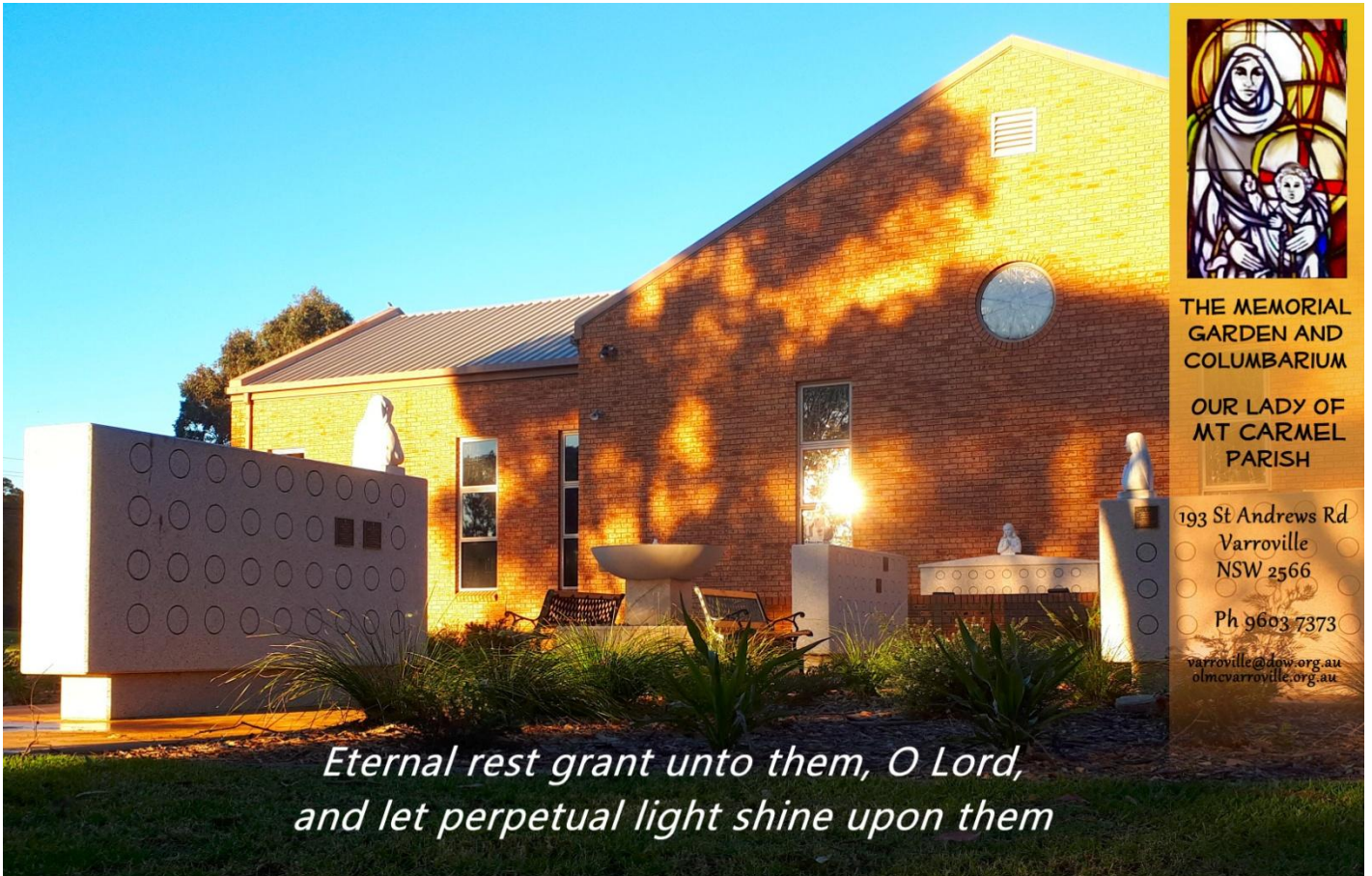


Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Memorial Garden and Columbarium



- Terms and Conditions -

Columbarium Overview:

The Our Lady of Mt Carmel Columbarium is the area located on the western side of the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish Church, made available by the Parish for the purpose of interment of the ashes of parishioners and for future visitation. It includes the Columbarium and Remembrance Wall and is set in rural and tranquil surrounds that provide an attractive location for grieving, prayer, reflection and meditation.

It is not a public Columbarium, but rather a private Columbarium reserved for the use of parishioners and their families who will know that their loved ones have been laid to rest in sacred ground surrounded by the parish family whom they loved and who loved them in return.

The Columbarium consists of four (4) Memorial Walls with niches for the reception of urns. A niche is the cylindrical space in the Memorial Wall in which an urn, containing the ashes of the deceased person after cremation, is placed. Each wall has 76 niches.

