Burying the Dead . . .
. . . a Corporal Work of Mercy

A Catholic cemetery is a sacred place; whether it is newly consecrated or whether it is a hundred years old; it still must be maintained in honor and dignity. It is not enough that the cemetery be well kept today. Plans must be developed so the cemetery will be maintained in the future.

As part of the Church, Holy Cross Cemetery endeavors to carry out its activities with the respect and reverence that this holy work deserves. We are most anxious to maintain your cemetery in keeping with its sacred character and are equally anxious to hear from you should there ever be any question in your mind about the maintenance.

To preserve the natural beauty of the cemetery we must have rules concerning the decoration of the graves. Cemetery regulations are just like zoning regulations and perhaps they are better appreciated when one understands this. Zoning regulations are made to preserve a community by limiting types and uses of structures, so that the appearance of the community is maintained.

Cemetery regulations work the same way to preserve the appearance and welfare of the ground that means so much to so many people. Grave decorations honor the dead; they do not do this when they lack beauty, order and neatness.

Lot Planting, Decoration and Improvements:

A. The cemetery reserves to itself the sole right to plant and maintain all permanent plantings within the cemetery.

B. Seasonal and perennial plants will be limited to the width of the monument (or markers, if no family monument) and will not exceed ten inches in depth.

C. Natural plants only in 6 inch or 8 inch pots. Plants should be placed on lawn near stone, not dug into the turf causing damage to the lawn area. Boxed plants any size up to 12 inches by 6 inches.

D. Natural flowers in vases must have the approval of the cemetery sexton. No jars, bottles, or crockery; they are unsuitable in appearance and too damage-prone.

E. Receptacles for cut flowers will be permitted, but only during the growing season. Flush marker areas of the cemetery are restricted for floral displays that are planted directly in front of the marker or to receptacles which may be moved for mowing purposes.

F. Flower beds will be kept clean and free of weeds. Any flower bed becoming infested with weeds will be mowed down.

G. No one will dig up sod in order to place a container of cut flowers on a grave space or lot.

H. Artificial flowers will be allowed as long as they are presentable. They will be placed in approved cemetery type vases. Those that have become faded or torn will be removed without notice.

I. Artificial flowers along with natural flowers and plants are to be removed by the lot owner in the fall of the year in preparation of the winter months.

J. Veteran flags that are faded or torn will be removed without notice.

K. The planting of trees, shrubs and bushes must be done by cemetery personnel only. Uncontrolled planting by individuals destroys the overall landscape plan for the cemetery.

L. No one will do any landscaping in the cemetery except the cemetery personnel. This includes mowing of grass and fertilization of the turf.

M. Cemetery personnel will not save special vases, stands, decorations or other items picked up during the cleanup operation.

N. The cemetery reserves the right to remove all floral designs, flowers, trees, shrubs, plants or herbage of any kind, from the cemetery as soon as, in the judgement of the sexton or his assistants, they become unsightly, dangerous, detrimental, or diseased, or when they do not conform to the established standards.

O. Hanging baskets are permitted but the planter stand is to be placed as close to the monument as possible. Four legged wire baskets are not permitted.

P. Edging, wire guards, trellises, etc. will not be placed around the flower beds or shrubs.

Q. To preserve the universal theme in the mausoleum the only acceptable flower memorials will be vase mounted units with artificial flowers. All floor displays/sprays/flags, etc. will be discarded by the cemetery staff.