

St David's Episcopal Church

Graveyard Rules and Regulations

610-688-7947

www.stdavidchurch.org

Updated February 2013

The sale of Burial Plot(s) or Lot(s) is limited to only those people who are known to the Rector; referred to hereinafter in "Graveyard Rules and Regulations" as "Known Communicants". They are communicants in good standing of St. David's Episcopal Church. The Church retains the right to not sell Burial Plots or Lots to any person who is not a "Known Communicant" of the Church.

Burial rights are personal and do not convey, an interest in real property, and therefore cannot be assigned, sold or transferred to anyone other than the specified lot holder(s), without express prior consent of the Rector. Should burial rights be sold or otherwise assigned to any person in violation of the foregoing, the Church retains the right to refuse to recognize said assignment.

1. Persons purchasing burial privileges do so with the understanding that no title is conveyed, and that the church retains ownership of the Plots and or Lots purchased. Only the privileges of burial are deeded to the owner.
2. Perpetual care is provided and included in the cost of the plot.
3. Burial privileges are not transferable, saleable, or assignable to any person other than the original grantee, except as may be provided in the Conveyance of Burial Privileges, or to immediate family by assignment or devised last will and testament. Should the holder of the burial privileges at any time wish to relinquish the same, the Church will repurchase the Plot(s) / Lot(s) at the original price.
4. No burial can take place until payment is made in full.
5. Unless otherwise specified by the Rector and the Rector's Warden, there are no provisions for the acceptance of down payments, partial or reservation payments.
6. No burial, funeral or memorial service can be held in the Graveyard without the permission of the Rector.
7. No monument or placement of a monument, gravestone or marker of any kind or accompanying foundation can be dug, placed or erected in the Graveyard without the permission of the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager. If unauthorized placement of markers or monuments occurs, St. David's Church reserves the right to remove the markers/monuments from the Graveyard without notice to the lot owner.
8. No statuary of any kind is permitted in the Graveyard.
9. No burial lot shall be used for any purpose other than as a place for the burial of human remains or ashes of a deceased person.
10. All body burials, both single and double depth, require a Vault. No exceptions will be made to this requirement.
11. The scattering of ashes in the Graveyard is prohibited.

12. No exhumations or disinterments of bodies or ashes are permitted in the Graveyard without obtaining permission from the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager. Families who obtain permission must understand that there may be additional costs involved in moving a body burial. Vault, casket and Funeral home expenses may need to be considered especially if moving a body burial outside the St. David's Graveyard.
13. All monuments are subject to approval by the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager. Tombstones or monuments incorporating images or representations of the deceased are prohibited. No images of any kind are permitted on stones. Without permission of the Rector and /or Parish Administrator.
14. All monuments or markers for ash internments must be the size and type allowable by the Rector.
15. All monument foundations are installed by St. David's Church grounds personnel or by an authorized installer. All installations are reviewed and supervised by the Property Manager using the description and drawings provided by the monuments company. All foundations may not exceed a five (5) square foot impermeable footprint area in each individual plot.
16. No contractors or workers from outside the Church may do any work in the Graveyard, of any kind, without first communicating with the Parish Administrator and/or the Property Manager and receiving permission to enter the Graveyard.
 - a. They will be subject to the Parish Administrator's and/or Property Manager's control and direction. Any worker who is doing work in the Graveyard with the permission of the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager may be ordered to vacate the premises if, in our discretion, the letter or spirit of these regulations are being violated, and at the Rectors discretion, may not be permitted thereafter to work therein.
17. No workers can be employed by the owner of a burial plot to do work of any kind in the Graveyard.
18. Enclosures of any kind around burial lot(s) or plot(s) are not permitted.
19. Monument dealers must submit drawing of all proposed burial stones for the Parish Administrator's and/or Property Manager's approval
 - a. All stone must be either gray Granite or white marble. No other color of stone is permitted.
 - b. Flat Bronze military markers are permitted
 - c. Bronze military campaign markers with flag holders are permitted.
 - d. White marble and gray granite military markers are permitted, and are the only stones that are permitted to be delivered to the Church
 - e. All other stones must be of a colonial type of design. Please see attached images of colonial stones.
 - f. No stone can protrude vertically from the ground more than four (4) feet and exceed an impermeable footprint of five (5) feet. All requests for large, oversized stones, obelisks or large markers like crosses must be reviewed and approved by the Rector.
20. Mail-order stones of any design permitted in the Graveyard. All will be "refused shipments" and not permitted to be unloaded from the shipping vendors truck.
21. The only stones or markers permitted to be shipped to St. David's Church graveyard are military markers. All other stones must be manufactured and installed by local monument companies, once approved. The monument's foundation is to be installed by St. David's Grounds Personnel. (See #16 for foundation information).

22. **DO NOT PURCHASE OR PAY FOR A STONE UNTIL** The Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager has **APPROVED THE DESIGN** sent from the monument dealer. As above, mail order stones, with the exception of military markers, will be accepted for delivery.
23. All plans for improvements to burial lot(s) or plot(s), including but not limited to installations, additions, or improvements to Monuments, must be submitted in advance first to the Parish administrator in writing, with appropriate drawings. The Parish reserves the right to prevent or remove any monument, addition or alteration which the Church considers injurious to the immediate locality, or prejudicial to the general appearance of the grounds.
24. No tree or shrubs shall be planted anywhere in the graveyard. If any tree or scrubs already situated on the burial lot, shall by means of their roots, branches or otherwise become detrimental to adjacent lots or avenues of passage, or unsightly, or inconvenient to egress an area, it shall be the duty and right of the church to remove said trees or shrubs, or any portion thereof.
25. Cut flowers, bouquet, potted plants, dried arrangement and flowering baskets are permitted at any time, but they will be removed as soon as they become unsightly.
 - a. Artificial flowers or other decorations are not permitted at any time and will be removed immediately by the grounds crew.
 - b. The Church is not responsible for containers for flowers and plants and the containers may be removed by the grounds crew once they become unsightly or broken.
26. Flowers for the Christmas season may be placed no earlier than December 1st and will be removed by January 8th or earlier if they become unsightly.
27. Easter Flowers may be placed on a grave no earlier than two weeks before Easter and may remain on the grave for the two weeks following Easter unless they become unsightly and will be removed.
28. The Burial owner and their heirs are responsible for supplying contact information, to include a mailing address, phone numbers, both home and cell, as well as a valid email address for as long as they own the burial lot(s) plot(s). And when necessary to update this information.