A Memorial Plaque identifying the deceased will be fixed to the designated niche in the Memorial Wall. The type, size, nature and wording of the Memorial Plaque must comply with the Terms and Conditions.

The Remembrance Wall is the curved wall nearest to the exterior of the Church Sanctuary wall. A plaquette (small plaque) containing the deceased's details can be fixed to this wall (or designated garden edges) as a perpetual memorial. In this situation no ashes are interred.

Those who choose the Columbarium as a final resting place for themselves, or for a loved one, may choose to do so in the knowledge that they:

- are being laid to rest in the grounds of the parish church that they have loved and served in life, and
- are near to their church, perpetuating a rewarding and lifelong relationship.

In practical terms, choosing the Columbarium provides:

- the flexibility offered by a cremation in the timing and planning of the disposition of remains,
- the simplicity of the liturgy involved in the placement of the ashes,
- the proximity and convenience of visits by loved ones and periods of reflection,
- the placement of ashes is provided in perpetuity, and
- the lessening of environmental impacts, space issues and permanency of cemetery burial.

Does Catholic teaching allow for cremations?

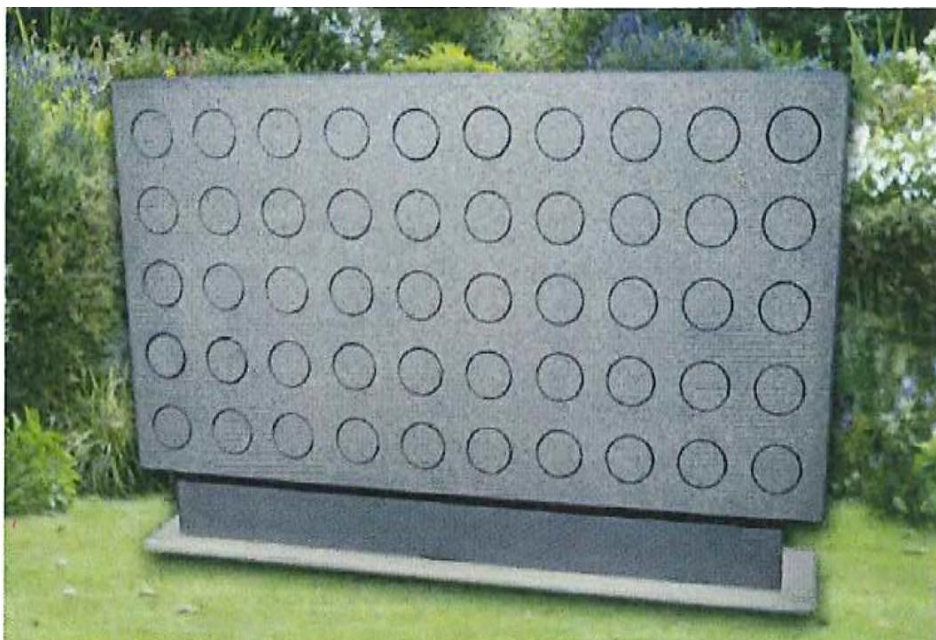
Vatican Council II reinstated permission for cremations in 1962, but it was not widely publicised. However, in recent years, cremation has become more accepted by Catholics for not only personal reasons, but for financial and environmental reasons as well.



Instructions for Applicants:

Applicants are required to:

1. Carefully read and satisfy yourself that you understand these Terms and Conditions and the associated Application.
(If you need further information or clarification contact the Parish Office during business hours).
2. Clearly understand where the niche you are purchasing is located.
(You may wish to actually visit the Columbarium to see the different walls).
3. Satisfy yourself that you understand the type of Memorial Plaque (Niche Walls) or Plaqueette (Remembrance Wall and/or garden edges) and the styles and maximum number of lines permitted. *(Samples can be discussed with the Parish Office during business hours).*
4. Provide full details where required and sign the Application in the space provided.
(The Application Forms are separate to these Terms and Conditions, and can be obtained from the Parish Office during business hours).
5. Pay for your designated niche and obtain your official receipt. *(This can be done at the Parish Office during business hours).*
6. Inform your Executor (or other family members) of your purchase. You may also wish to inform your preferred Funeral Company of your intentions.
7. Maintain a copy of the Application and receipt in a safe place (eg with your Will). A copy might also be lodged with your Funeral Company.



Terms and Conditions

Meaning of Terms in this Document:

Applicant – the person who applies to reserve a niche.

Application – the official Parish forms for approval of rights of interment, plaques and plaquettes.

Ashes – the remains of a deceased person after cremation.

