

What are the costs involved?

Our columbarium currently has both double and single niches, which are able to hold the ashes of one or two people. The original walls have smaller niches compared to the newer walls.

An initial payment is required to reserve a niche in an available wall. The cost of the plaque is additional to this and payable at the time the plaque is ordered. In the event that the ashes of a second person are interred in a niche at a later date, an additional cost will be involved for a replacement plaque.

A plaque in memory of a person interred elsewhere may be purchased for the memorial wall surrounding the rose garden. Please check with the parish office for current costs.

The Columbarium also incorporates niches and a memorial garden for babies and children, the *St. Therese Childrens' Garden*.

Current costs for a niche are:

Single or double niche—**\$500 + cost of plaque**
Children's garden niche and plaque—**\$450**
Memorial Rose garden plaque—**\$450**
Children's memorial garden plaque—**\$250**

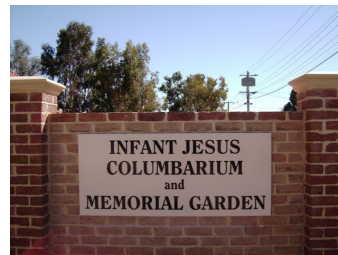


Are there any restrictions or conditions on those applying for a niche or memorial

Yes, the parish takes its responsibility seriously in regard to the proper and respectful operation and maintenance of the Columbarium and Memorial garden. A set of General Conditions has been formulated and contain the parish policy for the running of the Columbarium and Memorial Gardens. A copy of this document can be obtained at any time from any of the Columbarium Committee members or from the parish office.

Columbarium Committee Members:

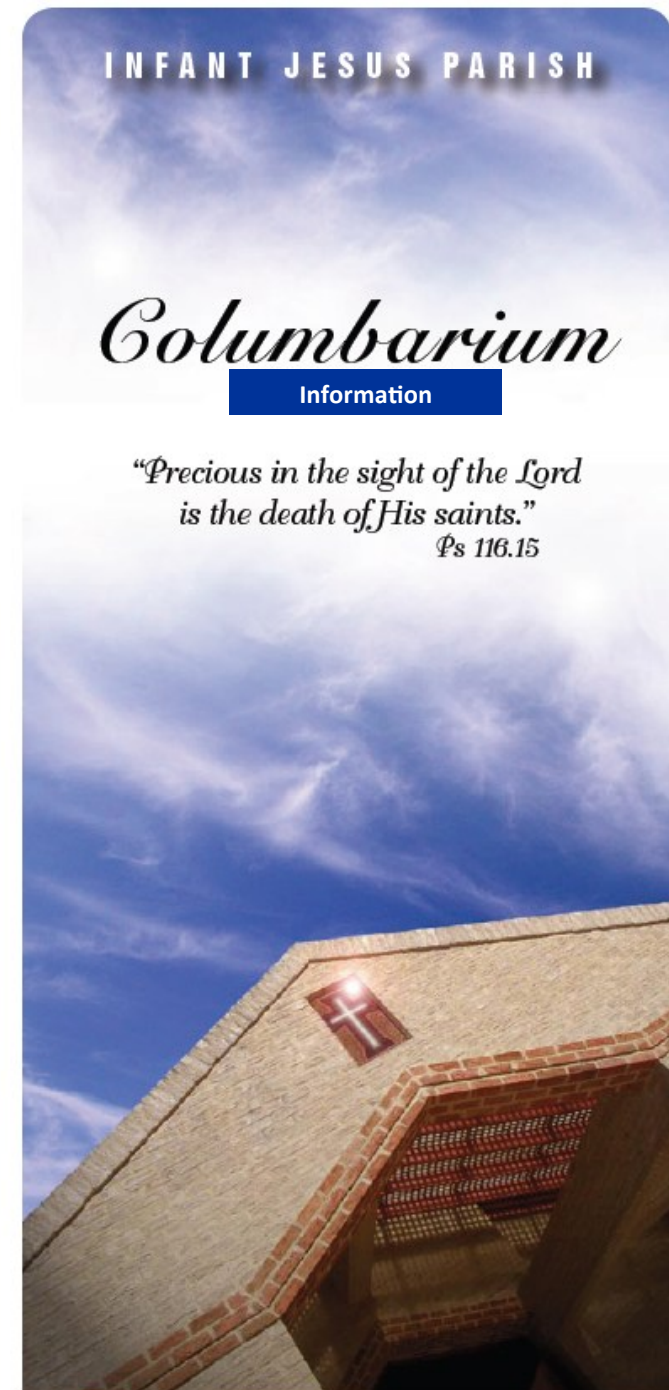
Fr. Greg Burke
Andrew Davini
Angela Youens



For more information about the Columbarium, or to complete an application, please contact the Parish Office.

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*"Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of His saints."
Ps 116.15*

**Infant Jesus Morley
Columbarium and Memorial Garden**

What is a columbarium?

For many people raised in the Catholic Church a columbarium is a new concept, but it actually has its roots in the early church when cemeteries were built on church property.

Simply put, a columbarium is an edifice that houses cremated remains. It offers people the possibility of remaining, even after death, close to their local faith community.



Does Catholic church law allow for cremation?

Vatican Council II reinstated permission for cremation in 1962, but it was not widely publicized. However, in recent years, cremation has become more accepted by Catholics for both personal and financial reasons.

Another important change within church doctrine came in 1998 when cremated remains were allowed into church for a funeral service. Prior to this, cremation had to take place after the funeral.



Who is able to be laid to rest in our parish columbarium?

The Columbarium will be reserved for use by parishioners and their immediate family, including step-family members and adopted family members. Family members may be non-Catholic. An application on behalf of a family member can only be made by a current parishioner

A parishioner is any Catholic person who resides within the parish boundaries.

Special consideration will be given to any request made by any person who, through regular worship or past connection, has a special affinity and love for this parish.

There are 14 columbarium walls.



Who is able to be laid to rest in our parish columbarium?

There are two major benefits.

Firstly, it means that those parishioners who choose to be cremated will be able to be laid to rest here in the parish grounds, surrounded by the parish family whom they loved and who loved them in return.

For family members, it means that their loved ones will still be very much part of their worship life, as the rear windows of the church overlook the columbarium gardens. Also, they will have the comfort of knowing that their loved ones have been laid to rest in sacred ground, and that they can easily drop by for a visit any time between 6am and 6pm.

Secondly, a columbarium adds another dimension to the faith and worship life of the whole parish. Being *in communion* is at the heart of our Catholic faith. We become *one body* in Christ at Baptism and we continue sharing that common life forever, beyond death. We are aware of this connectedness with one another every time we say in the creed: "*I believe in the communion of saints.*" We speak of this community each time we pray at Mass when we pray for the living and recall "*those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.*"

Our departed brothers and sisters are one with us as the Body of Christ and a columbarium in our grounds is a constant reminder of our membership in the Communion of Saints and the promise of eternal joy in which we share.

"...if one part is honoured, all the parts share its joy."

1 Cor. 12:26b