



Archdiocesan Catholic Cemeteries

Interments in Section 3 (Baby Section) at Gate of Heaven – Internal Policy, Cemetery Staff

1. INTENT OF THE DIRECTIVE

To outline the rules and regulations for interment in Section 3, Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

2. POLICY

- All interments in Section 3 will primarily consist of children aged two years and younger.
- Whether preborn children die through miscarriage, stillbirth or termination (abortion), there is a moral responsibility to treat the remains with respect and in a dignified manner. (cf. *Donum Vitae*, n. 4). Therefore preborn children will also be provided a reverent interment.
- Interments for children in Section 3 will be free of charge.
- Interments should be reserved for children aged two years and younger only, except if previous arrangements have been made and documented.
- Plot size and parameters will be determined on a case by case basis depending on the practical requirements for interment.
- Interment should only be reserved for human remains or cremated human remains.
- A proper casket, urn or burial container must be used for interment.

3. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Interment – burial of human remains, be that cremated or full body
- Preborn – referrers to children who die In Utero, alternatively referred to as neonatal death.
- Reverent – referrers to the solemn and deep respect for the human body and is regulated by church teaching.

4. EXCEPTIONS

- Any exceptions to this policy are reserved to the Manager, Catholic Cemeteries or their delegate.



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5. REVIEW PERIOD

- This policy shall be reviewed every five (5) years.

Effective December 1, 2024 under the authority of the Manager, Catholic Cemeteries on behalf of
Archbishop Brian J. Dunn.

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