

CREMATION

Placement Options for the Catholic Community



Planning in Advance

By making arrangements in advance, families can avoid confusion and unexpected costs at the time of loss. Additionally, you can be sure that your wishes will be honored and that you can choose the type of services and memorialization that are most appropriate for you and comforting to your family.

Services

The Committal Service, the final opportunity to pay tribute and say goodbye, may be held at the niche or gravesite or in one of our beautiful chapels.

It is the time to share a few final thoughts in the comfort of family and friends while gathered together for a brief service. Rituals are a healthy way of moving through times of transition.

The Catholic Church has a Rite of Committal that allows for prayer and reflection before the cremated body is entrusted to the care of the Cemetery.

Catholic Cemeteries

Catholic Cemeteries are a reminder that death is a part of the journey that leads to a new life. Catholic Cemeteries are sacred places that create a spiritual environment conducive to prayer, reflection, and remembrance.

By choosing a Catholic Cemetery, you select a final resting place that reflects the beliefs and values of life's personal journey.

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

Philippians 1:3



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CEMETERY

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES | ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

1500 Mission Road • Colma, CA
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A Tradition of Faith Throughout Our Lives.

Life is Worth Remembering

Placement and Memorial Options

Legacy:

Large, unique family plots and columbaria; heritage sites and historic sections; an opportunity to share the family stories and unite loved ones in memory.

Elegance:

Beautiful glass niches display urns personalized to reflect a life story.

Traditional:

In-ground burial in landscaped sections to commemorate a life well-lived.

Tribute:

A marble niche in a Garden Court or Mausoleum features engraved names, dates, and photo medallion.

Memorial:

Memorial options include: inscribing a name on a Memory Tree, designing a Memorial Bench, lighting a Memorial Candle, donating one of the Stations of the Cross, or placing a name on an existing family monument.

What You Need to Know

If you are thinking about cremation, it is important to know and understand all of the choices available to you. Our Family Services Advisors can help you personalize your services and create a lasting memory.

Cremation is not the end. Just as the full body is placed in a grave or crypt, the cremated body should be treated with respect as well.



Questions and Answers

Q. What is cremation?

A. Cremation is the reduction of the body of a deceased person to recoverable bone fragments through a process that combines intense heat and evaporation. The fragments are then pulverized becoming what we call "cremated remains".

Q. I thought the Catholic Church didn't allow cremation?

A. At one time the church did not approve of the practice of cremation because of its historical ties to the persecution of Christians and a rejection of the belief in resurrection. However, today the Church recognizes that people choose cremation for a variety of reasons that are not in conflict with the church's teachings of life, death, and resurrection. The Church not only allows cremation but also has developed a specific liturgy for Masses with the cremated remains present, Memorial Masses and Committal Services. Your Catholic Cemetery provides a wide variety of placement and memorialization options designed specifically for cremated remains.

Q. Does Holy Cross own a crematory?

A. No. Your Funeral Director will arrange for the cremation with a local crematory.

Q. Do I need to purchase an urn?

A. Cremated remains are required to be placed in a durable container after cremation. Holy Cross offers a variety of urns so that you may choose one that is personalized and meaningful. Because there are so many different places throughout the cemetery for cremated remains you will need to check with a Family Services Advisor to determine what size and style urn will fit in the grave or niche you select.

Q. Why would I put my cremated remains in a Catholic Cemetery?

A. Catholic Cemeteries are a reminder that death is a part of the journey that leads to new life. Catholic Cemeteries are sacred places that create a religious environment conducive to prayer, reflection, and remembrance. By choosing a Catholic Cemetery, one selects a final resting place that reflects the beliefs and values of life's personal journey. It is a resting place that is sacred.

"We have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven."

2 Corinthians 5:1



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