

St. Thomas of Villanova RC Cemetery
Topsail, Conception Bay South
(a cemetery of St. Edward’s Parish)

General Regulations

Effective 25 November 2025

1. Availability of Plots

- a. There are a limited number of plots available in this cemetery. St. Edward’s Parish endeavors to use all available space in the most respectful and efficient manner.
- b. Plots are available to parishioners of St. Edward’s Parish, Conception Bay South.
- c. Plots are not available to those of other parishes or religions.
- d. Plots are available only when a death occurs. Reserve plots are not available. In the case of couples, the adjacent single plot may be reserved for the surviving member.

2. Cost of Plots

- a. The cost of plots is paid to the funeral home at the time of funeral arrangements.
- b. The cost of plots does not include the opening and closing of the grave. (See Section 3).
- c. The maximum number of burials in a standard single plot (approximately 4 x 8 ft) is one traditional and potentially up to three urn burials subject to item G below.
- d. In cases where a double plot (approximately 8 x 8 ft) is purchased with the intention of one side being for a casket burial and the other side being for urn burials, the maximum number of urn burials on that side will be **four**. The first two urn burials will be included in the original plot purchase. Any others will require payment as specified in item G below.
- e. The maximum number of urn burials in a cremation plot (approximately 4 x 4 ft) is two urns.
- P
- f. Costs for plots

i. Casket Burial

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|---|---------|
| • Single Plot (approximately 4 ft. x 8 ft.) | \$500 |
| • Single Infant Plot | \$150 |
| • Double Plot (approximately 8 ft. x 8 ft.) | \$1,000 |

ii. Burial of Ashes

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|---|-------|
| • Single Plot (approximately 4 ft. x 4 ft.) | \$250 |
| • Double Plot (approximately 4 ft. x 4 ft.) | \$350 |

- g. Burial of Ashes in an existing plot. \$100
- h. Liners are required for casket and urn burials. Wood or polypropylene liners can be used.

3. Opening and Closing of Plots

- a. The opening and closing costs are not included in the purchase of plots.
- b. The opening and closing of all graves, for both traditional burials and burial of ashes, will be done by the cemetery’s contractor. No other contractor or persons will be permitted to do this work.

- c. The cost for the opening and closing is paid to the funeral home at the time of funeral arrangements. Information on costs for opening and closing is available at the funeral home.

4. Regulations for Plots

a. Monuments

- i. Monuments are not permitted to be installed without the permission of the cemetery committee. To inquire about monument installation please contact the Parish Office at 834-9481 or villanovaparish@nl.rogers.com.
- ii. Monuments on any plot must be no more than 36 inches in height from ground level. Monument length, including the base, can be no more than 42 inches for a 48 inch wide plot and no more than 84 inches for a 96 inch wide plot. Families are responsible for care of monuments and the cemetery does not take responsibility for any damage that may occur.
- iii. Monuments will not be installed before burial has taken place except in special circumstances approved by the cemetery committee.

b. On Plots

- i. Seating is not permitted on plots however with approval of the Parish can be placed in certain designated areas.
- ii. Grass is the only surface permitted.
- iii. Flowers can be placed but only no more than 12 inches from the headstone or marker. Shrubs and trees are not permitted.
- iv. No walls, frames, or fences are permitted around plots. This includes concrete, wood, metal, plastic or other materials.
- v. Solar lights and glass objects are prohibited due to danger of fire.
- vi. Ornaments and other objects must be placed within 12 inches of the headstone or marker.
- vii. Seating, trees, shrubs and other items may be donated to the cemetery by means of a monetary donation through the St. Edwards's Parish Office. (See Section 7)
- viii. Old plantings, plastic flowers and other garbage must be disposed of in the garbage containers located around the cemetery.

c. Burial Liners

- i. Liners are required for casket and urn burials. Wood or polypropylene liners can be used.
- ii. Steel or concrete vaults can only be used if they can be installed safely and without damage to other plots. Vault handling equipment cannot travel over other burial plots.

5. Cemetery Maintenance

- a. Perpetual care is not provided in this cemetery. Families are responsible for their plots and monuments. The cemetery does not take responsibility for any damages.
- b. Depending on available financial support, the cemetery committee will endeavor to have the grass cut approximately 10 times from May to October. Trimming around headstones and markers will also be done at this time.
- c. Objects and items that prevent mowing may be removed and disposed of.
- d. Flowers and objects near headstones may prevent trimming.
- e. Depending on available financial support, a limited number of plots will be repaired each spring at the discretion of the cemetery committee. (approximately 5 – 8 plots)
- f. Fences and gates will be repaired and maintained as budgets allow.
- g. The driveway will be resurfaced and maintained as budgets allow.
- h. Snow clearing of the driveway will be done before funerals. Otherwise the snow will not be cleared in the cemetery during the winter.
- i. Personal safety hazards may exist throughout the cemetery during all seasons. These may include uneven ground levels, small depressions, slippery surfaces, icy conditions

and other hazards. Visitors enter the cemetery at their own risk and should exercise caution at all times.

- j. Pets are not permitted to run freely in the cemetery. Owners must have pets on a leash and must clean up after them.

6. Parking

- a. There is a limited amount of space for parking in the cemetery due to the fact that the lower section of the cemetery is now being used for burials.
- b. Parking at funerals and for the annual cemetery mass will, therefore, be severely limited and will require most drivers to park on Topsail Road.

7. Donations

- a. Donations to the cemetery are welcome and can be made to St. Edward's Parish.
- b. Monetary donations to the cemetery can be used for specific items such as benches, trees, etc. or for general maintenance and upkeep.

8. Contact

- a. For further information or inquiries please contact the St. Edward's Parish Office at 834-9481 or Stedwardsparish@outlook.com