



DOCUMENT NUMBER	DA001
TYPE	Policy
SUBJECT	Disposal of Ashes Policy
AUTHORISED BY	Diocesan Council
DATE AUTHORISED	5 th November 2022

1. Preamble

This policy has been separated out from SP001 Administration Circular 2023 at the wish of Diocesan Council.

2. Disposal of Ashes on Church Property

The proper final resting place of human remains should be the earth from which we are formed. The place where ashes are laid to rest and its precinct should be beautiful; if the place functions in any other capacity as well as a place for ashes, those other functions should be compatible with showing respect for the persons whose ashes are nearby.

The use of a columbarium for the placing of ashes is not thought now to be appropriate. It is felt that a columbarium is not compatible with at least two of the principles listed above.

By far the most sought-after way of disposing of ashes on church property is by means of a memorial garden or lawn; that is, a portion of land is set aside for this purpose, and the ashes are laid to rest there.

Any new application to establish a memorial garden or lawn should be made to the Bishop. A professionally drawn plan should be presented with proper consideration given to location, appropriate plants, ongoing maintenance and memorials.

For completion when document supersedes and existing policy, procedure or protocol.

VERSION NUMBER OF THIS DOCUMENT	DATE OF PREVIOUS DOCUMENT	SUMMARY OF CHANGE	REASON FOR CHANGE