

Requirements and Policies for Purchasing Privilege Rights of Burial  
from St. Mary's Catholic Church  
19711 N. Dixon Rd.  
at St. Patrick's or St. Mary's Cemeteries

It is the policy of St. Mary's Church to sell privilege rights of burial ("plots") to current parishioners only. The term privilege right of burial refers to the fact that only the privilege of burial in one of our cemeteries is being sold. The land itself is not sold, only the right to burial. As such, if a previously agreed upon area is not available at time of burial, St. Mary's agrees to provide a substitute area in one of our cemeteries. The land is managed and maintained by St. Mary's Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of San Antonio. This is made possible solely through donations and the sale of Burial Rights. When used, the term "plot" is also meant to convey a privilege right of burial and not a plot of land. Previously purchased privilege rights of burial, regardless of parishioner status will be honored for those who can provide proof of purchase or ownership.

The definition of a current parishioner as applies to a prospective purchaser of a privilege right of burial (plot) is a registered, active, contributing member of St. Mary's Church for the last two consecutive years. A registered, active, contributing member is a person who has registered with the parish, attends mass at St. Mary's regularly, and supports the church by serving in a ministry and/or by contributing monetarily.

**St. Patrick's Cemetery:**

1. New Privilege Rights of Burial are no longer being sold at St. Patrick's Cemetery.
2. Existing Privilege Rights of Burial will be honored to the best of the ability of St. Mary's Catholic Church when proof of purchase or ownership is provided.
3. Existing Privilege Rights of Burial purchased for a single deep grave may be converted to a double deep grave, but only if no one is yet buried in the single deep grave. The cost to convert a single grave to a double deep grave will be the difference between the current price of a double deep less the current price of a single deep (ex. DD \$2000 less SD \$1500=\$500. In this example, the cost to convert to a double deep would be \$500). The cost must be paid in full at the time of purchase.
4. Urn burials over existing graves will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis at the existing cost at the time of burial, unless prior arrangements have been made and paid for. It is possible to bury up to 2 urns over an existing grave, provided the proper permissions are obtained. The cost must be paid in full at the time of purchase.

**St. Mary's Cemetery:**

1. New Privilege Rights of Burial will be sold only to current parishioners under the definition of a current parishioner.
2. Existing Privilege Rights of Burial will be honored to the best of the ability of St. Mary's Catholic Church when proof of purchase or ownership is provided.

3. St. Mary's will limit the number of plots to be sold to each parishioner and their immediate family. Immediate family are spouses and children who are living in the home and are under the age of 18 years old. Grown children over the age of 18 years of age living at home must be registered separately and must meet the definition of a current parishioner. Married children are considered another family and must be registered separately and must meet the definition of a current parishioner.
4. Former long-term parishioners that have moved to another parish, or who no longer attend mass at St. Mary's regularly, will not be considered current parishioners. Special circumstances (e.g., elderly or disabled people that can no longer attend mass or who live in a nursing home) will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
5. Single deep, double-deep and urn privilege rights of burial are available for those that meet the requirements.
6. Existing Privilege Rights of Burial purchased for a single deep grave may be converted to a double deep grave, but only if no one is yet buried in the single deep grave. The cost to convert a single grave to a double deep grave will be the difference between the current price of a double deep less the current price of a single deep (ex. DD \$2000 less SD \$1500=\$500. In this example, the cost to convert to a double deep would be \$500).
7. Urn burials over existing graves will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis at the existing cost at the time of burial, unless prior arrangements have been made and paid for. It is possible to bury up to 2 urns over an existing grave, provided the proper permissions are obtained. The cost must be paid in full at the time of purchase.
8. Privilege Rights of burial must be paid in full at time of purchase.
9. These requirements and policies are subject to change.

St. Mary's will follow the requirements of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, canon law, and state and federal laws.

*To inquire regarding privilege rights of burial "plots", please call 830-399-2142 or leave a message with the office 830-701-3123.*