

Our Lady and All Saints cemetery is dedicated and continues to provide a burial ground, for past and present parishioners.

The church was opened in 1884 and the cemetery a few years later, in 1887. The Register of Burials (bodily and cremated) is kept in The Priory. The cemetery also contains a parish ashes plot, which was opened in 2001.

The Right of Burial in the cemetery is granted subject to the decrees and canons of the Catholic Church and the rules and regulations of the cemetery in force at any particular time. It is a condition of plot ownership<sup>1</sup> that these rules and regulations are adhered to.

The cemetery is private property, owned by the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the right is reserved to exclude any person from the cemetery, whose conduct is inappropriate.

The parish does its best to maintain the cemetery as a place of dignity and beauty, worthy of its purpose. However, this involves work and expense far beyond the burial and monumental fees, and it should be noted that the maintenance of the cemetery is undertaken by parishioners on a voluntary basis.

Proper maintenance can only be achieved with the understanding and cooperation of all those who use the cemetery.

Cemetery regulations and other useful information can be viewed below.

Information about Cemetery Fees can be viewed below.

Please contact the Parish Office to find out the current fees.

Plot Ownership - Registered Owner of the Right of Burial, who holds a right of burial.



# Parish of Our Lady and All Saints Church, Parbold Cemetery Information and Regulations

Our Lady and All Saints cemetery comprises burial grounds for bodily remains (graveyard) and for cremated remains (parish ashes plot). Cemetery maintenance is carried out by volunteers, and all cemetery users are asked to conform with these regulations to assist in facilitating this. These regulations apply equally to all areas of the cemetery.

The scattering of cremated remains within the cemetery will not be permitted under any circumstances.

## **New Plots**

New plots in either the graveyard or parish ashes plot, will normally only be allocated for deceased parishioners of Our Lady and All Saints, or those who have ceased to reside in the parish through being residents of nursing homes or hospitals outside the parish. Plots may not be pre-purchased.

New plots will be allocated based on the next available according to the cemetery plan.

The standard for the digging of new plots in the graveyard is to provide a capacity for three interments, and in parish ashes plot, a capacity for two interments.

Cremated remains may be interred in either the parish ashes plot or in a graveyard plot.

#### Memorials

Our Lady and All Saints is a lawned cemetery and restrictions are in place regarding the type of memorial permitted. The memorial mason who must be a BRAMM or NAMM registered installer must undertake that the memorial is constructed and installed in accordance with the current edition of the NAMM Code of Working Practice and British Standard BS 8415 and agree to abide by the cemetery regulations.

No memorial may be erected without the prior written authorisation of the parish priest or other person authorised for this purpose.

The only memorial stone permitted in the graveyard is a headstone.

The maximum size of memorial permitted is:

Base	90cm wide x 40cm deep x 10cm high
Memorial	80cm wide x 30cm deep x 90cm high (unless a cross, then 100cm high)

The right is reserved to remove any memorials or ornaments which the parish priest or other person authorised for that purpose in their absolute discretion consider to be inappropriate.

#### **Memorial Safety**

Once a memorial is erected, it remains the responsibility of the plot owner to maintain it in a safe condition at all times. Neither the Archdiocese of Liverpool nor the parish accept responsibility for their safety and security. The right is reserved to move and take away any memorial, which is allowed to deteriorate so as to constitute a danger to others. If the



memorial is in a dangerous state and as a result, injury is caused to a third party, then the responsibility lies with the plot owner.

The parish will carry out periodic risk assessments in the cemetery and should any memorial be found to pose a risk, they will inform the plot owner who has the responsibility to address the identified problem within a reasonable timescale.

If the memorial is not restored to a safe condition within a reasonable timescale, the parish reserves the right to move, remove and take away such memorial. If the owner of the memorial cannot be identified or traced, then the memorial will be removed after appropriate notice has been given in the parish newsletter.

Should the parish incur costs in making safe or removing memorials then it reserves the right to make a charge upon the registered plot owner and may hold this as a charge against future burials if unpaid.

# Damage

The parish cannot accept responsibility for damage done to memorials, whether it is due to vandalism, the weather or other causes beyond our control. It is the responsibility of the plot owner to maintain their memorial in a way that contributes to the dignity of the whole cemetery. The right is reserved to remove any memorials that are left disfigured or damaged for a long time.

## **Grave Maintenance and Aftercare**

For the period after burial:

- After burial all graves will be tidied up and left in an acceptable condition by the parish. The levelling of graves during the period of settlement will be carried out by the parish as required, and this can take about a year.
- During this period, a simple wooden cross marked with the name of the deceased may be placed at the head of the grave.
- Flowers may be placed in vases or pots embedded in the soil.
- Small bedding plants may be put in, but the un-turfed area may not be extended.
- When the time for returfing or seeding the grave comes, the groundsmen will remove all above items, but will leave at the head of the grave, anything the plot owner may wish to reclaim. They will be disposed of if the plot owner does not remove them within a reasonable time. Thereafter the parish will undertake the turfing, seeding and maintenance of the lawned areas. No cost will be incurred to the owner of the right of burial.

Anything that hinders the maintenance of the cemetery is not permitted. Examples include wedges, permanent crosses, wooden memorials, statues, chains, gravel, kerbstones, or fences around graves.



No item is permitted to be placed in the lawned areas between the rows of headstones. Similarly, vases, flowers, plants, trees, dug borders, ornaments are not permitted outside the area of the headstone. Free-standing vases are only permitted if they stand on the headstone plinth / base.

Any memorial or other item that does not conform to the above may be removed without notice by the parish.

No trees or shrubs may be planted in the cemetery, and no seats or benches are allowed, except with permission by the parish priest. Any application should be made in writing.

Cemetery users are asked to keep the cemetery clean and tidy and are specifically required to remove their own items of refuse from grave areas e.g. floral tributes, wreaths and plants using the waste bins provided. Any remaining Christmas foliage will be removed by the grounds maintenance volunteers prior to Ash Wednesday.

# **Parish Ashes Plot**

The parish ashes plot, which is at the northeast sector of the cemetery, has a single memorial stone, upon which the deceased's name and date of death will be inscribed. Once the ashes have been interred, the parish will arrange for the memorial stone to be inscribed: this is done once a year.

The cost of interment will include the cost of inscription, payable at the prevailing current rate.

No other memorial stone is to be erected and no inscription is to be made on the single memorial stone, apart from the inscription as outlined above.

No permanent flowers or flower holders are to be placed around the ashes plot. This does not exclude seasonal, or anniversary fresh flowers (but no artificial flowers) being placed on or around the ashes plot.

## **Cemetery Fees**

Whilst we do not expect them to cover the full expenditure, fees for burials and erection of memorials should be seen as a contribution to the provision and long-term upkeep of the cemetery, as well as the individual plot, which will be the setting for many years to come for the memorial chosen. Fees will be periodically reviewed to make sure that they are making an adequate contribution to the expense.

Fees for the interment of ashes will include a contribution to the cost of providing the single memorial stone and inscribing thereon.

Interment fees are usually paid through the funeral director, and monumental memorial fees through the monumental mason.

Fees are payable at the current prevailing rate, which will be provided to the funeral directors and monumental masons and should be sought from them.