Columbarium – a wall (or walls) with niches for the reception of urns in which are contained the ashes of deceased persons after cremation.

Committee – the committee appointed from time to time by the Parish Priest of the Parish to manage the Columbarium.

Fees – all fees and charges.

Grantee – the person, or persons, granted a right of interment by the Committee and includes (i) the legal successors of the grantee, and (ii) any person to whom the grantee transfers the right under Condition 10.

Interment – the placing of ashes into a niche in the Columbarium.

Landscaping – includes the introduction and maintenance of plants, gardens, statues and decorations.

Memorial Plaque – a plaque to be fixed to the Memorial Wall (niche walls) identifying the deceased. The type, size, nature and wording thereon must comply with these Terms and Conditions.

Memorial Plaquette – a plaque to be fixed to the Remembrance Wall (and/or garden beds or edges) that identify a deceased person that wishes to be memorialised within the Columbarium, but whose ashes are not interred here. The type, size, nature and wording thereon must comply with these Terms and Conditions.

Memorial Wall – the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Memorial Walls (niche walls) situated in the grounds of the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish Church. There are four (4) such walls.

Niche – the cylindrical space in a Memorial Wall that an urn containing the ashes will occupy.

Parish – Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, 193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville, NSW, 2566

Parishioner – a member of the Parish (ie. a Catholic who resides within the Parish boundaries).

Remembrance Wall – the small curved wall nearest to the exterior of the Church Sanctuary. This wall does not include niches for ashes, but is used expressly for Memorial Plaquettes only.

Right of Interment – the right for the ashes of one person (contained in an urn) to be placed in, and left to rest in, a niche *and does not include a right or interest of any kind in the land on which the Columbarium is located or the Columbarium itself.*

Surrounds – the area referred to as the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Columbarium and located on the western side of the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish Church. This area is made available by the Parish for the purpose of interment of the ashes of parishioners and their families and for future visitation and includes all the space, ground, fixtures, structures and flora in that area.

These Terms and Conditions govern the use of the Our Lady of Mt Carmel Memorial Gardens including the Memorial Walls, the Remembrance Wall and the surrounds.

1. Purpose

The Columbarium is a sacred place on the Parish property for the interment, following cremation, of the ashes of parishioners and their immediate family. It is intended especially for those who love and have an affinity with the Parish, which they wish to continue after death.

2. Authority

2.1. The Parish Priest has the sole authority to determine who can be interred in a niche and to allow memorial plaques to be installed on the exterior of the niche walls or Remembrance Wall.

2.2. The Parish Priest may, in his absolute discretion, refuse the right of interment of any person and the Committee will refund all monies paid on account of this decision.

3. Those whose ashes may be interred include:

3.1. A current or former parishioner and their spouse.

3.2. A parishioner's child, parent or sibling, including a child, parent or sibling by adoption or who is a member of a parishioner's step-family.

3.3. *Note: Special consideration will be given to a request made by any person who, through regular worship or past connection, has a special affinity and love for this Parish, but is not a parishioner.*

4. The ashes will be placed in the Columbarium in the following manner:

4.1. The ashes to be interred will be placed in a specified container (approved by the Committee) which will be placed in a niche in the Memorial Walls.

4.2. No more than one container (urn) holding the ashes of one deceased person is permitted in each niche.

4.3. The niche will be sealed with a Memorial Plaque, to be supplied and approved by the Committee.

4.4. Under no circumstances are ashes to be spread or placed in any part of the Columbarium surrounds, except in the approved niche as described in these Terms and Conditions.

4.5. The particular Wall for interment may be selected by the Grantee, subject to the approval of the Committee. If no specific request is made the Committee will select a location.

4.6. The rites of interment will be prescribed by the Parish Priest in accordance with the Roman Catholic forms of worship.

5. To ensure uniformity of appearance of the Columbarium, the following conditions will apply:

5.1. Each container will hold only the cremated ashes of one person.

5.2. Ashes will be interred in specific containers suitable to the cylindrical niches in the walls.

5.3. Only one container will be placed in each niche.

- 5.4. All memorial plaques and inscriptions thereon will be approved and procured by the Committee. Samples of plaques can be viewed at the Parish Office during business hours.
- 5.5. The wording for each individual plaque may be provided by the Grantee, but all wording and style must conform to the protocols as set out in the Application Form.
- 5.6. No other object may be placed within the niche or on the Memorial Walls.

