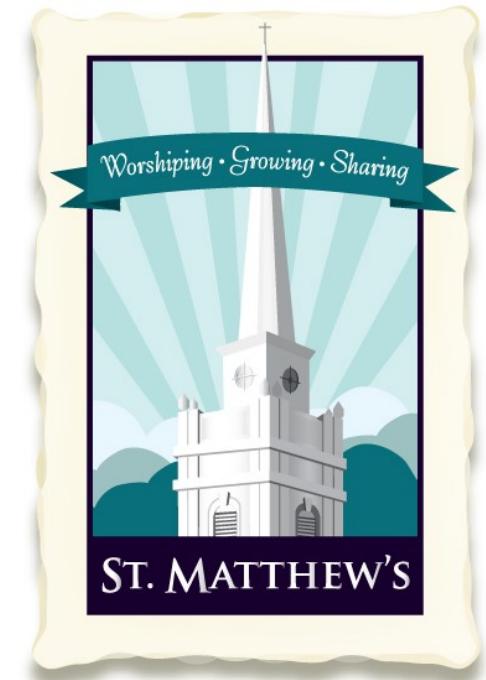


Saint Matthew's  
Episcopal Church  
Jamestown, RI



MEMORIAL  
GARDEN

*The Saint Matthew's Memorial Garden provides an area of beauty and dignity for the caring disposition of the cremated remains of loved ones and to memorialize those who have been buried at sea.*

### **Who may use the garden?**

The Memorial Garden is available for use by members of Saint Matthew's, their families and parish affiliates. Other people not connected with the parish who may wish to use the Garden may be accommodated at the discretion of the rector.

### **What is the interment process?**

Ashes shall be placed directly into the ground in a small hole (no urns or other containers will be buried in the Garden). The name and living dates of the individual whose ashes are interred or distributed at sea will be inscribed on a bronze plate and affixed to a cast bronze plaque located on the Parish House wall facing the Garden.

### **Why cremation?**

Cremation has become an increasingly popular alternative for the burial of loved ones. The primary reasons for this are that it can be significantly less costly, and that it is seen to be more environmentally friendly (introduces fewer environmental contaminants and takes up less space).

Although some might argue the point, there are no clear theological reasons that would prevent the practice of cremation. Indeed, some would argue that there are strong theological reasons for cremation (i.e. it merely speeds up the natural process of "ashes to ashes, dust to dust"). The rector will be happy to answer any questions about this.

### **Is the Garden a Cemetery?**

The Memorial Garden is not a cemetery. Therefore, no monuments, stones, signs or other markers for the individuals may be placed in the Garden; and no other plants, bushes, trees or artifacts shall be added to the Garden except as may be authorized by the Vestry. Cut flowers may be placed temporarily in tribute to the deceased on the day the ashes are interred.

### **Fee for use of the Garden?**

The Memorial Garden fee is \$350 per burial. The fee helps cover the cost of the nameplates and the maintenance of the Garden. It may be adjusted or waived in individual cases at the discretion of the rector. Spaces in the Garden may be reserved with advance payment at any time.

### **May spaces be reserved?**

Yes. To officially reserve a place in our Memorial Garden, the interment fee must be paid in advance. Please call the parish office if you would like to reserve a spot in the Saint Matthew's Memorial Garden.

*[Note: There are not specific plots in the Memorial Garden, so exact locations cannot be reserved.]*

***"I am the Resurrection and the Life," says the Lord. "Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though they die."***

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