

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK, DRUMBEG

GRAVEYARD REGULATIONS

1. The right of allocation of a Burial Plot is restricted to **Contributing/Subscribing Parishioners**,

**A Subscribing Parishioner, either resident or accustomed, must have subscribed to the funds of the parish through the parish financial system within the previous twelve months prior to their death, either through regular giving or as a one-off donation. It must be contributed in such a manner that a receipt could be demanded for it. General Sunday cash collections are not recordable and therefore are not considered as qualifying subscriptions.*

2. The right of allocation of a Burial Plot can also be allocated to those to whom permission has been granted by means of a '**Declaration for Transfer of Grave Ownership**' Form, by an existing Grave holder. Requests for Ownership Transfer should be made to: **The Graveyard Administrator, The Parish Church of St. Patrick, 70 Drumbeg Road, Drumbeg, Belfast, BT17 9LE.**

Only in exceptional circumstances will a non-subscriber or non-parishioner be considered for burial in the Cemetery.

Confirmation must be given by the Rector and Churchwardens for the allocation of a Burial Plot.

Only **ONE** Burial Plot can be purchase at any time.

The allocation of a plot does not give to the person applying, the right to decide who shall be interred therein. This right remains with the Rector and Churchwardens.

3. No Burial Plot can be reserved by any individual, and a plot can only be allocated at the time of death, and is allocated in strict rotation, and cannot be chosen at random over the cemetery site.
4. Be aware, that due to ground conditions, when digging a New Grave/Plot for a family, we cannot promise that it will be dug to a depth that will contain Three coffins. However, we can guarantee to dig to a depth that will contain Two coffins.
5. The person whose name appears on the Deed of Grant or Certificate of Ownership/Right of Burial as the registered grave owner **is the only person who can authorise things like reopening of the grave for further burials, the erection of a permanent memorial, and the cutting of inscriptions on it.** When the registered owner dies, the title to the grave passes to their executors or administrator, or, if there are none, to their next of kin. The site must then be Re-Registered in the new owners name before any further interment can take place.
6. The right to erect headstones and memorials has to be approved by the Rector and Churchwardens. Surrounds are not permitted.

7. Before any headstone is ordered or erected at the grave, a Detailed Drawing from the Stonemason/Funeral director showing:

- i. The Dimensions
- ii. The Inscription
- iii. The Grave/Plot Number/Location

should be submit with the relevant fee to the Rector for approval.

All Applications and Fees should be forwarded to: **The Graveyard Administrator, The Parish Church of St. Patrick, 70 Drumbeg Road, Drumbeg, Belfast, BT17 9LE**

8. A headstone will not be installed until four to six months after the deceased has been buried as it will take some time for the displaced soil to settle after being disturbed. Despite this, the fact that you may have to wait, can be beneficial. When you wait, you have a better chance of finding the perfect headstone. The headstone you choose for a loved one or for yourself has many factors to consider.

9. No burial may take place:

- a) Without the prior permission of the Rector and Churchwardens.
 - b) While a Church Service or Sunday school is being held, or within half an hour before or after.
 - c) Without a Death Certificate being issued. (**Form GRO 21**)
 - d) Without a Certificate of Cremation being received in the case of Interment of Ashes.
 - e) Only Clergy or persons recognised in the Christian Faith, can conduct a funeral and burial service.
- 10.** No grave preparation work may be carried out in the graveyard during the time of Divine Service.
- 11.** Glass wreaths, artificial flowers, moveable tablets, shrubs including roses are not permitted. A distance of 12 inches from the headstone end of the grave is allowed for the placing of flower vases. Responsibility for the upkeep of individual plots remains with the holder of the Registered Certificate of Ownership. This Certificate will be issued following first interment on confirmation that the relevant fees have been received.
- 12.** Each person having a grave plot registered in his or her name, shall keep the grave or headstone erected thereon in good order and repair. Should any such person fail to do so, the Rector, with the Select Vestry, may have the same put in good order and repair at the expense to the party so neglecting.
- 13.** Cremated ashes will not be interred in a plot without the approval of the Rector and Churchwardens.

Cremated ashes will not be interred in a plot without a copy of the '**Certificate of Cremation**' being seen by the Rector, prior to interment.

Cremated ashes **must not** be scattered on any grave plot.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Requests for a Memorial Garden Grave/Plot is open to Parishioners and Non Parishioners.

Only **ONE** Burial Plot can be purchase at any time.

No Burial Plot can be reserved by any individual, and a plot can only be allocated at the time of death, and is allocated in strict rotation, and cannot be chosen at random over the Memorial Garden site.

Holders of plots in the Memorial Garden will be required to purchase from the Parish an engraved Polished Granite Stone.

All Applications for a Granite Stone should be forwarded to: **The Graveyard Administrator, The Parish Church of St. Patrick, 70 Drumbeg Road, Drumbeg, Belfast, BT17 9LE**

Engraving should only show: **The Name, Year of Birth** and **Year of Death** of the deceased.

No additional plaque or embellishment, other than a small bunch of cut flowers can be permitted.

Existing holders of plots, may if they wish, replace the current concrete stone with one of polished granite, on the terms and conditions above.

Please be aware that a copy of the '**Certificate of Cremation**' must be received by the Parish before an interment can take place. This may be handed over on the day of interment.