

The responsibility of the family

The family is responsible for the maintenance of the memorial stone – the ground around the stone and the plot are the responsibility of the PCC with ground services being arranged through them. Trimming grass edges around the memorial stone is considered as part of the regular Churchyard maintenance as is the regular removal of dead flowers etc..

On burial of ashes plots the use of fresh cut flowers is encouraged using the integral vase units, as is the setting of spring bulbs in the grass immediately around the memorial stone. Christmas wreaths are permitted but these should be removed from the plot by 9th February each year. Free-standing plastic, metal and glass containers are not permitted anywhere in the Churchyard as they are safety hazards.

Burial of Ashes in the Green Garden of Remembrance

Our Green Garden of Remembrance is a tranquil area designated purely for this purpose. Burial of ashes takes place in designated plots with ashes poured directly into the ground. The burial area is not marked with a memorial stone or plaque. A record is kept by the Church of the burials and their location.

During the burial of ashes, we understand that families may have flowers that they wish to leave on top of the area where their loved ones ashes are buried. These will be left in place for up to 6 weeks.

After this time, floral tributes should be placed in the designated area of the Garden of Remembrance to permit grass cutting and Churchyard maintenance. Only fresh cut flowers are permitted, no pots or containers should be used.

Inclusion in the Book of Remembrance

The names of those whose ashes are buried at All Saints are recorded in the Book of Remembrance in the church and open to view at the “years mind”.

All Saints Church, Renhold

Issued by the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Guide for the Burial of Ashes



A number of area's have been set aside in our Churchyard exclusively for the burial of ashes with permission.

There are two types of Burial of Ashes:-

- Burial of Ashes in a biodegradable casket in designated areas of the Churchyard, when Memorial Stones are erected on the burial plot
- Burial of Ashes in our Green Garden of Remembrance, where ashes are poured into the ground, without a casket, and no Memorial Stones are permitted

The process for all burial of ashes

Initial contact should be made through the Parish priest, or in his/her absence the Church Wardens, who will advise if criteria for burial in All Saints Renhold Churchyard has been met. *Space is limited, and local criteria ensures the area is protected for the Parishioners and those with a qualifying connection.*

Contact should also be made with a funeral director who will liaise with the Parish to identify the plot and availability; and help coordinate the process.

The certificate of Cremation is essential, and the burial of ashes cannot take place without this being received by the officiating minister.

A service for the burial of ashes will be held at the arranged time.

Please note: Ashes after cremation must not be scattered or strewn in the Churchyard, but shall be buried in a suitable perishable or biodegradable container or poured into the ground and covered.

Burial of Ashes in a Casket with a Memorial Stone

Following the burial of ashes in a biodegradable casket or container, the plot should be left to settle for a period exceeding 3 months after the service, after which the family may consult a certified stone mason who will help them complete the application for installation of a memorial stone; to be approved by the Parish Priest, or Rural Dean on behalf of the Parish if no Vicar is available.

Memorial plaques and approved monuments must comply with the provisions in the Churchyard Regulation 2020 (including any updates). Except by the authority of a faculty no other monument or any vase can be introduced into such an area.

Further information is available using the link details below

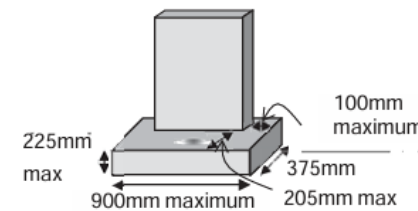
<https://resource.stalbansdiocese.org/courses-events-and-resources/the-churchyard-regulations/>

Memorial Stones

At All Saints Church, Renhold, memorial stones are permitted, being of 24" or 600mm in height, with the permission of the Parish Priest.

The stone may incorporate a vase if desired: it should be of a material permitted for memorial stones under the Regulations and should be of the

Vase base:



same size, colour and material as other memorial stones in the Churchyard, and should respect the character of the area as a whole. The memorial should be natural stone and not be covered with Perspex or other protective material

The methods of commemoration of the names of those whose ashes are buried should be approved by the Parish Priest before the stone is produced.

Temporary items: The regulations state that:

“No memorial shall include any sun dials or bird baths, obelisks, photographs, portraits or other similar mementoes or decoration such as solar or other lights. No loose items are to be left in the area of a grave. Items of value should not be left as these may be vulnerable to theft.”

In the days immediately following a burial, the family and friends mourning the loss of a loved one may wish to place items on a grave to commemorate their loved one and as tokens of their love. At the discretion of the Parish Priest, such items may be left in place for a reasonable period not exceeding 6 months.

The Parish Priest will ask the family to remove items which may be inappropriate, cause distress to other churchyard visitors, or be stolen, or which could be a danger (e.g. glass jars). Any items which are not in accordance with the Christian faith may only be placed with the express permission of the Parish Priest.

The PCC has responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard and will take reasonable steps to notify families before removing items. Where loose items are left on an unattended grave, the PCC may arrange for them to be placed in a suitable place for collection by the family.