

Serving the Catholic Community

160 Years

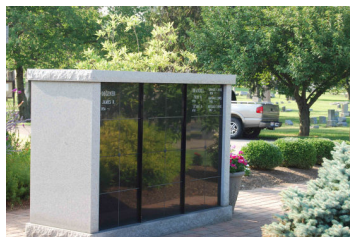
St Mary/St Stephen Cemeteries



Special Points of Interests

- Traditional Burial
- Mausoleum Burial
- Cremation
- Columbarium
- Funding
- Volunteers

St Mary and St. Stephen Cemeteries have been serving the Catholic Community of the Greater Hamilton area for more than 160 years. In 1989 the churches of St. Stephen, St. Mary and St. Veronica became St. Julie Billiart Parish and the cemeteries combined to function as one entity. The two cemeteries are cornerstones of our community, representing both local history and the legacies of the families memorialized. The cemeteries offer traditional ground burials-Mausoleum crypts and Columbarium space for cremation inurnment. Contrary to many that believe each cemetery is filled to capacity, St. Mary Cemetery has about 1450 available graves with an additional area to be developed by the bell tower.



St Stephen Cemetery has 2300 available graves and also various areas to be developed for additional spaces. Many are unfamiliar with the term columbarium. It is similar to a mausoleum only considerably

smaller. Cremation is now being considered more than in past years. St. Mary Cemetery located at 4030 Pleasant Ave. has individual columbaria surrounded by landscaping and memorial bricks that can be purchased through the office. At St. Stephen Cemetery a columbarium is located next to the mausoleum where a cremation garden can be found nearby.

Why do I want to use a Catholic Cemetery?

When we are baptized, we are brought to a sacred place, a Catholic church, and baptized into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection - thus giving us the promise eternal life. When one of our loved ones die, we take them to another sacred place, a Catholic cemetery, for burial in sacred ground while they await the resurrection of the dead and the promise of eternal life.

Since death is a natural part of life, it is only fitting that the Catholic Church be present at the time of death. In the Preface of the Funeral Mass the words'...for your faithful people O Lord, life has changed not ended' are prayed. Burial in a Catholic cemetery is a statement of continued belief in that

everlasting life, even in death..



Mausoleum & Cremation Gardens...St Stephens

DID YOU KNOW?

Many years ago families purchased lots with numerous graves for family members. Some graves were never used. The time period for such graves may vary from fifty to one hundred years ago. The cemetery is not permitted to take back or sell graves purchased by a family from past generations unless, through family genealogy research a connection is discovered. The process to use the grave space or donate it back to the cemetery requires proof of your family identity to the original purchaser. The space or spaces will be confirmed by cemetery personnel to assure availability. After this has been established a form is available in the cemetery office if you would like to transfer the graves back to the cemetery or designate a right to burial.

Cemetery Information

Office Location:

St Mary/St Stephens Cemeteries
1314 Greenwood Ave.
Hamilton, OH 45011

Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday
10:00am to 4:00pm.

Phone: (513)737-1600

E-mail:sscemetry@fuse.net

Web site:stjulie.net

Cemetery Location:

St. Mary's Cemetery
4030 Pleasant Ave
Hamilton, Ohio 45015

Cemetery Hours:

Gates open: 8:00am daily
Gates close: at dusk

Frequently Asked Questions



Why should I use St Mary/St Stephen Cemeteries?

Historic St Mary and St Stephen cemeteries are in Butler County...they are in close proximity to most parishes. They also offer either monuments or flat grave markers, unlike other nearby Catholic cemeteries.

“Can I bury cremains on the grave of a loved one”?

If you choose to place cremains on an occupied grave of a loved one the cemetery must be notified in order to verify the grave depth. In the past burials were not made with the concept of using a grave for additional burials. All cremains for ground burial must be placed in a small vault. When using an occupied grave this vault is placed on top of the vault of the deceased. It is important to consult the cemetery office for this grave request to assure adequate depth space is available. The Catholic Church has authorized the celebration of a Catholic funeral liturgy with cremated remains when the body is cremated before the funeral. The Church strongly prefers that the cremation takes place after the full body funeral liturgy.

When a grave is purchased do I own the space?

The purchaser buys and owns the right to be buried in that space. The purchaser does not own the grave.

When do I place a marker or monument on the grave?

If a burial has not been made on the grave a stone can be placed at anytime. A new burial must wait at least three to four months for the grave to settle and cemetery grounds crew to prepare the grave with new soil and seed. This process is done during May and September. Once the ground has settled a foundation may be installed.

Where do the cemeteries get their income to operate?

Income is generated through the sale of graves, burials, mausoleum crypts, columbarium niches, foundation orders, monument sales and misc. products sold through the office. The cemeteries receive no funding from the Archdiocese or any of the local parishes in the Hamilton-Fairfield area. Quarterly donations from St. Julie parish are received from envelopes designated for the cemeteries.

The cemeteries are faced with the same budget concerns as every business. A steady flow of income is never a guarantee. Maintenance and improvements are a constant drain on finances.

What is the cost to purchase a grave in St. Mary/St. Stephen Cemeteries?

Grave spaces range from \$850 to \$925. Mausoleum and columbarium prices please contact the office.

Genealogy

Often, visitors stop by the cemetery office in search of information about relatives family tree. With prior appointment the office manager can assist you in your research to locate relatives. If a search is requested over the phone, please allow sufficient time for the requested information. A fee is charged for this service.

Bequests

If you would like to leave a legacy to one or both of the cemeteries in your will, please contact the office for more information.

Cemetery Rules

All rules are posted at each cemetery as you enter the gates. The mausoleum rules are posted on the entry doors to the mausoleum. We ask that all family members and visitors assist us by following the rules. Please remember the cemetery is not responsible for any lost, misplaced or stolen decorations. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers

The work at the cemeteries is endless. Our employees are busy preparing for funerals, pouring foundations, snow removal in the winter, cutting grass, picking up trash, removing fallen tree branches after storms, maintaining all types of equipment and keeping the grounds looking good throughout all the seasons of the year. If you have a desire to volunteer and have any gardening skills such as: planting flowers, weeding, mulching, general clean-up, please contact the cemetery office to inquire about volunteering your services.