

St. Aloysius Cemetery Policies

Effective: December 9, 2023

Cemetery plots are sold by St. Aloysius Catholic Church, a Corporate Sole. The Deed that is issued permits burial of **human** remains in the assigned plot number, as designated by row and grave number. All sales are non-refundable, but may be transferred (see below). Important: all sales or Deeds **DO NOT** include any other products or services such as internment, vaults, etc. Such services or products may be obtained from vendors or various service providers, some of which are listed below.

Important: Effective December 9, 2023 and forward, sales of St. Aloysius Catholic Cemetery plots are restricted to currently registered Parishioners of St. Aloysius Catholic Church or Mary Star of the Sea Mission or at the discretion of the currently assigned Pastor of these two Catholic Churches. Registration is determined by the Parish Registration on file with the Parish Office.

Transfers: Upon presentation of an original Deed, the owner or next of kin possessing the Deed may select an alternative unused burial space. The transfer requires cancellation of the original Deed and issuance of a new Deed. There is no charge for this, but the number of 'new' plots must equal the number of those being exchanged on a one-to-one basis, regardless of the individual plot size or for multiple plots, sizes (for example if the original a plot size was 5' x 12', it could be swapped for another marked plot of any dimension, such as 4' x 9'). No monetary adjustment is permitted as this is an equal exchange of one plot for one plot, two plots for 2 plots, etc.) Swapping a cremated remains plot for a standard plot or a standard plot for a cremated remains plot is NOT permitted; the plots being swapped must be of the same type, though in some cases, dimensions may be different per the Cemetery plot map.

Before burial, please contact the Cemetery Director who will locate and mark the assigned plot; you **MUST** provide the ***original Deed*** to the plot to be used for burial. You will also need to provide any legal form required for internment (the funeral service you use will provide details and assist.) For consensual second burials in the same grave, complete the release form and have the person with custody of the body (such as next of kin) sign it.

The Cemetery does not have an endowment for continued maintenance. Parishioners and volunteers of St. Aloysius Catholic Church cut vegetation and trim the cemetery grounds twice a year (end of May before Memorial Day and prior to Labor Day). Next of kin are welcome to join in maintenance or may donate to the Cemetery Fund to help pay for any major improvements or maintenance.

St. Aloysius Catholic Church, a Corporate Sole, its clergy, deacons, lay directors, or parishioners are **NOT** responsible for repair of markers, monuments, plots or any other feature that may be due to vandalism, weather, ground movement, internment of other adjacent remains, or any other causation. All such risks and responsibilities are that of the plot owner or estate as established by California Law.

The Cemetery is open to the public during daylight hours and is closed dusk to dawn. The Mendocino County Sheriff is authorized to arrest anyone trespassing in the Cemetery during late evening and nighttime hours.

Plots and Prices:

Standard Plots: Current price is one thousand, five hundred (\$1,500) U.S. Dollars per plot. Each is typically 4 feet wide by 9 feet long; a raised masonry or concrete perimeter may be added, but must not exceed the length(s) and width(s) of the adjacent plot(s) that will or have been used and have been fully paid for with Deed(s). Monuments or markers must be contained within the 4 by 9-foot plot area per burial site. Non-conforming perimeter walls may be removed by Cemetery management. Up to two (2) non-cremated "stacked" remains burials may be made per plot (California law applies. Contact the Cemetery Director for required depth for vaults. All caskets MUST be contained within a burial vault to help avoid ground settlement. Cremated remains of related persons may be placed within the standard plot; each must have its own interment marker of a size at least 18 inches by 18 inches set directly above the interred remains. Cemetery policy permits up to 6 cremated remains of related person(s) to be contained in each Standard Plot.

