St David's Episcopal Church

Graveyard Rules and Regulations

610-688-7947

www.stdavidschurch.org

Updated April 2017

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 plot, you may donate the plot back to the church and we will send you documentation of the present day value, which can be used as a tax deduction. We cannot refund you for your purchase.
- 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 venders 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.