



# THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

## ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

Holy Cross, Colma  
Pilarcitos, Half Moon Bay

Holy Cross, Menlo Park  
Our Lady of the Pillar, Half Moon Bay

Mt. Olivet, San Rafael  
St. Anthony, Pescadero

Tomales Cemetery, Tomales

St. Mary Magdalene, Bolinas

### UPDATE: Cemetery precautions regarding the Novel Coronavirus

We are committed to following the guidelines of our local authorities as well as the guidance of the CDC and other medical professionals during this unprecedented time.

The cemeteries provide “essential services” and so are continuing to operate. However, we are taking the following steps to comply with most recent shelter in place order and other guidelines on gatherings and to protect the health and safety of all involved.

We are encouraging attendance at cemetery services to be limited to immediate family. If a family desires to postpone cemetery services, we will help them to reschedule at an appropriate time. We will also be able to accommodate Memorial Services for larger crowds of people once the immediate danger of this pandemic has passed. When arriving at the cemetery for services, we ask that you remain in your vehicles. A member of our staff will greet you and help coordinate the service.

We will only be meeting in person with families who have a need to select a burial site. We ask those families to call us directly to set up an appointment. All other arrangements will be made via phone/fax/email. Out of concern for our visitors, we have instructed our staff to refrain from shaking hands and any other personal contact with the families we serve. We will be keeping offices well-ventilated in order to increase air flow. Our grounds staff will be using appropriate protective equipment and maintaining safe distances at services.

Our grounds remain open for visitation, but we discourage any large gathering of people together in compliance with our local directives. All memorialization services (headstones, inscriptions, etc.) will be delayed as our vendors are not exempt from the order.

Details of the CDC prevention guidelines have been shared with our staff. Managers will ask staff members to stay home when they are sick. Additionally, we have communicated directly to all staff regarding the necessity of safe hand washing and hygiene practices.

Our janitorial department has increased the frequency and rigor of cleaning all public areas, and restrooms. Items will be cleaned in public spaces, chapels and reception areas. We will be making hand sanitizer dispensers accessible to guests and encourage their use upon entry to our buildings.

We will continue to monitor developments and adjust our services accordingly. We hold all those who are impacted by this virus in prayer and continue to pray in a very special way for those who have died, and all our beloved dead at rest in our Catholic Cemeteries.

Monica J. Williams, CCCE

Director of Cemeteries

03/16/2020