

THE PARISH OF S. PAUL, DEPTFORD

CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS 2011

Made by the Parochial Church Council of S. Paul with S. Mark, Deptford *

at its meeting on 22nd March 2011.

* Following the granting of the Bishop of Southwark's Pastoral Order on the 19th June 2021, the name of this benefice & parish has been altered from 1 July 2021 to, "THE BENEFICE (OR PARISH) OF SAINT PAUL, DEPTFORD"

The Regulations have been made pursuant to the guidance of the Chancellor of the Diocese of Southwark, which were issued on the Feast of Pentecost, 8th June 2003.¹

Introduction

The churchyard of S. Paul's Deptford is land which has been set aside for centuries to bury the mortal remains of local people.

These Regulations regulate the interment of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance ("the Garden") and related matters in the churchyard.

Definitions

"The Church Council" is the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of S. Paul, Deptford.

"The churchyard" is the churchyard of S. Paul's Deptford.

"The Garden" is the Garden of Remembrance, which is situated in the central area of the churchyard between Diamond Way and the central footpath.

"The parish" is the parish of S. Paul, Deptford.

¹ The Chancellor's Guidance is accessible in the Memorial Garden section of the website of S. Paul's Deptford <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/621/page/14603/view/>

Interments

No ashes may be placed in the Garden without the express approval of the Church Council.

The decision of the Church Council on any proposed interment is final.

The persons whose ashes may be placed in the Garden are as follows:

- persons whose names were on the electoral roll of the parish;
- persons who were habitual attendees of public worship in the parish;
- persons who were residents of the parish, or of the streets and estates adjacent to the parish, for a significant period of their lives, and who were members of the Church of England, or of a Church in communion with the Church of England;
- Or, persons who were close relatives of persons whose ashes are already interred in the churchyard.

No interments shall take place in any area of the churchyard, other than in the Garden.

Interment of ashes will take place by the simple pouring of the ashes into a hole in the ground, and not by the burying of ashes within a container.

The Cremation certificate² must be given to the Rector prior to the interment of ashes.

Fee for interment of cremated remains

The fee for the interment of cremated remains will be the statutory fee in force at the date of the interment. This **Fee from the 1st of January 2026** is **£206.00**, (of which, the Fee is split between the Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance £54, and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of S. Paul, Deptford, £152), and is payable via **BACS** to the following Santander Bank Account:

Account name: REV PAUL D BUTLER

Account number: 12754084

Sort Code: 09-01-32

Once a date is agreed, the Rector will provide **a reference for the Fee payment**.

Signed agreement to comply with the Regulations

Next of kin of persons whose cremated remains are proposed for interment in the Garden must sign the agreement annexed to these Regulations and provide a hard copy to the Parochial Church Council and sent to the address below.

² This is a legal document that provides confirmation of the cremation of a deceased person. It is issued usually to the next of kin by the crematorium with the ashes of the deceased. It includes details such as the deceased person's name, the date and time of the cremation and the location of the crematorium.

Book of Remembrance

On request, the Church Council will record in the Book of Remembrance the names of persons whose ashes have been interred in the churchyard. The Book will be kept open within the church, and its pages will be turned at regular intervals. A fee for calligraphy in the Book of Remembrance will be payable to the Church Council.

Register of Interments of Cremated Remains

The Church Council will maintain a Register of interments in the Garden, in respect of interments occurring after the approval of these Regulations. The Register will list: the full name of the deceased; his or her age and former home address; the date and location of burial; and the name of the officiating priest, the date of the funeral service and the place of cremation preceding the interment.

New plaques and memorials are prohibited

No new plaques and memorials shall be placed in the Garden, or elsewhere in the churchyard.

Plaques and memorials placed in the churchyard before the approval of the Regulations

The existing plaques and memorials which were placed in the Garden, or elsewhere in the churchyard, before the making of these Regulations, to commemorate persons whose ashes have been buried in the churchyard, may remain in place.

None of the existing plaques or memorials, however, may be replaced with new plaques or memorials. If an existing plaque or memorial becomes damaged or unreadable, the Church Council will remove the plaque or memorial and will store it in the church. Any items thus removed and stored may be collected by the owner on application to the Church Council.

Fencing, stones, artificial flowers and all other objects and items are prohibited from being placed in the churchyard

Fencing, pebbles, stones, gravel, and artificial flowers may not be placed in the churchyard. If Fencing, pebbles, stones, gravel, and artificial flowers or any other object or item are placed in the churchyard, the Church Council will remove them and if possible, will store them in the church. Any fencing and artificial flowers etc so removed and stored may be collected by the owner, on application to the Church Council.

The laying of fresh flowers and other items to mark anniversaries

Fresh unwrapped flowers may be laid at a place of interment to mark anniversaries, but should be removed after a short period. The flowers may be placed in vases. If dead flowers and vases are not removed by the families of the deceased, the Church Council will do so and will store the vases, which may be collected on application to it.

Planting of trees, bushes and flowers are prohibited without approval of the Church Council

No trees, bushes, plants and flowers may be planted in the Garden or the churchyard without approval of the Church Council.

Breaches of the Regulations

In the event of any breach of these Regulations, the Church Council will remove

- (i) items which do not comply with the Regulations and will store non-perishable items in the church, for collection by the owner on application to the Church Council ; and
- (ii) any tree, bush, plant or flower planted in breach of these Regulations.
- (iii)

Inquiries and comments about the Regulations

All inquiries and comments must be made in writing to:

The Secretary of the Parochial Church Council,
C/o St Paul's Rectory,
Mary Ann Gardens,
Deptford,
London SE8 3DP

or, via email to:

stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com.

Revised Vrs3_1_January_2026

ANNEX

Signed agreement to comply with the Regulations

I [full name] _____

of [postal address] _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

being the next of kin of [name of deceased] _____

who died [date of death] _____

**hereby undertake to comply with the Regulations of the Churchyard of the
Parish Church of S. Paul, Deptford.**

Please explain why you would like the ashes of the deceased to be interred in S. Paul's Churchyard. Please also provide copies of any documents that support your application.

(Please note, especially, the section Interments, page 2).

Signed

Full name

Dated

Witnessed by

Full name

Dated