

Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green

Rules Governing the Columbarium Initial Offering

The Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green Columbarium is the property of the Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green, which is a parish established in The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Connecticut, and in the State of Connecticut, County and City of New Haven. These rules governing the Columbarium have been established by the Rector, Church Wardens and the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green and may be amended from time to time by majority vote of the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry.

Descriptions

The Columbarium is intended to provide a resting place for ashes in perpetuity and is composed of two areas intended for the repose of ashes. First, the Columbarium contains compartments holding one, two, or three Boxes. Each Box, and the cover panel or door of each compartment, will be labeled by the name, date of birth and date of death of the person whose ashes are contained in the Box, in a uniform format determined by the Church (*exception page 2*). Second, the Columbarium also will incorporate an Altar Common Niche, located under the Altar of the Columbarium, which will contain commingled ashes. The identities of the persons whose ashes reside in the Altar Common Niche will be set forth on the outside of the Niche, by name, date of birth and date of death, in a uniform format determined by the Church. When there is no longer space on the Altar Common Niche, identities will be inscribed above the Altar.

Eligibility

Any member of Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green and, at the discretion of the Rector, any person in the member's immediate family and any other person not so related, may have his or her ashes placed in a Columbarium Box or commingled in the Altar Common Niche.

Granting of Access to Individual Box

Eligible members of Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green may purchase the right to place ashes in one or more Boxes in the Columbarium, and may purchase the right to a designated compartment containing more than one Box. Boxes are granted at the sole discretion of the Rector. Each Box may contain the ashes of only one person ("Box Holder"). Any exception will be at the discretion of the Rector. Ashes may be placed in a container other than the Trinity Box when approved by the Rector. Access to remove a Box containing ashes is an extraordinary event that may occur only at the discretion of the Rector, who may set requirements (including fees) conditioning or restricting such access.

Granting of Access to Altar Common Niche

Eligible members of Trinity Episcopal Church-on-the-Green also may purchase the right to place the ashes of an individual (“Niche Holder”) in the Altar Common Niche with the approval of the Rector. The Altar Common Niche will contain commingled remains of Niche Holders following committal. The Grantee may change the identity of the Niche Holder in writing and with the permission of the Rector. Once commingled, ashes may not be removed from the Altar Common Niche.

Purchase Price

The purchase price of a Box or space in the Altar Common Niche may increase over time, at the discretion of the Vestry.

Grantee’s Entitlements

The purchase of a Grant for a Box or space in the Altar Common Niche entitles the purchaser to:

- Selection (with approval of the Rector) of the identity of the Box Holder or the Altar Common Niche Holder.
- Change the identity of the Box Holder in writing and with the permission of the Rector.
- Placement of an engraved plate bearing the name and dates of birth and death of Box Holder or Altar Common Niche Holder, except for those niches located on the string course, where identities will be inscribed on the door panel below.
- Service of Committal.
- Listing in Columbarium Registry, maintained by the Church.

The purchase of a Grant does not cover the costs of cremation, funeral, music, or transfer of ashes.

The rights of a Grantee may be inherited or bequeathed. If an identified Box Holder or Niche Holder decides not to use his or her Box or space in the Altar Common Niche and so informs the Church in writing, the Grantee may identify another individual as Box Holder or Altar Common Niche Holder, with approval of the Rector.

Payment for Box or Altar Common Niche Space

A payment of at least one-tenth of the total is required at the time the Grant Agreement is signed. If the balance is not paid at the end of 60 days or the arranged payment plan, the Church retains the right to return the initial payment to the purchaser and revoke the Grant

Agreement. No use may be made of the Box or Altar Common Niche until full payment is received. Financial assistance will be available at the discretion of the Rector.

No Resale

If, for any reason, a Box Holder or Niche Holder decides not to use the space, or if a Grantee or the Grantee's personal representative wishes to return a Grant, whether or not a Box Holder or Altar Common Niche Holder has been designated, the Grant may be returned to the Church and the Grantee or the Grantee's personal representative will be refunded the amount originally paid for that space, without interest. If a Grantee fails to assign an individual's name to a purchased Box or space in the Altar Common Niche within twenty years of purchase, the rights to that Box or space in the Altar Common Niche will return to the Church and the Grantee or the Grantee's personal representative will be refunded the purchase price, as above. Under no circumstances may a Grant be resold other than to the Church.

Rights of Visitation

The Columbarium area of the Church is open during normal Church hours. Other times of visitation may be arranged at the discretion of the Rector.

Perpetual Care

The Church will undertake to keep the Columbarium in good order, and its upkeep will be a general expense of the Church. Should relocation of any Box or the Altar Common Niche be required because of damage to the Church building, relocation of the Church building or for any other reason, the Church will undertake appropriate relocation within or without the present Church building.

Flowers

Contributions for fresh flowers or other Memorial Gifts for the Columbarium area may be arranged through the Parish Office. No flowers, candles or other decorations specific to one compartment are allowed.