

ST OSWALD & ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Liverpool Road, Ashton-In-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 9NP
Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Reg. Charity No. 232709

Parish Priest: Rev. John Gorman Tel: 01942 727271
Deacons: Revv. Paul Blinston, Jim Byrne, John O'Brien (rtd)

Parish Office: 01942 727249 Open: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am—2pm

Parish Website: www.stoswaldandstarrowsmith.org.uk



PARISH of St. OSWALD & St. EDMUND ARROWSMITH ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

The following regulations are made for the good order and proper upkeep of the parish cemetery, and for the benefit of all who may visit the cemetery:

1. The cemetery is private property owned by the trustees of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The right of burial in the cemetery is subject to the decrees and canons of the Catholic Church.
2. Written confirmation of a proposed interment must be received by the Parish Priest not less than two clear working days before the interment.
3. Interments cannot take place unless the Registrar's Certificate has been given to the Parish Priest.
4. It is the responsibility of the Funeral Director to liaise with the Parish Priest and to make all necessary arrangements for a funeral and/or committal as agreed with the Parish Priest.
5. **No headstone/memorial is to be erected, or any alteration made to an existing headstone/memorial, without the prior written approval of the Parish Priest. It is recommended that a period of approximately six months is allowed for the ground to settle before a headstone/memorial is erected.**
6. Only lawn-type headstones/memorials are permitted. No new kerbstones are to be erected.

The maximum specifications are:

i) For a grave:

Foundation: Width 92cms (3') Depth 40cms (16")

Headstone (including base): Width 75cms (2'6") Depth 31cms (12") Height 107cms (3'6")

ii) For an Ashes plot:

Foundation: Width 64cms (25") Depth 33cms (13")

Headstone (including base): Width 56cms (22") Depth 31cms (12") Height 61cms (24")

It is recommended that a NAMM fix is used. Flagstones of a size in excess of the foundation specifications as set out above are not to be used as foundations for a headstone.

Any designs or drawings should be essentially Christian in nature. If not, or if otherwise considered by the Parish Priest to be unsuitable, permission for their installation or continuation may be withheld or withdrawn.

Photographic medallions are not to be placed on headstones/memorials and are subject to removal if so placed.

Two pots for flowers may be contained within the base of the headstone/memorial. At Christmas, Easter and Anniversaries other containers are permitted but should be removed within one month.

7. Headstones/memorials are the responsibility of the holder of the deeds to the grave and neither the Archdiocese nor the Parish accepts responsibility for their safety and security. All headstones/memorials should be inspected on a regular basis to ensure they remain in good order and do not pose a hazard to others and, if not, made safe by the deed-holder. The right is reserved to move, remove and take away any memorial which is allowed to deteriorate so as to constitute a possible danger to visitors.

8. The maintenance of the cemetery grounds remains the responsibility of the Parish. Anything that hinders the proper maintenance of the cemetery is not permitted and will be removed e.g. wooden memorials, crosses, statues, chains or fences around graves. Similarly, vases, flowers, plants, trees, ornaments, gravel, and kerbstones are not permitted outside the area of the headstone/memorial.

An annual maintenance fee is payable on or around Eastertime. The annual maintenance fee current at the time of these regulations is £30.00, which is subject to review from time to time.

The right is reserved to remove any monuments or ornaments e.g. toys or dolls, which the Parish Priest or other person authorised for the purpose, in their absolute discretion, consider inappropriate.

9. The right is also reserved to exclude any person from the cemetery whose conduct or presence is, in the opinion of the Parish Priest, inappropriate or a cause of distress. No dogs are permitted within the cemetery.

10. These regulations may be amended or added to from time to time.

Fr John Gorman
Parish Priest

JGG/09/20