Natural Burials in Standard Plots: Natural burials are permitted starting January 1, 2019 unless disallowed by the Coroner or Law Enforcement due to an on-going investigation. For natural burials, bodies do not need to be embalmed and must be fully enclosed within a shroud of a natural fiber. (Contact the Funeral Home or Mortuary for other requirements). Bodies are laid directly in the soil without the need for a casket or vault and covered with no less than 18 inches of soil / turf. Due to natural decomposition, some settling of the soil is expected and the Cemetery will endeavor to add covering soil as it becomes available from other sites. Only one non-cremated body per plot is allowed for natural burial (unless two bodies are buried together on the same interment date). Click for more information: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_burial

Cremated Remains Plots: Current price is \$500 for a plot that is 36 inches square (36" x 36"). One person's remains may be buried per plot and must be covered by a stone or bronze marker that is no larger than 24" inches length or width. The cremated remains section is directly to the west of the back road or in other specially designated sections of the Cemetery (Sections 1, 2, 4 and 7)

Installment Sales: Plots may be purchased at the current prices in effect on the date of purchase with a down payment, followed by periodic additional payments until the plots is fully paid for. No interest is charged for this convenience. A record of payments will be maintained by the Cemetery Director or Parish Bookkeeper. ***IMPORTANT: No burial in a plot purchased on the installment plan is permitted UNTIL the plot is fully paid for.***

Priest and Ordained Deacon Plots:

Standard Plots will be offered per the following policies. This applies only to the charge for the Deed for the cemetery plot and does not include or provide for grave opening / closing, burial costs or other such costs.

Priest Plot: In the event of the death of the currently assigned Priest of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, a standard plot will be offered at no cost to his estate for the sole purpose of burial of his remains. If his estate declines burial in the Cemetery, then this offer is void.

After ten years of continuous assignment to St. Aloysius Church, one standard plot Deed will be awarded to the Priest at no cost in recognition of his dedicated service to the Church. This awarded Deed shall be in perpetuity.

Deacon Plot: After ten years of continuous service to St. Aloysius Catholic Church, one standard plot Deed will be awarded at no cost to the Ordained Deacon as gratitude for service to the Church. The policy regarding a second burial within or burial of cremated remains in the same plot will be governed by the terms of “Standard Plot” as described in a previous section.

Contacts:

Use the Cemetery inquiry form on the St. Aloysius website at:

<https://staloyiuscatholicchurch.org/st-aloysius-catholic-cemetery/>

Mail cemetery inquiries to:

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
Attention: Cemetery Director
P.O. Box 66
Point Arena, CA 95468
Include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return mail.

Caskets, vaults and stone monuments are to be delivered directly to the plot in the cemetery and delivery must be coordinated one week in advance with the Cemetery Director.

Mortuary: Any licensed mortuary may be used. One local service is: Chapel by the Sea (Fort Bragg, CA) 707-964-5675 Services, casket, burial vault, etc.

<http://www.chapelbythesea.biz/>

Interment: Contact the Cemetery Directory for names and contacts of current vendors for digging and covering the grave. Costs range from \$700 to \$1,200+ depending on schedule and excavation. Payments are made directly to the selected vendor typically by cash or certified check.

Monument Vendors:

You may select any vendor to create / install your cemetery marker (you can also obtain and install a marker yourself). Markers must fit within the plot dimensions of the plot per the Cemetery Map (or adjoining plots for family sites).

- North Bay Monument (Rohnert Park, CA) 707-586-0480 Markers and placement, repair
<http://www.northbaymonument.com/>

California Laws and Regulations Governing Cemeteries:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&division=8.&title=&part=1.&chapter=3.5.&article=

<https://www.cfb.ca.gov/consumer/funeral.shtml>

8113.1.

(a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), there shall be no less than 18 inches of dirt or turf on top of all vaults or caskets as measured at the time of burial.

(b) Cremated remains placed in an urn or urn vault and covered with at least three-quarters of an inch of concrete, brass, granite, marble, or metal plate, affixed to the urn or urn vault shall be exempt from the requirement of subdivision (a).

(c) In the case of consensual double burials, the casket or vault that is on top shall be covered with at least 12 inches of dirt or turf as measured at the time of burial.

(d) In a case of extreme hardship, upon request of the next of kin or other person responsible for making the burial arrangements for the deceased, a burial of less than 18, but not less than 12 inches may be provided.

(Added by Stats. 1992, Ch. 828, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1993.)