



St Mark's Catholic Parish

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2026 Parish Policy for the Sale & Reservation of Niches in the Columbarium Walls

Purpose.

The purpose of the Columbarium is to be a pastoral ministry for the parishioners of St Marks. It is not a business where the parish desires to sell the niches quickly. It is important that there always be a number of niches reserved for the future use of the deceased parishioners of St Mark's Parish.

Policy.

1. Only members of St Mark's Parish and their relatives are eligible to be allocated a niche in the Columbarium.
2. All niches are non-transferable.
3. Sale of Niches
 - a. A minimum of 16 niches across all walls will be set aside for the purchase by families with a recently deceased family member.
 - b. There will be an annual review of the prices of the Columbarium niches
 - c. Reservation of Niches

The following parishioners are eligible to reserve a niche:

 - (i) parishioners over seventy years of age
 - (ii) parishioners of any age who have a life-threatening medical condition
 - (iii) the spouse of a recently deceased parishioner where a space has been purchased for the deceased.

Reservations of niches expire after 25 years. If a reserved niche is not used by a deceased parishioner, St Mark's Parish resumes ownership of the niche. Monies will be refunded according to the formula in the signed contract.
4. The Parish Priest reserves the right to allocate free, pastoral and welfare niches for needy parishioners.
5. Deceased infant niches below the Statue of Our Lady are free.

This policy replaced the document dated on 16th February, 2018.

The policy was revised at the Finance Group Meeting on Saturday 5th September, 2026.