6. Fees for a Niche in the Columbarium:

- 6.1. The grant of a right to inter ashes in a niche and the cost of the procurement, inscription and installation of a Memorial Plaque or Plaque will incur fees.
- 6.2. No interment or the fixing of a memorial plaque will be allowed until the payment of the purchase price (unless special arrangements have been made with the Committee or Parish Priest).
- 6.3. If, for any reason, a grantee decides not to use a niche, then the Right of Interment must be returned to the Parish. The Right of Interment is not transferrable to a third party and the grantee will be refunded the original purchase price of their Right of Interment.
- 6.4. All fees may be reviewed by the Committee from time to time and are subject to change without notice.
- 6.5. An Applicant may pay fees in advance on behalf of themselves, or anyone who is eligible, according to the criteria set out in Condition 3.
- 6.6. Notwithstanding condition 6.3, all monies received will become part of the consolidated funds of the parish and accounted for as such.
- 6.7. *Note: Private funeral and cremation expenses are not part of these Columbarium fees.*

7. Relocation of ashes in the event of the closure of the Church

- 7.1. While there is no contemplation of the closure of the Parish at any time in the future, it is nevertheless acknowledged by the Applicant that the right may be brought to an end by:
 - 7.1.1. The closure or relocation of the Parish, or
 - 7.1.2. The destruction of, or serious damage to, the Parish property.
- 7.2. In any such event the Committee shall notify the Grantee and endeavour to make other arrangements with the Grantee regarding the ashes.

8. Removing the ashes from the Columbarium after interment

- 8.1. While interment is intended to be a permanent arrangement, there may be times when it is the families wish to relocate the ashes. Any requests made by the Grantee will be considered by the Committee and approved at the discretion of the Committee.
- 8.2. Removal of the ashes may be executed only by a person or persons designated by the Committee.
- 8.3. After removal of ashes from a niche in accordance with this regulation, the niche may be re-allocated.
- 8.4. The plaque will remain the property of the Grantee and no refund will apply.
- 8.5. Upon the removal of the ashes and memorial plaque, the Committee is released from all obligations of the Committee to the Grantee from the date of removal.

9. Grantee rights

- 9.1. Subject to these regulations and to the full payment of the fees referred to in Condition 6, the Grantee has an exclusive right:
- 9.1.1. To have ashes placed in, and a Memorial Plaque placed over a niche or a Memorial Plaque placed on the Remembrance Wall. The placement of ashes and a Memorial Plaque in and over the niche will be done by the Committee on behalf of the Grantee and at the request of the Grantee.
- 9.1.2. To leave the ashes and memorial plaque in place. The inscription of the memorial plaque is to be approved by the Committee.
- 9.2. In the event that the container provided by the Committee does not hold all the ashes, the grantee is responsible for dividing the ashes and for determining the method of disposal of any excess ashes. The Parish Priest and/or Committee may assist in this process.

10. Transfer of the rights of the grantee

- 10.1. The executors or administrators of a deceased grantee will be the only persons recognised by the Committee as being the holders of the grantee's rights. Only the executors or administrators may transfer their rights in accordance with Condition 9.

11. Damage, loss or theft

- 11.1. The grantee is the owner of all ashes and memorial plaques or plaquettes. The Committee is not responsible for any damage to, or deterioration, loss or theft of the ashes or plaques.
- 11.2. If the Columbarium is damaged or destroyed, the Committee may rebuild the Columbarium in its original position or in any other position in the grounds in which it is presently erected and place the ashes and memorial plaques in and over a niche in the new Columbarium.
- 11.3. Note: no plaques or walls are to be treated with any process, substance or solution and no other person will be permitted to carry out work of any kind, including cleaning, on the Columbarium without the prior consent of the Committee.

12. Care of the Columbarium and Surrounds:

- 12.1. Care, landscaping and maintenance of the surrounds are the responsibility of the Parish.
- 12.2. Any associated maintenance costs are included in the original purchase price.
- 12.3. The Parish may make changes to the Columbarium and Surrounds.
- 12.4. In order to maintain a uniform appearance, any additional flowers, ornamentations, memorial items or personal property left within the surrounds will be removed by the Parish.

13. Hours of visitation:

- 13.1. The Columbarium will be open only when the Parish grounds are open, usually during daylight hours and when Mass or Services are celebrated.
- 13.2. The Parish has an absolute right to refuse visitation to the Columbarium by any person.

14. Personal Information:

- 14.1. The Parish is required to keep information about interred remains in the Columbarium and may disclose this information if required by law.
- 14.2. The grantee or applicant must notify the Parish of any change of address.
- 14.3. The Parish is entitled to rely on the address last provided by the grantee or applicant.

15. Parish uses of the Columbarium and Surrounds:

- 15.1. The Parish may use the Columbarium and Surrounds for religious purposes including, but not limited to, any purpose connected with Mass, services, prayers, devotions and readings.
- 15.2. The Parish may permit interest groups, including local Catholic schools, to use the surrounds for similar purposes.

