

Rules and Regulations for St. Francis Xavier & St. Mark Cemeteries Buffalo, MN 55313

These changes take effect on Monday, October 5th, 2020

1. No monuments or markers may be set without prior permission and approval from the Parish Office. A small list of restricted monuments has been created. **Effective immediately**, it is the monument purchaser's responsibility to check with the Parish Office for specific restrictions before purchasing a monument. Saint Francis Xavier Church reserves the right to deny placement or issue a removal notice for any restricted monument/marker set within either cemetery.
2. Single post elevated plant stands (including single-armed shepherd hook posts) are limited to one per grave plot (two adjacent plots with one gravestone has a limit of two plant stands total). All flower and plants arrangements (real or artificial) must be placed in containers within the stands. Individual vases/urns or spiked funnels are not allowed to be placed on gravestone, cement platform or dug into the ground.
3. Fresh cut flowers are allowed to be placed on gravestones or cement platforms any time of the year. They will be removed after 7 days or if withered.
4. Water spigots are available for use from the end of winter ground thaw through early fall. The cemetery caretaker(s) are not responsible for watering and withered or faded floral arrangements will be removed by the caretaker(s).
5. Appropriate veteran's decorations (flags, wreaths, etc.) will be allowed to remain at gravesites for 10 days after date of burial or designated patriotic holidays. Spiked metal markers are excluded from this regulation.
6. Winter decorations are allowed from December 1st through April 1st. However, faded or deteriorated decorations will be removed at the caretaker(s) determination.
7. All items (toys, rocks, coins, garden stones/plaques, pinwheels, solar lights, etc.) left at a gravesite are subject to removal by the caretaker(s).
8. Statues that are tip-resistant are allowed if fully placed on cement platform. However, if the statue begins to deteriorate or become unsightly, they will be removed by the caretaker(s). The caretaker(s) is also not responsible for statues damaged during cemetery maintenance.
9. **Columbarium** -- Elevated planters or other items that block access to columbarium niches will be removed permanently by the caretaker(s). Only fresh cut flowers may be placed on or around the columbarium. All decorations, vases/urns or withered flowers will be removed.
10. **Mausoleum** -- Elevated planters or other items that block access to mausoleum niches will be removed by the caretaker(s). Only fresh cut flowers may be placed around the mausoleum. All decorations, vases/urns or withered flowers will be removed.
11. St. Francis Xavier Church also reserves the right to remove approved decorations if they are deteriorating/unsightly, hinder regular cemetery maintenance and the plot owner neglects to maintain affected areas. **For further information, contact the Parish Office at (763) 684-0075.**

Parish leadership and the cemetery caretaker(s) kindly ask you to respect these changes and know that they are being put in place to protect the irreplaceable mementos left behind, out of respect for your dear loved ones, out of respect for our departed parishioners and to maintain beauty in our cemeteries.