

Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Cemetery

Cremation

- Cremation by the Catholic Church has been allowed since 1963, provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the resurrection of the body (Code of Canon Law 1176 Sec 3).
- The Church's definite preference is for the burial of the body.
- Cremated remains may be present at the funeral liturgy. However, the church strongly recommends cremation take place after the funeral liturgy.
- The Church requires that the ashes be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of the resurrection.
- In answer to a common question - The practices of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires.
- The cremated remains are to be placed in a proper burial container for proper burial or a niche. The bishops also instruct that there be an appropriate memorial plaque or stone whenever possible.
- Please discuss with your Priest all your options before making a final decision.