

Policies & Procedure for Presentation of Remains to Diocesan Cemeteries

(December 4, 2025)

In the pursuit of providing the best service to our families as they present the remains of their loved ones to our sacred grounds for final committal, we share the following:

- The cemetery office must be notified of the name, age and address of the deceased, in addition to the name, address and telephone number for the next-of-kin at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to burial, inurnment or entombment. If a grave, crypt, or niche location has already been reserved for the deceased, a deed or contract for that burial privilege may need to be presented, depending on what is already on file with the cemetery office. Otherwise, an appointment will be made with the next-of-kin to assist them in the selection of a burial location for their loved one.
- Any outstanding balance for the burial privilege, in addition to the opening (and closing) fee, is due and payable in full before the burial, inurnment or entombment can take place.
- Concrete burial vaults are required for full body ground interments and funeral homes should schedule their vault company business partners to have installation completed prior to the scheduled burial.
- All funeral processions must arrive no later than 3pm Monday through Friday, or no later than 2pm on Saturdays. Late charges will be added for arrivals after the times outlined above. Generally, funerals are not permitted on holidays.
 - Presentation of human cremated remains by family or friends without a funeral director must be scheduled through the cemetery office and are generally permitted between 9am and 2pm Monday through Friday, and between 9am and 12 noon on Saturdays. Actual time is subject to availability based on funerals scheduled for the desired date, but additional effort will be extended to accommodate those who have a scheduled Church Funeral Mass, or a priest or deacon to provide a Funeral Committal service. Late charges will be added for any arrivals after the times listed here.
- Each committal service scheduled is allotted a twenty-minute time frame, in order to accommodate other services that day. If an extended period is needed, arrangements must be made in advance.
 - Graveside or chapel committal services are for the final blessing of the deceased. This is not the appropriate time for eulogies, memorial presentations such as easels and guest books, or other extended prayers and/or rituals. No open caskets are permitted.



SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
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- The family of the deceased is responsible for contacting the deceased's parish to arrange for a priest or deacon to be scheduled for the Rite of Committal service.
 - In the event the family has decided not to have a priest or deacon preside over the Rite of Committal service for the deceased, it's important that the family understand that before arriving at the cemetery, the family should prepare any planned prayers and give thought to who will lead the reading of those prayers for the deceased.
 - Military Honors are permitted inside the Chapel. Bagpipes are permitted outside the building(s). Other extended musical performances must be preapproved through the cemetery office.
 - No release of balloons or the lighting of fireworks is permitted on cemetery grounds.
 - For safety reasons, families and friends of the deceased are asked to depart prior to the actual burial or entombment. If using a funeral home, the Funeral Director will remain on site as the family's representative.
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Thank for your consideration and cooperation with these policies and procedures.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the cemetery's office. Our cemetery offices are open Monday to Friday (excluding holidays & Holy Days) – 8:30am to 4pm.

