



THE DIVINE MERCY COLUMBARIUM

AT OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH,
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA



“The columbarium reminds us always of God’s everlasting mercy for us and those whom we love.”

Does the Catholic Church now permit cremation? If so how has the teaching changed and why?

The Catholic Church was opposed to cremation because it had pagan origins and the practice did not treat the human remains with dignity. However, the teaching has changed as Catholic concerns have been answered. Because we believe in the unique individuality of each human person, burial is still to be preferred while cremation is permitted. If cremation does take place the ashes are not to be scattered on the ground, buried under a tree, poured into a lake or sea or kept in an urn at home in a closet or on the mantelpiece.

The cremated remains are to be treated reverently and buried or reposed in a consecrated space where there is perpetual care, and complete records maintained. This shows respect for our deceased family members, eases the bereavement process and affirms the unique dignity of each person and our belief in the resurrection of the body.

A columbarium on a church campus is the ideal space for Catholic burial of ashes. The columbarium at Our Lady of the Rosary church, built within the lower church walls as part of our Shrine to the Divine Mercy reminds us always of God’s everlasting mercy for us and those whom we love.

It is our hope that you will find the Divine Mercy Columbarium to be a beautiful, fitting and dignified solution for your end of life decisions.

We are an Easter people, and “Alleluia!” is our song. What a comforting thought that our bodies might rest quietly where the daily sacrifice of the Mass is offered as we wait together for that day when all things will be reconciled in Christ the Lord of Life.



Your pastor,

Father Longenecker

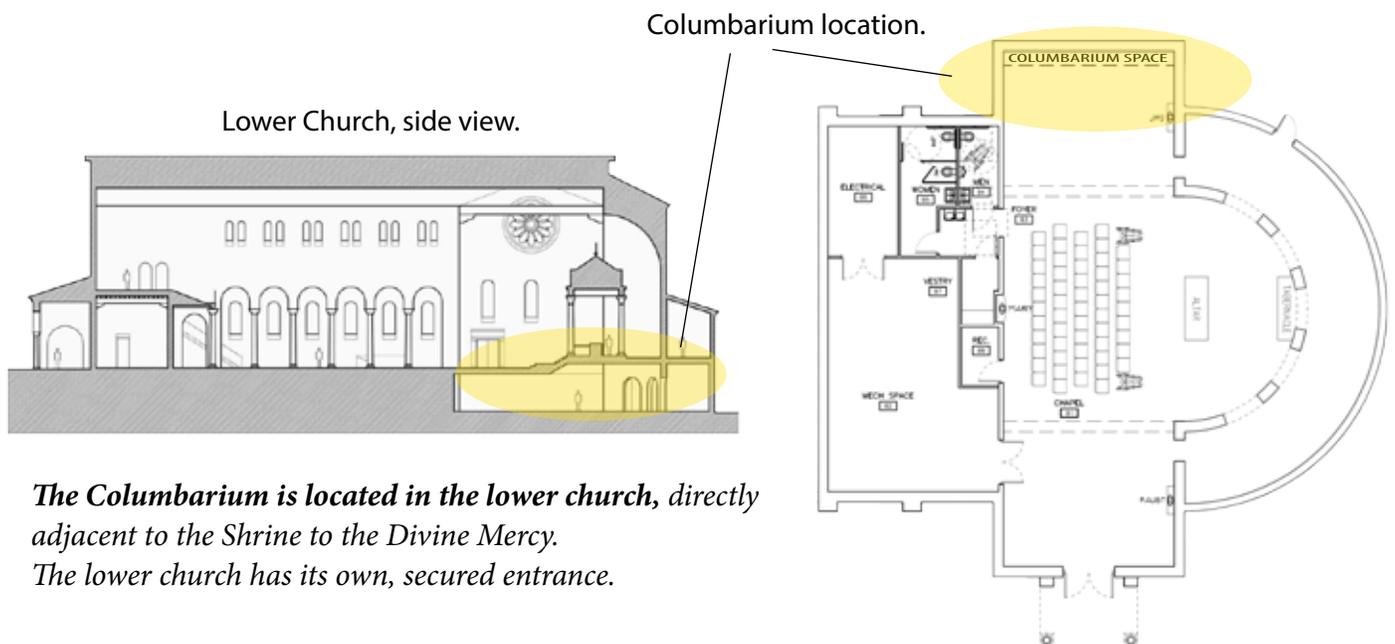
A Place of Eternal Rest:

Why Choose the Divine Mercy Columbarium?

The Columbarium provides an attractive, fully Catholic alternative to burial for the remains of our loved ones.

It offers many blessings and benefits to you, your family, our church members and the wider community:

- **A beautiful, serene and prayerful setting** located within the Shrine to the Divine Mercy where we can come to worship and pray.
- **Masses of the resurrection for the repose of the souls of our loved ones** will be offered there where their remains are interred.
- **Burial is within an enclosed sacred space** within the shrine and beneath the high altar of our beautiful new church.
- **A secure, perpetually maintained resting place** that often represents a savings over the cumulative costs (plot purchase, gravestone, coffin, cemetery upkeep/fees) associated with a traditional burial.
- **Easy access for family members to pay their respects** and offer prayers for their loved ones on the same site where they worship each week.
- **A place and way to minister** to lapsed Catholics, non-Catholics and members of the wider community.
- **An additional opportunity to offer financial support** for paying off the debt of our new church, since a large portion of a columbarium niche purchase serves as a tax-deductible donation.
- **Peace of mind for you and your family members**, the result of having made this important decision and prearrangement.