Graveyard Guidelines for Burials

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Basic Guidelines

- The rector or any associate clergy person must give approval before scheduling a funeral or service of any kind.
- Grave sites or plots are not sold to the general public.
- In order to have a burial at St. David's you must own a plot. In order to purchase a plot, you must be a contributing, active member of the Parish and be known to the Rector.
- No casket may be left in either the Chapel or the old Church overnight for any reason.
- It is customary in the Episcopal Church for a funeral pall to cover the casket during the service as everyone is treated equally in the sight of God.

Purchasing a Gravesite

The cost of a single grave is \$1,500.00 which includes perpetual care.

Vaults are required for all body burials. A gravesite is defined as a single burial lot, which is 4 x 8 feet in dimension, and can accommodate two body burials or three ash burials. Gravesites can only be sold to Church members in good standing who are known to the Rector.

Ground conditions may prohibit double depth interments in some sections of the Graveyard. There can be additional "Ground Conditions" expenses of \$100.00 for any additional work needed to keep a grave open. The funeral director will be notified if this pertains.

Funeral, Burial and Memorial Service Fees

(Payment of all applicable fees is required prior to the time of service)

Emergency grave openings (less than 48 hours notice) are an additional \$250.00.

Service Preparation Fee		\$300.00
Clergy Honorarium		\$500.00
Music Fees		
	Organist	\$225.00
	Additional Instruments	\$250.00
	Soloist	\$250.00
Grave Opening Fee (s)	Body- Single Depth	\$1200.00
	Body-Double Depth	\$1500.00
Cremations		\$600.00

Sexton Fee	\$150.0
Tent	\$100.00
Receptions	\$250.00 for three hours
Ground Conditions	\$100.00 (only if needed)
Burial Monument Fee	\$500.00

Explanations:

Service Preparation Fee

The service preparation fee of \$300.00, sometimes referred to as the General Fee, covers the time taken for preparation of all paperwork and coordination of the personnel needed to organize a funeral, burial or memorial service, and covers the cost of supplies used to produce and print programs.

Clergy Honorarium

An honorarium of \$500.00 is given to the Clergy who conducts the service.

Music

The Director of Music at the Church will make all arrangements for the music at the service. A soloist or instrumentalist is available, if desired, in addition to the organist. Please contact the Director of Music at the Church office 610-688-7947.

Receptions

The St. David's Fellowship Hall is available for receptions at a fee of \$250.00 for three hours. Any time over three hours will be billed at \$100.00 per additional hour. Please call the Church office to make arrangements.

Reception Catering

The family is welcome to have a catered reception. The choice of the caterer is made by the family, who assumes all responsibility. Soft drinks, wine and beer are allowed. No hard alcohol is permitted. Please advise the Church office of your intention to have a reception catered, and the date, time and name of the caterer.

Flowers

The family is responsible for the flower arrangements. All altar arrangements must be in St. David's Church vases. Liners are available from the Church to be used by the florist. Two large arrangements are permitted on the altar in the Church and/or on the pedestals in the Chapel. All other flower arrangements must remain outside and be set to flank the doors of the Church or can be placed in the Chapel Narthex.

Funeral Directors

The family is welcome to choose a funeral director. Most of the local funeral directors have copies of our fees and are familiar with our policies. Any questions about St. David's fees should be referred to the Parish Administrator for clarification.

Obituary Notices

It is important that obituary notices be placed in a newspaper as soon as possible, in order to inform friends of funeral arrangements. The funeral director can assist you with this task. Please provide a copy of the obituary to the Church office.

Monuments

All monuments requested to be placed in the Graveyard must be in keeping with the general design and appearance of an historic colonial graveyard. (See "Graveyard Rules and Regulations" for more detail). A refundable fee of \$500.00 is required at the time of the interment to assure that an appropriate monument is secured and installed within 12 months of the burial. If one is not requested, reviewed and installed, the fee will be used to defer the cost of a gray-granite, flat marker with the decedent's name and dates of birth and death. The marker will be placed at the head of the burial plot.

Monument Types

1. Stone types must be either:
 - a. White marble
 - b. Gray granite
2. Monuments must be cut in a colonial style:
 - a. No more than four (4) feet tall from ground level once installed.
 - b. No more than two (2) feet wide at ground level, with a maximum footprint of five (5) square feet.
 - c. Size exceptions can be made for family lot markers.
 - d. All stone designs and sizes will be reviewed before approval by the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager.
3. All monument companies must submit a drawing of the requested monument/stone showing and describing the size, type and dimensions of the stone. The exact words that will be inscribed on the monument/stone must also be included. This information is reviewed by the Parish Administrator and/or Property Manager.
4. No Monument can be placed in the Graveyard without first being approved.
5. No foundation can be dug, erected or inserted into the Graveyard by anyone other than St. David's grounds personnel.

A copy of the **Graveyard Rules and Regulations** is available upon request.

The following companies have installed the majority of Monuments in the Graveyard:

H. C. Woods, Inc.
610-622-0550