

Garden of Remembrance Policy (interim)



The Garden of Remembrance at St James was established in 1996 to allow for the burial of cremated remains.

"To win people for Christ and to build them up in Christ."
www.stjameschorley.org Registered Charity No. 1130725

The rules governing churchyards are part of Ecclesiastical Law and are often very ancient. Changes to the law and regulations are drawn up by the General Synod of the Church of England and authorised by Parliament.

A Garden of Remembrance is permitted in accordance with a **Faculty** issued by the Diocesan Registrar to whom all matters of interpretation and dispute are referred. The Faculty specifies both the area of the garden and its terms of use. The Garden, like the church, is defined in law as consecrated ground.

The Garden of Remembrance is a marked out area within the Churchyard of St James. Cremated remains can be buried within this area with the permission of the Incumbent (the Vicar) who in turn must act in accordance with Ecclesiastical Law, the Faculty and any Regulations. It is not permitted to scatter ashes in a churchyard.

The Faculty for St James Garden of Remembrance allowed for the placing of a single memorial stone. There is no permission for other memorial vases, stones or other such items. Instead provision was made for an entry within the Book of Remembrance on display within the Church.

The Faculty does not permit the placing of flowers around the Garden. However, part of the original permission for the Garden rested on there being a designated area within the Church where flowers could be left. This is no longer practical and therefore the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is content for flowers to be placed in suitable receptacles around the edge of the Garden. Flowers or other items should not be placed on the grass itself, except immediately after a burial, because this tends to damage the grass and gives the garden an untidy look.

In the future the PCC may provide planters around the Garden where flowers can be placed.

Maintenance of the Garden and Churchyard is the responsibility of the PCC. Donations to the Church Fabric Fund are very welcome. This fund covers both the church building and grounds but the PCC does not operate a separate fund for the Garden or grounds.

It is the responsibility of the Incumbent to ensure that the necessary paperwork is received from the Crematorium before conducting a burial, to give permission for the burial to take place, to make provision for an authorised form of service to be said, and to ensure that a proper record is kept on the plan of the garden and in the service register. The decision as to in which plot the ashes are to be buried is made by the incumbent but taking into account the wishes of the family of the deceased.

St James Chorley
Parochial Church Council
July 2013