

Who We Are

St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery has served the parish and the White Bear Lake community since 1893. The grounds cover 11 acres of land, half of which has been recently developed to meet our needs for the next 100 years. The Cemetery is located on Stillwater Street in White Bear Township.

Cemetery Management welcomes your call for more information or for cemetery rules and procedures.

- For grave and columbarium sales, burial scheduling, Lot Ownership questions and all other administrative matters, please call the parish office at 651-429-7771 option 1.
- For grave and columbarium selection, memorial installation or engraving, or assistance locating the grave of a loved one, please call 651-407-0532.



Contact Us

Directions to the Cemetery from St. Mary's Church:

Go north on Bald Eagle Avenue. Take a left on Stillwater Street and follow for 0.8 of a mile. The Cemetery will be on your right. All postal mail must be sent to

4690 Bald Eagle Avenue
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Phone: 651-429-7771, option 1

Email: ContactUs@stmarys-wbl.org

Web: www.stmarys-wbl.org or scan QR code



St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery

What You Need to Know
About Lot Ownership

Lot Ownership

St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery is committed to keeping careful records regarding Lot Ownership and we can only do so with the help of surviving family members. This booklet is designed for informational purposes only. Please contact Cemetery Management for more detailed information.

DEFINITIONS

Lot Ownership: The right to use the Lot or grave for burial. St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery retains ownership and management of the land.

Original Lot Owner: The individual who originally purchased the Lot or grave.

Current Lot Owner: The individual who has current claim to the Lot either through purchase, descent or conveyance.

Life Tenant: The surviving spouse of the Lot Owner.

Remainderperson: The individual, usually the oldest surviving child of the Lot Owner, entitled to full Lot ownership upon the death of the Life Tenant.

Grantor: The Lot Owner placing a Lot into Trust.

Trustee: The organization (St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery) managing the Lot on behalf of the Grantor.

Two ways of determining Lot ownership:

- Laws of Descendancy
- A Will

Descends into Trust

If the Lot Owner does not have anyone to inherit the property, the Lot descends into trust.

- St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery becomes the Trustee of the Lot.
- Anyone related by blood or marriage is entitled burial on the Lot at the time of death, according to Cemetery policy and at the discretion of Cemetery Management and the Pastor.

Thank you for entrusting St. Mary of the Lake with the repose of your loved one.

Laws of Descendancy

The descent of ownership of a Cemetery Lot is governed by the MN State Statute in force at the time of the death of a Lot Owner (see <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/525.14> for more information, scan QR code to view).



A Will

On rare occasions, cemetery lots have been transferred by will. Documentation must be submitted to the Cemetery prior to transfer of ownership.

The requirements to do this are:

- The name of the Cemetery and the city in which it is located, as well as the Lot, must be specifically mentioned in the will. The Cemetery Lot must be described by the Section, Block, Lot, etc.
- The Lot must be willed to one person or to the Cemetery in trust for persons designated in the will.
- The person to whom a Lot is willed must be a relative.

Once the descent of Lot Ownership has been determined by signed affidavit, the new Lot Owner, the Life Tenant or Remainderperson, will receive an updated Cemetery Easement, proof of their right to burial and control of the Lot. The Life Tenant and Remainderperson have equal responsibility for the Lot, requiring the signatures of both in most documents effectuating changes to ownership or burial authorization.

Options for Lot Owners

Conveyance & Consent

- Conveyance and Consent transfers ownership from one person to another.
- The transfer can be to anyone the Lot Owner chooses.
- No exchange of money between parties is involved.



Trust

An Owner places property in trust with the Cemetery. St. Mary of the Lake Cemetery becomes the Trustee (the owner) and abides by the wishes of the Grantor (previous owner) as outlined in the trust.

- Only a Grantor can amend a trust.
- Trusts are usually set up to allow burials for specific individuals.
- Unallotted graves are reserved for burial at the time of death for anyone related to the Grantor by blood or marriage.



Donate

An Owner can donate his/her property back to the Cemetery.

- The Lot is given back to the Cemetery.
- The Cemetery becomes the Trustee of the property.
- A trust deed is used for donation if it is donated for a specific purpose, such as for an indigent burial or burial of unborn children.



Quitclaim

- A Quitclaim may be used to donate the property back to the Cemetery for general purposes.
- The Lot may also be repurchased by the Cemetery at a percentage of the original purchase price.

