existing monuments may not be changed, except by a living record owner. See *Memo for Monuments on the Cemetery website listed above for more detailed information.*
12. No date of death inscription may be placed on a monument or shutter until after the deceased has been buried in that space, nor may a monument or shutter be installed for a deceased person who is not buried in that space.
13. At the time of burial, if a monument or footstone must be moved to dig a grave, then the family must contract with a monument company or with the approved gravedigging service to properly re-set the moved monument. If additional items need to be moved, such as other markers, curbing, statues, or benches, they cannot be replaced.
14. Cemetery Perpetual Care does not include the purchase, erection, repair or replacement of monuments, headstones, markers, shutters, vases, statues, photos, emblems, or any other item in the Cemetery. The Cemetery is not responsible for vandalism, theft, breakage, or damages, and is not responsible for reimbursements or solutions for such. All monument care and maintenance are the responsibilities of the owner/family.
15. An outer concrete, metal or equivalent container is required for all ground casket interments. No wooden vaults are allowed. An outer container is also required for a cremation burial when it will be stacked with a casket burial on top of the cremation burial. Casket trays are required for all crypt entombments.
16. Trash containers in the Cemetery are for Cemetery use only—not for personal use or dumping. Any individual found using these containers for personal use or dumping will be liable for prosecution.
17. Major violations, such as installation of concrete or other unauthorized monuments, erection of benches, curbing or borders, or raised lots, which are not removed by the record owner/family, heir(s) or authorized representative(s) when notified by any means of communication by the Cemetery will be corrected by the Cemetery at record owner's expense, and the expense will be added to the next cemetery transaction requested by record owner/family, his heir(s) or authorized representative(s).
18. THE CEMETERY SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMOVE ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING, including grandfathered items that have become broken or an obstruction to maintenance or are contrary to these Cemetery Regulations. *The Regulations, Policy, and By-Laws are revised periodically. Any cemetery actions are subject to revisions or amendments.*
19. Not Complying with Cemetery Regulations and Policy is prohibited. A Criminal Trespass Affidavit is on file with the Bryan Police Department for enforcement. All Cemetery Representatives and Bryan PD Officers are authorized to advise any person to leave the Cemetery premises, including parking lots and vacant areas. Failure to vacate the premises after being so instructed by a Cemetery Representative or Bryan PD Officer may result in an arrest for trespassing.