

Guidelines for Church of the Servant's Memorial Garden

1. What is our Memorial Garden?

The Church of the Servant Memorial Garden is intended to be a place of beauty and tranquility as well as a burial place for ashes (cremains).

2. Whose ashes may be placed in the Garden?

The Garden is intended to be a burial place primarily for members of Church of the Servant and their families. Other ashes may be placed there at the discretion of the Rector.

3. How will the ashes be placed?

Ashes will be buried in the Garden. They may be placed directly into the earth or buried in a container expressly designed to be quickly biodegradable. (The Rector can assist you in getting such a container.)

4. Where in the Garden may ashes be placed?

They may be buried on either side of the present slate walkway or, if not in a container, scattered in turned earth in a designated area.

5. What will be the record or marker of the people whose ashes are placed there?

Ashes placed along the present slate walkway may be—but do not have to be—marked with small stones. The stones should be no larger than 12 inches in length, 8 inches wide, and up to 6 inches deep. They should be natural stones, smooth or rough. A name and dates may be carved into them. However, the stones will not be fixed in place; in other words, the stones mark that the person's ashes are in the Garden, not the exact spot at which they are buried. The names of those whose ashes are in the Garden will also be memorialized on a plaque on the exterior church wall.

6. What about other markers or objects?

Other small objects such as statues may be placed near the stone with the understanding that these are not permanent and may, from time to time, be cleared away. Living plants may not be added.

7. Will there be changes in the future?

A Memorial Garden Committee is considering expanding the Garden's space and making some changes to the landscaping.

8. How will the Garden be maintained?

A sub-committee of the church's Buildings and Grounds Committee will tend the Garden and recommend measures for its care and development. Though experience has taught that no church can guarantee the future, the Garden is considered holy ground and if unforeseeable events should require the church to close or move, the Garden would be relocated to other consecrated property.

9. How will the Garden's care be financed?

The families of present church members will be asked to contribute \$250.00 at the time of interment to a fund to maintain the church's Garden and grounds. Others will be asked to contribute \$350.00. If this amount is a hardship for a family, options should be discussed with the Rector.