

# All Saints' Church, Clifton Churchyard Regulations



All Saints Church, Clifton, Beds.



The Church of England  
**Diocese of  
St Albans**

## A place for peace and quiet reflection

We endeavour to make our churchyard a place of peace and quiet reflection for those who are coming to visit the graves of their loved ones. Each of us has individual needs as we work through grief and although the regulations covering this burial space do seem onerous they are there to provide a lovely place for all those who visit.

Responsibility for maintaining our churchyard in Clifton rests with the Parochial Church Council. We receive a grant from the Parish Council but most of the cost is met by members of the congregation. We have a contractor who regularly cuts the grass during the growing season and this is supplemented by people in the parish who volunteer to help with annual maintenance tasks in working parties.

Please help us by following the regulations in this leaflet and by disposing of any flowers or other vegetation in the compost area (behind the holly hedge) Please put all wreaths, plastic, metal and paper in the wheelie bin.



## St Alban's Diocese Regulations

All Saints' Clifton churchyard is part of our Christian heritage to provide for the reverent burial of those of who die in the parish. Ownership of all grave spaces remains vested in the Parish Priest; responsibility for management of the churchyard rests with the Parish Priest and the Parochial Church Council within the regulations of the Diocese of St Albans published in 2004. A full copy of the regulations is available from the parish priest or from the Diocesan website. Funeral directors can provide guidance on dimensions for memorials and we include some key points from the regulations below.

## Regulations for Garden of Remembrance for burial of cremated remains:

- Ashes after cremation must not be scattered or strewn but shall be buried loose, directly into the burial plot allocated
- Memorial plaques can be mounted on the wall within the dimensions allowed and to include a simple inscription with the person's name, relevant dates, and the grid reference to the burial plot
- Flowers or other floral tributes may be left near the plaques on the wall, but must not be placed on the grass

## Churchyard regulations for burials:

- No tombstone or other monument may be introduced, renewed, removed or altered without first obtaining permission
- Headstones and crosses must be within the dimensions allowed
- Monuments and memorials shall be of natural stone or oak and non-reflective and should not include any advertisement or trademark
- Only one memorial or monument is permitted on each grave
- Grave spaces must be level and grassed about a year after the interment
- Flower vases may be incorporated into the headstone but separate flower vases elsewhere in the grave space are not permitted.
- Fresh flowers are permitted within vases and bulbs may be planted in the grave space

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- Other items are not permitted; these include but are not limited to: artificial flowers, perennials, shrubs or photographs
- Items not permitted within the regulations or dead flowers will be removed during regular maintenance of the churchyard

O Father of all, we pray to thee for those, whom we love, but see no longer. Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

