

Gonzales Catholic Cemetery Guidelines – Revised July 2021

For New Burials:

- Purchase of a “Cemetery Deed”, also known as a “Gravesite”, gives privilege to the family to bury their loved one in the designated plot within the cemetery. Please note the land remains under the ownership and legal control of the Archdiocese of San Antonio to be managed by the Catholic Community of Gonzales and Waelder.
- During the first six (6) months after burial, unlimited flower arrangements and decorations are permitted except those in glass containers.

Restrictions to Apply Six (6) Months After Burial:

- Family members are responsible for removing old flower arrangements and decorations from the grave six (6) months after burial. Cemetery management will level the gravesite six (6) months after burial and will remove and discard any flower arrangements or decorations that are not removed by the family.
- No glass containers or vases are permitted.
- No alcohol or alcohol containers are permitted.
- No wire decorations, metal hangers, or easels for flower arrangements are permitted.
- No planting of shrubs, bushes, or trees is permitted. Planting carpet grass is allowed.
- No cement, brick, or any other type of curbing is permitted, except in the old section of the cemetery. No gravel, crushed stone, or other groundcover is permitted, except in the old section of the cemetery and within curbing.
- Flower arrangements will be limited to two (2) per gravesite and it is encouraged that they be placed in vases attached to the gravestone so they will not impede mowing of the grass. If the gravestone does not have attached flower vases, flower arrangements should be placed immediately next to the gravestone so they will not impede mowing of the grass.
- Other decorations or ornaments will be limited to two (2) per gravesite and must be placed on the gravestone so they will not impede mowing of the grass.
- Eternal remembrance lights or solar decorative lights will be limited to two (2) per gravesite and it is encouraged that they be placed in a way they are attached to the gravestone or immediately next to the gravestone so they will not impede the mowing of grass.
- Families are permitted to cut the grass on their loved one’s gravesite.

- Guidelines and size restrictions will be provided for the purchase and placement of a gravestone. For the old section: Gravestones are to not exceed 36" tall by 48" wide by 16" deep. A double gravestone is not to exceed 36" tall by 92" wide by 16" deep. For the new section: Gravestones are to not exceed 36" tall by 42" wide by 16" deep. A double gravestone is not to exceed 36" tall by 84" wide by 16" deep.
- It is recommended to purchase a gravestone with two (2) attached flower vases in order to facilitate mowing of the grass.
- Military foot stones should be placed level with the ground to facilitate mowing of the grass.
- The cemetery management reserves the right to remove a monument or marker should it be in a deteriorated condition or should it become a hazard to the public. The family will be notified before any action is taken in this regard.
- The cemetery management and volunteers who help clean the cemetery reserve the right to remove any decorations that are in violation of the above rules.
- Cemetery clean up days will be held approximately four (4) times a year and will be posted to the website of the Catholic Community of Gonzales and Waelder.
- The following are the posted cemetery clean up days. Please ensure your loved one's grave site is in compliance with the above rules prior to the listed cemetery clean up days.

2024: March 9, July 6, October 12, November 30

2025: Jan 11, March 8, June 28, October 25

2026: Jan 10, March 14, June 27, October 24

2027: Jan 9, March 13, June 26, October 23

Sign: _____

Date: _____