John N. Smith
1935 - 2014
Mary M. Smith
1936 - 2016

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Premium "Companion" Niche

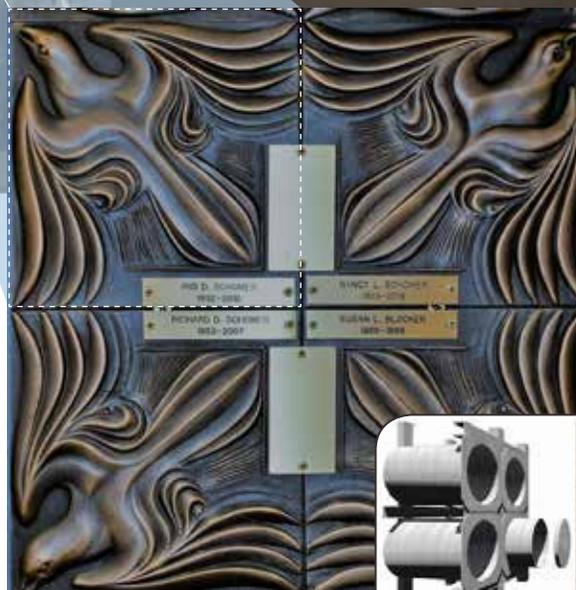
Each niche holds: Cremated remains of two (2) persons (two urns).

Cover: 12"X 12" Granite faceplate (covers 1 niche).

Niche size and shape: Interior is 12" x 12" x 12" cube.

Engraving of deceased's names: Directly onto faceplate.

Urns: Purchased separately.



Standard, Single Niche

Each niche holds: Cremated remains of one (1) person.

Cover: 15"X 15" Bronze faceplate (covers 4 niches).

Niche size and shape: Cylindrical chamber, approx. 6" in diameter.

Engraving of deceased's names: Engraved on brass nameplate.

Urns: Cylindrical vessel is included in purchase price.

The purchase of a niche license includes: opening and closing of the niche for inurnment, engraving, record maintenance and perpetual care. The fee does not cover the cost of cremation.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q *Who may be buried in the columbarium?*

A The columbarium is intended for the interment of the cremated remains of Catholics who are entitled to Christian burial according to the rules and disciplines of the Church and the regulations of the Bishop and Pastor. Therefore registered members of our parish or of other Catholic parishes, together with a registered parishioner's immediate family members (spouse, children and parents, including non-Catholics) may be interred. Others may be interred at the discretion of the parish priest.

Q *How many niches does the columbarium contain?*

A Initial construction will include a total of 90 niches: two banks of premium "companion" (dual) niches [21 per bank], and two banks of standard, single niches [24 per bank]. The design allows for future expansion.

Q *Will I be able to select a particular niche?*

A Yes. Niches are sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

Q *May anything be added to cremated remains, such as the cremated remains of other persons, pets or other objects?*

A No. The Christian principle of respect for cremated remains embraces the deeper belief in the individuality of each person before God, and in the resurrection of the body. The mingling of remains has never been an accepted practice.

Q *May the cremated remains be present for a funeral mass?*

A It is preferred that the actual body be present for the funeral mass, after which the body may be cremated. If this is not possible, then the cremated remains should be present. Actual funeral arrangements can be complicated, and the clergy and undertakers will always advise on the best way forward in each situation.

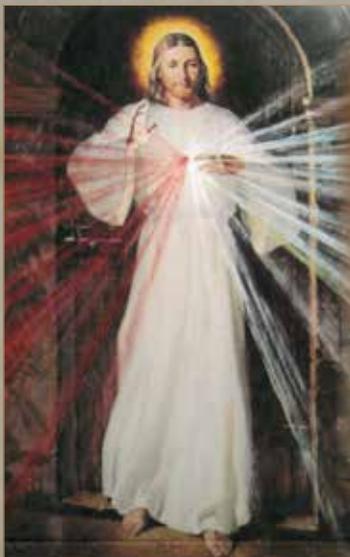
Q *What can be inscribed on the niche?*

A For uniformity, the engraving will permit only the last name, first name, and middle initial of the deceased, together with the date of birth and date of death.

Q *How do I make payment?*

A Payment is made in full at the time of purchase, either by check or via a one-time credit card payment. There is currently no structure in place for installment payments. However, alternate arrangements for hardship situations may be considered on a case by case basis.

To view additional photos and to access documents including Rules and Regulations, Columbarium License form, Price Schedule and an Address Key showing remaining available niches, go to olrgreenville.com/new-church/divine-mercy-columbarium.



The beauty and reverence of the Shrines to the Divine Mercy will provide a perfect complement to the Divine Mercy Columbarium with which they share the lower church.

To learn more about the Divine Mercy Columbarium or to schedule an informational meeting with a member of the columbarium committee:

Call the parish office at 864-422-1648

Email us at olr@charlestondiocese.org

Visit our parish website: olrgreenville.com



To send a prayer request or make a donation to The Divine Mercy Columbarium or to the capital campaign, please write to:

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

ATTN: Columbarium/Capital Campaign

3710 Augusta Rd. Greenville, SC 29605